

THE WAYNESVILLE MOUNTAINEER

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WAYNESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1933

HOMER BROWN WIFE MURDER GIVEN "LIFE"

Low Mentality Saves Haywood County Man From Electric Chair

The concerted opinion of every juror concerned that Homer Brown, of this county, wife slayer is of unusually low mentality. Monday resulting in the turning of Brown's path from death in the electric chair to life imprisonment in State's prison.

Governor J. C. B. Ehringhaus Monday commuted Brown's sentence from death by electrocution to a life sentence. The action followed intensive investigation of the case by Commissioner of Pardons Edwin M. Gill. Brown was convicted at the July 19th term of Haywood county Superior court of murder in the first degree.

The commutation order, says that all 12 jurors, within 15 minutes after the verdict had been returned, signed a petition requesting that the sentence of death be commuted. We think this recommendation on account of the low mentality of the prisoner as we are not thoroughly satisfied and convinced that he was not insane at the time he committed the crime. We have some doubt as to the moral responsibility of the prisoner at the time the crime was committed, the jurors' petition stated.

The trial judge, Felix Alley, also requested that Brown's sentence be commuted on grounds of the prisoner's low mentality. The father, brother and sister of Mrs. Brown, in addition to John M. Queen joined in asking executive clemency after a petition signed by more than 300 residents of the township in which the murder was committed asking commutation also was submitted.

The governor's order also states that Superior Court Judge R. Hunt Parker, who was a spectator at the trial, is "convinced the sentence of death should be commuted to life imprisonment."

At the trial, Brown's counsel W. J. Hannah and C. H. Smathers, relied upon a plea of insanity.

Brevard Man Wins Tennis Tournament

Weatherby and Romph Won Trophy For Doubles. Dr. Padgett Was Runner-Up

Duncan MacDougall, of Brevard, won the Western North Carolina singles championship here Sunday at the Piedmont Hotel court after a week of playing by some of the outstanding players of this section.

Dr. Charles Padgett runner-up, did not play because he had just completed three hard sets against Coleman of Canton.

C. E. Weatherby of this city and Ed Romph of Florida, won the doubles trophy by defeating Maxwell and Padgett in a hard fought battle.

Mr. Tom Irwin had charge of the tournament which is the second annual tournament to be staged at the Piedmont.

C. E. Weatherby announced yesterday that plans are underway to begin a tournament at Belle Meade for local players, either the last of this week or the first of next. All interested in a tournament should get in touch with Mr. Weatherby.

South Carolina Court Is Held In Court House Here

Last week a very unusual event took place at the courthouse here. A South Carolina case was tried before Judge William H. Grimbail, of Charleston, who is spending his vacation here.

The case was heard in the court room here, and involved a \$415,000 suit. Quite a bit of interest was shown by local people, not only in it being an out-of-state case, but also amount involved.

B. D. Bunn Named Apex School Head

B. D. Bunn, former superintendent of the Waynesville Township schools, has accepted the position as superintendent of the Apex schools. Apex is located about 12 miles from Raleigh, and has an up-to-date school system. There are 37 teachers in the schools there.

Mr. Bunn has not definitely decided when he will leave for Apex.

Woman Who Was Shot Twice Is Now Improving

Mrs. Joe Browning Is "Getting Along Nicely" At Haywood Hospital

Mrs. Joe Browning, 20, of the Summit section of the county was reported by hospital authorities to be getting along nicely and improving from wounds she received last Thursday when she was shot with a shotgun at her home when she opened the door in answer to a call for her husband.

Four men have been arrested and lodged in the county jail pending a hearing which will likely be called when Mrs. Browning's condition will permit her to attend.

Reports of the shooting were that Mrs. Browning answered the door when someone called for her husband, who was not at home. When he partially opened the door a shotgun was pointed through the opening and fired at her twice. It was the general opinion that the shot was meant for her husband.

