Saturday, February 3, 1934

THE ELKIN TRIBUNE, ELKIN, NORTH CAROLINA

Charges Five of Family With Conspiracy And **Murder In Girl's Death**

(Continued From Page One)

up by the opinion of L. T. Yarborough, handwriting expert of Raleigh who has had 23 years experience and who has worked with the United States treasury department. Mr. Yarborough, in-a letter to Solicitor Jones, which was read to the jury, stated that the Childress note was written by Mrs. Luther Tilley. Mrs. Hill Cox, sister of Leoda

Childress, was the next witness to take the stand. She stated that her home burned down about 2:30 a.m. on the Tuesday following the finding of the mystery note on Monday, and in the fire, from which she and her husband and two children narrowly escaped with their lives, a shoe box full of letters from Leoda Childress were destroyed.

Mrs. Cox further testified that several days before the home burned she saw two men approach the house. Both had shotguns. They stopped near the front of the house she said, and she overheard one of the men say: "That's her there." Mrs. Cox later identified Luther Tilley as one of the two men.

In regard to the letters which were destroyed, one was about the way the Tilley's were treating Leoda. Up-on receipt of this letter Mrs. Cox testified that she went to the Tilley she saw the tablet upon which the home with her husband and brought murder note was supposed to have Leoda away. She said Leoda asked been written, and that some of the Mrs. Tilley for her bank book, and that Mrs. Tilley replied "If you go you'll never get it.'

her home, Mrs. Cox testified that thought there might be a note, Mrs. there was no trace of fire when she Tilley said "you and her husband retired. She said in that tablet." the kitchen stove was cold. Upon en was enveloped in flames and she and her family had to run through them to escape.

Leoda later went back to the Tilley's to live, Mrs. Cox said. said she didn't know Leoda had been committed, Mr. Tharpe having alkilled until the Wednesday following the murder

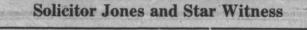
Deputy Sheriff Tyre Barker, upon taking the stand, testified that he taking the stand, testified that he been killing pigs. It was shown that taked to Luther Tilley the Monday the cartridges which Mrs. Yarthe note was found. He said Luther told him how badly the girl's death hurt him and that he didn't believe Andrew Smoot did it. "I know he stand to identify a .22 bullet which

W. Tilley told him on Monday morn- the Tilley home the day of the muring after the funeral that he didn't have any doubt but that he would the long variety. get his money and papers back, because Leoda often hid them, and from the stand that she had a talk that she was good to look after with Mrs. W. W. Tilley after Leoda's

upon her release from jail after her first arrest, went to the home of some of Luther's children had been some friends and that she sent for in an automobile wreck. It was on Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Tilley, who the way home from Elkin that came and held a secret conference suddenly came to her that Leoda had

Deputy Sheriff C. S. Foster testified that he questioned Luther Tilley before Tilley was arrested, and that Tilley told him the story of jumping the rabbit and running towards his father's home. He said Luther denied there had ever been trouble in the family over Leoda.

Mr. Foster also stated that he questioned Kelly Brown about his part in finding the girl, but that Brown didn't want to talk.





Left, Solicitor John R. Jones, whose untiring investigation of the death of Leoda Childress has resulted in the apprehension of five of the Tilley family. Right, Nate Tharpe, who was one of the first to find the slain girl and who gave damaging testimony against Luther Tilley at the coroner's hearing today.

Jane Darnell wouldn't let him see the clothes.

Another witness, Miss Lexie Settle. said she was at the home soon after the murder occurred. She stated been written, and that some of the people there were looking through it. She said Mrs. W. W. Tilley Tilley asked them what they were looking Questioned about the burning of for, and when they replied they Tilley said "you won't find a note

Miss Settle also testified that it being awakened by a neighbor about was she who put through the call 2:30 in the morning the entire kitch-for Dr. H. C. Salmons when the body of the girl was first found.

Mrs. J. M. Yarborough testified that she had loaned Nate Tharpe a .22 rifle and several cartridges sev-She eral days before the murder was ready testified that he had a cartridge in his pocket upon reaching the murder scene. He said he had borough had loaned him were .22 shorts.

