

The Markets.

Cotton Seed, per bu. 67½¢
Cotton, per lb. 19¢

Rain Threatens.

Today's North Carolina Weather Report: Probably rain tonight and Tuesday. Slightly warmer in west and central portions tonight. Cold Tuesday in extreme west portion.

VANDERBURGS DIE IN FEUD
DEFENSE ATTORNEY THINKS

Attorneys for Jacob Vanderburg, 17-year-old Gaston boy held in a Gastonia jail charged with slaying and burning his father, mother, two sisters and brother, are working upon the theory, it is announced that the Vanderburgs died in a feud, or at the hands of an enemy of the elder Vanderburg.

Marvin L. Ritch, one of the attorneys declared: "I have several eye-witnesses to the fact that a small boy dug a second axe out of the ashes by the kitchen stove. It was right where Jacob Vanderburg said he left his axe when he brought it into the house Thursday night to keep it from being stolen. Another axe was found near the mother's bedroom."

Declaring the state could not prove a motive for the killing the attorney said that he could "show that another could have had a motive." "I do not yet possess the evidence to show that such a motive as I have in mind impelled the individual I have in mind to kill and burn. In my opinion the killings were the culmination of a long-standing feud and a burning desire to redress old-time grievances."

Just what this feud may have been was not disclosed. J. W. Vanderburg was one of the wealthiest farmers in Gaston county.

ANDERBURG STORY
DIFFERS FROM ONE
TOLD BY OFFICERSGhastly Details Of Burning Of
Five In Gaston Are
Investigated.

Gaston, Dec. 31.—A ghastly story of efforts to save the bodies of five members of the Vanderburg family while their farm home, four miles from here, burned early Friday morning was related by county officers to coroner's jury sitting here Saturday.

The officers' evidence was aimed at weaving a web of circumstantial evidence about Jacob Vanderburg, 17, only surviving member of the family. The youth was arrested early Friday by officers on suspicion of having slain his father, mother, two sisters and a brother.

(Continued on page eight)

Mrs. Beam Is Buried
At Prospect MondayDied Sunday From Influenza And
Pneumonia. Member At
Prospect.

Mrs. Lenora Beam, aged 65 years, died Sunday afternoon about four o'clock at her home in the Waco section, death resulting from influenza and pneumonia of about two weeks duration.

Funeral services were conducted this afternoon at New Prospect church with Rev. J. W. Suttle and Rev. I. D. Harrill officiating. The deceased had been a member of Prospect since early life, and was a kind, home-loving woman and highly regarded by her friends and neighbors. Her husband, Crowder Beam, preceded her to the grave by six years.

Surviving are two sons and one daughter: Mrs. Gladie Carroll and Gladie and Thamer Beam. Also 10 grandchildren and one great grandchild. Three sisters and six brothers also survive: Mrs. Elmira Pedgett; Mrs. Jennie Oates, of Texas; Mrs. Rena Peeler of Belvoir; Messrs. Caleb, Gaston, Lumine, Frank, Sylvanus and William Hoyle.

Judge Kennedy In
Office On TuesdayNew Recorder Takes Bench To-
morrow. Ceremony For Re-
tiring Judge.

The new county recorder, Judge Horace Kennedy, goes into office tomorrow, January 1, succeeding Judge John P. Mull, who has held the county court bench for several years.

According to reports the bar association will honor the retiring jurist at the time his successor is sworn in.

Judge Kennedy moved his law office today from the Royster building to the office floor of the Union bank building, on the Warren-LaFayette corner.

County Solicitor P. Cleveland Gardner, re-elected, will also be sworn in for his new term.

VOL. XXXV, No. 155

THE CLEVELAND STAR

SHELBY, N. C.

MONDAY, DEC. 31, 1928.

Published Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Afternoons

By mail, per year (in advance) \$2.50
Carrier, per year (in advance) \$3.00SCHOOLS HERE TO
CLOSE SURE WHEN
MONEY GIVES OUTAuditor To Make Estimate This
Week Of Closing Date.
Plans Talked.

Due to the defeat of the recent school tax levy election, the city schools of Shelby will likely close for the year some time between April 15 and May 1, was the consensus of opinion at the second meeting of the city school board held since the defeat of the school measure.

The board at the meeting, held late last week, after discussing the school problem would make no revision in their former statement that the schools would shut down when the money ran out, which they estimated prior to the holidays to be about April 15.

Give All Possible.

In fairness to the children, however, the board declared that it would give every day of school possible for the children upon the money at hand before closing. With this unselfish aim in view the board ordered the school auditor to prepare immediately a financial statement for the past school year, and also one for this year together with an estimate by the auditor on how long the schools could operate upon the money remaining. This statement and the estimate will likely be ready for publication this week.

It is hoped by the board, who realize what a curtailed term will mean for members of the senior class, that it will be possible to continue almost to May 1, which under the eight months plan might make it possible for the seniors to be given diplomas.

Board Hands Off.

