

## Dick Roycroft is Killed As Cops Chase Rum Car

R. G. (Dick) Roycroft, known as "The King of the Bootleggers," was instantly killed here Tuesday night when his liquor-laden car collided with another machine as officers were chasing him through town. Roycroft, formerly of Raleigh, lately centered his operations in Durham.

Roycroft, at the wheel of an allegedly stolen car, was thrown to the pavement as his machine swerved into a telephone pole following the collision at the intersection of Wilson and George streets. His head was badly crushed.

Roycroft's machine, a Ford V-8 sedan, was laden with 16 cases of liquor. The car's lights were not burning, officers said, Roycroft having turned them out in attempting to elude the police.

Chief J. L. Taylor and officer Fields of Farmville, were chasing Roycroft at break-neck speed through local streets when the bootlegger's car and one driven by William White, of Greenville, crashed at the intersection of George and Wilson streets. White was painfully hurt but his injuries were not considered serious.

White was on his way to Wilson to meet a train. Roycroft was headed in the general direction of Kinston. The crash occurred at 7:00 p. m.

Officers Tuesday night had not established the identity of the man said to have escaped from the Roycroft car.

Police here had been notified that a stolen car was headed in this direction from Greenville. They "jumped" Roycroft on the edge of town and had chased him for several blocks when the crash occurred.

Moving to Raleigh from Durham several years ago, Roycroft built up a liquor business in the Capitol City which earned for him the title, "King of Bootleggers." He was constantly in trouble with officers, but always managed to get off in the city and State courts with fines and suspended sentences.

Federal officers caught him in a general roundup of bootleggers in Raleigh about three years ago and he was sentenced to 18 months in the Atlanta prison. He was released a year ago.

Upon his return he set up headquarters again in Durham and officers there had been experiencing difficulties in attempting to break up his activities.

Roycroft is a member of a well-known Durham family.

The body of the former Bootlegger King was embalmed and prepared for burial by local undertakers and carried to his home in Durham about 2:30 Wednesday morning accompanied by two cars of reported relatives and friends who arrived here after midnight from Durham.

Miss Dorothy Allison was furnish-bail by the Durham friends, who took her home, though professing to have had no previous acquaintance with her. The young lady, held on charges of aiding and abetting in the transportation and sale of liquor, was released under bond of \$100 to appear before Mayor Lewis on March 17.

Apparently uninjured but suffering considerably from nervous shock, Miss Allison denied the presence of another man in the car, telling Chief J. L. Taylor and Sheriff Whitehurst that she accompanied Roycroft to the Chocowinity section in the afternoon, where he investigated a wreck involving a Negro employee, and where the cargo of 96 gallons was loaded, and several hours were spent at a filling station in that vicinity before starting the fatal journey homeward.

Excitement reigned here for several hours succeeding the wreck which involved an electric light pole and resulted in the power being turned off the streets. Hundreds of people visited the scene made ghastly in the moonlight by the blood and brains of the dead man, which mingling with the split whiskey, ran down the gutters of the street.

### ROYCROFT ARRESTED 54 TIMES IN HOME COUNTY

Durham, Feb. 27.—R. G. (Dick) Roycroft, Durham rum-runner who met death in Farmville Tuesday night, has a long police record here and at the time of his death, faced charges of reckless driving and assault and battery with a deadly weapon. He was 26 years of age, and was a native of Greenville county. During the past eight years, several of which were spent in Raleigh, he was arrested 54 times here on various charges, most of them from assault and selling whiskey.

Roycroft returned to Durham about a year ago, following completion of a penitentiary sentence in Atlanta.

He leaves his young widow, two brothers and four sisters, all of Durham.

Police have no record of Dorothy Allison, but say there is such a person living here home here. Roycroft's associates say the accomplice was the third member of the party, a man whose name they said

they have not learned. Roycroft was acquitted only last Friday of a liquor law charge brought by Durham city officers.

Roycroft, who was tried in the Durham recorder's court, demanded a jury trial and a six-man jury voted to free him. He was charged with having had five gallons of whiskey in his possession on February 14.

Policemen S. F. Ray and G. C. Leary, who arrested him, testified that Roycroft and another man drove up to the Roycroft home late on the night of February 14 and that each of them got out of the car with a case of whiskey. Roycroft managed to get into the house with his case, the officers said, and slammed the door but the other man ran behind the house and dropped his case.

A search warrant was issued for Roycroft's home, but officers found only empty fruit jars and drinking glasses.

