

Showers Saturday. Today's North Carolina Weather Report: Local thunder showers to night and Saturday.

Convicts Riot. Marquette, Mich., Aug. 28.—Four long-term prisoners, frustrated in an attempt to escape from the Marquette branch prison, yesterday shot and killed the acting prison physician, wounded a guard and two trustees and then ended their own lives when they were cornered. Warden James F. Corgan prevented a general prison riot, ordering all the convicts to their cells after three of the four who planned the escape barricaded themselves in the industrial building shortly after 8 a. m., carrying two guards as hostages, and demanded they be allowed to go free. The physician, slain at the outset of the escape attempt, was Dr. A. W. Hornbogen, consulting surgeon and acting prison doctor in the absence of Dr. L. L. Youngquist. The four prisoners who shot themselves were Andze (Tony) Germano, Toledo, O., sentenced to 35 to 50 years for wounding a Birmingham, Mich., patrolman; Leo Duver, Detroit, serving a life term for armed robbery, Frank Hohler, Detroit, serving 30 to 40 years for kidnaping, and Charles Roseburg, Detroit, serving 20 to 40 years for armed robbery.

Smart Says He Cannot Recall Killing Chief Gives Drunkenness As Defense

Have All Evidence In Today In Slaying Of Forest City Officer.

Rutherfordton, Aug. 28.—Fred Smart, charged with shooting Police Chief Austin Price of Forest City, to death after the officer had arrested him on a charge of drunkenness, testified in his trial for murder here yesterday that he had no recollection of anything that took place the night of the killing. Smart testified he had no knowledge that Chief Price arrested him and that anybody spoke to him from 8 p. m. June 6, the date of the killing, until the next morning. He denied telling officers anything about the slaying while he was being taken to jail after Price had been killed and disclaimed any knowledge of anything that took place the night of the killing.

Smart was questioned 30 minutes by Fred D. Hamrick, his own chief counsel, and was cross-examined 45 minutes by Clyde R. Hoey, of Shelby, of the prosecution.

"Drunk" Testimony. The defense put up 22 witnesses, including Smart, during the day. Eleven of them gave the defendant a good character and 10 stated that he was "drunk" the night of the killing.

Practically all of the state's 18 witnesses testified Smart was "under the influence of whiskey" the night of the killing "but was not drunk."

Dr. W. C. Bostic, sr., Forest City physician, the first witness in the trial, who reached the officer eight minutes after three shots had pierced his body, testified that any of the wounds was sufficient to have caused death. Under questioning Solicitor J. Will Pless, jr., of Marion, Dr. Bostic testified he examined the body in an undertaking establishment and found severe knife wounds in the back that also would have caused death. He said he smelled the odor of whiskey on Smart's breath, but that he did not consider the man intoxicated.

1,000 At Trial. More than 1,000 spectators utilized every space in the court room.

Solicitor Beam Improved Today

In Coma For Day And Night And Condition Seemed Serious At Time.

The condition of County Solicitor W. Speight Beam, who has been a patient at the Shelby hospital since Wednesday afternoon was said to be considerably improved today.

His physician, Dr. E. B. Lattimore, said at noon that Solicitor Beam was rallying from a coma which he had been in for a day and a night, and was seemingly on the road to recovery. For a number of hours after the attack Wednesday morning he was unable to talk and was helpless physically but this condition is gradually improving. First reports Wednesday evening had it that the recorder's court prosecutor had suffered a stroke, but it was said today that he had not, the coma following a physical collapse. Attorney Pat McBrayer served as prosecutor for Solicitor Beam in county court today.

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Half Million Dollar Suit In Bank Closing

Mismanagement Is Charge Brought

Centers About Commercial Bank Which Had Kings Mountain Unit.

Gastonia, Aug. 28.—Suit for the recovery of \$500,000 damages for "negligence and mismanagement" has been started in this county against 24 former directors of the defunct Commercial Bank and Trust company by State Banking Commissioner Guernsey P. Hood, on behalf of the bank.

