The News-Journal

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AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT CHRISMAS DAY NEAR SANFORD FATAL TO FOUR

Car Containing Nine Passengers Plunges into Tobacco Barn With Terrific Force—Eight Injured.

LOCAL MAN INVOLVED.

One of the worst automobile accidents, if not the worst, which occurred during the holiday season was that on Christmas day when a car left the road on Highway 50 about four miles North of Sanford and one person was killed outright and three others died shortly thereafter, with several others in a Sanford hospital, there being nine occupants of the car when the wreck occurred.

According to evidence produced at the coroner's hearing on Friday, this ill-fated car was going North at the point of the accident when a Ford coupe attempted to pass it and in passing, the two cars touched each other in such a way that the wrecked car left the highway on its right hand side, ran over an embankment of about two feet and ran some seventy five to one hundred feet through plowed ground and snow and hit a tobacco barn near the road with such terrific force that it plowed its way about eight feet into the barn. The barn was twisted on its foundations and one corner crushed in by the force of the Ford coach, a large sill being moved end-ways for a distance of eight feet. Another Ford coupe, just behind and driven by a man named Jones from Raleigh, was about one hundred yards behind, according to testimony by Jones, and the driver, seeing there was a bad wreck, chased the Ford coupe in front for about two and a half miles before overtaking it and got the numbers of the car. The driver then got some one at a filling station to go back with him to the scene of the wreck and then left for Raleigh. Jones testified that he saw no other car on the road other than those mentioned, but another witness testified that he was headed South and was right near the cars when they touched each other, his testimony being in conflict with the first witness in this respect, though corroborating it in other essential details.

Jones, after securing the number on the car in front, turned the numbers over to officers and a report from the Motor Vehicle Bureau in Raleigh stated that the numbers fitted those of Paul Dezern, local agent for the A. & R. Railroad at this place. Sheriff Reaves, of Lee County, came to Raeford that night and carried Mr. Dezern back to Sanford with him. Sheriff Reaves showed Mr. Dezern every courtesy possible and offered to stay at a hotel with him or have him spend the night at his home.

At the corner's inquest Friday, some thirty or forty of Raeford's most pominent citizens were on hand for the inquest which was held in the city hall at about three o'clock. The testimony was about as outlined above and consumed less than an hour, Solicitor Clauson Williams doing the questioning for the State and McNair Smith, local attorney and A. F. Seawell, of Sanford, representing the defense.

The defending attorneys decided that a bind-over to Superior Court, which convenes in March, was inevitable, and did not offer any resistance. Bond was fixed in the sum of ten thousand dollars and a veritable swarm of Raeford people went forward to affix their names to the bond. The coroner allowed only five to sign, however, since there was no room on the paper for any more names. The five signing the bond were T. B. Upchurch, Clyde Upchurch, J. B. Thomas, Albert Dow and E. B. McNeill, the last named leaving the funeral of his first cousin, Mr. J. McN. Johnson, of Aberdeen, in order to attend the inquest and render what assistance he could.

An examination of the two cars, both the one wrecked and Mr. Dezern's showed the wrecked car almost completely demolished. The left front wheel however, which is assumed to have come in contact with the car first struck it showed very slight signs of injury and the hub cap was barely scratched.

(Continued on Page 4)

OTTO WOOD KILLED BY CHIEF OF POLICE OF SALISBURY WED.

Salisbury, N. C., Dec. 31.— Otto Wood, North Carolina's best known criminal, was shot to death in a gun battle here today with Police Chief R. L. Rankin.

The one-armed convict, widely known for his ability to break jail, fired two shots at Chief Rankin and Policeman J. W. Kesler before a bullet from Rankin's gun blew the side of his head off. He died before he could be carried to a hospital.

He was identified by Chief Rankin from descriptive matter mailed out by state's prison and by Roy Barker a companion who took no part in the fight.

Chief Rankin said he had been told Wood was in Salisbury and that when he saw a man with one arm, Wood's chief descriptive characteristic, he walked up to him and called his name.

