

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE UPBUILDING OF HERTFORD AND PERQUIMANS COUNTY

Volume II. Number 7

Hertford, Perquimans County, North Carolina, Friday, February 15, 1935.

\$1.25 Per Year

Two Local Men Lose Lives By Drowning

Jesse J. Lane and Elmer Symons In Fatal Accident

MOVING FURNITURE Large Truck Runs Off Chowan Bridge Friday Night

A packing case bearing the name of J. C. Blanchard & Co., seen floating on the waters of the Chowan River on Friday night, was the first clue to the identity of Jesse J. Lane and Elmer Symons, both of Hertford, shortly after the truck in which the men were riding, with Mr. Symons at the wheel, crashed through the rail of the bridge near the toll house on Friday night, hurling both men to their death in the water below.

Men witnessed the fatal accident, and others coming upon the scene shortly after saw a long expanse of bridge railing was torn away, but nobody knew from whence the truck came or who had gone down.

Jesse J. Lane and Elmer Symons, who were employed by J. H. Towe, who operates a truck line, left Hertford shortly after 9 o'clock on Friday night in a Dodge truck carrying a load of furniture belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Harris, former Hertford residents, en route to Winston-Salem.

That was the last time the men were seen. In crossing Chowan River bridge, near the toll house, they were said to have been trailing a large truck loaded with automobiles, and that another car was approaching from the opposite direction, and that when the truck ahead turned out to pass a car which was parked on the bridge, the Dodge crashed through the rail on the left hand side in order to avoid striking the truck.

After wrecking crews summoned from Edenton had commenced their work of attempting to lift the truck from the river and rescue the bodies of the men, somebody saw the packing case and telephoned to Mr. J. C. Blanchard at Hertford, who communicated with J. H. Towe, and the two men left immediately for the scene. Many other Hertford people joined the crowd from Edenton and other points at the scene.

The steam tug Carolina, towing a barge with a crane left Hertford in the early hours of the morning for the scene, after wrecking crews working from the bridge failed to lift the wreckage. The body of Mr. Symons, in the cab, was brought to the surface Saturday afternoon, but it was Sunday morning before Mr. Lane's body was found. It was found by members of the Coast Guard, who dragged the bottom of the river.

The tragedy shocked and saddened the entire community, as both men were held in the highest esteem by those who knew them.

Practically nothing of value was salvaged of the furniture of Mr. and Mrs. Harris, but the truck line carried cargo insurance which will partially at least take care of the loss.

The truck and trailer belonging to Mr. Towe was badly wrecked. No insurance was carried on this.

"Dixieland Minstrels" Be Presented Friday

There will be an entertainment on Friday night at the Hertford grammar school which it is said is one of the best. It is "Dixieland Minstrels," a production of the Elizabeth City grammar grades, and is sponsored by the Hertford Parent-Teacher Association, and the proceeds will go toward defraying the expenses of the Junior-Senior banquet of the high school.

The entertainment was given in Elizabeth City on February 1, and made a big hit there.

Carl Perry Narrowly Escapes Injury Sunday

Carl Perry of Hertford, a member of the crew of the Carolina, the steam tug belonging to Major A. Loomis Co., narrowly escaped serious injury or death while assisting in raising the wreckage of the truck of J. H. Towe from Chowan River on Sunday afternoon, when a chain broke and the truck which was being lifted from the water swung against the skiff in which the young man was working. But for his presence of mind in crouching behind a post, he would have been struck. The wreckage struck the boat.

Coroner Called Twice For Only One Death

The sudden death of Bettie James, a colored woman who lived near Woodville, occasioned two visits of the coroner, through an error.

Dr. T. A. Cox, Perquimans County Coroner, was called on by sons of the dead woman on Friday morning, and asked to visit the home where the woman had been found dead in bed. The doctor found that the woman had died from natural causes.

On Sunday night somebody telephoned for the sheriff, and the message was understood to convey the information that a woman had been found dead in the road near Woodville. The sheriff called on the coroner and together the men went down in the vicinity in which they had been directed.

Somebody had been drinking about

the place as they sat up at the home where the woman lay dead, and the sheriff had been sent for. There was no serious trouble, that is, nothing more serious than causing the two officers to go on a wild goose chase.

L. F. Congleton Figures In Wreck In Florida

Mrs. L. F. Congleton has been advised that Mr. Congleton, who left Hertford Saturday night for a trip to Florida to buy fruit, had had an accident early Monday morning in which his truck was wrecked.

Ben Thach, who accompanied Mr. Congleton on the trip, returned to Hertford on Tuesday, bringing Mr. Congleton the information. Mr. Congleton has not yet returned.

The accident happened at Burnell, Florida, when the truck was in collision with another truck.

Mr. Congleton has been making trips to Florida at frequent intervals throughout the winter, buying fruit which he sells in Hertford. He had not reached his destination when the accident occurred.

Funeral Elmer Symons Held Sunday Afternoon

Funeral services for Elmer Symons, 29, one of the victims of the accident which occurred on Chowan Bridge on Friday night when two Hertford men lost their lives, were held from the home in Parkville, on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, with the Rev. Ray Smith conducting the services. Burial took place in the family burying ground.

