

Luther Tilley Said To Have Demonstrated How Body Was Laying

YET DENIED GOING INTO THE HOME AT TIME OF KILLING

Coroner's Jury Charges Tilleys With Conspiracy, Murder

FIVE ARE IN JAIL

Although Luther Tilley, held in jail at Wilkesboro as a participant in the murder of Leoda Mae Childress, is alleged to have denied entering the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Tilley, on the day the girl was killed there, he nevertheless gave a demonstration of the exact manner in which the girl was lying on the floor when found, for the benefit of a number of local people who were gathered in a local store a few days after the murder, it was learned Wednesday.

In addition, he was said to have described the condition of the disordered room and to have expressed his opinion that Leoda did not commit suicide but that Taft Norman, one of the earlier suspects in the case, killed her and placed her body in the position in which it was found when the crime was discovered.

At the time he was said to have given the demonstration he and his father, W. W. Tilley, were in a local store and were answering questions propounded by a group of curious gathered there. Mr. Tilley was quoted as having expressed his belief that the girl committed suicide.

Solicitor John R. Jones, who has worked night and day in an effort to solve the murder, stated Tuesday while in Elkin that a letter had come to light which had been written to Tom Childress, father of the murdered girl, about a year prior to her death. He said the letter was in reference to Leoda Childress having caused trouble between a man and wife. Although Mr. Jones would not commit himself as to the writer of the letter, it was learned Wednesday morning from a reliable source that the letter was written by Mrs. Luther Tilley.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Tilley were arrested shortly after the hearing at Wilkesboro Saturday by Sheriff W. B. Somers, and placed in jail. They are charged with conspiracy and murder, as are their sons, Luther and Clyde, and Luther's wife, Mrs. Minerva Tilley, who were in jail at the time. The couple were taken into custody on the street near the courthouse, they having left the hearing before the coroner's jury arrived at a verdict.

It was learned Wednesday morning that date for a preliminary hearing has not been set, and it was intimated that such a hearing would be waived by defense counsel.

Solicitor Jones, who was confined to his bed Wednesday with a cold, stated here Tuesday that he has much evidence of a damaging nature that has not yet been divulged. He was quoted as saying

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DR. DERENDINGER SPEAKS TO CLUB

Member of Catawba College Faculty Discusses Art

The local Kiwanians were entertained last Friday night at their regular meeting with a short but well-appointed speech by Dr. Ernst Derendinger, director of Catawba College Extension Department. He was introduced by Kiwanian Walter R. Schaff.

Dr. Derendinger pointed out that the attitude of the people of Europe toward art is one of respect, developed from babyhood. In America, it is different, he said. Europe has learned to look upon things in terms of beauty while Americans view things in terms of their usefulness. In giving a brief history of American Art, which is about 90 years old, he pointed out that Art is now assuming a large place in the life of the American public schools as well as the American home.

Mrs. W. W. Tilley Was Carrying Knife When Arrested Saturday

Mrs. W. W. Tilley, when arrested in Wilkesboro Saturday, together with her husband on a charge of conspiracy and murder of Leoda Childress, their foster daughter, was carrying a knife, it was learned from Sheriff W. B. Somers, who made the arrest.

Mr. Tilley was not armed, as had been reported here, the sheriff said. The knife Mrs. Tilley was carrying was of the pocket variety.

LATE NEWS from the State and Nation

Serious Riots In Paris

Paris, Feb. 7.—(Wednesday).—Furious mobs in a revolt against the government battled with police and troops through Paris streets into the early morning hours today, set fire to the ministry of marine and paid with a death toll which may reach a score or more.

Machine-gun fire raked the front of the American embassy as mobs charged across a bridge leading to the chamber of deputies. Many were reported dying. An estimated 100 to 200 were gravely injured. Thousands received minor hurts.

All Paris sensed this to be a grave night in the history of the republic. Thousands of stores closed early and put up wooden shutters or used their iron curtains. Cafes cleared their sidewalk terraces of tables and chairs which previously had been used as missiles, and locked their doors as the rioting grew.

