

THE DUNN DISPATCH

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JERRY DALTON IS SAVED FROM CHAIR

Governor Commutes Sentence To From 20 To 30 Years In State Prison

Raleigh, Dec. 15.—The death sentence of Jerry Dalton, convicted in Macon county of the murder of his sweetheart and a young man, today was commuted to a term of not less than 20 nor more than 30 years in the state penitentiary by Governor Morrison.

The commutation reads as follows: "It would be useless to record an argument upon the merits of this case."

"Upon consideration of the whole case in all its aspects and after consideration of the case with the attorney-general of North Carolina and after a conference with the honorable W. A. Hoke, of the supreme court bench, who wrote the opinion of the court in this case on appeal in the former trial of the prisoner, and after further consideration of the matter with some of the greatest jurists and lawyers of the state, including the Hon. Henry G. Connor, former judge of the supreme court and now United States district judge, all of whom concur in my conclusion about this matter, I am of the opinion that there is grave doubt of the guilt of the prisoner, Jerry Dalton, being guilty of the crime of murder in the first degree, as fixed by the statutes of North Carolina on the subject."

"I do not believe the killing took place while Dalton's blood was cool and his mind in a condition to form a deliberate case to commit murder in the first degree, according to the evidence in the case. For this reason, and out of respect to the petition filed from 10 of the jurors who convicted him and out of respect to the thousands of petitioners in the state who asked for a commutation of his sentence, I hereby commute the sentence of Jerry Dalton from death by electrocution to an indeterminate sentence of not less than 20 years and not more than 30 years in the state prison."

"I do not believe on the record before me that Dalton has been proved guilty of a higher crime than murder in the second degree. The maximum punishment of murder in the second degree is 30 years and I would commute his punishment to this sentence, but for the fact that I am a strong believer in the indeterminate sentence, and I think it is proper to give him a chance by good behavior to earn something off from the full penalty of the law for murder in the second degree."

Christmas Cantata At Presbyterian Church

"The Messiah's Coming," the beautiful cantata by Wildermere will be presented by the church choir, reinforced by some of the best solo voices in town, Thursday evening at 8:00 o'clock at Presbyterian church. The public is cordially invited.

Christmas Cantata At Presbyterian Church

PROGRAM
Scripture Reading.
Prayer.
Organ Prelude.
Hear the Song—Opening chorus—Choir.
The Messiah (Soprano Solo)—Mrs. John Fitzgerald.
Christ Our Light—Chorus.
Life Without End—Dust, Miss Dodson, Mrs. Holliday.
Wonderful Story (Soprano Solo) Mrs. Herbert McKay.
Prophecies Fulfilled—Choir.
Star of Love—Mrs. Fitzgerald, Mrs. McKay, Mrs. Holliday.
The Voice of Jesus—contralto solo, Mrs. Harper Holliday.
Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us—Dust, Mrs. Herbert McKay and Mrs. Harper Holliday.
The Song of Angels, Quartet, Mrs. Ellison Goddard, Mrs. W. S. Snipes, Mrs. W. E. Coltrane, Mr. Edward Metz.
God's Wonderful Gift (Finale.)
Sopranos: Mesdames Herbert McKay, John Fitzgerald, Harper Holliday, Wallace Coltrane, Oscar Strickland, Ellison Goddard, N. A. Townsend, E. M. Jeffreys, J. R. Butler, J. W. Purdie, Wm. Thompson, Z. V. Snipes, Miss Dodson and Miss Sue Smith.
Alto: Mesdames W. T. Smith, Paul Hood, Ransom Pearson, Jas. Farthing, W. S. Snipes, Henry Lee and Miss Elizabeth Bridge.
Tenors: Dr. J. R. Butler, Mr. Spratt Moore, Mr. C. S. Hicks, Mr. H. S. Freeman.
Bass: Mr. Edward Metz, Mr. Hugh Prince, Mr. W. T. Smith, Mr. Geo. Gardner and Mr. Z. V. Snipes.
Organist and director of Cantata, Mrs. Lloyd Wade.

LARGE SALES OF CHRISTMAS SEALS

Dunn Listed Among North Carolina Towns Showing An Increase of Sales

Sanatorium, Dec. 14.—If the signs are read correctly, North Carolina this year will have the greatest sale of Tuberculosis Christmas Seals of any year in the history of the movement. Most encouraging reports come from the North Carolina Tuberculosis Association under whose auspices the seals are sold. Indications are that not a few towns will double the number of seals sold last year. Asheville, Durham and perhaps Charlotte give three of the largest towns that give evidence of doubling their last year's sale.

