

Suspect Gang Job As 4 More Homes Are Burglarized

Enter Spangler House Twice In 2 Nights

Chief Of Police Urge Householders To Lock Doors And Take Every Precaution.

With five more unsolved house-breakings reported over the week-end, Chief of Police D. D. Wilkins this morning urged Shelby house-holders to take every precaution in guarding and locking their homes while the police department seeks to break up suspected gang operations.

Homes entered over the week-end were those of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Smith, Oakland Drive; Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gold, West Warren; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Williams, E. Marion, and Mr. and Mrs. Everett Spangler (two burglaries), Oakland Drive.

Two Arrests Made

In each burglary, the chief said, clues indicated the same gang had entered while the families were away always between 7:30 and midnight. The police suspect an experienced leader commanding a group of young boys. They have made two arrests on suspicion.

At the Smith home, a burglar was frightened away on the return of the family Friday night. The window to a bedroom had been forced open.

Two Watches Stolen

At the Gold home, entry was made between 7 and 8 o'clock Saturday night. An overcoat, a sweater and two watches were stolen.

At the Williams home, burglars broke into a chest and stole a pistol Saturday night while the family was out.

The Spangler home was entered both Friday and Saturday night, both times while the Spangler were out. Two dresses were stolen. On Friday night, a window was forced, and on Saturday the back door was broken open.

Heavy Patrol

"We are patrolling the city as heavily as possible," Mr. Wilkins said. "and we hope the residents will co-operate with us in trying to apprehend this gang. Lock your homes. I wish somebody would put the lights out in his home some night and wait in the darkness—then call us if anything turns up."

Late News

THE MARKETS
Cotton, spot 12 1/2 to 13 1/2
Cotton seed, ton, wagon \$44.00

Colder Tuesday

Weather forecast for North Carolina: Rain Monday and Tuesday night, probably ending Tuesday morning. Warmer Monday. Much colder Tuesday and Tuesday night.

No. 1 Escapes

Alvin Karpiss, now nominated as America's Public Enemy No. 1, hurled a blaze of machine gun bullets into a trap set by federal officers at a small Atlantic City hotel, and escaped. Harry Campbell, another hunted mid-western gangster, escaped with him as they poured rounds of bullets in the direction of the officers, stole a motor car, and fled toward New York. They attempted to rescue two women companions, but failed.

Would Bar Ickes

A move to bar Secretary Ickes from administering the four billion dollar appropriation for public works received strong support among members of the house yesterday. Mr. Ickes is public works administrator, but the president has not said yet whether he would name him to administer the giant fund or not. There is strong feeling against Ickes, it was reported, because some representatives feel he has not treated them courteously.

Prefers Garner

President Roosevelt let it be known yesterday that he wants Vice-President John Nance Garner to be his running mate in the 1936 presidential campaign, and this information dashed cold water on the aspirations of Secretaries Wallace and Ickes. After an informal conference, there was no doubt that Mr. Roosevelt wanted Mr. Garner.

Decision Awaited

The supreme court may make its bold clause ruling today, it was reported in Washington. The court may announce its decision now and withhold the written opinion several weeks.

Budget for Schools Keen Disappointment to Smith Request Of More Money For Roads But Less For Public Schools Deplored By Shelby Superintendent

Supt. B. L. Smith of the Shelby school system, ever a champion of the educational rights of childhood has this to say with reference to Governor Ehringhaus and his recent budget message submitted to the General Assembly:

"The governor's recommendation of increasing the school appropriation by only \$2,500,000 is unacceptably disappointing. When it is placed along side his recommendation of an increase of \$6,210,000 for roads it is well nigh paralyzing to the teaching profession. If one adds to the governor's recommendation other twenty millions for roads coming this year to the state from the Federal government, it is unbelievable that any citizen should contemplate such a disparity in favor of the material as against the human values of the commonwealth.

"The teaching profession of North Carolina has believed the governor to be a friend of education and has accepted his recommendation of 1933 as the pitiless necessity of prostrated economic conditions. Farm products were at their lowest, banks were closed, manufacturing was prostrated, governmental units were in default, the credit of the state was gone. The teaching profession from meager salaries afforded the reduction that "balanced the budget," restored the state's

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Hospital Enlargement Emphasized By Crowded Condition; 50 Patients

Hospital Was Caring For Fifty Patients Sunday; Largest Number Since Opening

Necessity for the enlargement of the Shelby Hospital is emphasized in the fact that the forty bed institution was caring for 50 patients over the week-end.