The defense, conducted by R. P. Reads, local attorney, contended that officers did not know that Roycroft had whiskey in the case which he carried into the house. The defense contended that the case might have been filled with wood.

## Eastern Counties Suffer Heaviest Cut of C. W. A.

### Twelve Thousand Workers To Be Cut From Civil Works Payroll

Raleigh, Feb. 27.—Agricultural counties of eastern North Carolina suffered heaviest cut of civil works force today when Mrs. Thos. O'Berry, state C. W. A. administrator, released the county reductions to be placed in effect Thursday night.

With 12,000 workers to be cut off, the allotments ranged from industrial city reductions of 5 per cent through agricultural counties with industrial cities cut 15 per cent to agricultural counties sliced as high as 36 per cent.

Reductions included: Beaufort county 185; Pitt 282; Wilson 97; Goldsboro 16.

## Kerr Introduces Bill Levying Tob. Tax

### Designed To Insure Success Of Administration's Reduction Campaign

Washington, March 1.—Representative Kerr, Democrat, North Carolina, introduced today a bill designed to insure success of the administration's tobacco acreage reduction campaign by technically levying a tax on all tobacco sold, but actually collecting it only from non-co-operators in the voluntary reduction plan.

The bill would place an ad valorem tax of 25 per cent of the market value on all tobacco sold. Farmers who co-operated in the acreage reduction campaign, however, would be allowed to sell their poundage allot-

## N. C. Schools Would Get Most Under George Bill

(By J. C. Baskerville.)  
Raleigh, Feb. 27.—North Carolina would get much more Federal money for assisting the "public schools" of the state, or about \$1,500,000, if the bill introduced by Senator George of Georgia had been or should be passed, according to Dr. A. T. Allen, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, said today. This bill, however, has been temporarily withdrawn by Senator George as a result of the arrangement whereby the Emergency Relief Administration agreed to set aside \$50,000,000 for the relief of public schools in the various states. The George bill would have provided for the appropriation of \$50,000,000 for the same purpose but would have distributed it on a different basis, according to Dr. Allen.

While the George Bill has not been completely withdrawn and is still pending in the senate, present indications are that it will not be passed at this session, Dr. Allen said in view of the action taken by the Emergency Relief Administration.

"Under the George bill, the \$50,000,000 would have been distributed to the various states on the ratio of

## Homestead Plan Talked at Meeting

### Eastern Chamber Names Committee To Obtain Facts On Pro- ject For This Area

Greenville, Mar. 1.—Representatives from ten counties met in Greenville yesterday at the call of the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce to study the matter of securing an appropriation for several subsistence homestead projects for Eastern Carolina. This was the second of similar meetings held recently for the purpose of making an investigation as to what may be done along this line for the East.

President Guy Elliott of Kinston, of the sectional organization, presided and opened the meeting with a statement as to the plans already in the making for carrying forward this project. Others taking part in the discussion were: Judge R. A. Nunn of New Bern; Mrs. Marshall Williams, Faison; W. C. Manning, Williams; E. S. Askew, Windsor; P. S. Carr, Clinton; E. H. Liverman, Plymouth; E. G. Flanagan, Greenville; F. W. Hargett, Jacksonville; J. B. Aycock, Fremont; J. H. Canady, Kinston; R. A. Fountain, Fountain; T. A. Brooks, Bath, and Secretary N. G. Bartlett. The sentiment expressed by all the speakers was for the formation of plans for making an effort to secure one or more of these projects for the East.

The following resolutions were passed: First, that a sub-committee be selected comprised of one from each county, to handle the details of the plans. Second, that this committee secure from each county the available tracts of land for such a project and list these with the secretary of the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce. Third, that immediately after these available tracts are in hand that the committee arrange a conference in Washington with the proper authorities to lay before the government Eastern Carolina's offerings, with a view of having some of them selected for immediate use. Fourth, that the entire district of 46 counties be divided up into districts according to types of soil, nature of crops grown and the like, so that each district may have a special committee to handle its own project.

The following sub-committee was selected: Beaufort, T. A. Brooks; Craven, G. W. Ippock; Duplin, A. L. Cavanaugh; Sampson, C. S. Royall; Washington, E. H. Liverman; Martin, W. C. Manning; Wayne, J. B. Aycock; Pitt, J. E. Winslow; Onslow, F. W. Hargett; Lenoir, T. A. Turner; Carteret, Claude Wheatley; Jones, C. F. Pollock; Greene, J. F. Mawborn. This committee will meet at the call of the president.

