

How cold was it Tuesday night? That's Shelby's biggest controversy of the week.

How much has the negro population of Cleveland county increased in the past five years? Some say it has doubled.

Club women of the county meeting at the high school auditorium Wednesday heard a fine program and will devote their efforts to making Cleveland county homes brighter.

A casket factory will start operations in Shelby within the next 30 days, according to an announcement in today's Star.

One woman is a sufficiency for any man who does not supervise a Turkish harem judging by today's paper which tells of three men in trouble over their will-o'-the-wisp love affairs.

One of the men had to face two wives in local court room and added to that auto inspectors brought out the numbers on a stolen car that had been filed off.

Watch the dragnet of the law! Kings Mountain officers slapped 12 people in jail here in one party Thursday night, which is thought to be a local record for wholesale jailing.

The Cleveland Oil company has bought out the Arey Texaco company, it is announced today.

P. and N. railway officials will be the guests of the Shelby Kiwanis club at which time local boosters will attempt to show why the railroad extension should come by the City of Springs.

Community items, general news and other interesting articles appear in this issue.

Young Couple In County Jail On Adultery Charge

Had Been Living Here as Man and Wife in Local Boarding House. Admits Former Marriage.

A young couple, known as Grady Hames and his wife, were placed in jail here last night by Chief R. O. Hamrick and city officers and will likely be tried before the recorder this week, it is said, on a charge of fornication and adultery. Although they have a certificate showing that they were married in Gaffney, December 10th 1925, local officers say that they are not legally married as the woman has not a divorce, so far as they know, from her first husband.

Some time back Chief Hamrick received a letter from the girl's mother, a Mrs. Lail of Hickory, telling him that her daughter lived here with Hames and that she had several years ago married a man there. The arrest here came after an investigation, it is said, and the woman, officers say practically admitted the former marriage, but stated that she had not lived with the first husband but a short time as he got into trouble, adding that an officers told her that she could get married again as her first husband had been gone for quite a time. The young couple, it is said, had been living here for some time and they were employed at a local industrial plant, Chief Hamrick said. The husband, court officials report, was in court here some time ago on a charge of beating his supposed wife, but at the hearing she did not appear against him.

Prior to the trial officers, it is understood, are investigating Hames' past, he having admitted, they say, that he was married twice before, being divorced once and his second wife dying. Whether or not other charges will be preferred has not been decided as yet.

Officers Create Record In Jailing One Dozen People

Kings Mountain Officers Apparently Though Local Bastille Was Getting Empty

Deputy Greel Ware and his associate Kings Mountain officers apparently have the idea that none of the nice, county-maintained rooms at the new jail should ever be empty. Ware surely heard that the boarders were decreasing at Sheriff Logan's establishment, for Thursday night in company with Chief Irvin Allen and Policeman Hendricks he brought over 12 negroes as inmates.

So far as is remembered this is a record number to ever be jailed in Shelby at one time. The 12 colored men are charged with stealing coal from the plant of the Kings Mountain Oil company. They are said to be working with a construction force on the railroad near Kings Mountain. Working upon information the Kings Mountain officers corraled the entire party Thursday and brought them here for trial.

CLEVELAND FIRM PURCHASES AREY TEXACO COMPANY

Cleveland Oil Company Takes Over Equipment of Arey Oil Co., Texaco Distributors

One of the largest deals consummated in Shelby recently was made this week whereby the Arey Oil company sold its equipment for the distribution of petroleum products to the recently organized Cleveland Oil company. Arey Oil company held the agency for Texaco petroleum products and had between 50 and 75 pumps in this territory, six trucks and a valuable good will which was taken into consideration. Purchase price was not given.

The Cleveland Oil company was recently organized here with local and Gastonia capital, taking over the Washburn Oil company. J. F. Johnson was elected president, Chas Washburn treasurer and R. H. Bryson, secretary and general manager. All of these gentlemen are experienced in the distribution of petroleum products and are rapidly building up a wonderful trade in this territory.