Two counties and quite a number of towns have placed large additional orders for seals at State headquarters, which is at the State sanatorium. The counties are Cabarrus and Pamlico. Some of the towns are Burlington, Belmont, Bryson City, Lincolnton, Meckville, Mount Airy and Morganton. Chilton, Dunn, High Point and Henderson also show signs on increased sales and Raleigh has her credit a splendid sale of Health Bonds.

According to a report from seal headquarters, the seal sale chairman of the State are putting on the best campaign in the history of the organization. They are not only employing the best business methods in conducting the sale but they are accepting the movement as an important factor in their community life and are taking advantage of the big health opportunities it brings to them. The Tuberculosis Christmas Seal is now recognized as the one opportunity of the year to discharge personal obligations to the great fight against the dreaded disease, tuberculosis.

Delightful Program But Small Audience

Always in Trouble, or a Hoodoo Coon, was presented in the local opera house Friday evening by Mrs. A. E. Wilson's expression class from Smithfield. The program was altogether delightful, but was witnessed by only a very small audience. The entertainment was put on under the auspices of the Junior class of the Dunn high school and was directed by Mrs. Wilson. Members of the cast played their parts in a most creditable manner, one which proved that they are receiving splendid training at the hands of Mrs. Wilson.

Railroads Lose Out In Standard Oil Skirmish

Wilmington, Dec. 14.—The Atlantic Coast line and Seaboard Air Line railroads lost their initial skirmish against the Standard Oil Company in the efforts of the railroads to force the intrastate level of freight rates on petroleum products to that of the intrastate level.

The fight between the oil company and the railroad is of vital interest as the Standard Oil company annually ships into Wilmington millions of gallons of oil for distribution throughout the state.

James H. Poy, Raleigh counsel for the oil company appeared before Federal Judge H. G. Connor in Raleigh and asked that the roads be restrained from putting into effect higher intrastate rates. The railroads sought to move from the jurisdiction of the case, but Judge Connor ruled that the case must be heard before him and soon.

New Type Airplane Developed By Navy

Washington, Dec. 15.—An airplane which combines the functions of three usual type planes, bombing, torpedo launching and long range scouting, has been developed by the bureau of aeronautics of the navy. The plane which is equipped with a 650 horsepower engine, is the lightest for its power ever built being able to fly with more than its own weight as a load, and powerful enough to carry a greater load than twin engined bombers now in use. With a wing spread of 56 feet the machine weighs about 4,000 pounds and is 11 feet high and 34 feet long.

Marion Baggett Shot By "Unloaded" Pistol

Marion Baggett had a 32-caliber steel bullet shot through his right arm above the wrist Sunday night when a pistol in the hands of Carl C. Jackson was accidentally discharged. The shooting took place at the Baggett home, South Magnolia avenue, and the pistol belonged to Mr. Baggett. Mr. Jackson was making an examination of the pistol and thought all the bullets had been removed from it.

Although the bullet passed through Mr. Baggett's arm and passed on through the door of the room, he did not know that he had been struck until he saw a hole in his shirt sleeve made by the bullet. The bullet passed between the two arm bones, and it is not thought that the wound will prove serious. To say the least, Mr. Baggett had what might be termed "a close call."

Dunn Quint Defeated By Duke Highs 27 to 7

(By Wade H. Lucas)
Duke, Dec. 17.—Playing its second game of the Harnett county championship series on the local gym floor last Friday night, the Duke high school basketball team defeated the Dunn high school quint by the score of 27 to 7. The visitors were unable to withstand the determined assaults of the locals and were handicapped by the most decisive defeat they have ever experienced in Harnett county. The finest example of teamwork that has ever been seen in Duke was that exhibited by Captain Fowler's team of Duke high players. The victory marked the second consecutive win for Coach Simpson's charges in their race for premier honors in Harnett. Friday and Saturday nights of this week will see the four Sunday schools of the town staging their Christmas tree exercises. Each school has arranged appropriate programs for the occasion, and a cordial invitation is extended to everybody to come out to them.

Members of the Duke school faculty are leaving this week for their respective homes to spend the Christmas holidays. Practically everyone, with one or two exceptions, have planned to go home Christmas.

Rev. N. M. McDonald, who has been confined to his home on Park street for the last few days on account of sickness, is improving and will soon be able to resume his work. His condition at one time was so serious as to necessitate someone remaining with him through the night.

The mill officials have announced a three-day vacation for their employees for Christmas holidays. W. F. Blake, M. W. Fowler, Ralston McDonald, and Wade H. Lucas were Raleigh visitors last Saturday. Lucius Page, of Laurinburg, was a week-end guest here with friends.