Bounty Payment On Crows, Hawks, Wildcats Stopped

County Game Warden H. C. Long in a statement today said that he could pay no more bounties on any kind of harmful animals or birds, due to a ruling just handed down by J. D. Chalk, state commissioner of game and inland fisheries at Raleigh.

Thus far this season Mr. Long had paid out approximately \$50 in bounties for crows and hawks which call for 15 and 25 cents respectively. Wildcats are worth \$2.00, but he had no claims for this animal.

In the letter stating the case to Mr. Long, Commissioner Chalk stated that the appropriation had been suspended and that it was likely the money would be used for education. He added that it was his personal opinion that bounty money was that much money thrown away as most farmers and hunters are interested in predatory control without expecting the small payments.

Mr. Long called attention today to the fact that open seasons for deer, duck, opossum and squirrels are out, that dove will be out January 31 and quail and rabbit will end February 20.

Gardner Child Is Honorary Page

Bill Anderson Gardner, born Wednesday in the Shelby Hospital to Representative and Mrs. Ernest Gardner is an honorary page of the State House of Representatives. A resolution was passed by the House last week honoring the youngster on his arrival and a copy sent to the mother in the hospital, his father being a member of the House, serving his second term from Cleveland county.

Camp Call Masons To Meet Wednesday

The Union Masonic degree team will meet Wednesday January 23 at the Camp Call lodge for work in the first degree. All brother Masons are welcome.

Contest Judges Prefer Blondes; Miss Ellis Wins Beauty Crown

Blonde Miss Frances Ellis, of the Dover Mill community, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben H. Ellis, on Friday night was awarded the title of Beauty Queen of South Shelby in a contest sponsored by the South Shelby school P. T. A. in which 26 Shelby beauties competed. Brunette Miss Pauline Brackett of South Shelby, daughter of A. C. Brackett of Casar, was the second prize winner. The judges, Pat McBrayer, Troy McKinney and Cameron Shipp, mocked their brows after the contest and said "never again." They

After all beds were filled, extra beds were set up in the sun parlors, and wards and the superintendent moved her desk out of her office to convert it into a private room. The hospital was caring for more patients over the week-end than it has ever accommodated since it was established about 11 years ago.

Among the patients are surgical cases, patients for treatment for the after effects of influenza, maternity cases and a few accidents cases.

The list taken from the office records of yesterday is as follows: Duffey Freeman, Jonnie Doster, Malcomb Wilson, Mrs. Sallie Blanton, Earl A. Byrum, O. O. Bush, Mrs. Katie Beason and baby, Mrs. Helen Cornwell and baby, baby Russell Canipe, Mrs. Hess Cline, Mrs. Floyd Dover, T. Cling Eskridge, Mrs. Ernest Gardner and baby, Frank Green, Miss Elaine Horn, Mrs. Dewey Hawkins, Mrs. Max Hopper, Mrs. W. B. Nix, Norman Taylor, Shannon Hamrick, Miss Mamie Hambrick, Mrs. Elain Crosby, Mrs. Sara Hutchins, Miss Evelyn Jolley, Master Eugene LeFevers, John Norman, Mrs. Fred Pantner, Mrs. Sara Procter, D. W. Royster, Mrs. John Turner, Mrs. Irette Yanhorn, Earlean Watts, Ralph Wiggins, Mrs. S. A. Washburn, Mrs. Georgia Wright, Master Houston Ware, Spurgeon Whisnant, Mrs. Beulah Mayhew, Miss Inez Revels.

Colored: Sam Miller, Viola Davis, Robert Chambers, Vera McKillion, Lucy McClain, Violet Webber.

Negro Bound Over On Larceny Charge

Willie Ellis, former elevator boy at the Hotel Charles, charged with stealing a fur coat belonging to Mrs. Miles Beam on Jan. 14, was bound over to the March term of Superior court on a larceny charge in Recorder's court last week.

Squire T. C. Eskridge Is Seriously Ill Here

"Squire T. Cling Eskridge is seriously ill at the Shelby hospital which he entered Saturday for treatment for an acute gall bladder trouble. Mr. Eskridge is 81 years of age and all of his children are keeping close to his bedside. His son, Ab Eskridge, of LaPorte, Indiana, arrived Sunday.