Arey brothers, Ward and Will, have the second oldest agency of this kind in Shelby and have been quite successful in the distribution of Texaco.

FLOGGERS BREAK UP DIVORCE AND SECOND MARRIAGE

Woman Admitted Infidelity and Expected to Marry Her New Lover. Nice People.

Durham.—An arrangement between a husband and wife and a third party, by which the husband was to relinquish his claim to the wife to third member of the triangle was broken up when two automobiles full of robed and hooded men at the intersection of Chapel Hill and Duke streets, in the heart of Durham, picked up Dewey Poythress and Mrs. P. B. Midyette, took them to a lonely road and applied the lash to the young man Monday night of last week.

Mr. Midyette, Mrs. Midyette and Mr. Poythress had come to an agreement by which Mr. Midyette and his wife were to secure a divorce, had agreed on the disposal of their three children and had agreed that later Mrs. Midyette and Mr. Poythress would marry. The three had held a conference in Durham that night and Mrs. Midyette and Mr. Poythress had gone to a picture show. They were on their way to the home of Mrs. Midyette's parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Edwards, 401 Jackson street, when the hooded and robed figures took charge of them.

Everything Arranged. Mr. Midyette had filed divorce proceedings with the clerk of the Superior court of Durham county, charging Mrs. Midyette with infidelity. Mrs. Midyette had admitted the charges in her answer. The case was to come up for hearing in Superior court next week, incidentally before Judge Garland R. E. Midyette, a relative of the husband. With the granting of the divorce, Mrs. Midyette and Mrs. Poythress were to have been married.

Agreement had been reached by which Midyette was to take the two older children, had taken them and sent them to his home in another part of the state. Mrs. Midyette was to keep the youngest, less than a year old. Mr. Poythress had assented to this arrangement. It had all been worked out and all parties were satisfied. Mrs. Midyette and Mr. Poythress had fallen in love as he called at the Midyette home in Chapel Hill to deliver the daily mail for more than a year. She had told her husband, with whom there had not been complete congeniality, with no particular blame attached to either.

The advent of the hooded men scared the young man to such an extent that he left his job as chief letter carrier in Chapel Hill city and disappeared, supposedly to Virginia, blasting the plans that had been so carefully made.

Husband Popular Employee. Mr. Midyette is a young man, probably 30, and a Duke University man. For several years he was a man. For several years he was a man. For several years he was a man. For several years he was a man.

Colored Population Here Increased By Boll Weevil

Great Increase In Negro Population During Past Three Years. Came From Southern Section of Country

FARM WOMEN WILL BRIGHTEN HOMES AS SUCCESS AID

Women in Meeting Here Plan to Add Color and Convenience to Homes Over the County.

Cheerful, happy homes that will radiate enthusiasm and incite ambitions for success in their inmates is the plan by which farm women and club members of Cleveland county plan to do their bit in improving agricultural Cleveland county.

Many Women Attend.

Despite the wintry weather 58 club women of the county gathered at the meeting held at Central school here Wednesday afternoon to hear Miss Helen Eastabrook, state specialist, discuss plans of improving the farm home and a program of aid by the farm wife to her husband in establishing North Carolina farms on a sounder basis.

The meeting was presided over by Mrs. J. D. Elliott, newly elected president of the county council, and she welcomed the visitors to the meeting. Mrs. Irma Wallace, home agent, in introducing the speaker touched upon the subject for the gathering. The home, according to her, is like the chicken and the egg—one makes the other, and the housewife who makes the home is in turn made by the home. A cheerful home, she declared, is a fitting background for success and it is a woman's place to provide such a home that it may incite the inmates to make a success of their undertaking.

