

# GATES COUNTY INDEX

The Only Newspaper Published in and for Gates County

Volume 14, No. 48

Gatesville, N. C., Wednesday, August 7, 1946

12 Pages This Week

## Smith Acquitted In Shooting Of Lyman Parker

Winton. — Joseph Lee Smith, elderly carpenter, was acquitted in Hertford county superior court last week of the murder of Lyman Parker of Eure.

Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn, presiding jurist, directed a verdict of not guilty at conclusion of the evidence in the case. Parker was shot and killed by Smith in the latter's home at Winton on last February 6. The shooting occurred about 1:30 a. m. Parker had come to the Smith home a few minutes before with Aubrey Lowe of Gates county.

Lowe testified that they were seeking Linwood Umphlett, who since has married Bertha Smith, and that Parker called for him before Mrs. Smith came to the front door. Testimony showed that Lowe talked with Mrs. Smith at the front door and that Parker shoved past her into the front room where he sat on a cot and argued with Bertha about a cigaret the latter was smoking.

Mrs. Smith asked Lowe to get Parker out of the house, but he was unable to do so. Mrs. Smith said Parker then followed her over to her bed and grabbed her arm. She said she screamed for him to get out and then started into the next room to get her husband and that Parker followed her.

Janie Smith, another daughter, was in the front room and five sons were in the room with their father. Witnesses said Parker tried to strike Smith with his fist and that the defendant was fired on Parker.

## W. L. Sawyer Buried Monday

Gatesville. — Funeral services for William Lee Sawyer, 58, who died in a Suffolk, Va., hospital Saturday afternoon, were conducted Monday at 2 o'clock (EST) at the Gatesville Baptist church. The Rev. T. S. Guy officiated.

Mr. Sawyer was son of the late Mr. and Mrs. N. T. Sawyer. He was a prominent Gatesville and Norfolk businessman.

Burial was at Lebanon church near Lee Hall, Va. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Alice Rebecca Sawyer; four daughters, Mrs. Julia Faye Sawyer, Alice Louise Sawyer and Margaret Sawyer, all of Gatesville, and Mrs. L. C. Powell, of Portsmouth, Va.; one brother, Fred J. Sawyer, of Norfolk, Va.; four sisters, Mrs. E. W. Gaither, of Raleigh; Mrs. J. C. Folkes, of Oscala, Fla.; Mrs. John E. Marr, and Mrs. N. F. Trippendorf, both of Norfolk.

The pallbearers were W. J. Melvin, J. W. Dickerson, A. P. Godwin, Jr., J. K. Wyatt, H. B. Jaines, Hubert Eason, Tazwell Eare, G. C. Eason, Claude Bundy, Karl Rawls, H. B. Lilley, Fred Linerman, Horace Carter and Sidney Hofler.

## PARKER FAMILY REUNION AT EURE ON SUNDAY

Eure. — The Parker family reunion will be held at the Eure Baptist church on Sunday, August 11. All of the family and connections as well as friends are cordially invited.

The meeting will begin at 10:30 a. m. Those planning to attend are asked to bring picnic lunches.

## Harrell Brings In Another Melon

Gatesville. — L. C. Harrell of Eure is one man that will not be beaten where maternelons are concerned. When his first entry of 31 pounds was topped by two others, Harrell came back into the contest with a 46 and 3/4 pound challenger to bring himself up to first place again.

The contest is still open so if you can top this mark, bring your champ to the Index office.

## Story Family Hold Reunion After 5 Years

Eure. — The Story family reunion discontinued because of transportation difficulties five years ago, was resumed Sunday, July 28, at the old Story home near Eure.

Approximately 50 relatives and friends enjoyed this occasion. The 98th birthday of E. A. (Duke) Story, which came July 30, also was observed. Four generations were represented their ages ranging from one to 98 years.

Edward Story acted as master of ceremonies for the program arranged by Mrs. E. J. Griffin, of Edenton. Following the singing of the Doxology, the Rev. George Story, of Suffolk, gave the invocation. A toast to the honoree, Duke Story, was given by Dr. Wallace Griffin, of Edenton. A buffet luncheon was served. Then the family gathered in the living room of the home, where World War I and II veterans were recognized. Fred Story, of Boykins, Va., told of some of his experiences as a member of the armed forces.

