

Four Alleged Professional Shoplifters Are Jailed Here

WEATHER

North Carolina: Fair today partly cloudy tonight and Thursday, no decided change in temperature.

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NATIONAL DEBT HITS NEW HIGH OF THIRTY BILLIONS

Vicious Shoplifting Ring Is Broken Here In Spectacular Coup

Sheriff Lodges Four Who "Won't Talk" In Jail After They Fiercely Resist Arrest; Had Moneymaking Racket

A vicious ring of professional shoplifting was believed broken here today when two men and two women fought and clawed like cats to resist arrest, were lodged in the county jail and who then shut up like clams, except for giving what is believed to be fictitious names to conceal their identity.

The nifty piece of sleuthing is being done by Sheriff Raymond Cline who figured centrally in the arrests and who got a bloody face and several deep scratches from the women for his efforts. Knox Hardin, city officer and other officers also helped make the capture. Hearing will be tomorrow.

A medley of names and occupations given by the four is as confusing as an income tax report, but the present known facts seem to unravel somewhat like this:

Their "Racket"

Wesley Frame and Sue Frame, his wife, allegedly from Asheville and B. F. Chestnut and his wife, either from Neosho or Chanute, Kansas, had developed a sweet, money-making racket of "lifting" valuable articles from several Shelby stores, and boldly proceeding to take the articles back and ask for the purchase price.

They had been getting by, using county names, Chestnut declaring he was George Cline from Mooresboro, but who got in hot water when a deputy happened to ask him the name of the postmaster at Mooresboro and also the name of the little town above Mooresboro. He also didn't happen to know that the Cline of the county don't live in Mooresboro.

Resist Arrest

Arrest of three of the four was effected in front of the Central Methodist church after a fierce struggle. The alleged Mrs. Chestnut

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Presbyterian Men To Hear Dr. McSweeney

The men of the Presbyterian church will hold a banquet in the basement of the church at 7 o'clock Friday evening of this week. The speaker of the evening will be Dr. John McSweeney, former president of Presbyterian college of South Carolina, and now pastor of the First church in Chester, S. C. In as much as Dr. McSweeney is recognized as one of the outstanding speakers in the Southern Presbyterian church, all of the men are urged to be present.

Morning Cotton LETTER

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—The market held steady yesterday and maintained most of the early gains brought about by small but more general buying. The recent selling has undoubtedly aided the market technically, more attention is being paid to the supply and demand situation occasioned by the larger exports which up to the present time are some 866,000 bales ahead of last year. Mill demand has flattened out some which is natural bearing inventory time. Stocks are light and the deferred buying due to this feature and the pending court cases is undoubtedly buying up a substantial demand which will eventually have a telling effect on prices.

E. A. Pierce & Co.

THE MARKETS

Cotton, spec.	12 to 13c
Cotton seed, wagon, ton	\$35.00
Cotton seed, car lot, ton	\$38.00

New York cotton at 2:30: Dec. 11.49, Jan. 11.45, Mar. 11.17, May 11.02, July 10.91, Oct. 10.86.

CCC Camp May Be Abandoned By President's Order

Roosevelt Orders Officials, Farmers And Business Men Protest To Bulwinkle And Bailey.

The CCC camp is scheduled to be abandoned in Cleveland county, President Roosevelt has ordered a reduction in the number of camps throughout the nation from 2,200 to 1,500 in a retrenchment program.

Local camp authorities say no order to this effect has been received here, but John Wilkins, county farm agent, who is attending an agency school in Raleigh, notified Lester Herndon, chairman of the county board of commissioners, that the Shelby camp is slated for abandonment, and the men transferred to other units.

Immediately Congressman Bulwinkle and Senator Bailey were notified and they are interceding in behalf of the local camp with Washington authorities.

It is pointed out that 100 farms, embracing nearly 12,000 acres have been signed up in the soil erosion program. County Agent Wilkins says that the farmers have shown finer co-operation in this county than in any other North Carolina county. The county has purchased terracing machinery and just now the camp is doing its most effective work in soil erosion.

Whether the program would be carried on by other camps outside the county, if the local camp were abandoned, has not been learned. Farmers, business men and officials have entered a protest against the abandonment or removal of the camp.