Rev. Robt. L. McKinnon Killed In Accident

Laurinburg, Dec. 15.—Rev. Robert Lee McKinnon, Presbyterian minister, aged 82, was killed in an automobile accident at a crossing in Charlotte, W. Va., last night at 11 o'clock. Details of the accident could not be ascertained.

The deceased was born four miles from here and was a member of one of the most prominent families in eastern North Carolina. He was very popular among his associates in Scotland county, having graduated at Davidson in 1914, and Richmond seminary in 1917. He was associate pastor at Charlotte, W. Va., at the time of his death.

He is survived by his wife and one child; his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. McKinnon; two sisters, Misses Olive and Grace McKinnon; four brothers, Martin, Mardock, John and E. W., Jr.

Killed By Looking Into Pistol Barrel

Asheville, Dec. 16.—Roy Stewart, 17, a resident of the Mills River section is dead as the result of the accidental discharge of an old revolver which the boy had found at the home of his grandfather. Examining the weapon, the boy looked in the barrel of the pistol. The explosion sent a bullet crashing into the eye and through the brain. Death was almost instantaneous.

WANTS NO MASKS TO ENFORCE LAWS POTEAU STATES

Baptist Convention Hears Denunciation of Disguised Law Enforcement

HEAD OF WAKE FOREST
MAKES STRONG APPEAL
Dr. B. W. Spillman, re-elected President For Another Term Over His Protest, Dr. Barrett Withdraws His Name; No Invitations For Next Meeting.

Gastonia, Dec. 14.—A ringing denunciation by Dr. William Louis Poteau, president of Wake Forest College, of organizations, which operate behind masks or disguises of any kind, featured the closing session of the 93rd annual convention of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention, which closed here today. There were no invitations for the 1924 convention and the names were left to the executive committee with Raleigh getting the most frequent mention.

Previous to adjournment the convention disregarded the protests of its president, Dr. B. W. Spillman, of Kinston, and elected him to his 7th consecutive term. Resolutions were also passed endorsing legislation, simplifying the position previously taken against the use of police funds for teaching the Bible by providing plans for course in the State to be offered students in State institutions by the several denominations.

The Outstanding Feature
However, the total of resolutions was unusually small and throughout the four days' session the convention concentrated on its internal affairs, the outstanding actions being provision for the immediate election of a new million dollar plant for Meredith College, formulation of a plan for raising during the next year the remaining \$2,000,000 of the \$3,000,000 pledge of the college for the year 1924 and adoption of a calendar year 1925.

The convention sat down squarely on a request from the Near East Relief Association for a "fifty-fifty" participation in relief work. The request was presented by Secretary Charles E. Mandy, who stated a representative of the organization had been on hand all week. Dr. Mandy pushed the request on without prejudice but it received immediate and unanimous disapproval, the convention unanimously adopting a resolution offered by W. C. Barrett of Gastonia, recommending that all Baptist churches and individuals send their donations for relief to the Foreign (Continued on page 6.)

TO HOLD ANNUAL MEET JANUARY 11

Annual Meeting Local Chamber of Commerce Is Called by Directors

The directors of the Dunn Chamber of Commerce at their monthly meeting Friday evening decided to hold the annual meeting of the organization on Monday night, January 11, 1924. At the meeting the officers will make their annual reports and the matter of whether or not Dunn is to have a Chamber of Commerce next year will be decided. This meeting will also be the time for the election of a board of directors to serve during the year 1924.

At the meeting Friday evening several matters of importance were considered, one of which was an effort to get a venger plant to locate in Dunn. It was pointed out that there is an unlimited supply of timber near Dunn for supplying such an industry with raw material. F. Grover Britt, Secretary, was instructed to run an advertisement in several papers in an effort to get such a plant to locate here.

Miss Marie Turlington, assistant secretary, tendered her resignation, effective January 1, and the resignation was accepted. The matter of electing a successor to Miss Turlington was deferred until a later date. Miss Turlington has rendered efficient service during the time she has been connected with the Chamber of Commerce.

While the Chamber of Commerce has not succeeded in bringing any large industries here this year, several small ones have been secured and several important gains have been made through the efforts of this organization.

Twin City Tobacco Company Is Bankrupt

Greensboro, Dec. 15.—Bailey Brothers, Inc., Winston-Salem tobacco manufacturing concern, this afternoon filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy in Federal court here.

The petition, signed by F. E. Bailey, vice-president and treasurer, admits the inability of the corporation to meet its obligations and requests the appointment of a receiver. This will be done, probably Monday, by Judge E. Yates Webb, who is handling all affairs in the western district because of the continued illness of Judge James E. Boyd.

