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HENRY L. VAN STORY SHOOT'S SELF FATALLY IN CATAWBA COUNTY

DEATH WAS ALMOST INSTANTANEOUS.

Manager of Cleveland Springs Hotel Commits Suicide at Farm in Catawba County. Financial Worry Thought Cause.

Henry Van Story, proprietor of the Cleveland Springs hotel committed suicide at his Catawba county farm at three o'clock this afternoon.

Mrs. Van Story, in a long distance telephone communication with The Star at 4:30 o'clock confirmed the tragedy.

She said the act was the result of a mental depression, due to financial worries.

She and Mr. VanStory visited the Catawba farm this afternoon. They had just arrived on the place, and had entered the tenant house. Mrs. VanStory went to the well to get a drink of water, and suddenly heard a pistol shot. When she entered the house she found her husband lying on the floor. He had shot himself through the head and died instantly.

It was four o'clock.

The pistol with which the deed was committed Mr. VanStory found on a mantel-piece in the tenant home.

Mrs. VanStory said her husband was in good spirits during the drive, and so far was any thought of tragedy from her mind, that when she heard the pistol shot she had no thought that Mr. VanStory had taken his life.

Mr. VanStory was well known as a hotel keeper through North Carolina and a good part of the South, having been assistant manager of the Grove Park Inn at Asheville before coming to Shelby.

He had been manager of Cleveland Springs for several years. There are three children in the VanStory family.

The body of the dead man was taken at once to the home of VanStory's mother's in Lincolnton. It was said burial would be either at Lincolnton or at Greensboro, the remains not being brought to Shelby.

Newton Wins in Routing Of Road, As Judge Webb Rules

Shelby Jurist Says Proposed Route Does Not Properly Connect County Seats

The town of Newton was a victor today in the decision rendered by Judge James L. Webb regarding the routing of Highway 10 through the county seat of Catawba.

The decision was made public late this afternoon following contemplation on the matter by the jurist since Monday when the hearing was held here. The judge has been in Runtherford court since that time and was unable to give the matter his attention until today.

Citing five apparent facts from the evidence, and the road law enacted by the legislature, Judge Webb granted a permanent restraining order against the highway commission as to that part of the proposed route 10 in Catawba county.

However, the restraining order as it pertains to the Iredell county portion of the proposed road was released, permitting road work there to go forward.

The ruling came after it was decided the proposed routing, known as the "yellow line" was not in compliance with the state road law as it enters Newton, a county seat. Judge Webb by his ruling interprets the road law to mean that a highway connecting county seats, as ruled by the law, means that the highway should enter the center of main section of the town, and not merely skirt its boundary lines. It is further set forth in the decision that it was the jurist's interpretation that the legislature in enacting the county-seat to county-seat highway system meant that it should really enter the towns to be connected, and not skirt them; that it should enter as distances are measured from town to town, which is the practical centers.

Apparently from the review of the decision, which has some length, the restraining order as the Catawba portion of the road is absolutely, permanent unless the route is so changed as to let the highway pass through the center of Newton. This is surmised from the releasing of the restraining order as it pertains to the Iredell county portion.

In the five facts set forth explaining the ruling it is shown that the only difference between the old route and the proposed route as distances go is only 1.39 miles. The cost of grading and construction by the proposed route, now restrained, would be less than the southern route, but if the southern route was used it would not be necessary to build a new bridge across the Catawba, whereas by the proposed route it would require considerable expenditure to

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Stanley Girl Is Winner In Spelling

Louise Efrid, of Albemarle, was the winner of the state spelling contest held Saturday night at Charlotte. There were 39 contestants coming from all sections of the state.

Miss Agnes Harrill, of the Lattimore school this county, remained in the contest until only 11 were left and made a very fine showing, being in the final contest made of up of 13 spellers. The young Cleveland county champion fell on the word "metropolis."

Long ago dad's pants were cut down to make pants for Willie instead of knickers for Jane.

When a boy had a date in the old days he turned down the gas instead of stepping on it.

In the old days, dirty work at the cross roads was melodrama, not sweeping up the departed by section hands.

