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SHELBY, N. C.

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Showers Likely. Today's North Carolina Weather Report: Cloudy, probably showers tonight and Saturday. Not quite so cool in extreme southwest tonight.

Confess Crime. Ypsilanti, Mich., Aug. 14.—Two white men and a negro, confessed last night to the torch murders of two high school girls and their boy companions near here Tuesday. Within three hours after their admissions of guilt, the trio had been rushed to Ann Arbor, arraigned, and sentenced to life imprisonment for what police described as one of the most brutal killings in the history of Michigan. There is no capital punishment in Michigan. The extraordinary procedure was determined upon as a precaution against possible mob violence. The slayers, David Thomas Blackstone, negro, Fred Smith and Frank Oliver, said they shot the young people to death to cover up traces of a robbery.

Shelby-Marion Highway To Be Of A Good Type

Will Be Hard-Surfaced And Perhaps Designated As Route No. 190.

The new Shelby-Marion highway, which is to be surveyed immediately so that construction work may start will be of a first-class type, according to a statement issued at Marion by W. W. Neal, highway commissioner. The new route, he said, is to be approximately 10 miles shorter than the present connection between the two county seats. It will also be constructed as a better grade of road as it is planned to hard-surface the entire route.

Commissioner Neal also said that the connecting link may be designated as Highway 190.

No estimate on the cost and the time required for completing the road will be available until the survey has been finished Mr. Neal said.

Negro Woman Dies After Getting Hit By Auto This Morn

Walks In Front Of Car En Route To Shelby; Tragedy Seemed Unavoidable.

Jeanette Watts, 50-odd years of age, colored woman of Belmont, was fatally injured just west of Ellenboro around 9:30 this morning when she was hit by an automobile driven by young J. P. Smith, of Columbus, Georgia, and occupied by Smith and Henry Lee Weathers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee B. Weathers of Shelby.

According to witnesses the driver of the Smith car was exonerated of blame as it was said that the negro ran from behind another car in front of the approaching automobile. The Smith car was traveling about 30 or 35 miles per hour.

Young Smith and Weathers had spent the night with relatives at Forest City and were en route to Shelby. Several autos filled with colored people were going from Belmont to Hendersonville on a picnic. The car in which the woman was riding stopped on the right side of the highway going west. The woman, it is said, got out and walked around from behind the car in front of the Smith car, the driver of which did not see her until she stepped into the road with idea of crossing to enter woods on the other side. She was hit by the left fender of the Smith car, which was headed east. She was picked up and started to the hospital but died before reaching Forest City.

Son Of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hopper Passes

Child Is Victim Of Intestinal Trouble, Buried Here On Wednesday.

Aaron Hopper, three year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hopper, died Tuesday morning at 6:15 o'clock at the home of his parents on East Graham street with an intestinal trouble. An operation was resorted to a few weeks ago, but it was found that the little one could not be relieved of its trouble. He was a bright and promising little fellow and the parents have the sympathy of their many friends.

He is survived by his parents and one elder son, Charles. Mrs. Hopper before marriage was Miss Margaret Webb, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Webb. Funeral services were conducted by Dr. Zeno Wall at the home Wednesday afternoon and interment was in Sunset cemetery.

Maxwell Gains 1932 Candidate Popularity As

People Considering Him Prospect

Defense Of Measure Protecting Tax-Payers Draws Favor Over State.

Raleigh, Aug. 14.—Whether or not Commissioner of Revenue A. J. Maxwell becomes a candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor, there is no doubt but that many people are considering him as a strong potential candidate and that much if not more attention is being paid to what he has to say about public matters than if he already were an out and out candidate. Because of the attention being given to the possibility of his candidacy and the apparent growth in many sections of sentiment in favor of his candidacy, it would not surprise many observers here if Maxwell does become a candidate. Some predict that he will make formal announcement of his candidacy within the next 3 days though some seriously doubt if he will actually run.