Several historical facts concerning the family and resolutions of thanks were extended by J. I. Story, of Marshall.

Those attending this event were E. A., R. P., E. C. and P. P. Story, H. L. Story, Lankford Morrow Story, and Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Story, of Asheville and Marshall, Mrs. E. J. Griffin and Dr. Wallace Griffin, of Edenton, Mrs. E. M. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Powell, Jr., Sylvia Powell, L. L. Story, and Fred Story, of Boykins;

Mr. and Mrs. Theo Doyle, Ann, M. T. and Patricia Doyle, of McKenney, Va.; Mrs. J. O. Pittman, of Courtland; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Story, Rev. George Story, of Suffolk; Mr. and Mrs. Cary Story, of Gatesville, Mrs. A. W. Wilson, of Statesville, and Eure, Jane and Robert Story, of Winton.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Kennedy, Miss Polly Kennedy, of Atkinson; Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Story, Mrs. T. C. Lawrence, Mary and Ed Story and Dorothy Lawrence, of Eure.

Afternoon callers were: Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Bryant, of Franklin, Va.; Mrs. Walter Myrick, Miss Bernice Myrick, of Newsoms, Va.; Mrs. Joe Brown and Mrs. Robert Norfleet and Sara of Suffolk.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Gatesville. — The vacation Bible school has begun at Gatesville Methodist church and will continue through this week. Classes begin at 9 a. m. and all denominations are invited to attend.

## Several Road Surfacing Jobs Now Under Way

Ahoskie. — Hard surfacing of three stretches of road in the Roanoke-Chowan section as part of the program for improvement of farm-to-market roads is scheduled for completion before fall.

Two of the projects are in Hertford county and one in Bertie county. One of the Hertford county projects calls for paving the 5.7-mile stretch from St. John's to Minton's store, which will provide a hard surface route direct west from Ahoskie to Rich Square. It will join highways 97 and 305 and eliminate the necessity of traveling via Aulander in order to reach 305 when west-bound.

Work already has been started on a 3.2-mile section of the road south from Murfreesboro by way of Benthall's Bridge and Meherin church. This road continues to St. John's, but surface treatment of the entire section between the two communities is not contemplated at this time.

The Bertie county project calls for the paving of a 7.6-mile dirt road from Connaritsa to Lewiston.

All three of the projects have been contracted by Dickerson Brothers of Monroe at an estimated cost of \$70,000. Machinery and equipment for the projects already have been moved in by the contractor, who has notified T. J. McKim, district highway engineer, that the bituminous asphalt surfacing should be ready for travel on all three by fall.

It will be several weeks before the actual surfacing treating work will get under way. It is estimated that two or three weeks will be required to prepare the road beds.

In addition to these three projects, McKim said numerous other farm-to-market road improvements will be carried on by the maintenance section of the state highway and public works department.

Another project slated for completion in the fall is in Gates county and will connect highways 97 and 158 north of Gatesville. Dickerson Brothers already has started work on this 2.76-mile stretch. It will serve to bypass Gatesville and save about two miles of travel between Roduco and Sunbury.

## Board To Seek Road Projects

Gatesville. — Appearing before the board of county commissioners Monday, several citizens from various sections of Gates county requested that the board exert its full efforts toward the widening and repairing of county roads in their respective communities.

The commissioners are following the request and asking the highway department to comply with the desires of those representatives of Gates county.

Dr. W. R. Parker, county health officer, appeared before the board explaining his duties and efforts in connection with the Gates County Health department.

The commissioners have changed their hour of meeting from 10 to 9:30 a. m. on the first Monday of the month. The board will meet on September 2 which is Labor Day. The register of deeds office will not take a holiday on this occasion.

## Gatesville Woman Slain In Gun-Fight

### Peanut Growers Get Good News

Gates county received good news on two counts this week. Purchase and loan support prices were set and President Truman signed into law a bill providing that if peanut acreage quotas are reestablished at any time the figure for each state shall be at least 100 percent of the 1941 allocation.