Hudson Is Made WPA Director In This County

John Hudson has been appointed director of all WPA projects in Cleveland county and has entered upon his duties. It is understood that he succeeds H. H. Poole who has been transferred to Charlotte where he will continue a similar work.

Mr. Hudson will be personnel officer, check timekeepers and payrolls, etc., for all projects carried on within the county. Mr. Hudson has held a position in Washington, D. C. for a number of years where he was with the Peoples Drug Co. chain. He resigned a few weeks ago and returned to his home in Shelby.

Stores Open Later Until Christmas

Shelby merchants on Thursday night will begin remaining open in the evenings until 9 o'clock for the convenience of Christmas shoppers. They will be open each evening until 9 o'clock until Christmas. The 9 o'clock hour will also be observed Christmas Eve.

Shepherd Scene Is Re-enacted Vividly At Lineberger Home

A scene depicting the shepherds watching their sheep by night when the star appeared in the East heralding the birth of the Christ child in the manger at Bethlehem is re-enacted on a hillside in front of the J. D. Lineberger home out on highway 20, east. Those who have looked on the beautiful sight at night, declare it to be the most elaborate and impressive Christmas decoration ever provided in Shelby. A dozen live sheep are grazing idly on the hillside and in their midst stands a shepherd with his crook or staff in hand. In a distant tree is the Star of Bethlehem, bright and radiant.

Prints Handsomest Dollar Bill



New dollar bills, shown being printed at the federal bureau of printing and engraving, above, are described by Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau as the "handsomest ever". These new silver certificates are the same size as the present ones and carry a picture on both sides of the Great Seal, inset, adopted in 1872, together with Latin inscriptions rendered as "A new order of the ages" and "He favored our undertakings".

Jersey Governor Says Bruno Guilty And Must Give Life

TRENTON, N. J., Dec. 18.—(P)—Governor Harold G. Hoffman said today he was satisfied the Lindbergh kidnap-murder case had not been fully solved but had never expressed any element of doubt as to Bruno Richard Hauptmann's guilt. Questioned whether he meant he believed Hauptmann guilty he replied: "Hauptmann stands guilty as convicted by the courts."

Balance Production

RALEIGH, Dec. 18.—(P)—Balance production rather than too restricted output constitutes the real need, L. H. Beam, economic advisor with the AAA, said today at the annual conference of agriculture workers at N. C. State college. He said the goal is to have agriculture producing an adequate supply of things needed by people without piling up price-reducing surpluses to glut the market.

N. C. Not Affected

Raleigh, Dec. 18.—(P)—State Revenue Commissioner Maxwell and Attorney General Seawell today informally expressed the opinion that the decision of the United States supreme court, invalidating part of Vermont's income and franchise tax law, would not affect North Carolina. The Vermont law was declared invalid as it imposed a larger tax income from investments outside the state than on those within the state.

Succeeds Massaryk

PRAHA, Dec. 16.—(P)—Eduard Benes was elected second president of the republic of Czechoslovakia by the national assembly today to succeed Dr. T. G. Massaryk, who resigned Saturday.

Wash Is Stolen Off Line At Lawndale

A wash pot, bed sheets, pillow cases and towels, men's overalls when found in possession of the two Crofts of Lawndale recently and Clyde Hoyle of Burke county and a Jake Willis of Alexander county, were arrested in eastern Burke and brought to Shelby by Deputy Cordell of Lawndale. Mr. Crofts, owner of the stolen property, identified it when found in possession of the two men. Besides the clothes taken from the line, and the washpot, a tire and wheel were removed from the Ford car at the Crofts home. The men are in the Shelby jail.

Franco-British Peace Plan Dead States Big Power

Declaration Follows Eden's Talk

Mussolini Aggressively Defies All Of Europe; His Armies Win.

By Associated Press
The Franco-British formula for settling the Italo-Ethiopian war was described as dead today by a representative of one of Europe's great sea powers at Geneva.

The declaration followed a conference by Anthony Eden, British minister for league of nation affairs with Russian, Spanish and Turkish members of the league council, gathered to consider the Franco-British plan among its problems. The Italian delegation had announced it would not be represented at the session.

Defies Europe

At home Premier Mussolini, again aggressively belligerent, defied Europe to stop his campaign in Ethiopia. Other league delegates had all

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Fat Check Here For School Work In Rural Units

A fat check for the sum of \$139,298.44 arrived at the First National bank this morning and represents the actual money for the bond issue recently made by the county for the erection of PWA school buildings.