Pallbearers were six cousins, Roy Hurdle, Alvin Hurdle, Nathan Hurdle, Fenton Hurdle, Joe Hurdle, and Leslie Summer.

Friends of friends were present at the funeral of the young man and there were many expressions of sorrow at his untimely and tragic death and of sympathy for the bereaved family.

Surviving are his father, C. C. Symons, his step-mother, one brother, Ernest Symons, and three sisters, Mrs. J. W. Hall, Mrs. G. H. Hall and Mrs. W. G. Arnold of Elizabeth City.

Mr. Symons was a young man of splendid character, held in the highest esteem by those who knew him.

GIRLS' AUXILIARY MEETS

The Girls' Auxiliary of the Hertford Baptist Church met on Monday night at the home of Miss Margaret Mayes, with Miss Edith Everett in charge of the program.

At the close of the program the hostess served refreshments.

Those present included Misses Edith Everett, Katherine Campey, Mable Spivey, Ruby Spivey, Jeanette Perry, Eugenia Gregory, Shirley Elliott, Sarah Ward, Margaret Mayes and the leader, Mrs. Josiah Elliott.

WRECK VICTIM STILL IN BED

Raymond Winslow, who was hurt in an automobile accident last week, when the car in which he was riding with Russell Winslow collided with a bus parked on the highway, is still confined to his bed at the home of his brother, C. C. Winslow, in Hertford.

Russell Winslow, who was also very painfully hurt, is able to be out again after spending the past three weeks in bed as a result of cutting his knee with a hatchet. The wound became infected and the young man was quite sick for some time.

JUDGE OAKLEY NOTES JAIL IRREGULARITIES

Orders Gate to Be Kept Locked And Keys Made

After an investigation of the matter of the inmates of the Perquimans County jail, fetching liquor from a jail cell where it had been stored, getting drunk and raising a disturbance last week, Judge Walter H. Oakey, Jr., addressed himself to the officers, including the sheriff and his deputies, and the police officers of the Town of Hertford, in Recorder's Court on Tuesday, calling their attention to the statute of North Carolina which prescribes that each county jail shall be provided with at least five separate apartments, one for the confinement of white male prisoners, one for white female prisoners, one for colored male prisoners, one for colored female prisoners, and one for colored female prisoners, and one for colored female prisoners.

"As you all know," said the judge, "the sheriff goes in that jail less than any officer here, but he is responsible to the county, and you are responsible to him." It was remarked that the other officers do not have equal rights in the jail with the sheriff, but that he must be the head, as the county holds him responsible.

Judge Oakey ordered that the gate to the fence about the jail shall be kept locked, pointing out that there was evidence that a piece of hose was passed through the grating of a window to one of the prisoners for use in siphoning the liquor from the jug. I want each of you officers to have a key to this gate. If there are not enough keys to go around, then I want enough keys made, and the bill sent to the county commissioners, concluded the judge.

The jail has been crowded of late. For a long time the lower floor of the jail has not been used in winter, because it cannot be comfortably heated. As a result, several prisoners, white and colored, male and female, have had cots in the upper corridor of the jail, the cells all being filled.

As a matter of fact, although the Perquimans County jail is not the safest, and it is a fact that the cage or block of cells up stairs can be unlocked with a spoon handle, as was pointed out by Judge Oakey, this county has permission to carry any prisoner to the prison camp in this county for safe keeping when necessary.

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Albert J. Jones Dies Suddenly At Winfall

Albert J. Jones, 60, died suddenly at his home near Winfall on Wednesday morning of this week.

Mr. Jones was in his usual health on Tuesday and worked hard all day, according to Dr. T. A. Cox, who was called early Wednesday morning when Mr. Jones became ill. Death occurred before the arrival of the physician.

Mr. Jones was not a native of this county, but had lived here for the past 20 years.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Bettie Jones, and one son, Jack Jones, of the Bethel neighborhood.

ROTARIANS GO TO NORFOLK

Instead of holding their regular Tuesday night meeting and having dinner at the Hotel Hertford, the Hertford Rotarians journeyed to Norfolk on Tuesday night for an outing.

Elijah Overton, colored, plead guilty to the charge of possessing liquor for the purpose of sale, was given 30 days on the roads, the sentence to be suspended upon payment of a \$10 fine and court costs.

Junius Ferebee was found guilty of possessing liquor for the purpose of sale, and was required to pay a fine of \$25 and the court cost. Junius was considered not to be physically able to work on the roads.

Ferebee noted an appeal through his attorney, James S. McNider, and bond was fixed in the sum of \$150.

Henry Jones, colored, was found guilty of possessing liquor for the purpose of sale and was given a sentence of six months on the roads, the sentence to be suspended upon the payment of a \$50 fine and the court costs.

Surviving Mr. Jones are his wife, Mrs. Bettie Jones, and one son, Jack Jones, of the Bethel neighborhood.