The 24 directors named as defendants in the action are W. T. Love, J. White Ware, W. H. Wray, Robert Goldberg, J. O. Plonk, J. A. Costner, Dr. L. A. Crowell, Dr. C. H. Hoover, Wade S. Butce, A. S. Karsh, W. W. Glenn, M. E. Herndon, O. G. Falls (deceased), C. M. Robinson, C. D. Stroupe, W. J. T. Styera, V. E. Long, R. G. Cherry, A. H. Guion, J. A. Abernethy, E. H. Byars, jr., and E. E. Groves.

Summons against all the defendant directors have been issued and the complaint will be filed early in September by O. F. Mason, jr., attorney for Commissioner Hood. Mr. Mason has been granted a brief extension of time for filing the complaint.

Commissioner Hood, through Mr. Mason, has also started individual suit against two directors for recovery of sums of money secured "by unlawful preference obtained by withdrawal of accounts on the day on which the banks were closed."

The commissioner alleged L. A. Crowell of Lincolnton withdrew \$1,000 from the Commercial bank on the day on which it closed, and that E. H. Byars, jr., did likewise. Two suits are being brought against Byars, in one of which his wife is included, asking recovery of \$7,472 allegedly withdrawn from the bank on the day it closed.

The Commercial Bank and Trust company, with its main branch in Gastonia and other branches in Kings Mountain, Lincolnton, Mount Holly and Cherryville, closed in April, 1929.

City Financial Statement Issue

Light Department Shows Gross Profit of \$60,000. Taxes Next Largest Revenue.

In today's issue of The Star appears the official statement of receipts and disbursements for the city of Shelby for the thirteen month period ending June 30th. The audit includes a thirteen month period because the legislature early this year changed the fiscal year of all cities in order to make them uniform.

During the year the city received from all sources \$376,752.99. The largest single item of revenue was the light department which brought in \$137,223.41 which this department cost to maintain \$76,297.30, leaving a gross profit of over \$60,000. The next largest source of revenue was from taxes on real and personal property which amounted to \$114,203.22. The third largest source of revenue was from the water department, this amounting to \$41,213.41 for the thirteen month period. Operation of the water department cost \$16,875.21, leaving a net gross profit to the city.

The audit was made by the firm of Geo. E. Scott and Company, certified public accountants of Charlotte.

Ex-Gov. McLean Would Tax Cotton To Reduce Crop Along Plan Of Sarratt

Would Permit So Many Acres Tax Free And Impose Tax On Extra Acres.

The cotton reduction plan of W. C. Sarratt, Cleveland county farmer, whereby a tax would curb surplus production, has attracted much favorable comment in North Carolina and other cotton-growing states.

Former Governor A. W. McLean proposes a somewhat similar method as is shown by the following dispatch from Lumberton.

"Cut cotton acreage on half in 1932 and let the cotton-growing states agree on a tax plan by which each cotton farmer would be allowed so many acres tax free and impose a privilege tax of \$5 an acre in excess of the amount allotted," said former Governor A. W. McLean, of Lumberton, when asked what he would suggest in lieu of the plan adopted by the New Orleans

Proposes Steering Committee To Aid In Charity Work

Editor Suggests Food Conservation And Thrift. Stop Outsiders Begging.

To help tide over the depression which confront us locally, Lee B. Weathers proposed last night the appointment of a steering or advisory committee composed of five of the soundest thinking men of the county whose duties will be to coordinate the work of the civic and social clubs, the churches, schools and farm and home agents.

Mr. Weathers contended that the government and laws could not be counted on to bring about good times. "The public treasures must be safeguarded or they will be in the same condition England and Germany are in. We cannot expect the government to buy more wheat and cotton when it is already hoarding the bag. If it buys more, disaster will follow. We cannot enforce 'no cotton' laws; that would cause rebellion. We should not plow out every third row or destroy the surpluses; that would show a lack of appreciation of God's bountiful blessings. We need not expect Santa Claus to surprise us with a sudden reversal of present conditions," said the editor.

Campaign Of Thrift. "We can and should do something locally and I suggest that five sober-thinking, sound visioned men be appointed to sit in conference and direct the co-ordination or organized bodies we already have. First and foremost, a campaign of thrift and economy should be taught in the schools and preached in the pulpits, emphasizing the importance of conserving our abundant food supply. There are many unfortunate people who do not provide for the future and it is the duty of others to help and advise with them.