THACKER SERVICES CLOSED ON SUNDAY

Great Benefits Derived From Evangelistic Meetings by Noted Preacher and Wife.

The Thacker services, one of the most helpful evangelistic meetings ever held in Shelby, came to a close Sunday evening with the final sermon of Dr. Ernest Thacker in the Presbyterian church.

Early data secured showing the beneficial results of the services have it that there were around 60 professions of faith, all of whom will become church members in and around Shelby. Furthermore some 500 people signed the cards consecrating themselves to Christian faith and service. The services although held in the Presbyterian church were of general community benefit and were so attended and taken, and therefore great results from the two weeks meeting are expected over the section generally.

Sunday Big Day. The closing Sunday was perhaps the greatest day of the series of services. Although not definitely estimated, it is thought that a record number of people attended the four services during the day.

The Presbyterian church was packed Sunday morning for one of Dr. Thacker's most appealing sermons, while at the same hour a large crowd gathered at New Prospect church where Mrs. Thacker made the memorial address at the home church of her father, the late Rev. Thomas Dixon.

In the afternoon the Central Methodist church auditorium was filled with men and boys for the special sermon to men by Dr. Thacker. Such was the size of the congregation that it was necessary to make use of the Sunday school rooms. At the same hour Mrs. Thacker spoke to the women and girls of Shelby and section at the First Baptist church where every available seat was filled. At the closing service Sunday evening in the Presbyterian church seats were at a premium to hear the closing and what was termed the strongest sermon, of Dr. Thacker.

Dr. and Mrs. Thacker left Shelby Monday morning for their home in Norfolk, Va., where they will remain for a day before going to Florida for the general assembly of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Harry E. Thomas, efficient song leader who had charge of the musical programs during the services, also left Monday morning, going to Winston-Salem where he will be engaged in evangelistic services.

Baptist Ask Rockefeller For Two Million Gift

John D. Rockefeller has been asked to contribute approximately \$200,000 for the relief of superannuated ministers of the Southern Baptist church of the relief and annuity board of the church reported to the convention.

Mr. Rockefeller has already contributed \$100,000, the reported said, adding that resources of the annuity fund are now in excess of \$1,500,000. The annuity fund now pays \$560 annually for total and permanent disability and on retirement at 68 years, but the board proposes by a contributory annuity plan to raise it to a minimum of \$60, but not to exceed fifty per cent of the average salary during service.

STARTS INTO HOG RAISING WITH BIG BONE POLANDS

Morris Hamrick of Shelby R-4, is starting into swine breeding on a commercial basis. On Saturday he received from Waynesboro, Va., a fine looking male purebred big-boned Poland China who descended from Rain-bow Clan. The good father of the hog which Mr. Hamrick received Saturday sold at one time for \$40,000. Mr. Hamrick has three fine gilts that are also pure bred Poland China and from these he expects to start swine raising which he ought to find profitable.

Webb Returns—Mr. Carl Webb, head of the Pilot Life Insurance Company hereabouts and family are back from a several days' visit to the towns of Western Carolina, Asheville, Hendersonville and other of the high spots. Mr. Webb went over on business, taking Mrs. Webb and the family with him for the outing. He says business in the larger mountain centers is lively.

Stockholders Meeting.

The regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the Shelby Building and Loan Association will be held in the directors room of the First National bank at 5 o'clock p. m. on Thursday, May 27th, 1926.

J. F. ROBERTS, Sec-Treas.

G. O. P. Names County Ticket

Republicans of Cleveland Name Complete County Ticket For Coming Election, Woman Named.

Meeting Saturday the Republicans of Cleveland county named their county ticket for the coming election. Republican leaders, including H. Clay Cox, chairman, consider the ticket named one of the strongest ever put forth in the county. One woman, Miss Ossie McRary, is on the ticket, as the Republican candidate for county treasurer.

The complete ticket follows: Clerk of Superior court—W. R. Casstevens, Shelby.

Sheriff—O. A. Rheu, Kings Mountain.

Register of deeds—J. D. Ellis, Boiling Springs.