There are two definite indications that Maxwell will become a candidate for governor, according to observers here. One is the forceful manner in which he has taken issue with Lieutenant Governor R. T. Fountain, the only announced candidate for governor so far, in Fountain's campaign to "return local government to the people." The second is the fact that The News and Observer has at last reluctantly admitted that some sentiment exists in the state in favor of Maxwell and for the past two days has been taking issue editorially with Mr. Maxwell in his contention that the local government act gives the citizens of the counties, cities and towns more voice in their local governments than they have ever had before, in spite of the claim made by Fountain that the local government act takes away from the people the right to participate in local government and further centralizes governmental control in Raleigh. In an interview today, however, Lieutenant Governor Fountain denies he has assailed or criticized the local government act or any other act passed by the 1931 general assembly.

The local government act, according to Mr. Maxwell, now restores the right of the people to have a say-so in the issuance of bonds and incurring of indebtedness, since it requires that all bond issues must be advertised in advance, that the sale must be approved by the local government commission and that if the commission refuses to approve the proposed issue that it must be submitted to a vote of the people before any action can be taken.

Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Houser spent yesterday afternoon in Rutherfordton.

N. C. Pastor Reunites Girl, Stolen By Gypsies 33 Years Ago, Family

Cherryville Evangelist Finally Brought Girl and Her Relatives Together.

Lynchburg, Va., Aug. 13.—For 33 years "Annie Morgan" went through life without knowing who she was, with the details of her kidnaping as a child faded by time, and with her experiences as a Gypsy's captive a chapter she never wanted to remember.

But today she discovered she was Miss Mary Rebecca Huber and at Pottsville, Pa., her brother and sisters eagerly prepared for the homecoming of their long lost sister who vanished when a child of five never to be seen again.

As she engaged an automobile to take her back to the home she could no longer remember and the family she had forgotten, Miss Huber wept and tried in vain to dig out of the recesses of her mind some fragmentary details of "life before the kidnaping."

One day back in 1898 as she played on a country road she saw a group of men and women in gay red and yellow garb approaching in a wagon.

They stopped, and when they started again the child was in the wagon with them, a captive. When night came and she failed to return to her home a searching party thrashed through the nearby mountains in the belief she had wander-

Imprisoned By Mistake



Mrs. Helen O'Brien and daughter Eileen.

Picked out of the spectators in a court where he had gone to see the trial of a former school chum and charged with holding up a drug store Patrick O'Brien, of New York, was sentenced to twenty years in prison despite the protests of his mother that he was ill in bed with pleurisy when the crime was committed. Now Gerald Weed, former crime-partner of the notorious "Two-Gun" Crowley, who is awaiting execution for the murder of a policeman, has confessed that he and Crowley committed the crime for which O'Brien was sentenced. O'Brien bears a striking resemblance to the killer and, with his mother, is pleading for a reopening of his case on the grounds that he is the innocent victim of mistaken identity.

One Thousand Attend Annual Reunion Of Beam Descendants

A crowd estimated to number 1,000 attended the annual Beam reunion held Thursday at New Prospect church, four miles northwest of Shelby, near the spot where the progenitors of the Beam clan lived.

Solicitor and Governor Speak. Hon. John Carpenter of Gastonia, solicitor in that district was the principal speaker and he was followed in the afternoon by Governor O. Max Gardner who is kin to the Beam family. Governor Gardner was there a year ago and being at home on vacation this year, he visited the scene of the clan gathering for the purpose of renewing friendships and shaking hands with kindred and friends. He was induced to speak after the noon meal and devoted his thoughts to economic matters and expressed the idea that out of the fires of depression and despair will come nobler men and women.

Mr. Carpenter took his audience from laughter to flights or oratory, paying tribute to the youth of today and the friendships that bind

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Mercury Drops 30 Degrees In Less Than Week

If you are one of those people who do not appreciate the weather of this week, particularly after a six weeks' siege of sizzling weather, perhaps you have not realized that the mercury dropped 30 degrees in two days.