The Bailey concern lists debts of \$711,427.57 of which \$551,905.57 is secured claims. Assets are placed at \$2,601,466.95, of which \$454,322.49 is real estate and \$821,494.75 patents, copyrights and trade marks. Stock in cash is held at only \$18,000 and cash on hand is listed at \$201.65. Policies of insurance amount to \$600,000 and deposits in banks \$27,321.19.

Train Makes Run With Passenger Coach Afire

Winston-Salem, Dec. 15.—Shortly after passenger train No. 8, from Greensboro to Winston-Salem, left Guilford college, last night, it was discovered that one of the coaches was afire. The discovery was reported to Conductor Board, who passed the information to the engineer, John Snyder, who lost no time in the run to Friendship, where a bucket brigade was formed and the blaze was soon extinguished.

The train crew and passengers gave three cheers to the Friendship fire department for the good work accomplished. The train arrived here on time, but when it came into the station it was discovered that the fire was still alive between the roof and ceiling of the coach. It was soon extinguished by the use of a chemical equipment.

Bowman Is Outlaw And Fugitive From Justice

Greensboro, Dec. 15.—Copies of a warrant issued by Judge E. A. Davis, outlaw and fugitive from justice, were received by Sheriff D. B. Stafford, of Guilford county, today. Bowman, "late of Lee county," is said to have attacked Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Morgan near Sanford on December 9 and to have fired upon the sheriff of Lee county when the official went to arrest him. The proclamation was signed in chambers at Smithfield on December 10. Bowman is described as being of roddy complexion, five feet eight or 10 inches tall, weight 240 pounds, aged 46, very corpulent and probably wounded in the hand or head by bird shot from a shotgun.

Tarboro Insurance Man Kills Himself

Tarboro, Dec. 14.—This morning about 9:30 o'clock T. E. Jacobs, prominent insurance man of the firm of Jacobs and Royster, and popular citizen, was found dead in his bedroom, having shot himself a short time before. The deceased had eaten breakfast and his wife thought he had gone to his office. Upon going upstairs she found her husband cold in death.

No message was found and no one can account for the rash deed. The deceased leaves a wife and three children, Francis, a son in the tenth grade in the city schools, and two other children who are away at college, Mary Powell at the North Carolina College for Women and Thomas Baker at State University.

Mrs. Jacobs thought her husband had gone to his office and a short time after breakfast she went upstairs to straighten up the upstairs bedrooms. Going into one she found her husband's body lying on the floor, a pistol in his hand. Neither she nor any neighbor heard the shot, but it is thought he was dead some little time before his wife found him.

Charlotte Visited By Million Dollar Fire

Charlotte was visited by a million dollar fire early Sunday night when a number of stores were burned and several others damaged by fire and water in the East Trade Street retail district. The fire started in the hardware store of Smith Wadsworth Company and spread with unusual rapidity. The stock in this store, valued at more than \$250,000, was a total loss. Other heavy losses were Bulk Brothers, Bird's and H. C. Long.

MODERN BUILDING COMPLETED FRIDAY

New Home Carolina Telephone And Telegraph Company A Credit To Town

The new home of the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company, West Cumberland street, which was completed Friday is one of the best finished business houses in Dunn. The building is a three-story brick structure 25 by 56 feet, with all the modern and convenient arrangements. Nothing but the very best material was used in its construction and the building, both inside and out, is one of architectural beauty.

The first floor, or basement, will be used as a storage room, battery room, cable vault and heating plant. The cables enter the building underground from Broad street. The second floor will contain the commercial office, while the third floor will house the switch-boards. A rest room for operators is also provided on the third floor.

While the carpenters have finished their work on the building, it will require several weeks to install the new equipment, including new switch-boards. It is not likely that new equipment will be ready for use before April 1, if by that time, according to E. J. Nobles, resident manager. With the new switch-boards and other modern fixtures, the local exchange will be able to render much more efficient service, according to Mr. Nobles.

While the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company owns office buildings in a number of towns and cities, the new building here is perhaps the most modern in every respect yet erected by this company. The building is steam heated throughout, with running water on every floor. The building was erected by E. F. Killete & Company, contractors, of Wilson, while the work was under the direct supervision of E. E. Smith, of Wilson. This new building is indeed a credit to Dunn and the company which erected it.