The money will be divided into two deposits, \$50,000 going to the Union Trust company and the balance to the First National.

Preliminary work on the school projects will be done before Christmas, but little actual construction is expected before the first of the year.

Contracts have not yet been let on the Lattimore and Bethware projects, and plans may have to be re-drawn to construct smaller buildings than formerly planned. The present figures are outside the PWA allotment.

Construction work is expected to last at least six months.

Cars Demolished In Crash Today; Two Are Injured

Will G. Hord, Waco farmer and D. H. Osborne of the U. S. Soil Erosion Service here, were considering themselves extremely fortunate to be alive at noon today following an auto collision this morning at the intersection of South Washington and Graham streets.

Mr. Osborne was driving a new 1936 Dodge coupe and Mr. Hord was driving a Chevrolet sedan. Both cars were overturned and were badly damaged, with nearly every glass in them broken.

Christmas Sales Up

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—(P)—A nationwide survey by the National Retail Drygoods association indicated today that retail Christmas sales have expanded almost 10 percent over last year for the first half of December.

Wade Bostick, Missionary To China Tells Story Of Hardship In Pagan Land Now Beset By Japs

By A STAR REPORTER
While hordes of Japanese and autonomist Chinamen swarm all over the northern provinces of the far-flung Chinese empire, Wade D. Bostick, native of Shelby and recently arrived from the mission fields of the east, watches with eager eyes events which are occurring in his self-adopted country. Mr. Bostick is one of a family of missionary-minded persons from Cleveland county who since 1889 have had members of the family in some form of Chinese foreign mis-

Mid-December Money Program Causes Rise; Deficit Tops Billion

Latest Figures May Cause Heavier Scaling Of Public Works Program; South Carolina Project Is Safe

(By Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18.—The national debt reached \$30,555,791,967 today, passing the 30 billion dollar mark for the first time in history.

The new high was caused by mid-December financing operations which added \$462,639,937 to the debt. The debt was near the figure estimated by President Roosevelt for the end of the fiscal year ending next June 30, \$30,723,000,000.

The deficit today stood at \$1,606,711,376, compared with a year-end estimate of \$3,261,000,000. Expenditures of \$3,307,348,286 compared with full year estimates of \$7,752,332,000.

These figures indicated to some the possibility that the public debt when the 1936 fiscal year closes next June, may exceed the president's September estimate.

Service At Night At City Postoffice Is Inaugurated

The Shelby postoffice will be open each evening from 7 to 9 o'clock, beginning Thursday of this week and continuing through Christmas eve, it is announced by Postmaster Frank L. Hoyle.

Every effort is being made at the postoffice to accommodate the patrons and the cooperation of the patrons is urgently requested in order that the postal authorities may handle the big Christmas mail with all possible dispatch.

The office will also be open all day Saturday, Dec. 21st, and not close at 1 o'clock as usual.

Attention is again called to the fact that there will be no service on Christmas day other than for the dispatch of outgoing mail and for the delivery of special delivery matter.

Cleveland In Lead In Ginning Report

According to a report, issued by Thamer C. Beam, cotton statistician, Cleveland county again steps into first place in cotton production in the state. Last year Cleveland fell into second place, but prior to that had ranked at the top for several years.

The ginning report as of December 1 gives Cleveland 43,662 bales this year, with Robeson county lagging more than 5,000 bales behind her to take second place with a production of 38,113 bales.

Next high ranking counties were Johnson, with 25,903 bales; Samson, with 23,449 bales; and Halifax with 20,861 bales.

Olvaney Dead

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—(P)—George Olvaney, Jr., 22, found shot in the head on the grounds of a Saranac Lake hotel, December 10, after leaving a note indicating he planned suicide, died today. He was the son of a former Tammany Hall political chieftain.

Auto Runs Down Shelby Youngster In Washington, D. C.

Ralph Willis, 14 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. June Willis, formerly of Shelby, is recovering from critical injuries when struck by an automobile in Washington, D. C.

He is in Children's hospital there suffering from fracture of the left shoulder and ribs, abdominal injuries and hemorrhages of the chest. Police said the car was driven by Harry D. Harradon who is being held.



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