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SHELBY, N. C. WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 1931

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Fair Thursday. Today's North Carolina Weather Report: Fair tonight and Thursday except probable local thunder-showers Thursday afternoon in extreme west portions.

Flying Atlantic. New York, July 29. — Frequent sightings of planes streaking across the southern tip of Newfoundland in an easterly direction heightened the belief that four Europe bound airmen were out over the Atlantic last night. The last sighting was late in the day at Bay Roberts near Cape Race, on the extreme eastern coast of Newfoundland. Earlier planes were observed to the west near Trepassy, Ramea and Cape St. Mary's. In each instance the plane sighted was flying too high and too fast for definite identification. Two planes were pointed over the Atlantic One, with Russell Boardman and John Polando, was bound for Istanbul, Turkey, seeking a new distance mark. Another carried Hugh Herndon, Jr., and Clyde Panghorn toward Moscow on the first leg of a globe striding voyage which they hope will better the performance of Wiley Post and Harold Gatty.

City Schools Open Sept. 7th

Buildings Improved—Few Changes and Few Assignments of Teachers.

When school re-opens in Shelby on September 7, the children will return to a very different place. All buildings are being repaired and painted. They will present a clean, attractive appearance that will help every one to do better work. Superintendent B. L. Smith has been busy engaged during the summer months. Many reports have been filed with the county, state, and national educational authorities. George G. Scott and Company have completed the audit of the financial affairs, which, when published within a few weeks, will be most gratifying to the public. The bins have been filled with coal purchased at a record low price. Budgets have been made. Teachers have been assigned. With in a few days pupil graduation will be made, supplies will be purchased, and everything will be in readiness for the best year yet in the Shelby Schools.

There have been a few changes of teachers and few changes of assignments. Miss Louise Lever will replace Miss Josephine Ramsey at South Shelby. Miss Rattie Gidney will replace Mrs. Edna Parker Elliott at Jefferson. Mrs. Ben Suttle will transfer to the South Shelby School to strengthen the music work there; Miss Louise Gill will transfer from the Teacher Training work to the Principalship of the Graham School; Mrs. Louis Gardner will transfer from the South Shelby School to Graham; and Mr. Herbert Randolph will transfer from the Graham School to Jefferson. All assignments are, of course, tentative and will finally be made upon the enrollment in the new year.

The high school work will not be continued in South Shelby owing to failure of the State Board of Education to allow a teacher. Mrs. Ben Hendrick, who has been teaching in the South Shelby School, will take Miss Alice Brunson's place in the Central High School.

Two changed names will appear in the list of teachers. Miss Margaret Cooper will be Mrs. Dr. Parker and Mrs. Elizabeth Hennesa will be Mrs. Charles Eskridge, Jr.

There will be no changes in textbooks used. A list of requirements will be published later.

Piedmont Has 337 In School

The Piedmont school opened Monday, July 27th, with an enrollment of 75 pupils in the high school and 262 in the grades. Many pupils of school age have not entered, and these figures are considerably lower than those for the first day last year. After a brief assembly of pupils and patrons with devotional exercises led by Rev. J. M. Morgan of Fallston and followed by a number of announcements, the pupils adjourned to their classrooms for the first day's work.

The complete faculty is as follows: F. M. Biggerstaff, Lawndale, Principal, English and French; M. L. Turner, Shelby, English and history; Harry Lemmond, Indian Trail, science and math; Miss Madge Mauney, Shelby, Home Economics; Miss Catherine Johnson, Pittsboro, music; Wilbur Wilson, Lattimore, grade 1; Miss Florence Seism, Shelby grade 2; Mrs. F. M. Biggerstaff, grade 3; Miss Mary Ruth Webb, Shelby, grade 4; Miss Nora Elliott, Lawndale, grades 2 and 3; Mrs. Jno. M. Moore, Bat Cave, grades 1 and 2; Mrs. Florence Lackey, Shelby, has the primary grades at the Lawndale school, and Miss Virginia Harris, Shelby, the primary grades at Double Shoals. Both these schools are associated with the Piedmont school.