Hope For 10% Raise

Raleigh, Feb. 6.—Hope of a 10 per cent teacher salary raise shortly through a gross gift of about \$1,500,000 from Washington, is read in letters going out to teachers and superintendents from Raleigh appraising them of a \$50,000,000 federal proposition to aid the common schools in their "crisis" as their plight is described in Washington.

Charge Woman With Murder

High Point, Feb. 6.—Mrs. Emma Pulliam, 58-year-old keeper of a boarding house on South Main street here, was arrested at 12:40 o'clock today for murdering Lee H. Harvell, whose charred body was taken from the ruins of his burned home just east of High Point, on the Greensboro road December 22.

Take Gold To London

London, Feb. 6.—Gold estimated to be worth more than \$24,825,000 at today's closing rate was landed in London this afternoon during an unprecedented gold rush by airplane from the continent.

The greater part of the yellow metal was believed ultimately destined for the United States.

Prominent Harmony Physician Is Dead

Dr. L. P. Gross, 36, widely known physician of Harmony, Iredell county, died at his home Friday from an illness of about one hour from a heart ailment. Dr. Gross was a graduate of Wake Forest College and later studied his profession in Baltimore. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Gross of Harmony. Surviving is his wife and two small children, his parents, four sisters and three brothers.

Funeral services were held at Harmony Saturday.

Murdered Girl and Those Charged With Her Death



Large drawing is of Leoda Mae Childress, whose mysterious death at the home of her foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Tilley, of near Benham, on December 30 has resulted in the arrest of (1) Clyde Tilley, (2) Luther Tilley, brothers, and (3) Mrs. Luther Tilley on charges of conspiracy and murder. Mrs. Luther Tilley, who has refused to be photographed, is also charged directly with the murder of the girl in another warrant. Luther Tilley faces a second charge of murder in connection with the death in June, 1927, of Andrew Eldridge. In addition to the three Tilleys pictured above, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Tilley, parents of the two men, are also being held in jail.

YADKIN MAN BLOWS OFF TOP OF HEAD

Crockett Barber, 62, Commits Suicide Sunday Afternoon

Crockett Barber, 62-year-old tenant farmer, living just west of Brooks Cross Roads, committed suicide Sunday afternoon by blowing off the top of his head with a 12 gauge shotgun.

Other members of the family said they were in the house asleep but were awakened by the report of the gun. Rushing to the yard a son found the body by the side of the smokehouse, his body in a pool of blood and his brains scattered on the ground. Part of his head and hair was some 20 feet up in a locust tree lodged on a limb.

Dr. W. G. Leak, Yadkin county coroner, could not be located and W. E. Rutledge, Yadkinville, was appointed a special coroner to investigate the death. There was no reason to believe he had been killed by anyone else and an inquest was deemed unnecessary. The body was removed to Mackie & Hinshaw's undertaking parlor where it was prepared for burial.

Burial followed in the cemetery at Mountain View church, near the home, Monday afternoon. He is survived by his wife and three children.

VOTE TO WITHDRAW APPROPRIATION

Hampton Tells Commissioners Slot Machines Should Go

Meeting Monday night in regular session, the Elkin board of commissioners voted to withdraw further appropriations to county health work until a county health officer is employed. Dr. T. C. Britt, former health officer, having resigned during the latter part of last year. It is understood that several applicants for the job of county physician are, under consideration but as yet no one has been appointed. The matter of outlawing all slot machines in town, brought before the board by Parks Hampton, local attorney, was referred to Mayor M. A. Royall for investigation.

Miss Elkin for 1934 will be selected at the Lyric Theatre this evening. Be there and assist in the coronation of the "Queen of Elkin."

Foster Parents Held For Girl's Murder



Mr. and Mrs. Warwick W. Tilley, photographed at their home the day the body of Leoda Mae Childress was exhumed at Benham church, who were placed in jail at Wilkesboro Saturday afternoon on warrants charging conspiracy and murder.

