

VOL. XXXIV, No. 57

SHELBY, N. C. FRIDAY, MAY 13, 1927.

Published Monday, Wednesday and Friday Afternoons. By mail, per year (in advance) \$2.50. By carrier, per year (in advance) \$3.00.

Where Baseballs Are Made



George L. Eaton, recently named manager of Cleveland Springs, comes from Shreveport, La., where he was in charge of a 600-room hotel. Since the coming of the new manager several changes have been made, including the employment of a five-piece orchestra headed by Prof. W. T. Sinclair, of the Shelby schools, who will also act as supervisor and swimming instructor at the big bathing pool.

Boy Murderer, At 16, Awaits Chair; Dies August Eleventh

(By Julian Capers, jr., International News Service Staff Correspondent.)

Columbus, O.—A 16-year-old boy—the youngest prisoner ever sentenced to die in the electric chair and one of the youngest slayers to receive the death penalty in the country—is in Ohio penitentiary here awaiting the execution of a death sentence scheduled for August 11.

He is Floyd Hewitt, a tall, gangling, overgrown country youth, condemned for one of the most brutal double slayings in the nation's criminal annals. Hewitt lived in a small village, Conneaut, in northern Ohio, with his mother, who was separated from his father. Across the road from his mother's home lived his two victims, Mrs. Celia Brown, 30 and her little son, Fred Brown Jr., the wife and only child, respectively of a railroad brakeman.

Slapped by Woman. The Brown family had a radio, and as Floyd, the neighbor boy was excessively fond of music, he frequently spent his evenings at their home, listening to concerts and "keeping company" with Mrs. Brown, who was nervous because her husband worked late at night, and left her and the baby alone in their little cottage.

One night last February, according to a confession which Hewitt gave soon after his arrest, he sat on a sofa with Mrs. Brown, listening to the music, while the child played on the floor of the living room. "I listened to the music until it kind of made me drunk—crazy with love," Hewitt told the sheriff. He attempted improper advances to Mrs. Brown, and she slapped him.

Then the youth, in a frenzy of rage, seized a poker and beat the woman to death. Meanwhile the little boy, screaming with terror, fled to the basement, and Hewitt, fearful that the child's cries would attract neighbors and result in his detection, followed him and crushed his head with a baseball bat.

Shelby Seniors Pick Kathleen Hord As Prettiest Girl—Other Superlatives

Alex George Is Most Popular Boy And Mary Brandt Switzer Most Popular Girl. "Dude" Ligon Best Looking Boy. Kerr Best Athlete.

The "Who's Who" department of the high school annual just issued by the senior class of the Shelby High school discloses that the studious youths have been picking some beauties. Kathleen Hord, daughter of Mrs. W. N. Dorsey, was selected by her classmates as the prettiest senior of the bunch. And so many pretty girls are there in the senior class that the department also includes a berth for the "best looking girl." This honor was accorded Eva Goff, fourth, brunette. Just what difference in pulchritude there is between "prettiest" and "best looking" is hard to determine, but both young ladies should be satisfied. The prettiest boy was selected—perhaps because boys do not like to be called pretty—but Harris Ligon, known as "Dude" among his classmates, was voted to be the best looking young gallant of the list. Ligon, a son of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Ligon is one of the school's tennis stars.

The Popular Twain. Alex George, everybody's pal, was picked as the school's most popular boy, while Mary Brandt Switzer was his rummy mate as the most popular girl of the graduating

Slept After Murder.

Then the slayer went calmly to his home, retired and slept soundly until daylight, when Brown, returning to his home, found the house lighted up, the radio going full blast, and the gruesome corpses of his little family. Brown aroused the neighbors, and the search began. While all the men folks were engaged in the hunt for the slayer's women of the neighborhood gathered at one home and Floyd was left to "protect" them.

The finding of a button, torn from Hewitt's jacket in his death struggle with Mrs. Brown, led to his arrest, and he soon confessed. His trial lasted two weeks. One murderer younger than Hewitt was hanged for murder in Ohio nearly 40 years ago, but he is the most youthful of a long procession of killer who have paced the narrow concrete corridor that leads to the "death-house" at the big Buckeye prison.