"I would suggest that this steering committee ask club members to go as speakers to the various schools of the county and make talks on thrift and economy to the children in order that there may be no hungry this winter because of indifference and indolence. Ministers should be asked to preach sermons on thrift and food conservation from their pulpits. The county agents should have the assistance of members of the Woman's clubs of the town and county in impressing this lesson on folks who need it.

Stop Outsiders Begging. "Public begging by people who live outside of Cleveland county should be stopped. Our aims should be:

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Thad Ford's Brother Sick In Hospital

Milton Crocker, of Cherryville, a brother of Thad C. Ford of Shelby, is in a critical condition in the U. S. Veterans Hospital, diagnosing department, Washington, D. C., suffering with what is thought to be a tumor of the brain. Mr. Crocker was removed to Washington Tuesday from Gaston county. He has been unconscious for four days and his condition is reported to be very serious. He is a veteran of the World War.

Housewife Plans Flight



MRS. GERALDINE LOFFREDO

Housewives are usually associated with the surroundings which their titles indicate, but Mrs. Geraldine Gray Loffredo, matron of Buffalo, N. Y., likes to be different. She has been set apart from most of her sex in the modern game of aviation, at least, for her career has taken her up in the air at numerous times since 1914 when she began parachute jumping from hot air balloons. In 1917, Mrs. Loffredo made her first leap from a plane and in 1925 she was licensed as a pilot—the sixth woman flier in the country. Her next feat in the world far above the ground is a projected flight from America to Italy as a good-will gesture between the two nations. She doesn't believe a woman capable of flying the distance all alone, so a skilled Italian flier will accompany her as navigator. Her plane is the "Liberty," in which Otto Hillig, the "Flying Photographer," flew from New York to Copenhagen with Holger Holbrix.

Admission To Biggest Fair Yet Is Cut To Half Price; Track Meet For High Schools Is New Feature

Dorton Says Program Will Be Above Average But Will Cost Less.

An announcement that will be of much interest to the thousands of people who attend the big Cleveland County Fair each year was made today by Secretary J. S. Dorton when he let it be known that general admission to the fair this fall will be 25 cents for all both day and night.

Heretofore the general admission for adults during the day has been 50 cents and 25 cents for children and admission at night 25 cents to all.

Better Program. "We have decided that considering the times we should reduce the admission to 25 cents," Dr. Dorton said. "The fair is an educational event and has already become one of the outstanding annual affairs in this section of the State and we do not want the admission charge to be high enough to keep anyone away.

"In making the reduction we desire to emphasize the fact that the displays, the shows, the exhibits and the attractions will not be cheapened one bit because of the reduction for admission. Instead we have booked for this fall the biggest show that has ever played a fair in this section of the South. Our free acts and stunts are the best to be found, and those who have been thrilled by the nightly fireworks program heretofore may expect a more sensational pyrotechnical display than ever.

"We're merely cutting the admission charge so that everyone may attend. And we know that nowhere can anyone find more entertainment and amusement for 25 cents. It is not the aim of the fair association to profit in times like exist now and any person can take in the entire day's event for 25 cents for the free attractions cost nothing, the races may be seen from the rail as can the fireworks, and, as is known, there is not any charge to see all the fine agricultural exhibitions and displays in the big exhibit halls.

"The grandstand admission charge will remain as heretofore, but as for the other part we plan to give the people of this section the most complete day's entertainment they have

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Farmers Back Cotton Bagging Movement Here

Farmers And Ginners Attend Meet

Pass Resolution To Use Cotton Bagging On County Cotton And Other Products.

A large gathering of Cleveland county farmers and near dozen cotton ginners met in the court house here yesterday afternoon to discuss the use of cotton bagging in the county this fall.

The discussion lasted for several hours and finally ended with the adoption of a resolution stating that county farmers would insist that their cotton bales this fall be wrapped in cotton and urged that all other products sold to the farmers be sacked in cotton bags.