Sheriff J. A. Lowe and Deputy Sheriff Will Carver arrested Edward Richmond 75 of Cecil Township about 3 o'clock Friday morning following the shooting. On Saturday the sheriff arrested Clark Frandy 25, Robert White 26 and Wade Hopkins, 28, all of the Summit section.

Much Interest Being Shown In Flower Show 22nd

Judging from the numerous inquiries being made the Summer Flower Show held annually by the Garden Department of the Community Club, promises to hold unusual interest for the public. The exhibits will be on display in the building next door to the Waynesville Theatre, and the show will be open to the public at 2:00 in the afternoon on Tuesday, August 22, and will remain open until 9:00 o'clock in the evening.

One display that is anticipated with keen interest is the exhibit to be made by the New College Camp of Columbia University which is located on the Springdale Stock Farm. Also interesting entries in the prize to be given for the most beautiful and interesting exhibit in the show.

All exhibits must be in and arranged by 12 o'clock, as the judges must have time for their decisions before the doors are open to the public.

The following is a list of the prizes to be given on August 22nd:

- 1—Sweetest prize—silver vase
- 2—Continuation of two colors, one predominating—\$1.00
- 3—Also flowers bouquet
- (a) First 1.00
- (b) Second50
- 4—Best collection of three flowers—1.00
- 5—Best collection of gladioli—1.50
- (a) First 1.50
- (b) Second 1.00
- 6—Best collection of Primulas gladioli 1.00
- 7—Best collection of named varieties of gladioli 1.00
- 8—Best basket of one variety of gladioli 1.00 (Not less than six sprays)
- 9—Best collection of dahlias: (a) First 1.50 (b) Second 1.00
- 10—Best specimen of single dahlias 1.00
- 11—Best collection of zinnias75
- 12—Best collection of dwarf zinnias75
- 13—Best collection of candelabras75
- 14—Best collection of nasturtiums50
- 15—Best collection of petunias50
- 16—Best collection of marigolds50
- 17—Best collection of dwarf marigolds50
- 18—Best collection of annual phlox50
- 19—Best collection of single larkspur50
- 20—Best collection of double larkspur50
- 21—Best collection of asters75
- 22—Best collection of lilies: (a) First 1.00 (b) Second50
- 23—Best collection of cosmos50
- 24—Best collection of sweet scabiosa50
- 25—Best collection of sun flowers50
- 26—Best collection of roses: (a) First 1.00 (b) Second50
- 27—Best collection of wild flowers: (a) First 1.50 (b) Second75
- 28—Best collection of Hydrangeas50
- 29—Best entry outside of Waynesville township 1.00
- 30—Best display of flowers never before exhibited50
- 31—Most attractive and best constructed bird house (must be made by exhibitor, either boy or girl under sixteen) 1.00
- 32—Most beautiful and outstanding exhibit in show 1.00

3 Cars Of Potatoes Shipped From Here

J. G. Terrell, at the Southern Depot here, told The Mountaineer yesterday that for the first time in 2 or 3 years that carloads of potatoes were being shipped from here. The potatoes are being shipped to Georgia. The third car was shipped Wednesday.

There has been an increase in the shipment of vegetables from Waynesville during the past two weeks, Mr. Terrell reported.

"Business in all lines at the depot—express, freight and passenger—has showed a marked increase during the past few weeks," Mr. Terrell added.

J. Sheffield And Son Bound Over On Slaying Charge

Father And Son Held For Slaying Bud Miller At Woodrow, Welch Is Better

James Sheffield and son Leonard, were bound over without bond to the Superior Court of Haywood county on a preliminary hearing here Monday afternoon before Magistrate E. D. Ferguson on a charge of slaying Bud Miller on Sunday August 6 at Woodrow.

James Welch, who was with Miller at the time the shooting was hot, was also hit in the law by shots. He was reported to be doing very nicely and getting along fine at the Haywood county hospital yesterday. Mr. Welch was not able to attend the hearing.