Treasurer—Miss Ossie McRary, Shelby.

Legislature—Dr. F. H. Lackey, Fallston.

County surveyor—Purvis Runyans, Earl.

Coroner—Ellis Hoyle, Fallston.

Board of education—A. R. McNeely, Casar; George E. Goforth, Shelby; W. S. Walker, Lattimore.

County commissioners—T. B. Richards, Lawndale; Frank Glass, Kings Mountain; Francis Boyles, Toluca.

Miss Laura Miller Enters Tour Race For Trip Abroad

Former Shelby Woman Nominated For Trip, Is Literary Expert, Expects Shelby Support.

Miss Laura Burton Miller, native of Shelby, but a resident of Charlotte for several years, entered the ranks of candidates Friday who will be in the Thomas Jefferson Centennial election, held to select a group of young women ambassadors to carry a message of democracy to Europe this summer, says the Charlotte Observer.

Miss Miller is known as "Charlotte's most literary young woman," is a member of the Charlotte Writers' club and is author of "The Green Amulet," which appeared first in Scribner's Magazine and has since been translated into half a dozen languages. Besides this masterpiece, she has contributed many other short stories to the popular magazines and is being hailed in the literary world as a writer of special promise.

Aided Gardner. Miss Miller was formerly secretary to O. Max Gardner, when he was lieutenant governor of North Carolina, and is now connected with the staff of the Saco-Lowell agency here.

The new candidate in the ranks of the candidates was educated at Converse college, Spartanburg, S. C., and won many honors in college for exceptionally able literary work. She is also a member of the North Carolina Federation of Women's clubs and has won many honors from the federation for poems and other literary efforts.

Miss Miller expects great support from Shelby, her home town, in the election that is soon to take place. She is popular socially and otherwise in that place and has already been assured by agencies there that she may expect cordial support from friends and organizations.

Only a few more candidates are expected in the field before nominations are closed and the election proceeds. From the list of those already in the field will be selected "Miss North Carolina," the highest rating candidate in the election, who will head the party of young women from North Carolina when they go abroad next summer to visit seven European countries.

Mr. Fortune No Doubt Longs For Cleveland

Mr. Jule B. Fortune, Shelby postmaster many years ago and candidate for congress in this district, no doubt longs for the Sunny South. He is now living at Hubbard Woods, a suburb of Chicago, Ill. and in renewing his paper and that of two relatives, he writes: Here is our snow record for the past winter. First snow October 9, 1925. Last snow melted April 26th, 1926, six months and 12 days from the time the first snow fell. During this time we had 27 different snows and snow was seen on the ground for more than five months. Though Spring is a month behind, thanks to the good God of nature, the grass is green and the leaves on the trees are growing one time more. The temperature was 40 above at 6 a. m. this morning."

—Banks Close May 20—All the banks of Shelby will close on Thursday May 20. Patrons are requested to transact their business on Friday.

Toluca Boy Is Killed In Unavoidable Auto Tragedy

Charles G. Roaney, said to be about 13 years of age and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Roaney, of near Toluca, is dead as the result of an automobile tragedy on the highway above Toluca, in upper Cleveland, Sunday afternoon.

Going After Hat.

The little fellow, according to best reports to be obtained, was riding in a car with his father and mother when the hat of someone in the car blew off and he got out to go back for it. Another car was close behind and almost ready to pass. Just as the little fellow darted back across the road, it is said, he was struck by the other car which could not stop. His body was hurled into a side ditch and his neck was said to be broken by the impact, while he was considerably cut up.

Added to the sadness of the tragedy, it is understood, that the driver of the car which hit him was Miss Vangee Willis, a first cousin of the little fellow. People from the Toluca section from whom reports could be gathered say that it is understood that the tragic accident was unavoidable and that the sadness of the fatality has affected relatives in the second car almost as much as that of the immediate family.

The mother of the boy, or someone in the first car, reports say, warned the little fellow not to run back until the car had passed, but it is thought that he never heard them until after he had started.