The purchase and loan support prices for farmers' stock peanuts of the 1946 crop were set at 90 percent of the party price on July 25. Base grade prices per ton for peanuts containing less than three percent damage and less than six percent foreign material were announced as follows: Spanish and Valencias east of the Mississippi river, \$174; runners, \$157; and Virginias, \$170. These base grade prices are for peanuts having a sound mature kernel content of 65 percent in the case of Virginias and runners, and 70 percent in the case of Spanish and Valencias. Premiums and discounts for peanuts containing less than seven percent damage are similar to those applicable to the 1945 crop.

## 4-H Members To Attend Short Course

Gatesville. — Five boys and four girls have been chosen to represent Gates County's 4-H clubs at the 4-H short course, which will be held at State College during the week of August 12.

The delegates will leave on Monday morning and return the following Saturday. The morning sessions at State College will be devoted to educational courses with the afternoon and evenings given to recreation.

Those planning to attend are as follows: Cecil Smith representing Gatesville, Ann Frances Riddick and Billy Collins delegates from Hobbsville, Helen Spivey and Fred Parker of Sunbury, Everett Louis Greene and Ellen Parker for Gates and Omah Eure and Linwood Askew representing Eure. As yet, there is no girl delegate from Gatesville, but John W. Artz, county farm agent, said that he hopes to find a candidate before the group departs.

The qualifications necessary are that the delegate must be at least 13 years of age, have a 4-H club record and project for 1945 and must have the beginning of a record and project for this year.

There will be a fee of ten dollars for those taking the course and the expense of transportation and incidentals.

The four major studies at the college will be health, citizenship, family relations and organization.

## Record of Deeds

C. R. Mullen to E. C. Mabry tract of land in Hall Township.

Suffolk. — Miss Molly Freeman, 70, of Gatesville, and her niece, Mrs. Helen Freeman Shore, 31, were killed allegedly by the latter's estranged husband in a second-floor apartment here yesterday.

Miles Talmadge Shore, 37-year-old Alexandria, Va., barber, is being held without bond.

Late yesterday, after being interrogated for nearly two hours by Special Police Investigator H. W. Churn, Shore was reported to have admitted both shootings and to have said they occurred as the aftermath of an altercation with his wife.

Police Sergt. T. L. Salmon and Officers E. L. Holland and M. F. Boyd, who were in radio-squad car No. 1 parked around the corner of the slayings, heard the fusillade of shots and rushed to the house. When Salmon reached the porch, Mrs. Shore "practically collapsed in my arms," he said, and blood was streaming down her legs. He took the injured woman to Lakeview Hospital, where she died about 20 minutes later.

Rushing upstairs, Officers Holland and Boyd found Shore. They said he held a .32 calibre pistol in his hand and was grappling with Quinton H. Jordan, Mrs. Shore's stepfather.

The officers found Mrs. Shore's elderly aunt lying in the hall near the front room, mortally wounded from a bullet wound high on her right side. City Coroner Dr. E. C. Joyner said death in her case apparently was instantaneous from hemorrhage. Mrs. Shore had bullet wounds in the left buttock and right chest, police reported. While taking the woman to the hospital, Sergeant Salmon stated that she roused sufficiently to tell the officer that "my husband shot me."

According to the arresting officers, Shore had broken open the pistol and was trying to reload it, despite the efforts of Jordan to prevent him, when they reached the two men tussling on the second floor of the three-family apartment, located a scant block from Suffolk's main business center. The house is alongside the A&P Super Market and diagonally across the street from

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## E. L. Lassiter Funeral Tuesday

Roduco. — Ernest L. Lassiter, 60, died at the Coast Line hospital, Rocky Mount, Sunday at 7:30 p. m. Mr. Lassiter was a native of Gates county and a resident of Roduco.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary Collins Lassiter; his father T. Lassiter of Gates county; a foster son, James Warren Rountree of Suffolk; two half-brothers Daniel Lassiter of Sparrow Point, Md., and Maynard Lassiter of Williamsburg; five half-sisters, Mrs. Mary Etheridge of Whaleyville, Mrs. Burden Warrenton of Atlanta, Ga., Mrs. Irma Brinkley of Suffolk, Mrs. William Jones of Norfolk, and Mrs. Harry Smith of California.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, August 6, at 3:30 p. m. in the Summertown Methodist Church and were conducted by the Reverend Guthrie, pastor of the Savage Methodist Church. Burial was in the Summertown Church cemetery.