County G. O. P. Heads Appear In A Tangle; Have Two Chairmen

Is Cox Or Lackey Party Leader?

Eight of Eleven Committee Members Oust Cox. Move Not Regular He Says.

Who is the official head of the Republican party in Cleveland county—H. Clay Cox, who has been chairman for years, or Dr. W. J. Lackey, of Fallston, who was elected chairman by eight of the 11 members of the county executive committee at a meeting held Friday night of last week?

That question may not be decided until the next State convention at which there may be two sets of Cleveland delegates and it will be up to the State credentials committee to untangle the mixup.

Both Hold On. As it is now, according to information reaching The Star, both factions are swinging on for dear life.

The split was first noticeable soon after the last campaign. Veteran Republicans expressed their dislike of having outsiders come in and attempt to run the Republican party in the county. Some of the shots were taken at Chairman Cox who had not lived here all of his life. Later George W. DePriest, one of the old faction leaders, became a bit critical of Hoover policies and the criticism of the president did not sit well with the faction in power.

Post Office Break. Week before last it became necessary, following a custom, for the county committee to recommend a postmaster for Kings Mountain. The committee meeting was held at that time, the real row, started there. The Cox group, it is contended, did not favor endorsing the present postmaster at Kings Mountain, Ed. S. Weir. Instead, John Lackey, textile plant bookkeeper, was endorsed. The rival faction claimed that Lackey was a Democrat and advanced the name of Jim Weir. But the vote was for Lackey, it is alleged, with Cox breaking the tie for the man DePriest and Howard Camnitz, former secretary of the committee, claim is a Democrat.

Quick Action. Then things warmed up. Mr. Cox returned to Mars Hill, his temporary home, or was on the road, but not until after some words were passed between him and members of the rival faction. A few nights later, which was last Friday night, Howard Camnitz, acting as executive committee secretary, called a meeting of the county committee. At this meeting, attended, it is said, by eight of the regularly elected committeemen of the committee of eleven, the office of county

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Trip To Raleigh Is Called Off; No Busses

All School Busses Engaged So Four H. Boys and Girls Will Not Go.

Because all county school busses are engaged in hauling pupils to the summer session of school, no bus is available to take the Four H. club boys and girls from Cleveland county to the Four H. short course in Raleigh, beginning August 3rd, it was announced today by R. W. Shoffner, county agent. Plans had been made to take 14 boys and girls who are members of the Four H. clubs in Cleveland but since a dozen or more of the county high schools started Monday of this week and all school busses are engaged, County Supt. J. H. Grigg notified Mr. Shoffner that no bus would be available to take the club members to Raleigh for the short course.

Has Old Rock With Outline Of Eagle

Mr. W. A. Beam, of Shelby R-1, has in his possession a very interesting rock found some time ago on his farm. The rock, apparently some form of sandstone, appears to have been carved into the shape of an American eagle many years ago. On the base of the sculptural work is the date 1783. The fact that it has preserved its outline and still resembles an eagle for all those years is remarkable.

Phillips Case Baffles Probe Of High Court

No Indictment Given Grand Jury

Solicitor Spurling "Not Satisfied" But Enough Evidence Not Found.

It may never be definitely known just how Thomas J. Phillips, prominent Lenoir automobile dealer and former North Wilkesboro mayor, came to his death Monday week ago near Kings Mountain.

A second investigation into the death, this time headed by Solicitor Spurgeon Spurling of Superior court, failed to bring out enough evidence to justify court action or to materially weaken the suicide theory.

Phillips, it will be remembered since it is the major topic of conversation hereabouts, was shot to death early in the evening Monday week ago while out riding with Mrs. Charlotte Yount, well known Newton widow who has been living for some time with her father, a textile mill owner, at Kings Mountain.

