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CASE OF INFANTICIDE.

Negro Woman, Name Fannie Jefferson, Arrested and in Answer to the Charge of Killing the Baby Says She Did—Ernest McKelley, the Father, Works for Double Tracking Crew—Child's Mother Died a Week Ago—Body Found by Negro Children.

The body of a dead negro baby was found dead in a water course out near the Gibson mill yesterday afternoon and the grandmother is arrested charged with drowning it, and she has confessed to having done the deed. The baby was about three months old and its father is Ernest McKelley who works for the double tracking force camped near the Gibson mill. The mother of the baby died a week ago and it fell to the care of the grandmother, Fannie Jefferson, the mother of the dead child's mother, McKelley's mother-in-law.

The body was found yesterday afternoon about 3 o'clock in a water course cut from the creek to the Cannon power house. Some colored children were playing along the bank of the water course and thought they would pull what appeared to be a bunch of rags out of the water. It proved to be the dead baby and the fact was reported to the sheriff and the coroner, notified. Fannie Jefferson was arrested and brought to town. She confessed to the crime saying that her mind "comes and goes" so that she was not responsible.

Ernest says her mind is all right so far as he knows. He says that after the child's mother died Fannie took the child to another woman to keep. Yesterday she went to it and said she was going to take it to another place to be cared for. Ernest says his mother-in-law never liked him and made trouble, but he thought she was willing to take care of the child and he trusted it to her. Some of the folks who work with Ernest intimate that the Jefferson woman might have had something to do with the death of the child's mother, her own daughter, who died suddenly.

Coroner Caldwell had the woman brought in last night. There seems to be no doubt of her guilt.

McKelley says he came from Gastonia. He worked with the double tracking crew camped here.

GOV. HASKILL IS UNDER FIRE.

Charged That Chief Executive of Oklahoma is Partly Responsible for Irregularities.

Guthrie, Okla., Feb. 9.—Governor Charles N. Haskell was expected to testify in his own behalf today before the legislative investigation commission that met to consider charges that the Governor and other State officers were responsible for irregularities in expending public funds.

Governor Haskell is charged with using public funds to pay persons for attending his personal business. All persons alleged to have been employed were summoned to appear before the commission.

Among the witnesses summoned were Judge H. Buford, Frank Greer, publisher of The State Capital, and Claude S. Burr, managing editor of that paper.

W. T. Hutchinson, of Muskogee, was the first witness.

Clark Howell Operated Upon For Appendicitis.

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 9.—Clark Howell, editor of the Constitution, Georgia member of the national Democratic committee, and a director of the Associated Press, who was operated upon this afternoon for appendicitis, rallied well after coming out from under the anesthetic, and unless unforeseen complications set in, will recover. Mr. Howell was stricken early this morning and suffered so much pain that no attempt could be made to get him to a hospital. Dr. Floyd McKee, one of the foremost surgeons of the South, performed the operation at the editor's home. The appendix was found in a very bad condition, but the operation was pronounced a success by the surgeons.

TWO OTHERS ARRESTED.

Robert Ritchie and Bruner Sides Arrested in Connection With Robbery of Joe Johnson—Edwards Made Statements Which Led to the Arrest and Further Investigation.

Two young white men, Robert Ritchie and Bruner Sides, were arrested last night in connection with the robbery of Joe Johnson some weeks ago and for which Jim Holdbrooks and Joe Edwards were found guilty in the Superior court last week. Sentence has not been passed on Edwards and Holdbrooks and the arrest of these two men will give opportunity of going further into the cases. Edward has made certain statements in which it is made to appear that these two were the guilty ones in the case. The hearing was set for 1 o'clock before the recorder.

Boys Discharged—Ritchie Held on Another Charge.