"Otto Wood, let me see your arm," the chief was quoted as saying.

"Here it is, damn it," Chief Rankin said the man replied and a scuffle ensued during which the cheif shot the side of the man's head off.

Unemployment And Relief Representative Here Last Monday

Prof. A. A. McKay from the State Nomal College, Greensboro, a representative of the Governor's Council on Unemployment and Relief, held a meeting with interested citizens on last Monday afternoon. A county executive committee was appointed consisting of J. B. Thomas, W. L. Poole, Paul Dickson, Mrs. H. A. Cameron and Mrs. J. S. Johnson. W. P. Hawfield was appointed executive secretary. The following committees were appointed from the various townships: Antioch and Allendale, Mr. J. A. Hodgin and Mrs. Liles; Blue Springs, W. B. McNeill and Miss Lettie McMillan; McLauchlin, A. W. Wood and Mrs. Carlyle Townsend; Quewhiffle, Mrs. P. P. McCain and D. H. Johnson; Stonewall, Mr. Jesse Gibson and Mrs. I. H. Shankle; Little River, J. W. Smith and Mrs. A. D. McLauchlin.

These committees were appointed and the executive committee was organized so that if any Federal or State aid is available or the situation becomes such that something will have to be done the organization will have been perfected for immediate work. Nothing definite can be done at this time.

RECORDER'S COURT

In Recorder's Court Tuesday, James Livingston, colored, faced a charge of driving a car while under the influence of whiskey and was found not guilty. It was charged that he drove from Laurinburg the day before Christmas with D. Little, who came after his wife, Livingston being the operator of a car for hire, and that when he went up to the home of a Jenkins man he was under the influence of whiskey. Evidence of the state was conflicting and the Solicitor did not press for a verdict.

Nathaniel Morrison, Charlie Dodson and A. L. Robinson, colored, all of Hamlet, were given a preliminary hearing on a charge of assaulting and robbing a white man named Gaston Bailey, of St. Pauls, on the highway about a mile and a half from Raeford on the Wagram road. The offense was alleged to have taken place on Sunday, December 14th, about three o'clock in the afternoon. Most of the city and county officers have been working on the case since that date and succeeded in locating the three above named defendants in Hamlet and in the identification of two of them by Bailey. It was also shown that the third had been seen in the car with the other two at Bowmore on the same afternoon. Probable cause was found in each case and the three were bound over to the January term of Hoke Superior Court, under bond of [illegible]

(Continued on Page 2)

Albemarle Man Killed When Car Hits Train

One of the many automobile accidents that occurred during the holidays was one at the intersection of the Raeford-Fayetteville highway and a train of the Aberdeen and Rockfish Railroad at Phoenix last Friday afternoon when D. S. Owen, of Albemarle, drove a new Buick sedan sedan into a north bound freight train. The car was almost demolished. Mr. Owen was killed instantly and his wife was very seriously injured by the collision. Engineer Marks was pulling the train at the time of the accident.

It seems that the hard rain and foggy condition of the windows of the car prevented Mr. Owen from seeing the train, the view being almost unobstructed at this point and an approaching train easy to see for several hundred yards except for a store near the tracks which should not have prevented anyone from seeing the train had he looked.

Father of Dr. P. P. McCain Dead

Sanatorium, Dec. 31.—Dr. P. P. McCain, superintendent of the North Carolina Sanatorium, was called to Due West, S. C., on Friday last by the death of his father, Dr. John I. McCain, who was for nearly half a century head of the English Department at Erskine College.

Other survivors are his widow, Mrs. Lula Todd McCain; two sons, Dr. James Ross McCain, president of Agnes Scott College, Decatur, Ga., and Charles McCain, who is engaged in the insurance business in Birmingham; and one sister, Mrs. Shannon, of Lexington, Va.