An appeal will be made in Hewitt's behalf, but executive clemency, exercised to commute his sentence to life imprisonment because of his youth, seems to be the only hope of his escaping the chair.

Many Farmers Are Diversifying Here

In answer to a recent editorial which appeared in the Charlotte Observer, crediting some farm agent with saying there is only one farmer in Cleveland county who really diversified Prof. V. C. Taylor, teacher of agriculture in the Lattimore high school, says this farm agent and the Observer are quite wrong. Mr. Taylor says there are a dozen or two farmers in No. 7 township who practice diversification and in the county as a whole there are scores of them who do not depend on one, two or even three crops. On the other hand, plenty of farmers raise amply crops for man and beast and have several money crops besides.

Flood Fund Fails To Spread Further

Suffering in the flooded Mississippi area isn't over. In fact, other sections near New Orleans are now threatened and about Greenville, Miss., there is still much need of Red Cross relief.

But, since the last issue of The Star, Dr. Z. Newton, Red Cross treasurer, has received only \$2 contributions to the Shelby fund. Shelby being a small sum yet to go over its quota. That should be given and more.

Those who have not contributed should do so at once. With a good season and good prospects we should not forget the ruined farms and damaged homes of thousands along the Mississippi. New contributions are: S. T. Carpenter \$1.00 American Legion, ad. 1.00.

BIG SEASON FOR CLEVELAND HOTEL ANTICIPATED NOW

New Manager, New Club House, Pool Pavilion, Orchestra and Golf Course Additions.

Cleveland Springs, Shelby's convention site and resort asset, is anticipating one of the biggest seasons in its history. Numerous conventions are scheduled there for the year and with many additions to the hotel and play facilities the hotel is expected to rank among the leading summer vacation spots in the state.

George L. Eaton, recently named manager of Cleveland Springs, comes from Shreveport, La., where he was in charge of a 600-room hotel. Since the coming of the new manager several changes have been made, including the employment of a five-piece orchestra headed by Prof. W. T. Sinclair, of the Shelby schools, who will also act as supervisor and swimming instructor at the big bathing pool.

Additions to the resort property include a big pavilion being erected at the swimming pool, and a \$15,000 club house on the golf course, work on which will start at an early date. The new nine-hole golf course is now in splendid shape and it is now proposed to unite the old and new courses for 18-hole play. Other amusement additions include five miles of bridle paths for those enjoying horseback riding, and big, equipped playgrounds for children. Free picnic grounds, a new innovation at Cleveland, are also being added.

The big attraction of the local resort is the mineral waters, long famous over the Carolinas, and the new management proposes an added benefit through these waters by the installation of sulphur baths.

Brother Of Major League Star Gets Fined In Shelby

George Pennock, of Gastonia, A Brother of Herb Pennock, Yankee Pitcher Nabbed.

George Pennock, cotton mill machinery salesman, was arrested just on the outskirts of Kings Mountain by Chief Irvin Allen and tried here yesterday by Recorder John P. Mull on the charge of being intoxicated. He was fined \$25 and the costs, it is said.

Postal Carriers Call Off Meeting

It has been customary for the rural letter carriers of Cleveland and Rutherford counties to hold joint meetings and this year Lattimore was selected as a common meeting ground. The date was set for May 30th, but on account of the prevalence of smallpox in that community and in other communities of the county, the joint meeting will not be held this year, according to the officials of the Cleveland county rural letter carriers association of which A. G. Higgins of Belwood is president and George Dover of Shelby is secretary.

The Cleveland county carriers, however, will meet in Shelby on Tuesday May 31st at 4 p. m. to get ready for the state convention which meets at Durham on July 4 and attend to the other business which might come before the members.

Terry Moore Named Alexander Alderman

Forest City.—The first municipal election held in the town of Alexander Mills was held Tuesday, S. A. Sumney was elected mayor, with Ed Cantrell, L. R. Hicks and D. W. Holland as members of the board of aldermen. These men were elected without opposition. They were selected as town officials when the village was incorporated and have served the town well.

Hello, Mack!



John McCormack, the Irish American tenor recently returned to the United States after a trip to Europe, and here is his "coming home" smile as seen in New York when he landed.