Mrs. Yount, when she called for help to bring the wounded married man to the Shelby hospital where he died a few hours later, stated that Phillips had asked her to get out of the car and look for a flat tire. While she was out a gun fired and she rushed to the door to find Phillips shot through the head. He had been out drinking and riding together during the afternoon and he had seemed despondent she said.

Mrs. Yount's suicide version was supported by the testimony of Billy Neisler, aged six, before the coroner's jury and in Solicitor Spurling's investigation. Billy said he saw the man waving a gun about his head while the car, in which Phillips and Mrs. Yount were riding, was parked in the road in front of his home where the shooting occurred. There were certain angles about the shooting which aroused suspicion and a coroner's jury, headed by Coroner Roscoe Lutz, refused to term it a suicide, their verdict saying that Phillips came to his death "by unknown hands."

Spurling Probe. When Solicitor Spurling came here to prosecute the criminal docket in Superior court this week he began an investigation of the matter. First of all, he checked over the report of the coroner's jury and the evidence submitted there. Then, accompanied by Sheriff Irvin Allen, Police Chief George Allen, of Kings Mountain, and newspapermen, he drove to Kings Mountain and personally questioned several witnesses and investigated the spot where the shooting occurred.

The solicitor apparently was of the opinion that much depended upon the testimony of young Billy Neisler and the distance the gun was found from the car. He talked for quite a time with the little boy, walked with him about the yard and had the little fellow point out just where the automobile was standing. The little fellow was positive that he saw a "man waving a gun over his head" in the car. He did not see any woman, however, he said. A little negro, who was playing with the Neisler boy, said he did see a woman. Billy was in the driveway entrance at the road when he saw the gun waving. He thought the man might shoot him, he said, and he started running to the house, quite a distance from the road. It was while running up the driveway that he turned and saw the shooting

Unofficially it is said that restitution was made by McCordwell, through relatives or friends, to make good certain personal obligations he had taken upon himself with the hope, it is contended, of keeping the bank going. No mention of restitution, however, is made in the court records where the charges were not pressed.

The restitution angle, if there was any, did not come before me," the solicitor said today. "But the bank directors assured me, as did the liquidating agent, who had the bank records audited, that there was no evidence of wrong on the part of McCordwell." General opinion is that in the excitement of the bank closing it was prematurely believed that McCordwell might have been attempting to make a personal gain instead of working together to hold the bank together as it was said to be revealed later.

Bank There Now. A branch is now being operated at Mooresboro by the Union Trust Company of Shelby and is said to be doing good business as are all sub institutions of the strong trust company.

Divorce Of Gaffney Man In Texas Void

Gaffney, S. C.—A divorce obtained in Texas by fraud is null and void in South Carolina, according to a decision made by Circuit Judge T. S. Sease of Spartanburg in the case of Mrs. Lena R. Whisonant against J. T. Whisonant. The judge's decree, filed in the office of the Clerk of Court Conrad Jones here, confirms a report prepared several months ago by Donald Huggin, as special referee, recommending that Whisonant be required to pay alimony for the support of his wife and children.

Los Angeles, July 29.—Residents fled yesterday from the heat-stricken Imperial Valley and Arizona points as the toll from the southwest most prolonged heat wave in years mounted to 63 deaths.

Along the roads at the base of majestic San Geronimo Mountain, which lifts its snow capped peak slightly more than 20 miles above the westerling great American desert, hundreds of automobiles moved to the cooler coastal areas and mountain resorts so their occupants might find relief.

Forty of the heat deaths occurred in Imperial valley, which is noted for the richness of its soil and for the greater part, lies below sea level. The population had been reduced to those

Fire Sears Stage Stars



A yachting party of Ziegfeld Follies principals narrowly escaped death when the gasoline tank on the craft exploded and enveloped the boat in flames at Greenport, L. O. Harry Richman (upper right), stage star and owner of the yacht, proved a hero when he frantically released Helen Walsh (lower left), Follies beauty, from where she was pinned under blazing wreckage and dove with her into the water to extinguish flames sweeping about her. Mark Hellinger, famous columnist, and his wife, Gladys Glad, of the Follies (lower right), were among the guests on Richman's yacht when it exploded. Miss Glad was the only member of the party not injured, both Hellinger and Richman suffering burns while effecting rescues. The burned hull of the craft is shown after it was raised.