Young Sheffield was arrested soon after the shooting. His father was arrested the next day by Sheriff Lowe. In the absence of Solicitor John M. Queen the state was represented by Grover S. Davis and Leo Davis at the hearing. The defendants were represented by George H. Ward, of Asheville and M. G. Stamey of this city.

Forty Millions In Insurance Paid To North Carolinians

New York, North Carolina life insurance policyholders and beneficiaries were paid \$40,000,000 in 1932 according to the special "Life Payments" number issued today by the National Underwriter, weekly insurance newspaper. This was an increase of \$6,200,000 or 18 per cent more than the \$33,800,000 paid in 1931.

North Carolina ranked 25th in payments among all states, which is 1.2th in population, the per capita being \$12.80.

Charlotte led North Carolina cities in life insurance payments in 1932.

CROP LOAN SUPERVISOR WILL BE HERE TODAY

S. S. Williams, field supervisor for this district will be in Waynesville Friday afternoon, August 17. He will see Frank Ferguson's office at the courthouse from 2 to 3 p. m.

The purpose of the meeting is for the field supervisor to receive payment on loans if any crops have been sold and to discuss marketing of other crops.

Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Barber had as their guests during last week Mr. Barber's sister, Mrs. T. S. Summerell, and her daughter, Miss Frances Summerell, of China Grove.

ODD AS IT SEEMS

- One of the largest subscribers to periodicals in the world is McGill University. The university regularly receives about 3500 magazines. The collection has been rated by visiting librarians as one of the finest in the world.
- Turkish officials are considering the proposal to send six drummers to beat their drums outside the houses of delinquent taxpayers for at least an hour a day.
- The only German shell to land on United States soil during the World War was aimed at a group of barges by a submarine, and landed near Orleans, Mass.
- Milk is heavier than cream. The oil and fat in the cream causes it to rise to the top.
- 50,932,900 miles were flown along American aviation routes during 1932.
- The sixteen southern states have a land area of 945,000 square miles or 31 per cent of the area of the United States.

HAYWOOD DRIES ORGANIZE HERE BAILEY, PRES.

Anti-Repeal Group Plan To Organize County For November Election

J. T. Bailey of Canton, was chosen county chairman of the dry forces of Haywood county at a meeting of committee selected from various sections at their first meeting here Monday morning at the Presbyterian church. About 10 persons were present and made plan for organizing the county for the November election.

M. R. Hillford organizer for the dry forces in Western North Carolina, delivered an address and a list of the names of those who followed. Other officials elected were: C. A. Green of Waynesville, vice chairman, James Allen of Waynesville, secretary, George J. Hampton of Canton, vice chairman of women, Mrs. Sam Knight, of Hazelwood, vice chairman of young people, W. L. Lara of Waynesville, publicity chairman.

At the beginning of the meeting the Rev. E. B. Hayes presided. He said the purpose of the meeting was to organize the county for the November election. The Rev. H. W. Ransom, pastor of the First Baptist church of Waynesville, and James Allen of Waynesville, were the speakers.

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Opera Will Be Given At Lake

Atlanta Philharmonic Society To Present Faust

Coming to Lake Junaluska is the major attraction of the 1933 season, the Atlanta Philharmonic Society of Atlanta, Georgia, will present the opera "Faust" by Gounod, in concert form on Saturday night, August 19, at 8:30 o'clock.

According to the announcement the opera will be presented by 80 members of the Atlanta Philharmonic society with a chorus of 60, concert orchestra of 24 and 10 soloists under the personal direction of Lawrence G. Nelson, and the general management of Walter Hebert of Atlanta.

No other announcement has aroused such wide interest and favorable comment as this and Superior comment on the Atlanta Philharmonic society.

New Jury List Is Now Being Drawn

Only Those Capable Of Serving Will Be Placed On The New List

Edwin Haynes, register of deeds, was busy this week copying names from the tax books for a new jury list from which the commissioners will draw the jury for the September term of Civil court Monday.

The list is being brought up to date by the board and a representative from each community. All persons of questionable character have been eliminated from the new list.

Under the present method, Mr. Haynes stated a citizen would not likely be drawn for jury service more than once in ten years.