Miss Eastabrook, who is a specialist on home furnishings, conducted an inspirational demonstration, giving simple and inexpensive methods for combining beauty and usefulness, employing only things that are necessary, or useful, and do away with all unnecessary articles that create extra work. "We need more light and color in our homes and there never should be a feeling that we have shut the sunshine out," she declared. "Perhaps, this, too, may solve the problem, in a measure, of how to keep our boys and girls at home."

Following the demonstration Miss Eastabrook explained the method of using local leaders in taking up the project of hours furnishing leaders from each club will meet at some future date and attend a training school to be conducted by Miss Eastabrook, Mrs. Wallace give the methods learned to the other members of the clubs and their neighbors.

Leading club women expect this project of leader work to mean much to the county and that all these leaders will practically be assistant agents in the work. As fourteen leaders have already been signed up it apparently means that fourteen times as many will be reached as if the agent was working alone. "In fact," says Mrs. Wallace, "it will reach more than that for a goodly number of club members are planning to take up the work who were prevented from attending the meeting."

Carolina. It was here that he met and married Miss Edwards some five or six years ago. They had not been entirely congenial, it is said. Young Poythress, 22 or 23 years old, who has lived for many years in Chapel Hill, growing up there, driving a delivery wagon in his younger days, some two years ago he took the civil service examination and received an appointment as letter carrier, about the time the city delivery service was inaugurated in the university town. Postmaster Herndon gave him a splendid rating and he was looked upon by the community as a splendid young man. Persons knowing the three say that he and Mrs. Midyette are of types which would seem to make them more suitable and congenial than Mr and Mrs. Midyette.

Mr. Midyette was the first, it is reported, to go to the police about the matter. He is said to have asked if some steps could not be taken to prevent another such incident, to protect not only the wife from whom he was separated, but also the man who she was to marry. Later the wife is said to have visited police headquarters in Durham and supposedly asked for protection so she and Mr. Poythress might continue to be together unmolested.

Just how much has Cleveland county's negro population increased during the past three or four years?

Quite a number of leading farmers, acquainted with the migration here of colored tenant farmers from Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina, say that the colored folks in the county have almost doubled during a five-year period. Others think this estimate is placed too high, but agree that the negro population has increased perceptibly.

Shelby officers say that there are many more negroes in Shelby now than ever before, while out in the county several sections number more colored people than white. A group discussing the incident this week in the court house offered the information that in one or two sections there are more colored school children than white.

The first migration of negroes from states farther south began with the ravages of the boll weevil in Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina. Train load after train load came into this section to settle on large cotton farms of this and adjoining counties as tenants. Their services were no longer in need at their original homes as the boll weevil left little work for them to do. For two years or more this migrated labor has been beneficial to farmers of the section in producing recent large cotton crops. With the flop in price many are moving to town, which has brought on the query as to how much the negro population of the county has increased.

Perry Lovelace Burial Service

Respected Citizen Buried at Beaver Dam Church. Many Descendants Survive Him

Mr. Perry W. Lovelace one of the oldest and highly respected citizens of the Beaver Dam section died January 7, at the age of seventy-five years, five months and twenty-three days, death coming after a brief illness of pneumonia. The deceased was twice married; the first time to Miss Jane Harnden; the second time to Mrs. William Harrell, who was a daughter of the late "Jimmie" Hamrick, being one of twenty children.

He is survived by his wife, one daughter by the first marriage, eight grandchildren, nineteen great grandchildren and many other friends and relatives who loved and respected him. The deceased made a profession of faith in Christ as his Savior in the year of the surrender of the civil war between the states and has lived for sixty-two years a humble and useful Christian life. He held his membership at the Beaver Dam Baptist church all these years. He died as he had lived, trusting his Savior. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. D. F. Putnam assisted by Rev. I. D. Harrell, a former pastor and relative by marriage, at Beaver Dam church, after which the body was laid to rest beside the remains of his first wife, to await the coming of the Master.