City Tax Rate Likely To Be Cut Five Cents

Mayor McMurry Believes New Rate Will Be Around \$1.20. To Fix Rate At Budget Meeting Tuesday Night.

A tax cut of 5c on the \$100 property valuation is in prospect for Shelby, according to Mayor S. A. McMurry. "We have been figuring every possible way to make a ten cent cut in the rate, but have found no way out without cramping the city treasury too much," said Mayor McMurry this morning.

The present rate is \$1.25 on the \$100 property valuation. Two years ago the rate was \$1.50 but was reduced last year to \$1.25. One of the reasons a ten cent cut cannot be made this year is that there is a shrinkage of about \$600,000 in the assessed value of real and personal property in the city. This is an estimate, as the final total has not been arrived at. Mr. Oscar M. Buttle who has been listing property for the city has been engaged for several weeks at the task of making the tax abstracts, checking up the returns and finding the totals. The shrinkage in values is mostly in personal property, as there was no revaluation this year of real estate, so that it stands on the books the same as last year.

It is expected that the total valuation of real and personal property in Shelby will be around \$9,000,000. The exact value, however, will be known the last of this week. Richards and Webb, representing the audit firm of Scott and Co. have been busy auditing the city's books and making out a tentative budget on which the city fathers

will base the tax rate. It is expected that this budget will be ready for final approval and that the exact tax rate will be set at the regular meeting of the board on the first Tuesday night in August.

"Lindbergh Luck" Too Much For Him

J. A. Wilson, Shelby man who studies the stars and makes weather forecasts, is ready to admit that it is futile to buck "Lindbergh luck."

In Monday's Star Mr. Wilson predicted severe storms for the middle of this week, such severe storms, he said, that Charles and Anne Lindbergh would be forced to delay their trip to the Orient. But the storm had failed to show up today and the Lindberghs were at Long Beach, N. Y., after a flight from Washington, all set for their big hop tonight or in the morning.

"Even the storms and stars adjust themselves for that boy," the weather prophet said, "and I need no better alibi than that Lindbergh luck was against me."

Messrs. J. D. and Wm. Lineberger and Mrs. Julius Suttle, owners of the building in which the library has new quarters are donating the rooms to house the library.

Dr. Thompson To Locate Here Now

Son Of Mr. And Mrs. Z. J. Thompson To Practice Medicine In His Home City.

Dr. Heyward Thompson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Z. J. Thompson has located in Shelby for the practice of medicine. Dr. Thompson is an A. B. graduate of Duke University. After his graduation at Duke he attended the medical school at the University of North Carolina, finishing his medical course at Tulane University at New Orleans, La. For some time he was on the house staff of the Baptist hospital at New Orleans.

Dr. Thompson arrived in Shelby last week with his grandmother, Mrs. W. H. Thompson to whose bedside he went in Paris, Texas, after she suffered a fractured hip in a fall at the home of her son, Dr. C. A. Thompson, in Hugo, Okla. He has not as yet decided on the location of his office.

To Bolling Springs. Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Hamrick are this week moving to Bolling Springs to make their home with Mr. Hamrick's mother, Mrs. Bertha Hamrick. Mrs. Hamrick, formerly Miss Louise Allen, has been an operator at the Shelby Western Union office for some time but has been given a furlough.

Judge Moore Giving Heavy Sentences To Thieves Before Him

Terms Totalling 27 Years Dealed Out To Thieves Calculated To End Robbery Wave. Foust And Painter Get 10 Years Each Five On One Charge, Five On Another.

Judge Walter Moore, presiding over Superior court here this week, is making it clear that store robbers and automobile thieves, when convicted, may not expect any abundance of leniency in his court.