Under order from Judge Jones Edwards and Holdbrooks were taken before the recorder, and Edwards testified that these two boys were guilty of the robbery. The evidence of Edwards was, however, thoroughly discounted and Justice Puryear very promptly discharged the boys. The Sides boy has a good reputation. The other boy, however, held on another charge that of carrying concealed weapons, he having a razor in his pocket when arrested. On being held by Chief Boger he was further implicated in crime, and held in connection with a robbery of a store out at the Young-Hartsell mill some months ago. Ritchie had on a pair of shoes that tallied with the goods taken from the store and his story also increased the suspicion. Ritchie was taken to jail on these two charges and Sides was at once liberated.

MR. GEO. W. WILSON ENTERS THE RACE.

Gastonia, Feb. 9.—Mr. Gorge W. Wilson of the local bar this afternoon announced that he would be a candidate to succeed Mr. Heriot Clarkson as solicitor of the twelfth judicial district, composed of Cabarrus, Mecklenburg, Gaston, Lincoln and Cleveland counties.

Mr. Wilson is a native of Caldwell county, but has made Gastonia his home for the past ten years. During this time he has rapidly forged to the front and is today one of the ablest lawyers in this district. He has always been a hard, conservative worker and his entrance means that a lively campaign is ahead. Since Mr. E. O. Mason and Mr. A. G. Mazon have practically decided not to enter the race, Mr. Wilson will be Gaston's only opponent and will be beyond a doubt go into the convention with the solid backing of the county.

DUNCAN SENTENCED.

Kannapolis Jeweler Gets Two Years in State Prison.

Judge Jones sentenced Thomas C. Duncan, the Kannapolis jeweler, to two years in the penitentiary this morning after he entered a plea of guilty of larceny. Duncan was a side-partner of the Agent Cato, who got four years. On account of bad health Duncan was sent to the penitentiary instead of the county roads.

Court Hears First Evidence in Trial of Solomon Shepard.

Durham, Feb. 9.—The trial of Solomon Shepard, the negro charged with the murder in December last of Engineer Holt, began today in Granville county whither the case was removed from Durham. Sheriff Harward, Detective Woodall and several county officers testified in regard to Shepard's confession to them. The court stenographer's report of Shepard's confession in the trial of Reuben Barbee for the same murder was also admitted.

The defense will use the witnesses who appeared against Barbee to attempt to disprove Shepard's connection with the case. Considerable difficulty was experienced in selecting a jury, as many of the talesmen admitted that they had read accounts of the Barbee trial.

DRY AND BLAKE ARE ON TRIAL FOR LIFE.

Superior Court This Morning Took Up the Case of Murder Against Pink Dry and Gaston Blake—A Jury is Secured and Evidence Gone Into at Once—The Jury Sitting on the Case.

The case of murder in which there is a large and general interest was called in the Superior court this morning, the prisoners were arraigned and the trial is now on, in which the State is trying Pink Dry and Gaston Blake for the murder of Myrtle Flowe on the 22nd day of January last. A special venire was served and from these and the regular jurors for the week were selected a jury of twelve men to pass on the life of the two defendants. The entire panel of jurors were exhausted before the twelfth man was sworn in. The jury is composed of the following: J. C. Misenheimer, Jackson Safrit, A. A. Blakewelder, W. M. Barrier, L. C. Walter, S. M. Ritchie, John H. Oehler, M. M. Misenheimer, W. H. Stallings, L. S. Bonds, W. S. Ritchie and J. R. Hintz.

Dry and Blake are represented by Montgomery & Crowell and W. G. Means. J. F. Newell is assisting the solicitor in the prosecution.

RIVER SEINE IS AGAIN A SUBJECT OF TERROR.

Paris, Feb. 9.—The river Seine had risen nine inches here during the 24 hours ending at noon today owing to yesterday's rain and melting snow. The hydrographic department predicts a continued rise until Friday, when it will reach a height of over 22 feet at the Pont Royal and equal the flood level of 1882.

Although confident that there is no danger of a repetition of the recent disaster, the authorities are taking thorough precautions.

The level of the parapets at low places throughout the length of the city are being hastily raised by improvised dykes. The return to high water threatens greatly to retard the work of repair which is in progress. The waters, which had dropped below the mouths of the sewers, are again pouring into the conduits, drowning the electric light and power lines in the vicinity of Palace de L'Opera.