Splendid tributes were given him by the ministers who knew him well, by the large attendance upon the last human rites and by beautiful floral offerings. The sympathy of the church and community goes out to those he leaves behind in this hour of their bereavement.

Gets Teams For Persuading Girl Away From Home

Young Man Has Two Sentences Meted in Double Charge Before Recorder Moll

In the county's recorder court Thursday Louis Turner, young white man, was given two sentences of three months each, one for prostitution and the other for persuading a 16 year old girl away from her home. An appeal was entered by the defense attorney, Horace Kennedy, following the hearing. Turner is said to be married and has several children, and it is also said that he is under suspended sentence in Superior court on a liquor charge.

CASKET FACTORY WILL OPEN HERE WITHIN 30 DAYS

Hendrick and Thompson Sponsoring New Industry. Operate With Thompson Plant

Shelby's first new industry of the new year—a casket factory—will open up within about 30 days, it is announced by Messrs. R. L. Hendrick and Z. J. Thompson, promoters of the enterprise.

Work Right Away. Mr. Thompson stated yesterday that preliminary work on the plant will begin on Monday, but that everything will not be complete for operation of the factory before 30 days or more.

The new plant will be operated in connection with the Z. J. Thompson Lumber company and the manufacture will be carried in some of the buildings there, it is said—at least the major portion of the woodwork.

Experienced Maker. Mr. Hendrick will be in complete charge of the plant, it is understood, and a Mr. Wright, native of this county, and now superintendent of a similar plant in Arkansas will arrive within a week or so to head the working forces. Mr. Wright will likely become a member of the firm or at least secure an interest in the industry.

A complete line of coffins and caskets will be manufactured, the promoters say, but at the outset the manufacture will be on a small scale only until the plant gets adjusted to the operation and best marketable lines.

The output will be sold direct to undertakers, it is said, along the method of sale now used by similar manufacturing plants.

Shelby Man Dies In Post Allen, La.

News has been received here of the death of Mr. John B. Putnam at Post Allen, Louisiana. Mr. Putnam was the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Putnam, S. LaFayette street, Shelby. He left Shelby many years ago and has been living in Post Allen for 10 or 15 years where he was telegraph operator. He was 52 years of age when he died. Mr. Putnam had been sick about six months and recently developed pneumonia which caused his death. His remains were buried there where he leaves a wife and two daughters. Also surviving are his mother of Shelby, three sisters, Mrs. J. L. Stroup, Mrs. M. W. Hamrick, and Mrs. J. W. Spangler and one brother Mr. Everett Putnam.

Committee Berths Landed By Falls

In addition to heading the committee on election laws Representative B. T. Falls, of this county, was named on 12 other committees of the present legislature as follows: Judiciary committee, propositions and grievances, public welfare, engrossed bills, deaf and dumb, corporation commission, manufacturing and labor, counties, cities and towns, regulating public services corporations, pensions, finance and education.

Florida Business Is Calm He Finds

The economic tide is on the ebb in Florida, according to H. A. Mills, Shelby merchant, head of the Kelly Clothing company, who recently returned from a visit to the big playground state on his honeymoon. Mr. Mills says the big doings of last year and the year before have changed to quite and peace in the tourist towns. He and Mrs. Mills drove down and back, and Mr. Mills declared they counted the tourist cars they saw on the road and the number was exactly—ten. Twenty people he said were in the dining room at Jacksonville's biggest hotel when he and his wife stopped in for a meal.

"At that hotel," he said, "last year I paid eight dollars for a single room. This year I got two rooms for five dollars." Conditions, however, in Georgia he said are picking up.

Build Steel Bridge—What is taken to be further evidence that the Seaboard intends to improve this division of its railway is learned through the announcement that a 1,000 foot new steel bridge between Bostic and Rutherfordton, T. P. Gold and a crew of fourteen men, now engaged at Boca Grande, Fla., will construct the new bridge.