Capt. Weaver, 95 Year Old Vet, Passes

Mrs. A. Fulton Weaver, 5 DeKalb street, received a telegram this morning notifying her of the death of her grandfather, Capt. W. E. Weaver, 95 years old Confederate veteran of Weaverville this morning at 7:30 o'clock. Capt. Weaver was one of the most colorful characters in the mountains, a valiant Confederate soldier and a member of the general assembly of this state at one time. Funeral services will be held Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock.

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\$1,000,000 Saving Seen For Farmers Strapped By Debt

N. C. Farm Dept. Is Ready To Act Now

Adjustment Commission Hopes To Scale Down Amounts In Voluntary Agreements.

COLLEGE STATION, RALEIGH, Jan. 20.—The saving of \$1,000,000 for those North Carolina farmers now heavily in debt is the goal of the State Farm Debt Adjustment Commission for the current fiscal year, it was announced today.

Dr. G. W. Forster, of State College, executive secretary of the commission, said the amount of this saving is in addition to the value of the farms and homes which are being protected from foreclosure.

Many Debts Settled. In a report covering part of the work done by the committees, Dr. Forster said that in 46 counties, 641 cases involving debts of \$1,790,429.25 have been settled directly or indirectly through the efforts of the committees.

In the agreements negotiated, the amount of the indebtedness in these cases was scaled down by \$357,293.76, or 20 percent.

Scale Down Amounts. The farm debt committees in the several counties effect this saving, he explained, by negotiating agreements between debtors and their creditors for scaling down the amount of the indebtedness.

By voluntarily reducing the size of the debt, he added, the creditors protect themselves by greatly increasing their chances of collecting the reduced amount.

Were no reductions made, he pointed out, the farmers would in many cases feel that they could not possibly pay their debts and would give up the struggle, with the result that the creditors would be able to collect only a small part, if any, of the amount owed.

In addition to the agreements negotiated directly by the committees, Dr. Forster added, they have influenced other debtors and creditors to reach agreements on the same principles used by the committees.

Twin Babies Die Of Pneumonia At Poplar Springs

One of the most unusual tragedies of the year occurred over the week-end when the two and a half months old twin children of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Wesson of the Poplar Springs section died of pneumonia, their deaths taking place only a few hours apart.

Both of them, ill only since Friday, the first, Ruth, died at one o'clock early Sunday morning and the second, Roy, died at four o'clock in the afternoon.

Funeral services for the two children were held at the Poplar Springs Baptist church this afternoon at 2:30 with the Rev. Rush Padgett conducting.

Surviving them in addition to their parents are one sister, Alvan, and two brothers, Ben and Donald. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wesson. Maternal grandparents are John Wallace and the late Mrs. Wallace, all of the same community.

Appointment Delegates For Labor Parley

RALEIGH, Jan. 20.—Governor Ehringhaus today appointed the following as delegates to represent North Carolina at the labor conference to be held by Honorable Frances Perkins, secretary of Labor, at Nashville, Tennessee, on January 21, 1935:

A. L. Fletcher, commissioner of labor, T. A. Wilson, of Raleigh; Major W. F. Moody, Raleigh; P. R. Christopher, president U. T. W., Shelby; Arthur Harrison, Raleigh; Reuben Robertson, jr., Canton; William J. Conrad, Winston-Salem; Marion W. Heiss, Proximity Mills, Greensboro; W. O. Burgin, Lexington. Miss Harriet Elliott, Greensboro.

800 Applications

Investigations were made in 77 counties and more than 800 applications were received for local studies of definite projects, of which 736 have been investigated to date. This would serve 24,000 customers, require construction of about 4,750 miles of lines and require an investment of about \$8,000,000, Mr. Pantan said. Belief is that 9,000 miles of lines to serve 50,000 people are practical. The commission would have charge of operating the lines, making service charges sufficient to pay costs and provide funds for retiring the commission's bonds.

Say 'Taint So



Despite emphatic denials by Mary Pickford and Charles "Buddy" Rogers that they were other than good friends, rumors of a romance between the film pair continued to thrive. First hint of their reported attachment followed Miss Pickford's recent divorce from Douglas Fairbanks.

