

Duplin Times

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

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Son Shoots Father At Hallsville A Funeral Taking Place Nearby

Joe Houston, age 50, was instantly killed Sunday afternoon by his son at his son's home. The coroner's inquest was held Tuesday night and the jury ruled it was murder. The story given the Times was as follows:

Mr. Houston, his wife and 5 year old daughter went to visit his son, Leamon, Sunday afternoon. Both families lived at Hallsville. Joe's son lived within 300 yards of the Hallsville Presbyterian church cemetery. The funeral of Clarence Sandling was taking place. The Houston group and some neighbors were sitting on Leamon's back porch. Some drinking was going on. No fussing or arguing was related. Leamon left the porch, went into the house and secured a single barreled shot gun. He returned to the porch and his father told him he had better put the gun up before someone got hurt. Then Leamon drew up the gun and shot his father in the chest, killing him instantly. It is reported his father committed a murder in Duplin some years back.

Deputy Sheriff W. O. Houston was notified and immediately went to the scene. Sheriff Ralph Jones was called and Coroner C. B. Sitterson was called. Leamon was immediately lodged in jail in Kenansville without privilege of bond. Also West Williams was jailed as a material witness. He is now out under bond. Hobson Scott, it was reported, also was jailed for refusing to cooperate with officers. He was tried in County Court Monday for refusing to cooperate and was given 90 days on the roads by Judge West. Suspended on condition he pay a fine of \$50 and costs. He is now free.

Some people attending the Sandling funeral heard the shot and immediately rushed to the scene.



INVESTIGATED KILLINGS — Deputy Sheriff Murray Byrd, above, of Faison, is shown examining the pistol with which Milford James Cobb, Calypso Negro, killed Lizzie Williams Roberson, and then shot himself. The bodies were found near Faison city dump about two days after the killings. — Staff photo by Brock.

BOB GRADY SAYS

This may seem a little out of the ordinary for a business man to be telling the world about his competitor. As a rule we are all too selfish, wanting everything for ourselves. I have published newspapers in Duplin, Halifax, Warren, Jones, and Pender counties and associated with papers in Wilson county. Throughout my experiences I have found that the Wallace Enterprise, published by Harry Oswald and the Mount Olive Tribune, owned by Homer Brock and now managed by his son, Cletus Brock, are the cleanest competitors I have ever encountered. In reality I wouldn't call them competitors but contemporaries.

Preacher Morrison said he was going to get me for blackmail for publishing the story last week about his fishing expedition. Doesn't that go for all of us? The editor is "cussed" if he doesn't print the news and he is "cussed" if he does. So what? We all like to read the news, particularly if it concerns us. Folks send your news in. It is impossible for us to get around to see all of you. What you know that is interesting to you is interesting to your neighbor. Jot it down and mail it in. That's what the mails are for. And PLEASE remember that we must have copy in as early as possible. Thanks, Bob.

Incidentally the bank has just called about a note that is due. We have other bills that are due. If folks who owe us would have paid on time, our bills would have been paid on time. We have been sending out notices to most of you readers that your subscription is due. The amount isn't much. If 2000 of you would send in your remittance NOW we would be out of the hole. And this applies to all businesses. If you pay your bill when it is due, then the other fellow can pay his bill and life will be much happier all around. We then can pay our preachers and keep our conscience clear, if we have a conscience.

The other day I was reminiscing over days gone by, particularly the days when I was studying Bible in College. Yes, I studied it, but learned very little. Cardinal Newman, the old Catholic Cardinal, said you could not reason with religion. We just had to accept what we were told, and make the best of it. Most of us do not really study the Bible and at times question the authority of the Book. So what can one do? Accept the Bible and treat your fellowmen as you would want to be treated.

I have in my possession a poem. I don't know who wrote it or who printed it. It came into my possession while I was a patient at Rex Hospital. It was entitled "The Epic Of The Bed Pan". It is rich reading. Many who have read it suggested that I publish it in the Times. I think best not to do so. I am going to print some copies and they will be for sale for 25 cents each. That's what I paid for the one I have. If you have read "The Passing of the Old Backhouse", attributed to James Whitcomb Riley, you will get the idea. If you send in orders include an extra nickel to cover cost of mailing.

Duplin Health Dept.

The Times has had an opportunity to observe the work and efforts of the Duplin Health Department in its efforts to eliminate T.B. in Duplin County. They have had a hard job and each worker has given his or her sincere efforts to the task. They are due many thanks from everyone in Duplin.



DUPLIN BOOKMOBILE — The entire new Duplin County Bookmobile, under the supervision of County Librarian, Miss Dorothy Wightman, Miss Dorothy Wightman began operation on regularly-scheduled routes over Duplin county last week. Incorporating many new features, the Chevrolet panel-type truck will soon be a familiar sight among Duplin's rural communities. Miss Wightman, second from left, in the above photo, hopes to cover the county at least once each month. Shown making their selection of books are Cebron Fussell, of Clinton, who

was visiting his grandmother, Mrs. E. B. Sides of near Warsaw, shown behind Miss Wightman, and Charles Hales. Between 500 and 600 volumes are carried on each trip. — Staff photo by Cletus Brock.