MR. JOHN S. WRAY PASSES AT AGE 80

Former County Official Succumbs At Shelby Hospital—Funeral Held Today.

Mr. John S. Wray, county treasurer for about ten years, and one of the county's most influential citizens, died Thursday at 11 o'clock at the Shelby hospital where he has been a patient for ten days, suffering from a fractured hip sustained when he fell at his home on S. DeKalb street. For several days his condition had been critical and members of the family and close friends knew the end was near. Mr. Wray was born January 20th, 1847, and on February 3rd, 1867, was married to Miss Ella Borders. For many years they lived on a large Wray plantation at Stony Point. Mr. Wray joined the church at old Capersville in that community. After moving to Shelby he brought with him his membership to the First Baptist church Shelby, where he was a most faithful and consecrated member, being a deacon of the church for fifty years and at the time of his death one of its trustees.

Oldest Mason.

Mr. Wray was an influential power in public affairs in his younger life and was regarded as a man of many fine parts, honest, true and upright. He played an important part in civic affairs in the reconstruction days and was honored not only as county treasurer, but was the honored president of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance company since its organization and was the oldest member of Cleveland lodge No. 202, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. At the age of fifteen years he joined First Cavalry company I, Cleveland guards, Barringer's brigade, Wade Hampton's division.

A few years ago his beloved life companion passed away after a protracted illness and his body was laid to rest beside hers in Sunset cemetery this afternoon at four o'clock after funeral services being conducted from the residence on DeKalb street by Dr. Wall, his pastor, assisted by Rev. H. N. McDiarmid and Rev. Mr. Barrett of Gastonia.

Surviving are eight daughters and one son, all children being prominent in the social and religious life of the community: Mrs. C. K. Doggett, Mrs. H. T. Hudson, Mrs. Lawson A. Blanton, Mrs. Charlie McBrayer, Mrs. Mayme Wray-Webb, of Shelby, Mrs. Barnett Cabanis, of Charlotte; Mrs. Margaret Gardner, of Greenville, S. C., and one son, Mr. Hugh Wray, prominent auto dealer and Sunday school superintendent of Gastonia.

As a tribute to his useful life and his devotion to the cause of Masonry, the funeral was with Masonic honors, six of his companion brothers bearing his remains to its resting place. The wealth of floral offerings were carried by Mrs. Ceph Blanton, Mrs. John K. Wells, Mrs. Charlie Williams, Mrs. Fred Wagner, Mrs. Madge Webb Riley, Mrs. Gerald Morgan, Mrs. B. O. Stephenson, Miss Frances Jennings and the following granddaughters, Mrs. Nelson Lattimore, Mrs. John W. Doggett, Mrs. Robert Doggett, Mrs. Flay Hoey, Mrs. Alton Story, all of Shelby and Mrs. Mason Alexander of Greenville, S. C.

Board Receives Extension Requests

At a called meeting of the mayor and board of aldermen Tuesday night, a petition was presented, signed by citizens of Belvedere Heights, asking for water and sewer extensions in that pretty section. The council approved the request, the work to be done as soon as possible. John Beam and J. S. Willard asked for a sewer line to be built in the Beam development on East Graham street. Messrs. Beam and Willard agreeing to pay \$160 for piping and also agreeing to dig the ditch. This was approved and will be done as soon as possible. The council gave a release of interest on street paving assessment against the property of the late Chief Shelton Jones, at Jones place. The street assessment will be paid in full, but in view of the fact that Chief Jones served the city so faithfully as an officer and was killed in line of duty, the interest was rebated.

NEARLY 3,000 IN SHELBY SCHOOLS REPORT REVEALS

Enrollment Climbs to New Peak at End of Eighth School Month. Average Attendance 91.

Enrollment in the Shelby city schools reached a new high mark during the eighth school month, according to the attendance report just issued for the month. By the last report it is shown during the eighth school month, according to the attendance report just issued for the month. By the last report it is shown that the total enrollment is barely short of the 3,000 pupil mark. A year or so ago during a campaign for added school equipment there were those who scoffed at the idea that school enrollment here would reach the 2,500 mark any time soon. That school enrollment is now nearing 3,000 shows a steady growth in the town.