State Electricity Program Designed To Supply 50,000

Construction Of 9,000 Miles Of Lines Planned By Group Under Ehringhaus.

By M. R. DUNNAGAN

RALEIGH, Jan. 20.—Electricity for about 50,000 rural inhabitants of North Carolina by construction of some 9,000 miles of lines is planned by Governor Ehringhaus' committee on rural electrification, which group will submit the plan to the general assembly soon for approval, including a bill establishing the North Carolina Rural Electrification commission. The bill has been drawn.

The commission, under the proposed law, would be authorized to "finance, build and construct or cause to be constructed and build by contract or otherwise electric transmission and distribution service to farmers and other rural inhabitants who are not at present receiving such service." It is explained by H. D. Pantan, consulting engineer for the committee.

May Issue Bonds. Authority is given the commission to issue bonds up to \$10,000,000 against the credit and property of the commission. The bonds will not constitute an obligation of the state, nor is any state appropriation asked. The bill would authorize the governor to name the commission of 12 members, which include the chairman of the state highway and public works commission, director of the department of conservation and development, and the administrative dean of N. C. State college. Terms of office would overlap, first appointments being for two, three and four years, and later for four years.

Recommendations including these features were made by the original committee named by Governor Ehringhaus in August, 1934, to study rural electrification. Allotment of \$17,000 was received from the FERA for the study, which was under direction of Prof. D. S. Weaver, of State college.

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Electrification Program May Be Brought Up Again

Several Communities Here Interested

Bivens Tells Farmers How U. S. Will Aid In Bringing Power To Rural Communities.

A revival of the federal rural electrification program in Cleveland county is possible now, although funds for the survey have been exhausted, J. P. Bivens of Gastonia, who last year began a survey of Cleveland, Gaston and Lincoln counties, gave this information to a gathering of farmers in the court house Friday afternoon.

He is willing to make the survey provided the interested farm-owners will pay his expenses, and said that his request would be accepted in Washington as official.

Consumer Pays Third. According to the plan, the federal government would pay one-third of the expenses of erecting new lines, the power company one-third, and the consumer the remaining third. And the consumer need not pay cash. It would be possible, Mr. Bivens said, for him to provide labor, poles, or other equipment as his share.

Cost of erecting lines ranges between \$700 and \$1,000 for a thirty-year line, depending upon local conditions.

Interested communities were Mt. Sinal, the communities between Fallston and Waco and the Washington settlement near Waco.

Mrs. Sam Hazel In Fatal Accident

Mrs. Sam Hazel, one of five persons killed in a railway accident near Union, S. C., yesterday was a resident of Shelby until about two months ago when she and her husband moved to Newberry, of the same state. Mr. Hazel was connected with the Pilot Life Insurance company of this city and the couple lived on Gold street, and had been in the city two years.

The fatal accident occurred at Carlisle, near Union, when the car in which Mrs. Hazel was riding was struck by a fast Southern freight train, killing all the occupants instantly.

More Marriages Here In December, 1934

Andy Newton, register of deeds, who keeps tab on marriage licenses in this county, said this morning that 1934 was a banner year for orange blossoms in the middle aisle. His records show there were 192 licenses issued, as against 149 in 1933.

The best month wasn't June, traditional month of romance, but cold December. There were 29 marriages that month, he said. October was next highest.

Davis George Dies In Cherryville

CHERRYVILLE, Jan. 20.—Davis George, 61, one of the leading citizens of the town and county, died at his home last night after an illness of several months. Mr. George was stricken while making a speech in the Gastonia court house in his campaign for the state senate last fall and never fully recovered. Funeral service will be held from the Lutheran church, with interment in the nearby cemetery at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon. For many years the deceased was a merchant and business man of high standing, an ardent member of the Lutheran church and a teacher in the Sunday school.

Floyd O. Smith of Sterchi's Brothers Furniture Company Is In High Point This Week Attending A Furniture Convention.

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Unique Will Bequeaths Son, 24, And \$200 to Cleveland County

The county of Cleveland this morning received under the terms of a unique will \$200 in cash and the custody of a young man 24 years old. The man is Zieky Wilson, son of the late E. A. Wilson, a well-known farmer who lived near Lawndale. He willed to the county in the following clause: "I give to my son Zieky Wilson \$200, to be paid out of my land money after the death of my wife, then the county is to take charge of him and his money, and use the same to best advantage."