At the meeting the board discussed several theories whereby it might be that the full school term could be had this year, but the result of the discussion was that as far as the board could see there would be nothing to do after the money gives out but to close the schools down.

After that time if any of the citizens can arrange or think of a plan whereby the schools can be kept open for the full year, declared one board member, "it is up to them. All we can do is to run the schools the best we can and as long as we can upon the money we have. Those who can devote some plan of going beyond that may have charge when we carry the term as far as we can upon funds available."

That connection talk on the streets and among parents of school children has centered around plans whereby the school might be kept open for the full nine months. One plan talked of is the subscription plan while numerous others have been talked of unofficially. The school board, however, lets it be known that the board has no other duty than operating the schools as they are now and that any plan developing must necessarily be by the citizens who wish to keep the schools open.

Some To Leave?

Reports during the holidays had it that a number of the high school children would enroll at Kings Mountain after the holidays, or at least when the term ended here so that they might be in a full year's work. No definite move along this line, however, has come to public notice, although several students, it is understood, will enroll in preparatory schools elsewhere for the spring term.

Teachers' Back Pay.

Contrary to the impression received by some teachers in the city schools will get their back pay.

"We want it understood," says the city board, "that every teacher will get what is coming to him or her up to the time the school closes."

This problem arose due to the fact that Shelby teachers are paid upon the basis of twelve-month year—in other words instead of getting only nine checks each year their salary is spread out and they are given twelve checks each year.

With the probability of the schools closing some of the teachers were afraid that they would not get salary already earned but deducted from checks received to spread out the life of the doctor.

Copied Snyder-Gray Case.

Dr. Dreher was one of the leading citizens of Morgan City. Mrs. LeBoeuf was the wife of James LeBoeuf, city power plant superintendent. They had been intimate for some time, and LeBoeuf's suspicions had been aroused—so much that he is said to have threatened the life of the doctor.

At that time the Snyder-Gray case was much in the newspapers. These small town lovers read about it and decided to copy it. They admitted as much after their arrest. So they arranged a meeting with LeBoeuf for one night on Lake Palourde, just outside the town, "to talk things over." With them they took James Beadle, a trapper and also a hired man for Dr. Dreher.

Mr. C. P. Carson is back at the Litton Motor company after an absence from Shelby of six months or more.

Girl Held in Robbery Epidemic

SPECIAL TERM IN
BIG CRASH SUITS
IS LIKELY, SAIDAnyway Suits Over Building Col-
lapse Not Up Before
Summer.

The damage suits, running into several hundred thousand dollars, filed in connection with the disastrous building crash here last August may not come up before superior court until next summer, and then the suits might be disposed of at a special term called for that purpose. This is the opinion of several members of the Shelby bar.

One Week Jan. 7.

The court term convening here on Monday, January 7, will hold forth for only one week according to law and during the week's grind it is not likely that anything but criminal cases will be taken up.

Due to the fact that civil court actions must take their place on the calendar the damage suits filed, asking damages for six of the seven deaths in the building collapse, are docketed behind something like 100 other civil cases which must be disposed of first. For this reason barristers do not think it will be possible for any of the collapse suits to be taken up at the spring term of court.

Special Term Idea.

The idea of a special term for the disposal of all the suits filed in connection with the crash has been talked about quite a bit. One of the major reasons advanced for desiring a special term is that all the defendants would thereby rate equal judgments awarded as the law says judgments granted at the same term of court are on par with each other. In other words should one judgment be granted at one term those receiving judgments at following terms could only have judgment upon that remaining from the first judgment. As trial of the suits at the same term would give each complainant share and share alike, should there be such a judgment, it is the general impression that all those filing action would be destructive of a special term, while it is pointed out that defendants named would not likely have any objections to disposing of all the suits at the same term.

So far seven suits have been filed—six asking damages, ranging from \$20,000 to \$50,000 for deaths, while the seventh suit is for damages for a demolished automobile. When they were arrested Beadle lost his nerve, pleaded guilty and (Continued on page eight.)

Photo shows nineteen-year-old "Leashing Dora" Bragg in a demure pose outside Covington, Va., jail, where she is held on charges of complicity in a series of spectacular store robberies and holdups. She was arrested with a male companion when her automobile ceased to function during a get-away.

Double Hanging Will Be Climax
To South's "Snyder-Gray" CaseSmall Town Physician And Mar-
ried Woman May Hang
On January 5.

(Special to The Star.)

Franklin, La., Dec. 31.—A small-town physician and his married light-love, who chose to take the Snyder-Gray murder case as a model of action when their mixed lives came to a crisis, will hang in the courtyard of the red-brick parish jail here on January 5 unless Governor Huey P. Long changes his mind.

The man is Dr. Thomas E. Dreher of Morgan City—a middle-aged, respectable leader of the "aristocracy" of that small town. The woman is Mrs. Ada Bonner LeBoeuf, wife of a power plant superintendent and mother of six children.