Table with columns: School, Enrollment, Per Ct. Att. Rows include Washington, Marion, Sumter, Jefferson, Morgan, LaFayette, High school, Negro school.

Superstitious? Well, Be Careful Today Of Hoodoo

This is Friday the 13th. Good Omen For Some Bad For Others. Helped Shelby Once.

If you haven't been knocked down by a car today, hit by a locomotive, or broke a leg from slipping on a banana peel, just yank out your rabbit's foot and knock on wood. This, by the way, is Friday the 13th.

Two closely allied hoodoos like Friday and the 13th together are enough to give superstitious folks heart trouble. The number 13 is shrouded with bad luck the world over. In this country many hotels do not have a 13th room, or a 13th floor. Some folks will not live in the 13th house on a street, and so on. There are dozens of 13th hoodoos. With gamblers the number 13 is worse than the ace. However, there are many folks who believe the ordinarily unlucky number is a good omen. Among the famous men believing 13 to be their lucky number were Woodrow Wilson and General Pershing.

As Cherryville plays Winston today for the Western baseball title it is remembered that Friday the 13th proved lucky for Shelby on a similar occasion several years ago, when the Highs took the measure of Spencer at Charlotte on the hoodoo day. A black cat was present and perhaps the feline served as a charm, and perhaps it was Shelby's lucky day. Cherryville is known to have several rabbit feet and horse-shoes and it may be theirs.

Anyway, there are more folks who do not like to put any confidence in Friday the thirteenth and to them it will be a grand and glorious feeling—the comic expression—to wake up in the morning and find themselves, safe, sane and sound.

Board Receives Extension Requests

At a called meeting of the mayor and board of aldermen Tuesday night, a petition was presented, signed by citizens of Belvedere Heights, asking for water and sewer extensions in that pretty section. The council approved the request, the work to be done as soon as possible. John Beam and J. S. Willard asked for a sewer line to be built in the Beam development on East Graham street. Messrs. Beam and Willard agreeing to pay \$160 for piping and also agreeing to dig the ditch. This was approved and will be done as soon as possible. The council gave a release of interest on street paving assessment against the property of the late Chief Shelton Jones, at Jones place. The street assessment will be paid in full, but in view of the fact that Chief Jones served the city so faithfully as an officer and was killed in line of duty, the interest was rebated.

To Let Paving For No. 18 Highway North In June

FRENCH AVIATORS NOW BELIEVED TO BE LOST

Late morning dispatches stated that no trace had been found of the French aviators, Nungesser and Coli, who attempted a trans-Atlantic flight from Paris to New York, and have been lost for two days. The only hope that they are still alive is that they landed in some isolated section of Labrador.

AUDITORS FIND NO ERRORS IN BOOKS COUNTY OFFICERS

Auditors now engaged in making an audit of the books of Cleveland county officers have found no discrepancies in the county's business so far, unofficial reports have it. The auditors, who began this week, have completed so far their work in the offices of Mrs. Mary Yarborough, county treasurer; A. M. Hamrick, clerk of court; John P. Mull, county recorder and A. F. Newton, register. It is presumed that they will be well into the audit of Sheriff Logan's office by late today. These will be the only offices audited by the audit bill, it is said.

It was learned early yesterday that the offices already audited failed to show a discrepancy "of even a penny," according to report and today the same unofficial report was made of the other offices completed. The audit plan being used, it is said, is similar to that used by John P. Mull, county recorder and auditor, and is merely an endorsing check on the system.

Auto Body Plant Has Been Completed

J. W. Wilson's new auto body repair plant has been completed, and Mr. Wilson is announcing the fact in The Star's advertising columns today, that the machinery is installed and he has already begun operations in the new establishment. The new plant is a substantial building of brick, fifty by a hundred feet, on the site of the old body works which was operated by Mr. Wilson over a period of five or six years. So that the new plant represents an expansion of the former business.

The new plant is commodious, with a full complement of machinery now installed. It is announced that truck bodies will be built, in addition to the former enterprise of truck and auto body repair. The firm style of the plant is the Shelby Auto and Body Works.