Those land owners who have tracts of land should list these tracts with the county member or send it direct to N. G. Bartlett, secretary, Kinston.

ment without payment of the tax.

Under the acreage reduction campaign, the poundage allotment of each farmer is fixed on the basis of the productivity of the land under contract.

Farmers co-operating will be issued marketing certificates showing the number of pounds to be sold without payment of the tax.

Ninety-eight percent of the burley tobacco growers of Haywood County have signed the adjustment contracts.

## Senate Adds \$55,- 000,000 to Sup- ply Bill; Veterans

### 29,000 Veterans Whose Disabilities Were Pre- sumed To Be of Service Origin, Are Restored To Rolls

Washington, Feb. 27.—With administration forces apparently submitting, the senate today added another estimated annual \$55,000,000 for world war veterans to the independent offices bill.

Without opposition or a record vote it adopted the Stever-McCarran amendment restoring to the rolls 29,000 veterans whose disabilities were presumed to be of service origin but who were taken off by the economy law of a year ago.

The amendment gives the veterans the full former rates and puts the burden of proof on the government to show the disabilities were not of service origin.

The proposal also restores the full former rates for service connected disabilities with \$100 a month for total permanent disabilities.

## Held Under Bond In Auto Accident

### Dave Braswell Held Under \$2,500 Bond Pending Outcome of Injuries Sustained by 6-Year Old School Girl Struck by His Car Late Tues- day Afternoon

Dave Braswell, cafe proprietor of Wilson, was held under \$2,500 bond by Pitt County authorities pending outcome of serious injuries sustained by Geraldine Baldree, 6 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Baldree, of near Farmville, who was struck by Mr. Braswell's car late Tuesday afternoon as she stepped off a school bus. The accident occurred about two miles from Farmville on the Wilson highway, near the home of the child's parents.

The little girl is in a Greenville hospital in critical condition having suffered fractures of both legs and other injuries when struck by the Braswell car while stepping off the school bus. Her condition was reported as uncharged by Pitt County authorities this morning.

Mr. Braswell told investigating officers that he did not recognize the machine as a school bus until he was almost upon it. He was arrested by Pitt County officers on charges of assault with a deadly weapon toward an automobile and was released from custody Tuesday night by Sheriff Whitehurst, of Greenville, after \$2,500 bond was posted.

## General Fund Revenues Are \$4,200,000 More

### Three Per Cent Sales Tax Accounts For \$3,- 786,260 of Increase

Raleigh, Feb. 28.—General fund revenues of the state of North Carolina were \$4,200,000 more the first eight months of the fiscal year than they were in the same period of 1932-33 the state revenue department reported today.

The 3 per cent general sales tax accounted for \$3,786,260.79 of the increase the beer tax added another \$223,042.96 and miscellaneous increases made the balance.

The highway fund revenues for the first eight months showed a gain of \$2,165,000 over the same period last year.

February general fund collections were \$1,282,123.51 compared with \$718,068.50 in February 1933.

For eight months the general fund collections aggregated \$12,181,964 this year and \$7,964,129 last year.

Highway funds receipts in February were \$1,604,827.03 compared with \$1,455,469.80 last year for the month. Totals for eight months in the highway fund were \$16,423,459 this year and \$14,267,069 last year.

Gasoline tax collections in February were \$141,408 ahead of the same month last year and for the eight months they showed a gain of \$953,712.

## Expose Insurance Swindle In Wilson

### Local Authorities Con- tinue Investigation In- to Operations of Gang of Alleged Insurance Swindlers

Wilson, Feb. 28.—What is termed an automobile protection insurance swindle has been exposed here in the past few days with arrests of two men, one of whom jumped a \$350 bond and is said to have fled from the state.

The men, classed as smooth and convincing talkers, have been traveling Green, Wilson and Wayne counties in the company with two other men selling memberships in the Carolina Motorist Protection Association, Inc., of Winston-Salem offering protection and liability to automobile owners and drivers.

Memberships in the association were fixed at \$24.50 annually and \$29.50 for two years and membership blanks stated only two year memberships could be purchased at the present time. To date officers have learned the names of about two-dozen Wilson County citizens who purchased and paid for from one to three such membership policies for automobiles owned and operated by members of their families. Some even purchased life insurance policies offered in connection with the memberships at \$3 each.

Officers are still busy engaged securing names of persons who bought the memberships a list of whom will be presented to a deputy commissioner of the Insurance Department of North Carolina who will be here in a few days to launch an intensive investigation into the operations of the men and their association.