Last Sunday the mercury at Ebbeloft's crept around 92. Monday night and Tuesday it rained and Tuesday's reading was just 62. The cool weather has prevailed nearly all week. Early this morning the mercury in the Ebbeloft thermometer stood at 66, but had climbed to 76 before noon. Warmer weather is in prospect for tonight.

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Negro Prisoner Denies Suicide Stunt In Ohio

Heard Broadcast On Radio For Him

Admits Robbing Store Here, Says Another Stole New Auto From Garage.

Mark Washburn, colored, brought back to Shelby Wednesday night from Cincinnati to face store robbery and auto larceny charges, passed through an eventful period since he left the city after the robbery on the night of June 18.

During that time he was believed to have drowned himself in the river at Cincinnati, and when he was being sought just before he was arrested in the Ohio city he chanced to hear a description of himself broadcast over radio.

Admits Guilt. While being brought back here by Police Chief McBride Poston, Fireman Joseph Carrol and William Andrews he admitted robbing the Wright-Baker department store, but declared that another negro, now being sought, stole the new automobile on the same night from the D. H. Cline garage. He was so drunk, he said, that he did not remember whether he robbed slot pool tables in a colored cafe and barbershop on the same night.

Brought Woman Along. His paramour, Grace Payne, was brought back from Cincinnati with him. As is often the case with criminals, his "moll" and her relatives proved his undoing.

Get Clothing. The woman had about eight of the dresses stolen from the Wright-Baker store, and en route back the officers stopped at Washburn's mother's home in Asheville and secured four other of the stolen silk dresses. The other goods taken from the local store, the haul being valued around \$200, were pawned and disposed of, officers say.

Arrested Twice. Washburn was arrested twice in Cincinnati. The first time he was picked up for loitering, but was released if he would leave town. He refused to leave and a sister of the Payne woman, who lived there, notified Cincinnati police that he was still in the city.

Mark says he was standing near an automobile which had a radio in it and was listening to the radio when it began to broadcast a description of him from police headquarters. The description fitted him, and frightened, he started to run. He realized that would not do and slowed down to a walk when a policeman who had heard the broadcast, picked him up and carried him to headquarters. It was then that he admitted the robbery here, it is said, and officers here were notified.

Suicide Note? Sunday before his arrest a note thought to have been written by Washburn was found on the C. & O. railroad bridge there saying that he drowned himself leaving his love to "Gracie," whom he termed his wife although he was married in Shelby. Washburn denied that he wrote the note, saying that some other did it. The note, however, caused officers there to drag the river for his body. All of his trouble at Cincinnati and his return here

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Costner Improving At Hospital Here

Injured When Struck By Automobile In County Saturday Night.

Earl Costner, young white man injured in an auto accident in the Beams Mill section Saturday night, was said to be showing some improvement at the Shelby hospital today.

Young Costner was helping push an automobile when a car driven by Deputy Frank Walker came along and hit him as Walker was blinded, it is said, by the lights of a car approaching from the opposite direction.

Ted Gordon To Open An Electrical Shop

Former City Electrician Opens Shop In Hoey Building Monday.

Mr. Ted Gordon, for several years city electrician, will on Monday open an electrical supply and contracting shop in the Hoey building on East Warren street, to the rear of the post office. He will be in the portion of the building occupied by Robert Hord and the Mauneys.

Mr. Gordon says he will do general contracting work and deal in all kinds of electrical supplies. The firm will be known as the Gordon Electrical Company.

Many Old Folks At Houser Event

Register Kept Of All Men And Women Over 70 Years Of Age.

The recent 100 birthday celebration of Mrs. Elizabeth Houser held at Elizabeth church was attended by a large number of elderly people. Up until 11 o'clock a register was kept of all those in attendance over 70 years of age. Those registering up to that time were:

