

Tense Moment at End of Daugherty Murder Trial



This is the charred remains of the house at 606 Oak Street in Southeast Kinston where 45-year old Mrs. Isadora Rhodes and two of her grandchildren, seven year old Yvonne, and three-year old Rudolph, were burned to death early last Saturday morning. The fire was first discovered

shortly after 4:30 a. m. but by the time firemen arrived the house was ablaze all over, and it was felt by investigating firemen and police that the woman and her grandchildren had very likely been overcome by fumes before the fire reached the beds where they slept. (Polaroid photo-in-a-minute by Jack Rider)

Annual Father-Son Banquet for Caswell District Scouts to be Held 6:30 Tuesday Night in Kinston

Only Five Marriage License Issued For January in Jones

The marriage business was slow during January, at least in Jones County, or so the records of Register of Deeds George Noble indicate. Only five license were issued during the month, far below the usual average. These went to:

- Albert Frank Zulinski, 21, of Cherry Point to Margaret Anna Howard, 20, of Kinston.
Arthur Hays, 23, of Indiana to Lois Paul, 18, of Asheville.
James Jones, 25, of Trenton to Eunice Koonce, 22, of Trenton.
George Earl Ervin, 25, of Kinston to Mrs. Mildred Harden Gilbert, 27, of Trenton route two.
John Nichols Wright, 68, of Pollocksville to Hazel Williams Leary, 42, of New Bern.

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Dr. J. D. Messick, both president of East Carolina College and the East Carolina Council of the Boy Scouts of America, will preside over the annual Father-Son Banquet of the district which is to be held Tuesday night at 6:30 in the Fairfield Community Center in Kinston.

Dr. Bob Gilbert, chairman of Caswell District will open the meeting and Dr. J. J. Mayer will act as toastmaster.

Eagle Scout P. C. Berwick Jr. of Moss Hill will give a short address, "What A Son Expects of A Father" and Scout Master Walter "Sparky" Hood will reply with "What A Father Expects of A Son".

Arthur Shackelford will lead a songfest after which Dr. Messick will make the President's Award. The program will close with a specialty by Cub Scouts.

Tickets are now on sale and those who would like to attend this annual session are urged to contact members of the banquet committee at the earliest possible moment.

The emotional peak of a dramatic week of Lenoir County's Superior Court was caught above, seconds after Judge Joseph Parker of Windsor had suspended a four-to-seven year prison term on Mrs. Bonnie Belle Daugherty for the shotgun slaying of her husband, Henry Daugherty on the night of November 19, 1954. Defense Attorney Frank Owens at left, looks on as Mrs. Daugherty, sobbing hysterically in the arms of her brother, Dan Strickland, while next to Owens and at Mrs. Daugherty's side, her sister Mrs. Cecil Price is also overcome.

A few minutes before this picture a jury after one hour and eight minutes of deliberation found Mrs. Daugherty guilty of manslaughter. It could have found her guilty of second degree murder or not guilty.

Judge Parker who admitted that he would probably be criticized for suspending the sentence and placing Mrs. Daugherty on probation for five years said it was the only thing he could do in the face of the evidence that had been presented to the court.

Mrs. Daugherty, mother of three small daughters, admitted loading a shotgun some 20 minutes before the argument and fatal shooting of her husband. She claimed that she loaded the gun for protection, since a brief argument preceded her husband's departure from home; and she felt that more argument would be on tap when he returned. She said that she was afraid of her husband who had beaten her severely on several occasions and once had been indicted by his own mother for beating her.

This was admitted by the prosecution which also had some difficulty explaining the fact that Daugherty's mother had signed the \$2,500 bond for the defendant's release on the day after the shooting.

There was no evidence tendered to the court as to Mrs. Daugherty's past or present character. Under the rules of evidence a defendant may tender character witnesses, but the prosecution may not except as rebuttal to any that might be offered by the defense.

Since the defense did not choose to offer character testimony, the prosecution could not offer anything to support its hard fought contention that Mrs. Daugherty was "guilty of second degree murder with some elements of first degree murder."

Defense Counsel Frank Owens, who was appointed at the last minute to represent Mrs. Daugherty along with Fitzhugh Wallace Jr., said that the court's judgment "Gives Mrs. Daugherty

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Aging Daughter Cares For 85-Year Old Father in Tent



Standing before the tent in which she and her 85-year old father live is Miss Ada Potter. In the other picture she is shown making her blind, partially deaf and bedridden father a little more comfortable in the sub-freezing temperatures that prevailed when these pictures were taken Monday morning.

These pictures, and words are not reproduced here as any tear-jerking effort to dig up some sudden, superficial charity for this aging but devoted daughter and her more aged father. Perhaps surprising to most who may notice this, Miss Potter is most content. Her father is too near departure from this veil of tears to know, or much care.

Saturday night Miss Della Hyatt called this writer-photographer to express her concern over the welfare of this couple. Their possible lack of comfort and the bare necessities had understandably excited Miss Hyatt, a woman, whose interest in those people that society and its agencies often forgets, has helped many to survive.

Miss Hyatt was promised that the matter would be investigated, and the first chore Monday morning was just that. Miss Potter Aging Daughter page 10