Civil Court Calendar

Following is the calendar of civil cases arranged for hearing before Recorder M. M. Jernigan Friday of this week:

991 John L. Sorrell vs T. V. Stewart.
992 C. T. Johnson vs W. C. Stewart.
993 J. L. Thompson Co. vs A. L. McLaughlin.
994 O. J. Byrd vs Sargh Wilkins and H. Wilkins.
995 Central Petroleum Co. vs J. Wash Hodges.
996 J. B. Barefoot vs Talmadge Barfoot.
997 N. A. Bell & Co. vs Richard Williams.
998 E. F. Young, Receiver vs E. J. and Ella Godwin.
999 Wiley Godwin vs George Holliday.
1000 J. B. Colt Co. vs A. B. Weaver.
1001 American Fertilizer Co. vs W. O. Barefoot.
1002 P. E. Monds, Administrator vs W. C. Glover.
1003 J. L. Thompson Company vs J. J. Mitchell.
1004 A. A. Turlington vs Josiah Beasley.
1005 Stephens Howard Co. vs L. W. Jernigan.
1006 Stephens Howard vs D. M. Williams.
1007 Johnson Cotton Company vs Wilson Lucas, Jr.
1008 P. E. Monds, Administrator vs E. R. Honeycutt.
1009 P. E. Monds, Administrator vs A. I. Strickland, Lone Strickland.
1010 P. E. Monds, Administrator vs W. R. Honeycutt.
1011 P. E. Monds, Administrator vs J. T. Merritt.
1012 Stephens Howard Co. vs Sandy Adams.
1013 P. E. Monds, Administrator vs Forest P. Holland.
1014 R. E. Parrish vs Minson McLamb.
1015 P. E. Monds, Administrator vs J. L. Jackson.
1016 Butler Bros. vs G. T. Strickland and Mrs. G. T. Strickland.
1017 Castleberg, Inc. vs M. G. Suggs.
1018 E. & M. Hirschler Company vs J. C. Webber.
1019 Stephens Howard Company vs A. W. Sawyer.

7-Year-Old Boy Dies Of Burns

Jesse Bell, 7-year-old son of William Henry Bell, colored, who lives on N. A. Townsend's farm, near Godwin, died last night of burns received Sunday morning when his clothing caught on an open fire-place. The boy, who was dumb, was in the kitchen alone when his clothing caught and he was horribly burned before the fire was extinguished by his sister.

This was the second one of Bell's children to have been burned to death near Christmas. A six-year-old daughter was burned to death just before Christmas in 1907, so the father stated to a Dispatch reporter this morning.

One would expect a woman's club to serve good food; I visited a woman's club the other day and the food was even better than I expected.

REV. A. W. PLYER DENOUNCES KLAN

Greensboro Editor-Freemason Plays Masked And Robed Cowards of K. K. K.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Branding the Ku Klux Klan as "an obscuration of the social organism engendered by the political, social and ethical perversion of the war," Rev. Dr. A. W. Plyer of Greensboro, N. C., denounced today before the Southern Methodist Press association of church editors from all over the South, a bitter and satiric attack upon the order.

The attack came during the third session of the three-day conference, devoted to discussion of editorial policy, and the picturesque and scathing plumes of the church editor drew a round of applause at the conclusion of his address.

Criticizing the plan for hiding the identity of its members behind masks and its practice of writing anonymous letters, the speaker excoriated the organization also for its methods adopted against negroes, Jews and Roman Catholics, and concluded with this picturesque description of a so-called Methodist preacher.

"But now we have the pitiable and contemptible spectacle of a so-called Methodist preacher clothed in a night shirt with a white rag over his face going out to regulate society."

"You ask him, 'Why the gab?' He answers 'I am fixed up to fight boot-leggers, and I am hot after Jews and Roman Catholics.'"

"God save the Methodist church, or any other church, for that matter, from a preacher who is too big a coward to fight in the open."

Object For Shotgun
The Ku Klux expected, the speaker said, "by hooded disguises and grotesque costumes, to strike terror to the hearts of the uninitiated. But they have failed ignominiously in this except with a few ignorant negroes and a good sprinkling of the members of several state legislatures—men who see preferably afraid of their shadows."

"He who goes about a man's premises under cover of darkness and unwilling to give his name becomes the object of the honest old farmer's shotgun."

The speaker declared that he, too was "gratified that I think I had in Roman Catholicism and do not hesitate to say so, but this opposition is at all times, and in every instance, in the open."

Plan for Church Unifications
The conference heard with interest a plea by Dr. A. C. Miller of Arkansas, for unification of the Methodist churches. Dr. Miller said, discussing the present proposed plan, that it was "fair to all parties, sensible, practical and workable, and that it is desirable that Methodists in America form a stronger alliance to promote the kingdom of God. Unification is feasible and from the Christian's standpoint, desirable. It should not be forced, but should be diligently and honorably sought."—Washington Correspondence, Greensboro Daily News.

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