Al Smith's Birthday Cake



It may have been mere coincidence, and then again it may not—but Chef Ryoichi Hida, in making a birthday cake for Governor Al Smith of New York, modelled it after the national flag. The cake weighed 250 pounds.

Negro Confesses To Killing Aged Nurse In Asheville Murder Mystery

Asheville.—Will Barton, negro taxi driver, confessed to the police Wednesday night that he was the driver of the car that killed Miss Mary McGuire, 71-year-old Asheville nurse, Christmas morning, and that he carried the body in his machine to Campbell's woods where it was dumped out.

The confession of the negro who has been held since Wednesday following the death of the nurse, came at 6 o'clock p. m. after members of the plainclothes department had confronted him with the evidence that they had accumulated by the investigation, which has been in progress since Christmas.

After remaining silent for several weeks in the city jail, Barton went to pieces from the strain and told the officers that he rounded Battery Park hotel about 1:30 o'clock Christmas morning and as he reached O. Henry avenue he found Miss McGuire crossing the street.

"She became confused," the negro told the officers, "and dodged back and forth and I struck her. She got out as quickly as I could and put her in the car and then somebody said she was dead. I got scared and decided to take her to some spot where she would not be found quick."

He then told how he drove to Campbell's wood and dumped the body out, returning later to the dance and with morbid curiosity watched the undertaker removing the body and saw the officers working in the crowd in an effort to find out how the killing occurred.

Miss McGuire had just attended mass at St. Lawrence's Catholic church and was on her way to the hospital when she was struck by Barton's car. She was dragged several yards and her body was badly mangled. Other arrests may follow in connection with the case.

Barton, about whom the members of the police department have been drawing a net-work of irrefutable evidence, has been held in the city jail as the driver of the death car, a blue sedan. It was after members of the department had found a slender strand of gray hair clinging to Barton's automobile, that he was held in the city jail along with four other negroes, with out bond.

Gibbering. Bit by bit the officers with painstaking care have constructed a case that finally roke down the negro's stolid silence and made him gibbering heap of nerves under the stress of his confession.

The other negroes have been held largely as a matter of supporting the case that the officers have built up around Barton. The latter is alleged to have made a mysterious trip to Greenville, S. C., where he obtained a load of liquor. It was while this liquor was being distributed that the nurse was struck by the Barton car and killed. Her body was then taken to Campbell's woods where it was dumped out and found a few minutes later in the muddy driveway.

DISTRICT DENTAL MEETING COMING

About 100 dentists are expected to be in Shelby for annual meeting of the First District Dental Society on February 7-8, it is announced.

The meeting will be held at Cleveland Springs hotel and the program will cover two days and one night, local dentists say. Dr. I. R. Self, of Lincolnton, is president of the society which embraces the counties west of and including Gastonia.

INVITE OFFICERS P & N ROAD HERE FOR CLUB DINNER

Shelby Will Lay Before P. and N. Officials Its Claims For Electric Railway

An invitation was voted last night by the Kiwanis club to the officials of the Piedmont and Northern railway to visit Shelby at an early date at which time they will be given a luncheon and present Shelby's desire to be on the line when it is extended from Gastonia to Spartanburg, S. C. A date suitable to the P. and N. officials will be set later for the luncheon and the officials have already signified their willingness to attend.

Last night's meeting of the Kiwanis club was more in the nature of preparation for the new year's work. George Blanton, the newly elected president, presided for the first time while members of the program committee outlined the club's work for the year. Mex Washburn was in charge and he in turn, turned the meeting over to I. C. Griffin. Washburn outlined the program for the coming year, Forrest Eskridge stated the ideals and objectives during the year while Will Lineberger told of the "stumps" that must be cleared before the year's work is started. Dr. Lattimore, Oliver Anthony and J. D. Lineberger took issue about some of the "stumps," while Dr. Dorton gave a concise summary of the clubs ambitions. All report it one of the liveliest meetings in several months.