Strong Support. A dozen or more farmers made short talks and it was evident that sentiment was strongly in favor of the use of cotton bagging. Several pointed out, however, that it would be useless unless ginners cooperated and all farmers stuck together in the matter. One or two ginners made brief talks in which they expressed their willingness to cooperate. They would put cotton bagging on all cotton where farmers desired it they said but would also keep jute for farmers who wanted that used. The ginners also reminded that the cotton bagging would cost a little more than jute bagging but stated that it would make no differences to them as long as the farmer was willing to pay the additional cost.

Representatives of cotton bagging manufacturers and jute manufacturers were present and talked to the meeting. The cotton bagging representatives informed about how much it would cost per bale for cotton bagging and gave other information regarding the movement. The jute representative reminded that a percentage of jute bagging is made of cotton and stressed the

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County Financial Statement Published

Shows Debt of Various Divisions, Debt Reductions During Year And Special Rates.

In today's Star will be found an official statement of the financial condition of Cleveland county, published as is required by law once a year. The statement shows the itemized debt of the county, townships and school districts which amounts in the aggregate to \$1,001,062.60 and is less than the total bonded indebtedness of the city of Shelby. There was a reduction in the county's debt during the year closing June 30th of \$35,587.50.

This official statement shows the tax rates for the county, township, roads and school districts for the year 1931-32 as compared with the previous year, the maintenance and sinking funds of the road districts, together with the deficits and surpluses in the school district funds.

Kenneth Bridges Is Seriously Ill

Kenneth Bridges, 11-year-old son of G. L. Bridges, who lives near the fairgrounds, is in a serious condition at the Shelby hospital. The youth was brought there Wednesday night in a coma, resulting, it is said, from diabetes.

School Will Open At Kings Mountain Wednesday, Sept. 2

Kings Mountain, Aug. 28.—The 1931-32 session of the Kings Mountain public schools will open Wednesday, Sept. 2, Monday, August 31, will be devoted to the registration of high school pupils. Every one who expects to enroll in the high school is urged to report Monday at nine o'clock for registration.

Books for pupils in the grades are already in stock at Plonk Bros. store and may be purchased at any time. However, it is advised that no one who is in doubt as to the grade to which he will be assigned buy books at this time. Book lists will be given out on the opening day.

Mrs. Hine Dead. Mrs. John Hine, a sister of Mrs. John Hudson and a native of Brevard, died suddenly Wednesday in New Orleans, according to a message received here by the Hudson family. Funeral services were held today at the Episcopal church in Brevard. Mrs. Hine was the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Brees.

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Speaks Here



DR. THURMAN KITCHEN

Dr. Kitchen, president of Wake Forest College will fill the pulpit here at the First Baptist church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. Dr. Kitchen is a brother of the late Governor W. W. Kitchen and Ex-Congressman Claude Kitchen. He is a native of Scotland Neck and for many years was dean of the Medical department at Wake Forest college before being elected president last year, succeeding Dr. Francis F. Gaines who resigned to accept the presidency of a university in Virginia.

Nab Third Man In Theft Case In City June 18

"Bubbles" Walker Denies Aiding In Store And Garage Robbery In Shelby.

"Bubbles" Walker, colored, was brought here from Asheville Wednesday night by Police Chief McBride Poston and Policeman Rufus Sparks and jailed on the charge of being with Mark Washburn, colored, and his girl friend, Grace Payne, when the Wright-Baker department store and the D. H. Cline garage were robbed on the night of June 18.

On August 12 Washburn and the negro were arrested in Cincinnati and brought back here. At that time Washburn claimed that another negro helped him in the series of robberies and that the other stole the new automobile from the Cline garage. The woman denied any part in the robbery except that she was picked up by the two at Henrietta after the robbery. The new automobile was later abandoned at Marion and Washburn and the woman travelled by train to Cincinnati. Some of the clothing stolen from the department store was recovered in Cincinnati and Asheville.

Officers did not give out Walker's name until they nabbed him Wednesday at Asheville. Walker denied being implicated in the robberies, saying that he was not near Shelby that night. Washburn and the woman, however, both say he was a partner in it and stole the car.