The elder Dr. McCain was 73 years of age at the time of his death. He joined the English faculty of the South Carolina institution soon after receiving his Doctor of Philosophy degree from Princeton University. He has made a number of visits to see Dr. and Mrs. McCain at the Sanatorium and made many friends among the patients and employes.

Funeral services were held at the Associated Reform Church in Due West on Sunday, December 28, at 2:30 P. M. Interment was at Due West cemetery. A number of messages of sympathy and flowers have been sent by members of the Sanatorium community.

Mother Of Mrs. H. W. B. Whitley Dead

Mrs. N. A. Funderburk, mother of Mrs. H. W. B. Whitley here and Ray Funderburk of Fayetteville, died Christmas morning near Monroe and was buried at Macedonia Baptist Church cemetery Friday morning at eleven a. m. The funeral was preached by M. D. Presslar, her local pastor with Dr. Hart, pastor of the Monroe Baptist Church and Mr. Joel Sneider of the Fayetteville Baptist Church assisting. Eight children survive the deceased.

Christmas Holidays Quiet in Raeford

Due, perhaps, to the cold weather, boll weevil, ten cent cotton, or what have you, Christmas passed off very quietly in Raeford and the county with no atalities or other disaster. The weather seemed to make up its mind a few days before Christmas, Sapp or no Sapp, to make the folks take it orderly and the longest cold snap in many years kept people hovering around their fires. The four inch snow which fell on Tuesday night of last week, held on tenaciously and in secluded spots a little patch could be found, here and there, on Wednesday of this week.

There were many home-comings and family gatherings, family dinners and parties, and taken over all it was a very safe, sane Christmas.

Raeford Volunteer Fire Co. Elects Officers

At a recent meeting of the Raeford Volunteer Fire Company the following officers were elected for the coming year: R. B. Lewis, chief; H. H. Green, assistant chief; Theodore Upchurch, captain of truck number one; Alfred Cole, captain of truck number two; Star McMillan, secretary and treasurer; Clyde [illegible], C. C. Cassidy and R. L. [illegible], Jr., trustees.

MRS. CHISHOLM DIED SUNDAY EVENING

Was One of Best Loved Women in This Section—Was Seventy-Six Years of Age—Funeral Services Held Monday.

Mrs. Sarah Chisholm, one of this section's best loved women, passed away at her home on South Main Street Sunday evening at six-thirty o'clock after several months of declining helath and about six weeks of more serious illness. Last Thursday she went into a coma from which she never revived. Her age was seventy-six years and eleven days. Her death was due to a complication of troubles from which she suffered uncomplainingly for a long time with a cheerfulness and happy disposition that marked her entire life and made her beloved by all who had the good fortune to know her.

Many of the middle age and older recall the days before Raeford came into existence when her home near town was one of the most hospitable in this entire section and many a middle-aged man reflects with pleasure at days and nights spent in her home when but little boys and the cordiality, hospitality and good cheer that she never failed to show her visitors. Happiness and sunshine radiated from her to those about her as naturally as the sun shines and everyone who entered her home went away with a brighter outlook on life. Mrs. Chisholm was blessed with an undieing devotion to her children and with a very marked devotion of her children to her. Seldom in life is such a home as she made to be found, for love, devotion and affection of each member for the other was the outstanding characteristic of this home.

Before hre marriage to the late John Chisholm, Mrs. Chisholm was Miss Sarah Chisholm of Montgomery county, near Candor. All of her married life has been spent in this community, excepting a few years when she and her family lived at Oxford, N. C.

Mrs. Chisholm is survived by the following children, all of whom were with her when the end came: three sons, Messrs. Mallie and Eldridge, of theis place, and John Frank Chisholm, of Wauchula, Fla; two daughters, Mrs. Nannie McNeill, of Raeford, and Mrs. John Ellington, of Oxford, N. C. Also surviving are two brothers, J. F. Chisholm, of Wauchula, Fla., and A. C. Chisholm, of Fort Worth, Texas.