Seven thieves tried in two days of court grind were given sentences totalling 27 years.

Other Sentences. In three cases other than robbery the defendants were given sentences totalling seven years. The court was grinding away today upon another robbery case, that in which Ralph Toms and Robert Carpenter, colored, are charged with breaking in the A. Blanton wholesale grocery here.

How Passed Out. The heaviest sentences yet meted out were given Ralph Foust and Harley Painter, young white men, who were charged with breaking in Cohen's department store and stealing an automobile from Eskridge's garage here in May. They were caught at Houston, Texas, and brought back here.

Charge At Jail Urged By Grand Jury In Report

Walls Need Paint, County Home In Good Condition, And Inmates Well Cared For.

Four recommendations in regard to the county jail were made by the Superior court grand jury in its final report to Judge Walter Moore here yesterday. They were:

"1. Improve sanitary conditions in colored men's section.

"2. Repair water leak in sheriff's quarters.

"3. Paint inside walls.

"4. We also recommend that jail menu should constitute wholesome food with a varied diet and a reasonable amount of it."

The county home was "found in excellent condition, all inmates well cared for and with all comfort necessary for their welfare and contentment."

The court house was "found in reasonably fair condition.

Library Moves To Lineberger Bldg.

City So Far Fails To Increase Appropriation, New Quarters Are Donated.

The Shelby Public Library is moving this week from the Webb building to the Lineberger building at the corner of Marion and LaFayette streets, according to an announcement made yesterday by Miss Stella Murchison, librarian. The library will be closed Thursday afternoon, but will open Saturday at 4 o'clock in rooms Nos. 18 and 19. Patrons of the library are asked to use the West Marion street entrance to the building.

The city appropriates \$15 per month for the library and friends and officials of the library have asked the city to increase this appropriation in order to help support the library. The city at one time appropriated \$30 per month but this was reduced to \$15 a year or two ago.

Messrs. J. D. and Wm. Lineberger and Mrs. Julius Suttle, owners of the building in which the library has new quarters are donating the rooms to house the library.

Two Woodrows. Two of Woodrow Wilson's namesakes were the others sentenced for breaking and entering yesterday. They were Woodrow Hamilton and Woodrow Birchfield. They were caught by Policeman Paul Stamey in the Carolina Fruit and Produce house early last Sunday morning. They pled guilty and were given six months each.

Other Robberies. In several other robbery cases Judge Moore ordered a verdict of not guilty in the case of Joe Ledford charged with entering an "M" system store owned by Harry Falls at Kings Mountain. John Gamble and James Smith, colored, were found guilty of breaking and entering the S. L. Gillespie store but sentence has not been passed.

Three Years. Woodrow Glenn, colored, convicted

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Fifteen Attend Farm Convention

Left Shelby Monday To Spend A Week In Raleigh—Return Home Saturday.

Fifteen Cleveland county farmers and farm women left Shelby early Monday morning on a school bus for Raleigh where they will attend the Farmers Convention this week. Those making the trip are: Mrs. Huff Hamrick and Miss Gerlie Green, of Bolling Springs; Miss Hattie Whisnant and Miss Lucile Packard of Polkville; Reinhart Elliott of Polkville; Foy Putnam of Broad River; Mrs. C. C. McSwain of El Bethel; Mrs. J. M. Yelton of El Bethel; Mrs. John Humphries of Bethlehem, Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Falls and Mrs. Benton Putnam of Patterson Grove; Mrs. S. T. Kendrick and Miss Frankie Dixon of Fallston; Miss Elizabeth Wallace and Mrs. Irma Wallace of Shelby; Wargan Grigg of Shelby; and Andrew Elliott of Polkville.

Yeago With Modern Plumbing Company

Mr. W. H. Yeago, well known in Shelby, is now connected with the Modern Plumbing and Heating Co. It was announced today. He has just returned from Washington where he added to his experience in expert steam heating