Farmers On Visit To Cabarrus County

A party of a dozen or more Cleveland county farmers, accompanied by R. W. Shoffner, farm agent, left Shelby early this morning for Concord where they will make a tour of Cabarrus county. The purpose of the visit is to inspect the lespezea being grown there, the production and harvesting methods used.

G. O. P. Aided Cannon In Anti-Smith Fight; Charge Personal Use Funds

Charts Of Bank Accounts Trace Money To Other Than Political Destinations.

Washington, Aug. 28.—Edwin C. Jameson, New York capitalist, who contributed \$65,300 to Bishop Cannon's anti-Smith fund in 1928, read a statement to the senate campaign funds committee yesterday saying that he made the contributions at the solicitation "and in collaboration with the Republican campaign committee."

The name of Bascom Slomp was brought into the testimony as working on an "independent organization" and Mr. Jameson amplified his statement by saying that, if the charts shown by Basil Manly, the committee's expert, were correct in indicating that some of the funds were diverted to other than political purposes, and if he had known such diversion was intended, Bishop Cannon "would not have got the money."

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Principal Faces Assault Charges About Whipping

Record Crowd Here For Trial

Prof. C. A. Ledford, Belwood Principal, Alleged To Have Whipped Young Boy.

The largest crowd to attend a court hearing in Shelby since the sensational Francis-Philbeck case several years ago was here today for the hearing in county court of assault charges preferred against Prof. C. A. Ledford, principal of the Belwood high school.

Prof. Ledford is charged with "using more force than was necessary" in administering a whipping to Hubert Huffman, 10-year-old student and son of J. E. Huffman, at the school on Thursday, August 13.

Pack Aisles. The case was first booked for trial last Saturday but was continued until today. When the county court opened this morning every seat in the large court room was filled and the aisles and every other available space were packed with people. Two thirds of the entire Belwood community appeared to be in attendance, and unusual interest in the case was manifested by the record audience.

The hearing was still underway this afternoon, not all of the State's witnesses having completed their evidence prior to the noon recess. It is likely that all the evidence will not be in before late afternoon. Attorney Peyton McSwain is attorney for the youth's father and Judge B. T. Falls is counsel for Prof. Ledford. Both attorneys are putting up a strong fight.

Evidence In. Witnesses introduced this morning included the boy's father, Dr. F. D. Edwards, Yates Carpenter, Grady Newton and Edward White.

These witnesses testified that on the morning of August 13 Prof. Ledford was called to Miss Elliott's room of the school and the 10-year-old boy turned over to him. According to these witnesses, two of whom were students, Prof. Ledford administered a whipping with a switch about as large as the thumb and three or four feet long. Around 25 blows were administered, it was said. There was some comment about the school room, one witness testified, about it being "a hard whipping." Five days after the whipping one witness said he saw the boy and he had blue stripes on his body and back. Dr. Edwards, who was called in, testified that there were stripes on the youngster similar to those made by an ordinary switching, but said only one or two indicated unusually hard blows. The prosecution attempted to show by the witnesses that the youth was not exactly normal physically and mentally while the defense undertook to show that he was an unruly student. Dr. Edwards testified that the boy suffered from heart leakage and was of a nervous temperament. "The father of the boy said the youth was much upset when he came home that day and could not sleep.

Although the prosecution had not rested at noon and the defense had not entered upon its case it was understood that the defense would attempt to show that the conduct of the boy was such as to make a whipping necessary and that the whipping was not carried to the extreme.

The affair is the major topic of conversation in the Belwood section and the scores of people in Shelby today for the trial were outspoken in taking one or the other side in the matter.

Store, Cafe Robbed In City Last Night

The Banks Suttle grocery store on N. Washington street and the Carolina colored cafe on Trade alley were robbed last night, police officers announced today.

"Black Boy" Esau was arrested and charged with the attempted robbery at the cafe.

At the Suttle store 300 pennies, sardines, crackers, cigarettes and cigars were taken. No arrests have been made as yet in this robbery.

Died In Hospital. Information was received here yesterday that Walter Howell, ex-service man of Kings Mountain, died Thursday in the hospital at Morganton. No details were given in the message to county officials.