Mr. Sides was called back to the didn't pull the trigger," Barker quo- he said W. W. Tilley had given him as the one Mr. Tharpe had slipped The deputy also testified that W. into the death rifle upon reaching der. However, this cartridge was of

Mrs. Dessie Cockerham death, and that Mrs. Tilley said Mr. Barker also testified that he when she first heard of the affair had heard that Mrs. Luther Tilley, as she was in Dr. Salmons' office at as she was in Dr. Salmons' office at Elkin she got the impression that been killed, the witness testified

Mrs. Tilley told her. The witness also stated that Mrs Tilley told her that her husband felt as if Leoda wanted to speak to him. Erskine Pardue stated that he had a talk with Mr. Tilley on Sunday after the girl's funeral and that Mr. Tilley told him that he wasn't uneasy about getting his money back. Deputy Barker, upon being recalled to the stand near the end of I. J. Bell testified that he went to talked with Clyde Tilley since the the Tilley bome in the afternoon of boy's arrest, and that Clyde told nday the girl was buried. He he believed Leoda killed herself and said "one of Tilley's girls" wanted that he wished the note hadn't been if it wasn't suicide, then Mrs. Luther Tilley did it or else had it done. The witness also stated that Clyde admitted having gotten himself into a mess and said he might get two years over it. When reminded by Deputy Barker that he might get 25 years, Clyde replied he would get only six years. Said he had been reading law. The courtroom was crowded to full capacity, an estimated crowd of over a thousand being on hand. Eugene Trivette, attorney for Mrs. Luther Tilley, was present and requested that his client be present. She was brought into the courtroom by Sheriff Bill Somers.

announced that the store will be made permanent and that it will be operated under the name of Elkin Electric Co.

The firm handles Crosley radios and all kinds of electrical goods and supplies. Electrical repair work on appliances and radies are also part of the new firm's services. The store is located, in the W. J Snow building on East Main street

Deputy Collector To Be Here 12-13

J. S. Atkinson, deputy collector of the federal department of revenue will be in Elkin February 12 and 13 to assist tax-payers in filing their income tax returns. He may be seen at Hotel Elkin during the two days. Mr. Atkinson will be in Mount Airy February 14-15, and in Pilot Mountain February 20, for the same purpose.



This the 26th day of January, 1934 2-22

Destroys Still

when captured, and several thou

sand gallons of still beer were des-

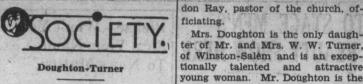
A steam still running at full blast

Wanted: Candy Salesman for Elkin and surrounding territory to distribute line of penny and five cent candies and peanut butter sandwiches to retail stores. Applicant must own light type sedan automobile and be able to furnish personal Surety bond. Address reply to Rawls-Dickson Candy Co., Box 2098, Winston-Salem, N C.

REAL ESTATE

from Elkin, 1/4 mile from hard surface highway and school bus. 15 acres or more of creek bottom. A fine corn and tobacco farm. Price \$10 per acre for cash.

For Sale: 42 acre farm, 3½ miles from Elkin, 1/2 mile from National highway and school bus. 7-room house, garage, smokehouse, barn, cow barn, chicken house tobacco barn, pack-house good casing basement. 8 acres bottom land, 20 acres fenced for pasture. More than 100 nursery fruit trees. Spring a few yards from kitchen door. Less than 1 mile from two churches and consolidated school. Price \$1800., onehalf cash, balance on good terms. Phone us just when you want to move D. C. MARTIN and W. S. REICH



A beautiful wedding of cordial interest to a number of friends of the contracting parties was that of Miss Pauline Elizabeth Turner to Claude Thomas Doughton, which was solemnized at the Centenary Methodist/

When purchasing an article ad-vertised in The Tribune, tell the church in Winston-Salem Saturday afternoon at 4:30, with Rev. G. Jor- merchant you saw it in this paper.

son of Congressman and Mrs. R. L. Doughton of Washington and Laurel

Springs. He is cashier of the De-

posit and Savings Bank at North

Wilkesboro, where they will reside.





to show him the clothes Leoda was found. He said Clyde told him that

FOR GOOD COAL Telephone20 Elkin Roller Mills **INTERESTED?** If interested in De Sota and Plymouth agency for Elkin and vicinity communicate with Henry W. Masten, P. O. Box 1403, Winston - Salem, N. C., Phone 5534. EXPERT SERVICE - SUPPLIES SALES

J. M. CHEEK, Jr. Located with Hayes & Speas PHONE 70 - ELKIN, N. C.

Prominent Harmony Physician Is Dead

r. L. P. Gross, 36, widely known phlician of Harmony, Iredell couly, died at his home Friday from illness of about one hour from heart ailment. Dr. Gross, as a raduate of Wake Forest Collere an later studied his profession in altimore. He was the son of fr. al Mrs. L. P. Gross of Har-moty. Syrviving is his wife and two mall hildren, his parents, four sister, and hree brothers. Funral sovices were held at Harmony laturay.

Chance Name of Firm To Ikin Electric Co.

The Wies Electric company, of North Wilsboro which for the past several onthshas had a branch store here a temporary basis, has

WOOLENS

colors for spring. Come in today and select the shade you desire. You'll find as usual that Penney's price is