Mrs. Susan Toms and Mrs. M. C. Putnam, half sisters of the centenarian; Miss Hattie Elliott, Mrs. M. E. Francis, Mrs. E. C. White, Mrs. Columbus Tucker, Mrs. J. H. Anthony, Mr. C. P. Jones, Mr. V. C. Beam, Mrs. W. Camp, Mrs. S. A. Stewart, Mrs. W. G. Spake, Mrs. A. E. Camp, Mr. John Hord, Mrs. R. S. Moore, Mrs. S. F. Roberts, Mr. I. B. Allen, Mr. B. B. Melton, Mr. Frank Wilson, Mrs. M. L. Rudasill, Mr. Hugh Borders, Mr. W. G. Spake, Mrs. Mary Jane Carpenter, Mrs. A. H. Cline, Mrs. Ollie Hopper, Mrs. L. C. Gardner, Mr. J. E. Mintz, Mr. O. C. Sarrett, Mr. J. T. Alexander, Mr. J. H. Anthony, Mr. J. H. Quinn, Mr. L. W. McSwain, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Borders, Mrs. Mary Houser, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Husk, Mr. M. E. Proctor, Mrs. John Hord, Mr. H. M. Ledford, Mrs. M. E. Martin, and Mrs. Mazzie Trout.

Cleveland Farmers Scoff At Farm Board Plan; Gardner Is Critical

South Not Friendly To Suggestion Of Farm Board About Cotton Crop

Suggestion To Plow Under Third Of Crop Meets Varied Reaction In South.

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 14.—With varied reaction, the South yesterday considered proposals—one by the federal farm board and the other by Governor Theo. G. Bilbo, of Mississippi—that a third of its 1931 cotton crop be discarded to curb the falling market.

The farm board's suggestion that every third row of the current crop of cotton be plowed under was termed "economic waste" by Governor Bilbo, who had previously suggested that every third row merely be left unpicker.

"It will cost the farmers a million dollars in time and labor to plow up this portion of the crop," the Mississippi governor said. He added the plowing would hinder

picking the remainder of the crop by throwing stalks against the standing rows.

Eugene Talmadge, commissioner of agriculture in Georgia, characterized the farm board's suggestion as "so much nonsense." He said he did not believe "the farm board has one-third of the cotton on hand they claim to be holding. Congress ought to name a special committee to investigate the board and find out whether they have this cotton on hand."

Tennessee's commissioner of agriculture, J. W. Pitts, said "it would be a good thing if farmers would cooperate. Commissioner of Agriculture W. A. Graham, of North Carolina, parried question about the farm board suggestion with "I just don't know about that." He suggested it might be not fair to states that have already reduced acreage.

Very Little Decline In Livestock In Cleveland County Since 1928

County Had 5,274 Horses In 1931. Biggest Decrease Was In Hogs.

There was practically as much livestock in Cleveland county in 1930 as in 1928, according to statistics issued by the Farm Forecaster. An interesting fact contained in the figures is that there were only a dozen less horses in the county in 1930, despite the advance of the motor age, than in 1928.

The biggest decline was shown in the number of hogs. In 1928 there were 6,114 hogs in the county, but in 1930 only 4,366.

Milk cows show a gain. In 1928 there were 5,400 cows in the county; in 1930 there were 5,873.

Cattle other than milk reported in 1928 totalled 1,810, and in 1930, 1,412.

Not a sheep raising county in any sense of the word the number of sheep in the county fell off more than half in the two-year period. In 1928 the county reported 66 sheep, in 1930 only 31.

Masonic Meeting. There will be a called communication of Cleveland lodge 202 A. F. and A. M. tonight at 7:30 for work in the first degree.

Miss Lil Kerr left yesterday to spend a few days in Gaffney as guest of Miss Jessie Kerr and Mrs. C. H. Robbins.

State License Taxes Imposed On Wholesalers And Retailers

Gross Sales Tax Schedule. Worthless Accounts Charged Off Are Deductible.

Cleveland county merchants, both wholesale and retail, will be interested in the following schedule and information pertaining to license tax, imposed by the last general assembly, which law makes it necessary to keep records of sales, beginning with June 1, 1931. This letter is from the office of A. J. Maxwell, state department of revenue:

Section 164 of the revenue act imposes a tax in addition to any other tax imposed in said act, upon wholesale and retail merchants for the privilege of opening, establishing, operating, and maintaining a store, mercantile establishment, or place of business for the purchase or selling goods, wares or merchandise at wholesale or retail.