Items From No. 5 Township.

Mrs. A. D. Wilson and Mrs. Rufus Klutz, of No. 6, spent last Thursday in No. 5, the guest of the former's brother, Mr. J. C. Misenheimer.

The school has closed at the Shinn school house on account of the measles.

Two children of Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Long are sick with measles.

Mrs. Jason Goodman is spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Walter.

Mrs. T. L. Suther and little granddaughter and Mrs. J. C. Misenheimer and Master Merman Misenheimer spent last Wednesday with Mr. and Mrs. David Misenheimer, near Concord.

Miss Gertrude Barnhardt has returned home after a few days' visit to her sister, Mrs. E. A. Cress in No. 6 township.

Miss Joanna Cine spent last Saturday night with her sister, Mrs. George Boger in No. 6.

Master Vardie Murph is on the sick list this week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Earnhardt spent last Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wilhelm.

Mr. J. C. Dayvault has purchased a new buggy.

Mr. Ransom Scott, of Charlotte, spent last Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Scott.

Advice to a Truth Teller.

New York Sun.

Washington had just said he could not tell a lie.

"In that case, George," cautioned his father, "never engage in any of the food industries. Folks will find out who gets the profits."

Heeding the advice he chose a military career.

FAVOR PUBLICITY.

Commissioner of Corporation Advocates Reports.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 9.—Great interstate industries can be brought under a permanent federal supervision through a system of regular reports to a federal agency, in a rational, effective way, which will on the contrary forestall it.

Such is the conclusion drawn in the annual report of Herbert Knox Smith, commissioner of corporations, to the secretary of commerce and labor, which was made public today.

Coming closely upon the heels of the administration's federal incorporation bill, which has been presented to both Houses of Congress, Commissioner Smith's recommendations are of unusual interest.

"Publicity will improve the standing of our corporate securities both at home and abroad," Mr. Smith declared, "and will help to give to our business machinery that foundation of fairness and openness and public confidence which it must have if it is to be a permanent factor in our national advance."

"It will bring together the government and the corporate manager in conference and co-operation, which alone can serve to adjust continually the complex and changing relationship between our business forces and the public welfare."

Mr. Smith contends that already under public condemnation, made possible by facts plainly stated, great corporate abuses have been abandoned. He asserts that a gigantic system of railroad rate discriminations has been wiped away and numerous forms of commercial oppression diminished. Corporate managers, themselves, declares Mr. Smith, are frankly advocating a more open accounting.

"The issue is national," the report continues. "Action by the federal government is imperative under its unquestioned power and duty to regulate interstate commerce. One of the primary motives for the creation of the federal government was for a national business. Those directing the great corporations have deliberately nationalized them in size and scope; they cannot now be heard to object to a centralized control which they themselves have made necessary."

COMMANDER PEARY MAY BE MADE REAL ADMIRAL.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 9.—Promotion to rank of rear admiral as one of the honors to be bestowed upon Commander Robert E. Peary, U. S. N., for his achievement in discovering the North Pole, received the endorsement of the Senate today.

The Hale bill adding Peary's name to the list of rear admirals in the navy and providing for his immediate retirement with the highest pay received by one of the rank, was favorably reported by the committee on naval affairs, and was almost immediately passed without debate or comment.

A similar measure offered in the House by Representative Allen, of Maine, was forwarded to the navy department by Chairman Foss, of the House naval committee, who stated that he expected it would be approved by the department, and that he would then urge its passage by the House as fitting recognition of the work of Commander Peary.

Peary's Comment.

Providence, R. I., Feb. 9.—"It is a great honor to myself and my family," said Commander Robert E. Peary, this evening when he was informed that a bill making him rear admiral had been passed by the United States Senate.

The board of trade tendered the explorer a reception following his lecture this evening.

A New Idea.

Tit-Bits.

The Manager—I've got a new idea for a melodrama that ought to make a hit.

The Writer—What is it?

The Manager—The idea is to introduce a cyclone into the first act that will kill all the actors.

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