Enjoy Trip To New York

Lions Gilbert Alphin and D. H. McKay of Kenansville represented the local Lions Club at the International Convention of Lions Clubs in New York last week. They report a very interesting and enjoyable trip, however, will not tell their wives everything they did.

The Convention was held at Madison Square Garden. They report that North Carolina made a very good showing. The North Carolina band was recognized as the best one there. An attractive display advertising Wallace as the World's Largest Strawberry market attracted quite a bit of attention. This display was made possible through efforts of the Wallace Lions Club. Other Duplinites were supposed to have gone but Gilbert and Heinie did not see them. They stopped at the Taft Hotel which was headquarters for the North Carolina delegation. They went up on the train and flew back to Raleigh on plane.

Coroner's Report Death Joe Houston

Jury Return at the inquest of Joe Houston, deceased, read as follows:

We the undersigned Jury after viewing the deceased body and making inquiry as to how he came to his death, and after hearing the evidence, we find that Joe Houston came to his death by a gun shot wound in the hands of Leahman Houston, causing instant death.

And we further recommend and order that the defendant, Leahman Houston be held without bond for Grand Jury Action.

P. E. Rouse, Billie Brock, Frank Rhodes, E. J. Johnson, Hez Dobson, Jack Griffin, Jurors.

This Return made August 3rd, 1948.

C. B. Sitterson, Coroner of Duplin County.

Local Lions Enjoy Seafood

On Wednesday night of last week the Kenansville Lions Club held its meeting in Marshwood City. Most of the members attended. They enjoyed a seafood dinner.

Duplin Has New Welfare Supt. Mrs. Highsmith Took Over Monday

Mrs. Juliette Highsmith, widow and native of Maine took over on Monday as acting superintendent of Duplin's Welfare Department. She is replacing Mrs. Harvey Boney who has been given a six months leave of absence due to her health.

Mrs. Highsmith's late husband was from Atkinson, in Pender County. Her eldest son, L. A. Highsmith, Jr., married Mary Ellsworth Jones of Wallace.

Mrs. Highsmith has moved to Kenansville and is living in the home of John Currie.

She did graduate work in Welfare at the University of North Carolina. Before coming here she was doing child welfare work in New Hanover County.

Members of the Duplin Welfare Board are Mrs. John D. Robinson of Wallace, John Croom of Magnolia, and Roy Cates of Faison.

Beulaville Presbyterians Planning To Build New Manse; Money Raising Now Underway

Members of the Beulaville Presbyterian Church have been raising money for a manse for 8 months.

The women of the church sold Christmas Cards and two pigs were donated which were barbecued and sold with a profit of \$294.87.

The Woman's Auxiliary served the Junior-Senior Banquet this past spring at \$1.25 per plate. All food being donated. Brick, donated by the Kenansville church — profit \$285.25.

During the summer the ladies of the church had a barbecue supper on the church lawn with plates selling at \$1.00 and \$1.50. Every thing was donated except two of the pigs which had to be bought. \$359.35 profits were realized from the supper. The church now has

over \$900 on the manse building fund and there are many donations promised.

The Wilkington Presbytery has promised to double any amount for the manse that the members raise.

The members greatly appreciate all donations and the help that has been given by members of other churches in the community.

NEW BOOK

"Fishing & Hunting in the Great Smokies", by Jim Gasque, of Asheville, has been published. It is both descriptive and anecdotal and gives definite information on where and how to enjoy the western North Carolina outdoors.

It's Grand Old Opry Time In Town Sat. Night; Come Out; Leave Kids Home

"The Grand Old Opry" of Beulaville will be in town Saturday night. The Leary Boys band, who can put on as good a show as the "Grand Old Opry" of Nashville, Tennessee, will be here and strut their stuff.

Hundreds of folks from all over Duplin are expected to attend. Many of their kith and kin from far and wide also are expected to attend. But please, folks, leave the children under 12 at home. It may

seem a little unfair not to let them come out but medical authorities advise against it. The older folks seem not quite so susceptible to Polio as youngsters.

"Terbaccer puttin' in time" is about over, so let's all come to Kenansville Saturday night and enjoy ourselves dancing the "Virginia Reel" and other old time dances on the street. Get here when you can. Especially we want to see Faison Smith and his attractive

wife Susie of Albertson and see if Faison can cut the capers he used to cut when he was a few years younger. You folks in Albertson will recall what we are talking about. Also, Ed Grady of Albertson, you and Bee come, and let's hear you fiddle some. I can recall many other dancers of Duplin whose faces we would like to see here. You know who you are, so come on out and let's "make whoopee", but leave the "bottle" behind.