Funeral services were conducted from the home Monday afternoon by her pastor, Dr. Watson M. Fairley, pastor of the Raeford Presbyterian church, and interment made in Raeford cemetery.

Honorary pall bearers were: Dr. G. W. Brown, T. F. Culbreth, J. C. McLean, J. D. McLeod, J. M. Downer, D. S. Poole, N. A. McDiarmid and L. M. Andrews.

Active pall bearers were Paul, Wilbur and N. A. McDonald, Jr., L. F. Clark, George Clark, Clyde Covington and Edmond Wooley, all nephews and grand-nephews of the deceased.

Former Raeford Man Dies At Lumber Bridge

Burney N. Brinson, a former resident of Raeford, died Tuesday morning at his home in Lumber Bridge, death being due to tuberculosis. He had suffered from this disease for some time, having been a patient at Otsen hospital at one time. He is an ex-service man, having been in the National Guard on the Mexican border in 1917 and later with the overseas army in France.

Funeral services were held Wednesday and Co. L. of Parkton gave his remains a full military funeral. Services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Blalock, assisted by Rev. Mr. Boone, and interment was made in the cemetery at Shady Grove Methodist church in Hoke County.

The News-Journal regrets that further details are unobtainable.

BIRTHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Halcourt Purnell of Danville, Va., a son. Mrs. Turner is very pleasantly remembered here as Miss Bettie Tarpley, sister of Mrs. John Walker.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. John Blue, at Pittman's Hospital on Sunday morning, a son, John Locklly.

Mr. [illegible] Shannon has been confined to his home on Donaldson Avenue with a severe attack of flu for the [illegible]

Sister of Mrs. Florence Lester Dies Friday

Mrs. Helen Terry Bunch, who for the past five or six years had made her home with her sister, Mrs. Florence Lester near town, died last Friday at the age of sixty-eight, her death following a five days illness with pneumonia, her sudden illness and death coming as a distinct shock to a large circle of friends and relatives.

Before her marriage to J. P. Bunch, she was Miss Helen Terry, of McColl, S. C., of which place she was a native and life-long resident until recent years. She was a member of the Methodist church and practised in every day life the faith that she professed. While her years spent in this community were but few, she made many friends who mourn her passing.

She is survived besides her sister, Mrs. Lester, by three brothers: S. P. Terry, of Norfolk, Va.; W. E. Terry, of Birmingham, and E. P. Terry, of Savannah.

Funeral services were conducted from the home of Mrs. Lester on Saturday by Rev. W. F. Trawick, assisted by Rev. J. R. Miller and interment was made in the cemetery at McColl, S. C.

J. McN. Johnson Dies Christmas Morning

(Sandhill Citizens).

The death of James McNeill Johnson, of Aberdeen which occurred on Christmas morning at the Moore County Hospital has cast a pall of sorrow over this community. Mr. Johnson who was 71 years old had been in poor health for the past five years and his death was not unexpected. The funeral and bural was held at Old Bethesda church this Friday afternoon. Rev. E. L. Barber of Aberdeen had charge of the service and was assisted by Rev. M. D. McNeill of Cameron and Rev. Marcus A. Brownson of Southern Pines.

James McNeill Johnson, lawyer, author and poet, was born in Moore County in 1859. A direct descendant of the staunch old Scottish pioneers who settled in this section, he played an important part in the development of this section. He was dean of the Moore County bar and also of the local Masonic lodge and a loyal church man, having been a life long member of Old Bethesda church. A man of pronounced literary talent, he was recently created "Poet Laureate" of Moore County by the County Commissioners. Included among his literary works are the following: "A Thousand Years of Royalty," "Free Verse and Paraphrase," "Talleyrand" and "Firefly." An honest man, a lovable man, a kindly neighbor and a sincere Christian gentlemen, that was James McNeill Johnson. A man of strong will and rugged character, a man to be depended upon. He will be greatly missed in this community where he exercised a remarkable influence. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Annie B. Johnson, three sons, J. Talbot Johnson of Aberdeen, Lieut. Leslie C. Johnson, U. S. N., and J. McN. Johnson; two daughters, Mrs. C. C. Bethune of Aberdeen and Mrs. Frank Miselle, of Tampa, Fla. Mr. Johnson is also survived by a brother, Henry Johnson, of Kershaw, S. C., and five sisters, Mrs J. J. Heckart, Mrs. Jamie Fagan and Miss Mary Johnson, of Aberdeen; Mrs. Sarah Ward, of Batesburg, S. C. and Dr. Alice E. Johnson, of Philadelphia.