M. Sykes, who gave his home as Winston-Salem, was arrested here in connection with the alleged swindle and was later released under \$250 bond furnished by R. H. Drake, of this city. Sykes failed to put in an appearance before Magistrate A. J. Hines for preliminary hearing and the bond was called out, his bondsman being given until tomorrow morning to pay the bond. Sykes is said, according to information received by local authorities, to have fled from the state.

Tom Collins, another of the alleged quartet of salesmen operating in Wilson County, is being held in the county jail on charge of larceny of an overcoat. When apprehended Collins had in his possession a folder containing a number of the association's membership policies and he was immediately connected with the insurance case.

Officers said the men had a certificate alleged to have been issued by the State Insurance Department and signed by Staag Wade as Insurance Commissioner. The alleged certificate was dated August 22, 1933, and Stacy Wade has not acted as Insurance Commissioner of the state for a period of about five years.

The insurance department is planning to make an intensive investigation into the company and its salesmen as it is reported the salesmen are selling the memberships, claiming them to be liability insurance when at best all they are only "protection policies" which guarantee legal expense in connection with traffic violations, towing service not to exceed \$3 and other minor services to motorists including posting of bonds for accidents and traffic law violations, etc.

## Johnson Upholds 12-Point Program to Revise Codes

### N. R. A. Administrator Beats Assembled Crit- ics To Guns by Sudden- ly Unfolding Program For Revising Existing Codes

Washington, Feb. 27.—Hugh S. Johnson beat N. R. A.'s assembled critics to the guns today by suddenly unfolding a twelve point program for revising existing codes.

Before the hundreds invited to complain could voice a single criticism the N. R. A. administrator announced a wide code revision would be effected if possible by sweeping presidential mandate.

Individual industries Johnson told the opening session of his "field day for criticism" would be allowed modifications only if justification can be shown on public hearings.

Code revision, he added, will be followed by a bigger and better Blue Eagle compliance campaign, "call it what you will" he said, to make the emblem indispensable to all busi-

## Thomas Dixon To Deliver Great Lecture "This Coun- try of Ours" Here Mar. 13

### WALTER L. GAY LAID TO REST

Walter L. Gay, 48, a prosperous farmer of the Walstonburg section of Greene county, was buried Wednesday at the family burial grounds, services being conducted by Rev. C. B. Mashburn, pastor of the local Christian Church; with the Farmville Masonic Lodge, of which he was a member, assisting.

Mr. Gay, well known, particularly in the political life of Greene county, was stricken with a second stroke of paralysis here late Tuesday afternoon, while in the act of starting his car to return home, and was found in an unconscious condition by passers-by, who carried him home, death occurring in a short time.

He is survived by nine sisters, Mrs. A. J. McKel, Mrs. W. M. Hardison, Mrs. Wyatt Parker, Mrs. Rupert Pippin, Mrs. Richard Pippin, Mrs. Jarvis Holloman, Misses Stella, Susie and Virginia Gay; five brothers, Bryant, J. E., A. H., Earl and Richard Gay, all of Greene county.

Active pall bearers were: Carl Hinks, Sam Jenkins, R. A. Joyner, J. Y. Monk, William and E. C. Bynum, Honorary; J. T. Bundy, George W. Davis, D. E. Oglesby, O. G. Spell and Arch Darden.

## Both Japan And Russia Protest Flight of Planes

### Japan Sends Protest Dem- anding Flights of So- viet Planes Over Man- churia and Korea Be Stopped

Moscow, Feb. 28.—The Soviet government today charged that Japanese military planes again have flown over Soviet territory near the Manchukuo frontier.

They lodged a formal protest with Ambassador Ota of Japan on the matter, saying a "few" Japanese planes penetrated 100 kilometers into Soviet territory in the region of Pogornichnaya and Iman several days ago.

Tokio, Feb. 28.—The Japanese foreign office sent a sharp protest today to Moscow demanding that flights of Soviet planes over Manchuria and Korea be stopped.

"We consider such incidents highly dangerous," a spokesman of the Japanese foreign office said. "It is always dangerous for children to play with fire."

The protest was sent by Foreign Minister Koki Hirota to Ambassador Ota at Moscow for presentation to the Soviet government. With it, said a foreign office spokesman, went a demand for guarantees against any further flights by Russian planes over Manchurian or Korean territory.