The above picture shows a healthy chest. It is hoped your's is healthy. Last Saturday morning about 11 o'clock Evina Smith, colored, of Deep Bottom was brought to Kenansville for a chest x-ray. She was so weak two people had to carry her upstairs to the Health Department office. She was carried down and into the x-ray trailer. She was placed before the x-ray machine and fell sprawling on the floor. Operators finally succeeded in making a picture. It was developed immediately. It revealed one lung practically gone and the other very spotted. Doctors said she couldn't live much longer. Her case could have been arrested if known in time. Last March she gave birth to a baby; 3 weeks later she contracted pneumonia. The idea folks is that if you have a suspicion have an x-ray. It's better to know than take chances.

Murder - Suicide Ruled In Faison Death Case; Reasons Unknown

A grim spectacle faced the people of Faison on Thursday of last week. A town employee drove to the town dump pile. There he saw two bodies, lying close together in a decomposing condition, beside an old Chevrolet car. Deputy Sheriff Murray Byrd was notified. He investigated and called Coroner C. B. Sitterson of Kenansville. Mr. Sitterson went to the scene and the odor was so terrible he had to put on a gas mask in order to get close enough to the bodies to make an examination. He found Lizzie Williams Roberson, about 25, and Milford James Cobb, also about 25,

were dead; Cobb having been shot in the left chest and Williams shot in the right chest. They were both colored. Later a colored undertaker from Mt. Olive, on removing the bodies, found a pistol under Cobb. Mr. Sitterson empaneled a jury whose findings were that the tragedy was murder-suicide.

A report said that Cobb had told his aunt in Sampson County that he was in trouble and that he was going to kill himself.

Lizzie's husband lives in Philadelphia. She was visiting relatives in Faison. Her husband had just sent her money to return home on.

Superior Civil Court Jurors For Sept. 6

Jurors for the one week term of Superior Civil Court, Sept. 6 are listed as follows:

James C. Kitchin, John Spouse, Wilbert Jennette, John E. Brown, H. T. Murphy, Jarvis Mobley, L. R. Whitfield, Edward B. Hawes, W. J. Batts, Ralph Maready, Judson Kinney, L. R. Shaver, G. P. Rhodes, D. Y. Hollingsworth, Almon James, C. K. Wilson, W. A. Smith, Mrs. Hattie Lewis, Tyson Harrell, Guy Sanderson, G. M. Bell, N. A. Kennedy, C. L. Ritter, Sam Rivenbark, J. C. Byrd, Burke Grady, C. B. Aycock, Edmon Dixon, E. L. Hunter, Mrs. Mary Ann Boney Newkirk, W. S. Korngay, Joe N. Waters, Ransom Mercer, J. G. Hudson, H.

L. Register, Tobie Mercer, William Taylor, and Gaston Kelly.

The Rev. Sharpes Move To Town

Rev. and Mrs. Lauren Sharpe have moved to Kenansville and are the first ones to occupy the new Baptist manse.

The very attractive, brick veneered home is located on the old Albert Williams place near the Methodist church.

Rev. Sharpe is a young native of Statesville and a graduate of Wake Forest College. He will have charge of the Kenansville, Alum Springs and Jones Chapel Baptist Churches. (See church page for his schedule.) Mrs. Sharpe is the former Miss Betty Jackson of Garner.

Arthur Kennedy

There is a new-comer to the Board of County Commissioners. He is Arthur Kennedy of Beulaville. He replaces Tyson Lanier of Beulaville. Tyson is a swell fellow as we see but the folks there decided they wanted Arthur.

Arthur is a merchant and farmer of Beulaville. His reputation is excellent and his business reputation is good. He should make a fine member of the Duplin Board of Commissioners. His father is a preacher and his training, therefore, should be instilled with honesty.

Assinine?

I have a picture on my wall. It shows a brown-faced country boy with an expression that says "I told you so." The contour of his face and the sharp look in his eyes are typical of one who is sure he has made the right decision.

The picture is from a calendar of A. Brooks in Warsaw and was sent to Bob Grady with the special compliments of Moman Barr, former clerk at A. Brooks.

J. R. G.

EDITORIAL

If there is a rattlesnake in your back yard you know where to kill it or where to stay away from it. So it goes with T.B.

In the recent T.B. examination program in Duplin County more than 13,000 people were x-rayed. On re-checks about 400 people were re-examined. Of this group more than 200 were found to be positive. Assuming this to be true throughout North Carolina, more T.B. Sanitoriums are going to have to be built.

Information received indicates the State Health Department is going to ask the next General Assembly to build at least one 1000 bed T.B. hospital. The Duplin Times suggests that Seven Springs is an ideal location for such an institution. It is quiet, it is nature's own health resort. We suggest the folks in Duplin, Wayne, Lenoir and other adjoining counties get behind the idea and see what can be done.

J. R. G.

G. V. Gooding

Dr. Guy Vernon Gooding has received criticism and praise from most everyone in Duplin. Our intentions here are not to praise or to blame. But as we have observed the man, he has conscientious convictions. At times we have not agreed with him but he has done some good work for Duplin.

He has worked for the best interests of the county, regardless of his remunerations. At times he has been right and at times wrong. Haven't we all? He is doing a good job as Health Officer.