No Other Police Officers Picked

It was stated at the office of Mayor-elect Dorsey today that no additional police officers other than Chief A. L. Richards had been selected as yet. Present Chief B. O. Hamrick and Policeman Moore, recommended to the new chief, have not as yet filed applications with Richards, or had not this morning, according to Dorsey.

Fishing License Going Slow Here

Cleveland county is not overflowing with the type of enthusiastic fishers that goes afar to seek the big fish in game waters. To date A. M. Hamrick, clerk of court says that he has sold only 38 licenses to fishermen of the county. It is remembered however that no license is required on the old type of river and creek fishing, and those securing license are those who journey nearby lakes after game fish.

Cotton Coops To Meet Here Today

A meeting of members of the North Carolina Cotton cooperative association is scheduled to be held this afternoon in the court house here for the purpose of electing three delegates to the district convention. The district meeting will be held here Tuesday, May 17, at which time the district director will be voted upon and other business of importance to the association will be taken up.

Farmers Asked Not To Plant Crops On Right Of Way Of New Road, Says Kistler

In June when the State highway commission has another letting of contracts for the paving of roads in North Carolina, highway No. 18 north of Shelby will be included, says Mr. Kistler, of Morganton, district highway commissioner. Mr. Kistler wrote this information in reply to a farmer who wanted to know whether or not he could plant crops on as proposed right of way of the new road. It is reliably reported about town that in June the contract will also be let for the hard surfacing of state highway No. 205 from Kings Mountain to the South Carolina line at Grover.

A corp of engineers has been working for several months, making surveys, establishing the route for highway No. 18 from Toluca to the South Carolina line through Shelby, highway No. 205 from Kings Mountain to Grover and highway No. 206 from Shelby to Lincolnton. Just when, if ever, all of these contracts will be let, is not known. That depends largely on when state funds are available in this district for construction purposes.

It is thought, however, that No. 205 from Kings Mountain to Grover will be let in June along with the construction of No. 18 from Shelby to Toluca.

The route of No. 18 from Shelby to Toluca is not known to The Star, but it is understood to follow in a general way the present sand clay road. Many of the curves have been eliminated, thus shortening the distance several miles in the twenty mile stretch from Shelby through Fallston to Toluca where it joins a tar and gravel road leading in the direction of Morganton, the county metropolis of Burke.

When the first survey was made, many of the farmers living along No. 18 north were left entirely off the new road, but the farmers let it be known that they had rather have a few curves in the road, than to have it take an entirely new route, so the last survey which follows in a general way the course of the present road, will likely be approved. The distance from Shelby to Toluca is approximately 20 miles and in all of this distance there is no hard grade, no bridge or stream of water to cross. And by following the ridge on which the old road is built, the expense of bridge work is saved.

The engineers have been trying to eliminate the right angle curve at Monroe Wellmon's on the north-eastern part of town so it is not known just what route will be taken to get out of Shelby, going north.

Farmers living on highway No. 20, interested in the route that will most likely be used, can know what this route is with reference to their property, by noticing the surveyor's stakes. No crops should be planted on this right-of-way, according to Mr. Kistler as he hopes to get the construction contract awarded at the June letting by the state highway commission.

Newton Artists Sing To Kiwanians

A musical program was given at the Kiwanis club Thursday night in observance of National Music week, the club being delighted with three gifted musicians from Catawba county, Mrs. Knox and Miss Horton of Newton and Professor Warlick of Conover. They were accompanied by Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Young of Newton, Dr. Young being a brother of Kiwanian C. S. Young of Shelby. Both Mrs. Knox and Miss Horton possess beautiful voices and gave a number of delightful vocal selections. Those who heard Miss Horton declare that she is a marvel for a girl so young and predict a career in Grand opera for her. She has plenty of volume, throws her very heart and soul into her singing and can take high notes like Marion Talley, the new star that recently arose on the horizon on opera.

UNMENTIONABLES GET A COUPLE IN COUNTY COURT

Recorder John P. Mull had quite a docket of town and county court today. Among the cases of interest taken up was that of a young married couple charged with having something to do with annexing silk hosiery and other unmentionables of milady's attire from another young lady in a home in which they were staying at the time in a local mill village. The evidence apparently was none too strong, or the charge not so serious, for the costs of the case was the total punishment.