MR. N. A. McNEILL RECOVERS HIS STOLEN FORD ROADSTER

Mr. N. A. McNeill, who had a Ford roadster stolen from him recently, had the good fortune to recover his car in time to serve as a Christmas present for him. Someone located it near Puppy Creek without any damage being done to it. To make the picture all the more happy for him, it was loaded with collards!

GEORGE HOWARD, COL., DEAD

George Howard, colored, aged 80, died Decmeber 26th at his home on the A. K. Stevens farm in McLauchlin Township, his death being caused by paralysis. His remains were buried on Saturday at St. John's Church near Shannon.

SARAH McDOUGALD, COL., DEAD

Sarah McDougald, colored, who lived in the [illegible] community died Monday [illegible]

FOUR PEOPLE HURT ON RAEFORD ROAD

Making Total of Eight Injured And One Killed—Four Wrecks Involving Seven Automobiles And One Locomotive.

(Fayetteville Observer)

Four persons were injured Monday night in two wrecks on the Raeford road a short distance from Fayetteville, making a total of eight persons injured and one killed in four wrecks involving seven automobiles and one locomotive.

The latest list of injured is: C. M. Purdy, Charlotte; Mrs. C. M. Purdy, Charlotte; Mrs. B. B. Smith, Clinton, Mr. Efird, Salisbury.

Just after dusk the car driven by Mr. Purdy sideswiped a truck, continued at full speed about 50 feet down the road evidently out of control, hit an oak tree a glancing blow, and carrooned across a ditch finally striking another tree with such tremendous force that the motor block of the machine was broken as if it had been struck by a gigantic trip hammer.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Purdy were unconscious when help reached them and they were rushed to Highsmith hospital, where it was stated Wednesday morning that they would probably recover. Mrs. Purdy was quite badly cut and Mr. Purdy was injured about the chest where the steering wheel jammed him. The body of the car was not badly damaged and the front windshield did not break or shatter although the side windows of the coupe were broken into fragments.

Eyewitnesses believed that Mr. Purdy mistook the lights of a filling station for an approaching car and swerved to avoid it, thus hitting the truck.

Mr. Efird and Mrs Smith were injured when the car in which they were riding struck a truck in passing. The car turned over. Mrs. Smith suffered a broken nose and Mr. Efird was badly cut about the face. Mr. Efird was declared to be Mrs. Smith's brother-in-law.

At Pittman hospital it was reported that Mrs. D. S. Owen, injured in the wreck Friday in which her husband was killed, was resting quietly. The Owen automobile was struck by a locomotive at a grade crossing several miles from the city on the Raeford road.

Deer Hunters Successful The Past Week

Deer hunters seem to have had a picnic during the past week with every hunt saved one noticeable exception results. Last Saturday went to Overhills and [illegible] two nice buck. "Commissioner William B. McNeill accounted for with five prongs and a big one named Cook, of the same neighborhood, [illegible]

Tuesday Herbert [illegible] Alfred Cole went up [illegible] Creek and without [illegible] up a nice buck [illegible] shot at the same [illegible]

It appears from [illegible] sources obtainable [illegible] folks that attempted [illegible] shot in self-defense [illegible] pression of his) [illegible] with a regular [illegible] held Monday [illegible] scare this [illegible] protect himself [illegible] mayhem, [illegible] gives [illegible]