Condition Of Mrs. Meade "Critical"

Mr. Clark, Injured In Wreck Last Week, Said To Be Slowly Recovering

Mr. A. W. Meade, who was injured in an automobile collision a week ago, was reported late yesterday as "still in a critical condition." Mrs. Meade was the driver of the car in which Mrs. Joseph E. Johnson was fatally injured.

Mr. D. L. Clark of Asheville, who was in the other car which figured in the collision, was reported as "slowly recovering—still very sick."

Roosevelt Saved Lawn By Flying

President Roosevelt may have been thinking of his front lawn when he flew to Chicago last summer to accept the Democratic nomination. Recalling how 10,000 persons had appeared on the lawn when he was notified of his nomination for the Vice-Presidency in 1920, he said: "A curious thing occurred afterward. They were packed in, so tightly, I suppose, that about a week later all the grass curled up and died. We had to have the whole place plowed up and replanted." "Is that why you flew to Chicago for the notification ceremony last year?" someone asked. "It was cheaper," Mr. Roosevelt replied, with a laugh.

Wins Junior Title



Miss Mary Ann Anderson of Hazelwood, Wis., who won the women's western junior golf championship in the tournament that was held at Lexington, Ill.

Misses Heid At Mrs. Jos. E. Johnson Friday

Misses Heid, of Asheville, and Misses Johnson, of Waynesville, were the guests of Mrs. Jos. E. Johnson at a luncheon given at the home of Mrs. Johnson on Friday.

Died Of Injuries Received In Auto Wreck Last Wednesday Afternoon

Frank J. ... was killed in an automobile accident on Wednesday afternoon.

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TOURIST BUSINESS SHOWS AN INCREASE HERE

Boarding Houses, Hotels And Transportation Lines Report Increases From Summer Visitors

MANY FOREIGN CARS SEEN ON STREET HERE

A general survey of the tourist center, and transportation companies made by The Mountaineer yesterday revealed that there were more visitors in Waynesville at present than there had been during the season.

A check of foreign cars which Tuesday by Homer Davis showed that 20 foreign cars were on the Main street that day. Others were seen passing through but not being able to get the state name were not included. Cars bearing tags from the following states were checked: Indiana, Penn. (10), N. Y., N. J., N. C., Va., W. Va., Md., N. C., S. C., Ga., Ark., Miss., Ill., Ohio, Mass., Vermont, Rhode Island, W. Virginia, Idaho.

E. G. Terrell of the Southern Railway, reported that the tax on train tickets increased about twenty per cent during the past two weeks. This increase is because a train travel from and to Waynesville, freight and express shipments have all increased according to Mr. Terrell.

The Queen City Bus Lines report that the number of passengers from Monday to Friday has increased about twenty per cent during the past two weeks.

James A. Johnson, manager of Southern Assembly at Lake Junaluska, reported a 20 per cent increase in business at the lake.

"We are practically filled to capacity," he stated. "During the past two weeks there has been an increase of about twenty per cent of visitors."

Date is set For Dahlia Show Here

The date for the Annual Dahlia Show which is under the sponsorship of the Women's Club, has been tentatively fixed as September 12th. The show will be held in the building next to the Waynesville Theatre.

Weather conditions, this year, have been unusually favorable and the flowers are more beautiful and in greater production than has been true for many seasons.

It is expected that exhibits will be greater in both size and number than ever before. The public is eagerly looking forward to the "feast" of flowers.

Chapel Hill Lady Now Has Blue Hair

Miss J. J. Wilson, of Chapel Hill, wife of the late J. J. Wilson, is reported to have dyed her hair blue. She is the only woman in the county who has done so.

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MARRIAGE LICENSES

T. L. Moore, Crabtree R. F. D., and Ina Ledford, Crabtree R. F. D., Rufus M. Wright, Waynesville Route 1 and Emma E. Shean, Hazelwood.

John Rathbone, Fines Creek, and Anna May Smith, Fines Creek.