Farmers Ask For CCC Camp, Terrace Work To Check Heavy Erosion

Plan Would Include Reforestation Of Idle Lands, Terracing, Drainage, Reclamation Of 32,000 Or More Acres

A definite proposal to launch a program of reclamation of idle lands and to check excessive erosion on thousands of acres of Cleveland county soil was begun in the court house Friday night when some 75 to 100 of the leading farmers of the county met to consider the possibility of obtaining a CCC camp for the county, to make a survey of actual erosion present and to hear a discussion of modern terracing.

Press Speaker



Action was taken directly by the group when representatives from each township took a petition prepared by the county agent, R. W. Shoffner, and this week will list the names of other landowners who are in favor of soliciting a CCC camp. The petition will be sent, along with the number of acres of land owned by the signers to J. C. Kirchner, regional U. S. forester, in Atlanta, Georgia.

To Recruit Corps Of Ballet Dancers From Shelby Men

Ballet dancers will hip, hop and probably fall down. Cupids will dash hither and yon, dignified ladies in sweeping evening gowns will walk majestically across the stage and a good time will be had by everybody except the performers when "The Fortune Teller" with an all-american local cast is presented at the high school auditorium two nights, February 28 and March 1 by the Warren F. Hoyle post of the American Legion.

Among those who will be asked to take part in the show, each man mentioned to be dressed in more or less daring feminine costume, are:

The Ballet Dancers: R. D. Crowder, Dr. T. B. Gold, J. (Continued on Page Eight)

Many Applications For Work Received

C. M. Baber, director of the temporary National Re-employment Service office here, last week received more than 150 applications for work. He hasn't nearly that many jobs on PWA and federal projects to allot, he said. He has also at his disposal more than 1,000 applications carried over from the office opened here last year.

Commissioners Favor. Joe E. Blanton, representing the board of commissioners, was present for the meeting and endorsed the action taken.

In further regard to the proposed camp a number of prospective sites were offered, among them being part of the county home property, part of the fairgrounds, and landowners in No. 5 and near Kings Mountain.

In discussing a further effort to check erosion and the loss of thousands of dollars per year in the county by having idle and unterraced land, County Agent Shoffner proposed a plan by which the county in a few years time may have a system of modern and effective terraces for farm lands.

To Purchase Machinery. Briefly, the scheme is that if the CCC and government homestead projects are secured, work done by them will provide a base on which county landowners may co-operate in asking the county commissioners to underwrite the purchase of adequate terracing machinery to drain the land properly in all seasons of the year.

One of these outfits would cost approximately \$4,200 and the commissioners would have to be assured of at least 2,000 acres at a minimum of \$1.00 per acre cost to the farmer before a purchase could be made. It is estimated that in a short time the two thousand acres would be signed.

Using the figures of the Soil Erosion Service of the United States department of the interior, Mr. Shoffner stated that Cleveland county has a total acreage of 299,820 of which 55,830 acres are lost to productive use because of erosion. More than 32,000 acres have already been abandoned. The report states that 136,800 acres have from 25 to 75 percent of the topsoil gone.

In helping to restore these lost acres to dollars for county property owners the government would plant trees such as loblolly pine, several varieties of oak, maple, or black walnut. This work would be done free of charge, with no cost to the landowner except a very negligible amount for seedlings.

The whole scheme of reclamation and checking of soil erosion was discussed quite a little in the (Continued on page eight.)

Flames Leap High At Two Garages And At Gas Pump

Spectacular but not seriously damaging flames leaped in Shelby over the week-end, but all of them were immediately quelled by the fast work of the fire department.

The garage at the R. T. LeGrand home was ablaze Friday night, fire spouting from the roof. It was extinguished after a loss of about \$250.

On Saturday night, the J. O. Propst garage, a short distance from Mr. LeGrand's, caught fire and was damaged to the extent of about \$150. Sunday afternoon about 1:30, a gasoline pump at the Champion Oil Co. filling station burst into flames, apparently from a short circuit, and fire towered high for some fifteen minutes, threatening severe damage and a possible explosion. The loss was about \$250, the pump being virtually ruined by the fire. Miss Frances Ellis' automobile caught fire near the South Shelby school Friday night, but was extinguished before the department arrived.