ALLEGHANY MAN IS DEAD AFTER FIGHT

Passes In Local Hospital After Game Fight For Life

Rufus D. Watson, 48, died in the local hospital Sunday night after making a desperate fight for his life for two weeks following severe skull injuries received when he was hit over the head with the butt of a pistol in a fight in the Bull Head mountain section of Alleghany county. The fight is said to have occurred at a dance and the fatal blow is alleged to have been dealt by Pholey

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LOCAL HOSPITAL HAS FINE RECORD

During Past Year Total Of 629 Patients Were Discharged

The results of the Hugh Chatham Memorial hospital here are hardly appreciated in their fullest meaning. The following figures will enable local people to understand more clearly the splendid work that is being done by this group of workers and the way in which a long felt need in Elkin and the surrounding community is being met in this institution. During last year 629 patients were

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EXPERT IS WARNED NOT TO TESTIFY IN ELDRIDGE MYSTERY

He States Luther Tilley Wrote Andrew Eldridge Note

PROBABLE CAUSE

Another note, equally as mysterious as the two which have featured the Childress-Eldridge murder case, came to light Friday morning during the preliminary hearing for Luther Tilley and Winfield Stanley before Magistrate A. E. Spainhour, at Wilkesboro.

Tilley and Stanley, charged with the death of Andrew Eldridge in June, 1927, were bound over to superior court without benefit of bond.

The note, which was unsigned and printed in pencil on a scrap of ruled paper, was placed between the screen door and front door of the home of E. B. Brooks, handwriting expert of Winston-Salem, who has given damaging evidence in the case against Luther Tilley and Stanley. The note read as follows:

"If you know what is best for you you won't tell who wrote that note. And you won't show this note. You think you dam sharp."

Mr. Brooks testified he found the note Saturday night following the coroner's hearing at Ronda Wednesday a week ago in which he was a witness.

The Winston-Salem handwriting expert, when placed upon the stand Friday morning, testified that the note presumably left by Andrew Eldridge the day he disappeared from home in 1927, was written by Luther Tilley.

Upon being cross examined by Hayden Burke, Tilley's attorney, it was revealed Brooks was carrying a pistol. He stated that he had secured a permit from Winston-Salem police to carry a gun after he found the note. He testified that the communication "scared me."

Although Mr. Burke endeavored to confuse Brooks as to his testimony regarding the handwriting of the Eldridge note, the expert refused to become mixed up.

The first witness to be called to the stand during the hearing was J. F. Eldridge, father of Andrew Eldridge. Mr. Eldridge testified that the last time he saw his son alive he left him at the house while he and his wife went into the fields to work. Upon returning about dusk he stated he found the note upon the kitchen ta-

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CRIMINAL COURT CONVENES MONDAY

Shipton Case Is Scheduled To Come Up Friday

The February term of Surry county superior court for the trial of criminal cases convened Monday at Dobson before Judge Felix A. Alley with Solicitor Carysle Higgins prosecuting the docket.

Up until Wednesday few cases had been disposed of, a portion of the time having been consumed in calling the report docket.

Several cases of local interest are scheduled to come up, one of which is the Hasten Eldridge case in which Eldridge is charged with robbing the Reece Barber Shop here last Tuesday week. Trial of Windy Shipton, of the Mountain Park vicinity who on the night of November 13, 1933, severely cut Deputy Sheriff R. C. Wood across the abdomen with a knife while resisting arrest, is scheduled to begin Friday.

Trial of a theft case which occurred in Mount Airy, was under way Wednesday.

All In Readiness For Men's Beauty Contest Tonight

Plans are all set for the Men's Beauty contest at the Lyric Theatre, which is sponsored by the Woman's Auxiliary of the George Gray Post of the American Legion. In addition to the contest there will be choruses and dances by students of the local school and a feature attraction on the screen. "Miss" Elkin will be chosen from the group of entrants, which includes some of Elkin's most charming "bellees."