The law requires that every merchant shall keep an accurate record of sales beginning June 1st, including both cash and time sales. If business is part wholesale and part retail, separate record of wholesale and retail sales should be made.

Not To Plow Under Third Of Crop

Farmers of Cleveland county, North Carolina's largest cotton-producing county, and Governor O. Max Gardner, himself owner of a cotton farm in the county, fail to see the wisdom of the Federal Farm Board's suggestion that Southern cotton farmers plow under every third row of their cotton crop with the hope of boosting the price.

In a statement issued Wednesday the farm board offered the suggestion which met with the approval of several Southern leaders, but did not get the endorsement of the majority.

Will Not Do It. General talk here yesterday indicated that Cleveland farmers not only disagree with the suggestion but they will not cooperate by plowing under a third of the crop.

Governor Gardner, at his home here for a vacation, declared after giving the suggestion serious consideration that he could not give his approval to a plan that would make "the Southern farmer the goat." The farm board, he said, asked the Southern farmer to do away with third of the crop he has already made without the board doing likewise with a third of the last year cotton surplus which he now holds. If the farmer were to destroy third of his present crop it would tend to boost the price of the farm board surplus, the Governor intimated.

Gardner View. His statement, attacking the inconsistency of the plan, follows: "In the midst of our distress it would be a vain and futile gesture to request the North Carolina cotton farmers to plow up and destroy one-third of the present cotton crop. Our present deplorable situation would be further confused by making a request of this character when we have no legal means of enforcement and no reasonable hope of its voluntary acceptance."

"The proposition of the Federal Farm Board on its face appears to me to be unsound and unreasonable, in that the planters are asked to destroy one-third of the cotton crop already produced without the Farm Board expressing any like purpose to destroy any part of the cotton it holds, which would equally enhance the price of the remainder of its 3,000,000 bales in the same proportion as it would enhance the price of the cotton produced by the farmers of the South in the present season. If there is to be a destruction of cotton in order to increase the price, the destruction should be equitable and uniform upon all present holders and growers alike and not be saddled wholly upon the 2,000,000 cotton farmers of the South."

"There is a surplus of 9,000,000 bales of cotton carried over from last year and now held by agencies other than farmers, and this surplus would immediately enhance in price if the farmer destroyed one-third of his crop now in the field. "If the owners of the present 9,000,000 bale surplus are to enjoy the blessings that would flow from the destruction of every third row of cotton, they should likewise, and in good conscience, share in the sacrifice this destruction involves."

"Anticipating overproduction of cotton, the cotton Farmers of North Carolina this year in reality did not plant the third row. Under the impulse of "Live at Home" the third row has been planted in food and feedstuffs in our state."

Miller Gamble Of Shelby Passes Away

Miller Gamble, 35 year old son of Mrs. Gene Gamble, died Wednesday evening at 9 o'clock at the home of his mother on East Marion street following an illness of ten days or two weeks. His remains were carried this afternoon to the Big John Lattimore burying ground in No. 8 township, two miles above Polkville for interment. Funeral services were conducted by Dr. Zeno Wall, assisted by Mr. Horace Eason.

Mr. Gamble is survived by his mother, and two brothers, Bill Gamble of Shelby and Tom Gamble of Texas and a host of relatives and friends.

Billroy's Show To Appear In Shelby

Big Tent Show To Make Stand In City For Week, Beginning Monday.

The only appearance of Billroy's Comedians in North Carolina this year will be staged next week in Shelby, beginning Monday, August 17, under a big waterproof blue and gold tent located on the vacant lot just below Ideal Service Station, on north Washington street.

Billroy's are carrying this year the biggest, prettiest, and best costumed chorus under canvas, and the famous Palais Royale Jazz Band under the leadership of last year's favorite, Bob Fisher. Sixty-three people make up the cast. Most of them are new faces and will be seen in Shelby for the first time. All new plays will be presented this season, including several that have had sensational runs on Broadway.

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