The filing of the protest followed reports from (Shaking) (Changchun) Manchukuo of two instances in which (the reports said) Russians fired upon Japanese planes.

M. L. Finger of Lincoln County is finding a ready sale for the 35,000 pounds of lespedeza seed, which he harvested last fall.

## Johnson Upholds 12-Point Program to Revise Codes

"We are going on as we have begun," he said in a paragraph aimed at N. R. A.'s enemies. "These meetings are the first move in a closing up of our ranks for a new forward movement by N. R. A."

"Chance or circumstance may stop it, but you are not going to stop it or even make it falter."

The twelve corrections which Johnson's already gathered data has shown to be necessary were:

A more uniform and equitable rule of price stabilization where necessary to prevent cut throat competition with further insurance against prices outstripping purchasing power.

A more effective rule to prevent sales below cost of production.

Uniformity in wages and hours in industries which are competitive.

Thomas Dixon, distinguished author and orator, has just made a Continental Tour speaking as a special representative of the National Recovery Administration, translating in terms of ringing conviction and inspiration the fundamental meaning of the NRA program. For the past four months he has held thousands spellbound by his matchless eloquence reaching new heights of power in his long career as an orator.

He closed his Tour in Boston, Massachusetts with a speech before the combined Rotary Clubs of the district that created a profound sensation and placed him at the head of the list of a thousand chosen speakers for the Administration. Everywhere he has pleaded for faith in our future based on the glorious story of America's past. Everywhere the response has been electric.

The Living Voice  
No power has yet taken the place of the living voice in swaying the minds of men. The printed page may be stored powder, but the human personality applies the spark that brings the explosion.

Col. C. O. Sherrill, Chairman of Ohio Board of NRA., Former City Manager of Cincinnati, says: "No man in this country is better qualified to arouse enthusiasm for the President's program of recovery than is Thomas Dixon. I recently heard him deliver an address in Cincinnati which was one of the most moving and powerful appeals to which I ever listened."

Farmville citizens, whose spirit of patriotism has been recently stirred and proven, and who are ever eager to learn more about their country, and particularly the Roosevelt program, are to have the opportunity of hearing this noted lecturer in the High School auditorium on Tuesday evening, March 13, at 8:00 o'clock. Admission 50c for adults and 15c for children.

Proceeds will be used on the swimming pool, according to Mayor John B. Lewis, who acted as chairman of a committee meeting composed of the heads of the various organizations of the town on Thursday evening, at which time plans for sponsoring the lecture were made.

Farmville is very fortunate in being included in the Thomas Dixon tour, and extends a cordial welcome to everybody in the surrounding towns and communities to join with its citizens in making his appearance here a splendid success by the manifestation of a spirit of real interest and patriotism.

### LAST RITES HELD FOR MRS. LAVENIA C. SERMONS

Last rites for Mrs. Lavenia Carolina Sermons, 76, wife of the late William Sermons, were held from the home of her son, Will Sermons, near here, on Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock, with Revs. R. F. Pittman, of Ayden and J. C. Moye, of Snow Hill, Free Will Baptist ministers, in charge. Interment was made in the family burial grounds near Bethany Church in the Ayden section, of which she had been a faithful and loyal member since girlhood.

A sufferer from heart trouble for several months, Mrs. Sermons had a severe attack a week previous to her death, which occurred at midnight, Monday.

She is survived by six daughters, Mrs. J. R. Avery, Mrs. C. A. Cash, Mrs. R. J. Wainwright, Mrs. W. R. Hinson, Mrs. J. B. Davis, Mrs. J. M. Joyner; two sons, Will and Eddie Sermons, all of the Farmville community; twenty-three grandchildren and several great grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. Cornelia Sermons, Fort Barnwell, and Mrs. Mary Smith, Bear Creek, Chatham County, and a brother, Vergil Skinner of Georgia.

tions to protect the small fellows.

An improved method to secure compliance.

A method for financing code administration without racketeering.

Elimination of inconsistent or conflicting provisions in codes.

Adequate labor and consumer representation in an advisory capacity on code authorities.

Uniform government representation on the authorities.

Wider use within code groups of mechanism for settling labor disputes.

Other needs for correction exist, he said, but these are the headline reforms. He promised that anything else developed by the criticism session would be considered along with the twelve points in next week's assembly of code authorities.

D. H. Osborne of Canton was recently elected president of the North Carolina Guernsey Feeders Association. Reid Rendall of High Point was elected vice-president and T. H. Austin of Durham was re-elected Secretary-treasurer.