They Made A Bow On Entering School Here In Olden Days of Landrum Smith

School Roll Book of Late Landrum Smith When He Taught 70 Years Ago Is Interesting

Go back in your memory if you are old enough and imagine Landrum Smith, school master, calling the roll of Capers Lee, George Doggett, Lige Hardin, Amos Davis, George Wray, L. D. Webb, Arthur Wray, Charlotte Bridges, Sarah Suttle and others, many of whom have passed over the river when the chariot swung low.

Landrum Smith who later became a Methodist minister and represented Cleveland county in the Legislature back in the early days, was a school teacher seventy years ago and the length of his term was 60 days. Out of the 30 boys and 16 girls who sat under his tutelage, attendance was very irregular. E. O. Hamrick attended the full term while Watson Webb had only two days present married up for him.

Landrum Smith made a pocket size roll book out of paper cut from some other book. He covered the pages with tanned pig skin and wrote among the pages the rules of the school so there would be no mistake. In his stern way, he no doubt enforced the rules and the pupils did well in their studies for Landrum Smith was a man of extraordinary intellect and thoroughness. Here's what he wrote in the old roll book in the hands of his grandson L. A. Smith of the Sharon section:

"School will commence at 8 o'clock. No profane talk, no telling tales from school, no quarreling, no fighting among none of you. No talking or laughing in time of school, either in the house or not. No scholar shall leave the school to go home or any where without leave of the teacher. No climbing or wrestling. When you are dismissed at 12 or at night, do not be like wild flocks and when you approach the door of the mornings, make your bow. You shall not go out of sight of the school house to cipher or study. If you do, you may expect to be corrected and that severely, both large and small, will obey these rules or take the correction that I think is rite. If any one over twenty-one may come, he may be corrected as the rest and continue coming. You are not to make the meeting house a place to play and of meeting days you are all to go in when preaching commences and stay till you are dismissed."

Here's a list of the boys enrolled in the Landrum Smith school: R. Doggett, George Doggett, Capers Lee, R. L. Blanton, Lige Hardin, E. O. Hamrick, Baty Suttle, Amos Davis, Perry Davis, Pinkey Wells, L. D. Webb, M. W. L. Doggett, I. W. Bridges, Thomas Bridges, John Wemm, William Lee, George Wray, Perry Thomas, Arthur Wray, J. M. D. Daavis, T. Davis, R. D. Hughes, G. W. Hughes, William Hughes, G. B. Hughes, Jackson Hughes.

And the girls' attended too for it was a co-educational affair, but not in as large numbers as the boys: Ellen Lee, M. L. Blanton, Sarah Suttle, Y. A. Blanton, Lonora Davis, G. F. Frances, Charlotte Bridges, Priscilla Wray, Martha Francis, Lisa Hardin, Hannah Barnett, Unica Bowen, Mary Safrona Bowen, Liza J. Bowen, Ellen Hughes, M. L. Frances.

Elementary Pupils In Flower Operetta

The pupils of the Central elementary school of Shelby will present an operetta at the school auditorium Thursday evening, of this week, at 7:30 o'clock.

The operetta is entitled "In a Flower Garden," and the public is assured a very pleasing evening.

Growth In Ear Identifies Ross Almost Certain

Practically Definite Now That Long Lost Man Has Been Found. Starrs Seem Certain.

Announcement practically may be made that the long lost Charlie Ross has been found. After an extensive and intensive investigation of the facts, Mr. and Mrs. Pierre C. Starr, of New York, the latter a cousin of Charlie Ross, announce that they have accepted the Denver man as their relative.

Here are the immediate plans: The Starrs will take the former Julius C. Dellinger north, where they will introduce him to their relatives and friends as Charlie Ross. They will subject him to blood tests to ascertain what modern science has to say in the way of clearing up the riddle. And they will put him under observation under the most favorable circumstances for a period.

Meantime however this is to be said—

That the Starr family, both Mr. and Mrs. Starr, have come to the conclusion absolutely that Dellinger is Ross. And Mrs. Starr, has documentary evidence, a book thick, to back up her belief. Her quest has unearthed some startling facts with relation to the history of certain events in this state, which would make spy reading if they are ever disclosed.