HERE'S HOW THEY STAND

Mrs. Roy Parks, Ryland

Miss Ann Barclift Hertford

Mrs. J. L. Nixon, Winfall

Mrs. J. C. Wilson, Chapanoke

Mrs. Charles Skinner, Hertford

Mrs. C. F. Reed, R. F. D. Hertford

Miss Vida Banks, New Hope

Miss William Spivey, Hobbsville

Mr. Edgar Fields, Hertford

Mr. Jesse Lane, Hertford

Miss Johnnie White, Whitemore

Miss Ruby Gray, Gum Mill

NO TREES TO BE CUT ON CAUSEWAY LAND

E. W. Lordley Authorized to Discontinue Project

No further cutting will be done on the Causeway property.

The survey made last week by The Perquimans Weekly resulted in a division of opinion with respect to whether or not this county-owned property would be improved or otherwise by further carrying out of the ERA project of cutting down trees.

This project was stopped some weeks ago by E. M. Perry, chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, when it became known that there was a great deal of objection on the part of residents of the town to having the trees cut.

At the last meeting of the Board Mrs. Mattie Lister White, editor of The Perquimans Weekly, was delegated by the Board to make a survey and find out what the wishes of the people of the town were with respect to further cutting.

It was found that there was a division of opinion. There were found more who objected to any cutting. Many, however, favored cutting down the undergrowth of shrubs, the large trees to be left standing. As a result of this, it was agreed among those who objected most violently to having any cutting done, that since the shrubs would spring up again, probably more luxuriantly than ever, consent to have the ERA continue the project.

However, when Mrs. White called at the local ERA office on Monday morning to make her report, the information was given that the matter had been taken up with ERA officials at Raleigh, and that E. W. Lordley, chairman of the ERA of this district had received a communication from Raleigh which resulted in the decision not to do any more cutting on this property.

Funeral services for Jesse J. Lane, who was drowned in Chowan River, when the truck in which he was riding, with Elmer Symons at the wheel, crashed through the rail of the bridge on Friday night, resulting in the death of both, were held from the home on Grubb Street, in Hertford, on Monday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, with the Rev. A. A. Butler, of Hertford, conducting the services. Burial followed in Cedarwood Cemetery. Music was furnished by the choir of the Hertford Baptist Church.

There was a large crowd in attendance.

Active pallbearers included J. H. Towe, Lawrence Towe, Martin Towe, Bill White, Clarence Coffield, and Crafton Mathews.

Honorary pallbearers were: J. C. Blanchard, John Lane, C. M. Harrell, C. E. Walker, Trim W. Wilson, T. R. Winslow, J. R. Stokes, W. C. Boyce, E. L. Reed, S. T. Sutton, C. M. Fowle, and W. T. Elliott.

Surviving Mr. Lane are his widow one daughter, Miss Hazel Lane, two sons, Roy and Ralph, all of Hertford; two brothers, Jud Lane, of Chapanoke, and David Lane, of Elizabeth City; three sisters, Mrs. Jennie Richardson, of Elizabeth City; Mrs. C. C. Symonds and Mrs. John Hurdle, of Parkville, Perquimans County.

Mr. Lane was a splendid citizen and a man who had the respect of every one. His tragic death is mourned by a host of friends, and the sympathy of the community goes out to his stricken family.

LINWOOD SKINNER IMPROVING

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Hefren, Mrs. R. Q. Skinner, Mrs. John Chalk and Charlie Skinner visited Linwood Skinner at the Protestant Hospital in Norfolk on Sunday. Linwood Skinner, who recently underwent an operation, is reported as getting along well.

SPARKS FROM CHIMNEY

Sparks from the chimney caused a small blaze which was quickly extinguished and which caused only a few dollars' damage.

The new minister, Mr. Dempsey, of Spray, was at the house doing some painting inside. It was the first time there had been any fire in the chimney for a long time.

The new minister will take over his new duties on the first of the month.

MISS MORGAN HOME

Miss Mary Mizelle Morgan, who was one of the nurses at the Protestant Hospital in Norfolk to suffer an attack of infantile paralysis some time ago, has recovered, and returned to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Morgan, in Winfall, last Saturday.

MR. MADRE SICK

W. F. Madre, prominent farmer of Hertford Township, has been very sick for the past three weeks.

Contestants Strive For Leading Position

Prisoners In Jail Drink Part Evidence

There were 70 gallons of liquor in the jail. It was found at a still raid by Sheriff J. E. Winslow and his deputies some months ago and was kept locked in one of the small cells of the jail, to be used as evidence. It isn't all there now, three or four gallons are missing.

Sheriff Winslow says he believes

that it didn't all disappear last week when the prisoners went on a big spree and raised a disturbance in jail, resulting in the doctor being called in the middle of the night to a man who had either been hit on the head with a stick or who had fallen down stairs. The sheriff says he does not see how so much could have been taken in such a short time.

The door of the cell used as a liquor cache had a small grating, through which a jug could be pulled close to the door by means of a broom. A piece of rubber hose kept concealed in the jail was used to siphon the liquor from the jug into a small container.

Four colored prisoners and Norman Byrum, white man, were tried for stealing liquor and for being drunk and disorderly. Byrum's indictment also charged assault with a deadly