Shelby Lassies Play Blacksburg

The girls of the Shelby basketball team journeyed to Blacksburg, S. C., this afternoon to tackle the South Carolinians in their indoor court. The Shelby group left town with blood in their eye, after a manner of speaking.

Day before yesterday Belwood came to Shelby, put up the stiffest sort of fight, and took the game home 10 to 9. So the local girl plan to administer just this sort of treatment to Blacksburg.

COTTON MARKETS

(By Jno. F. Clark and Co.) Cotton was quoted at 11 o'clock today: January 13.14; March 13.27; May 13.46; July 13.66; October 13.84.

Gardner To Speak At Rutherfordton

Rutherfordton—Hon. O. M. Gardner of Shelby, sometimes mentioned as the next governor of North Carolina will deliver the principal address of Jan. meeting of the Rutherford County club here next Tuesday, January 18th at the Isothermal hotel. The meeting is one hour earlier than usual as Mr. Gardner has to get away in the afternoon.

It is expected that a large crowd will attend. Each member of the club is asked to bring a farmer as his guest. Mr. Gardner will have a vital message for every member of the club and farmers, especially those who do not care to attend the luncheon will be welcome to come to the hotel and hear the address of Mr. Gardner.

CAR EXPERTS TURN TRICK ON MAN OF TWO WIVES HERE

Terry, Who Was Faced in Court by Two Wives, May Be Connected with Stolen Car.

Wells Terry, young white man, now resting in jail as the result of the odd experience of seeing two wives in the local court room recently, may be in for added trouble as the result of some expert work by two state automobile inspectors here this week.

The Latest Stunt. The car which was in Terry's possession at the time of his first arrest had had the motor number filed off. This week the auto inspectors arrived in town, took the car to a local garage and began their detective work. The motor was heated and then a blow torch and various acids were brought into play. The result was that soon the number that had been filed off suddenly swelled out from the block and was easily read, every figure showing up in relief. The inspectors then consulted their records and found that the car had been stolen in Greenville, S. C., about a year ago. The owner came after the automobile yesterday and like local officers was somewhat astounded at the artistry of the experts in bringing out the numbers that had been filed off. But Terry awaiting in jail a Superior court trial has nothing whatsoever to say about the car, officers declare, other than stating that he traded for it.

One Wife Indignant.

Terry's complete story, as far as it connects up with the local courts goes back considerably farther. Some time ago Ruppe's garage 130 South Shelby was entered and robbed. By some clue Officer Bob Kendrick started on Terry's trail. At a later date Terry was arrested at his home in Belmont and brought here for a hearing on the larceny charge. However, he was not convicted on the probable cause hearing in connection with the garage entry, but while the trial was underway he was confronted with the problem of explaining his possession of two wives both of whom were in the court room.

The second wife, who came from this section of North Carolina and was admittedly good looking, had been living with him at Belmont, they being married last August in South Carolina, it is said. The other wife came up from Laurens, S. C., where she had been living, there being a child by this marriage. Terry did not do the explaining, but the first wife, a comely looking herself, expressed quite a bit of indignation.

The general result was that Terry was held for court for bigamy, it being a rather hard matter to explain two wives when they unluckily bob up at the same place and that a court room. Now the trick of bringing out the auto numbers may bring further trouble and Officer Kendrick is of the opinion that all may not be over concerning the garage entry.

Added to that Terry must face the love of a woman turned to wrath—that of his first wife, Mrs. Terry, Numer One, apparently had none too high regard of the North Carolina courts, or thought the punishment here would not be enough for the father of her child who married another woman, so she, officers say, announced her intention of returning home and swearing out a warrant there charging him with non-support and abandonment so that if he had things too easy here the sister state of South Carolina might help make things harder.

Two wives, suspicious possessor of an automobile, and a larceny charge still doubtful—no reason Terry has little to say as he counts off the hours in the county jail.