Her evidence includes an affidavit from the negro that spirited Charlie Ross away from Gaffney, S. C., after Mr. Frank Gaffney and his friends had concluded that the boy was the kidnapped lad. The child, as was formerly told, was spirited away to Bellton, Ga., by night.

The negro who executed that errand is now living in Mt. Holly, this state.

When Mrs. Ross, the mother of Charlie, died in Philadelphia some 18 years ago, her last words were said to have been: "If you ever find Charlie look for a growth in his ear. That will tell you it is the boy."

When Mrs. Starr got out of her limousine on the rainy night in April last, at Dellinger's home in Denver (it was near midnight) and went into the house, the first thing she said, after looking Dellinger over from head to foot was: "Well, I believe I have found Charlie."

Then she said: "Let me look in your left ear."

Dellinger, not knowing the significance of the act bent his head, and his cousin exclaimed: "Yes the growth is there."

The man, as has formerly been told, also had two moles on his back as the last Ross child had, and a foot with a scar on it.

Just when the man now recognized as Ross will be taken north is being kept a secret, to avoid publicity, it is said; but the trip will be made soon. And it is expected Mr. J. Frank Gaffney, of this city, will be a member of the party.

It was Mr. Gaffney, it happens that supplied the missing link of evidence in the chain. It seems Mrs. Starr for two years or more had been convinced that Charlie Ross was alive, and was making a persistent investigation to endeavor to get trace of him. At the same time Dellinger, living in Denver, was also persisting in his endeavor to find out who he really was.

The two trails of investigation met in Mr. Gaffney. It was his evidence that forged the link in the chain of circumstance.

Then the negro was found who had spirited the young child away from Gaffney by night.

Then a close relative of the woman was found who had run away with McHale. Then the antecedents of the Julius Dellinger episode were traced down.

Tent Erected For Big Revival Here

The big Spinks revival tent has been erected on a vacant lot on South LaFayette street just beyond the cross-street joining Washington and LaFayette streets, it is announced by those in charge of the preliminary plans for the big Baptist revival which begins there Sunday night.

The services will be in charge of Dr. Zeno Wall and Rev. Rush Padgett, pastors of the Baptist churches in Shelby, and is expected to be one of the largest attended services ever held in the city. The big tent will seat around 2,000 people, it is said, and from interest being shown in the coming services will likely be filled for each service. Details of the services with the hours will be announced Wednesday.

HIGHS WIN FINAL GAME OF SEASON

Jack Hoyle Sings Swan Song In Whiffing Kings Mountain Batters. Locals Get On To Skates.

Playing their final game of the season here Friday afternoon the Shelby Highs won the county championship and Mull baseball cup by defeating the strong Kings Mountain team 9 to 2.

It was the swan song in high school baseball of several of the local players, among them being two that carried Shelby on to a state championship last year. Jack Hoyle, Peeler and Grigg were in their final appearance, and Hoyle left the field with many strike outs to his credit and a fine game for his last Shelby appearance. Peeler hit and fielded as usual in his consistent gait, while Grigg shot in as a pinch hitter delivered twice in the pinches.

For five frames it was an interesting hurling duel between "Skooter" Skates, speed ball artist of Kings Mountain, and Hoyle, Shelby's hook ball expert. And for the five frames, may it be said, Skates had the Shelby hitters at his mercy, while Hoyle gave up only one run. But near the midships of the box score the young Shelby hitters began to get their war clubs in the way of the fast ones and runs rained in thick and fast with Lee and Cline leading the hitting.

Hoyle's slow curves kept the visitors baffled when runners were on and three times Skates returned to the bench by strike-outs and Hord, one of the best high players seen here this year, fell once before breaks of the youngster doing his last game for his team.

Features were frequent with both teams. In the Shelby line-up weak hitters vied with the strong ones in driving out base blows when they were needed. Fielding thrills were numerous, the two outstanding being by Sparks, local right fielder, and Kings Mountain's center gardener, although Hord of Kings Mountain was up to his usual tricks in getting the fast ones all about him.