If she goes to the scaffold—and the governor has indicated he will not interfere in the case—she will be the first white woman hanged in Louisiana. Not even in the days of Spanish and French dominion has a white woman ever been executed in the state, although in colonial days one Molly Glass, an actress, was hanged in Jackson Square, New Orleans.

The proposed double execution has stirred the state. Originally, the hanging was set for Dec. 21, but it was postponed on account of Christmas.

Since the reprieve was granted the state pardons board has reversed a former decision and recommended life imprisonment for the pair. Governor Long intimated that this recommendation would be refused but deferred action theron.

Rev. G. P. Abernethy presided over the presbytery yesterday while Rev. John W. Suttle preached the ordination sermon and delivered the charge. Rev. D. F. Putnam conducted the examination and Rev. D. G. Washburn presented the Bible. A large crowd was present at this ordination service.

Gilmor's Employee
Has Unique Record

Miss Bertha Goode is in line for honorable mention in the annals of Shelby business enterprise.

When Gilmer opened in Shelby nine years ago, Miss Goode was present in the capacity of employee. When the store closed Christmas eve she was also present. She saw service with eight managers, during the nine years, and was absent from work other than vacations, exactly one week.

She served punch at the opening, and is reported to have shed tears at the closing. She wrapped bundles, and for three years was cash girl. Latterly she became one of the organization's most efficient sales woman, weighed down with rail-

Funeral services for Mr. J. W. McMurry were held Sunday afternoon at Salem Methodist church, near Sunshine, in Rutherford County.

Mr. McMurry, a highly respected citizen of the Boiling Springs section, died about 3 o'clock Saturday morning, death resulting from pneumonia.

The deceased had been a member of the Methodist church for a half century and at Salem for something like 40 years. He was 77 years of age at the time of his death.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. J. M. Gladson, Boiling Springs; Mrs. C. J. Watson, Forest City; Miss Florence McMurry, Boiling Springs; J. J. McMurry, of Asheville; G. P. McMurry, of Clifside, and C. M. McMurry, of Texas.

Cannot Tell Yet
If Office Here
Will Reach MarkLast Day's Business Today May
Decide Ranking Of Local
Postoffice.

Today's postal receipts at the Shelby postoffice will likely decide whether or not Shelby will have a first class postoffice next year, it is learned from unofficial information.

Last year the local postoffice fell only a few thousand dollars short of the required amount of postal receipts to be ranked as a first class office and this year, it was generally hoped that the total receipts would pass the required \$40,000 dollar mark.

No Christmas Gain.

To do so it is understood that the month of December must show a substantial gain over December of last year. During the early part of the month, it is learned, there was a gain over December 1927, but during the actual Christmas season, although no definite check-up has been made, it is understood that the total receipts varied very little from those of last year.

Such being the case the receipts since Christmas day through today will likely decide.

At the postoffice it is understood that hopes are still high that the \$40,000 mark will be reached as it is customary for thousands of statements and first-of-the-year business announcements to go out on the last day of December thus boosting the postal receipts.

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Teachers' Sack.

Although more children were in attendance today than was expected it was announced that eight of the city's teachers were out with influenza or other illness.

A number of new students were reported to have registered today for the spring term.

STRUCK BY ROCK,
SKULL FRACTUREDJ. C. Propst Seriously Injured By
Rock Thrown By His
Brother.

J. C. Propst, 14-year-old son of Tom Propst of the Toluca section, is in the hospital here suffering with a serious fracture of the skull caused by a blow from rock said to have been thrown by his older brother, Fred Propst, Saturday night.

According to reports, the older brother did not intentionally injure his younger brother, but merely threw the rock to "scare" his brother and Boyd Peeler, a youth who was with his brother popping corn at a fire by the side of the road, but the younger boy moved, or the aim was bad, and the stone struck his head.

The injured youth was rushed to the hospital here, an operation performed, and today it was said that he was "getting along all right."

Bury J. W. McMurry
At Salem SundayBoiling Springs Man Passed Early
Saturday From Pneumonia
Attack.

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Mr. Joe B. Palmer
Dies At Age 70Father Of Mrs. Coleman Blanton
And Mrs. Coran Wright Is
Buried Today.

At 2 o'clock Sunday morning, Mr. Joe B. Palmer died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Coleman Blanton five miles northwest of Shelby where he has been making his home for the past few years. Mr. Palmer was 70 years of age and one of the county's substantial citizens, with a host of relatives and friends.

Mr. Palmer is survived by his wife and two daughters, Mrs. Coleman Blanton and Mrs. Coran Wright. Funeral was conducted at noon today at the Blanton home and interment was in the Elliott burying ground.

Dr. Dwight T. Bridges, Lattimore physician, injured in an auto wreck Sunday week ago, is getting along nicely and shows steady improvement. It was reported from the Shelby hospital today where he is a patient. Dr. Bridges auto turned over with him near Beaver Dam early Sunday morning one week ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mills returned to Shelby last night from a Christmas visit to Jacksonville, Florida.

(Continued on page eight)

Notables Attend
Gardner Farewell
By Kiwanis Club