

Complete Confession Of Winfall Robbery Obtained Saturday By Sheriff Owens

Planner of Crime Relates Full Details Concerning "Job"

Full details of the safe-cracking robbery of Fred's Grocery in Winfall, which occurred last September 23, were obtained last Saturday by Sheriff M. G. Owens from a 21-year-old youth who "cased" the job and helped plan the robbery along with three other youths, all residents of Norfolk, Virginia.

A solution of the robbery came about February 4, when it was announced that two bandits picked up at Waynesville, N. C., had confessed to the crime. However, events proved that only one of these two men were involved in the local robbery.

On information received, Sheriff Owens went to Norfolk last Saturday and interviewed 21-year-old Elmer Saunders, who made a full confession of the robbery and told the Sheriff of the planning which took place prior to the night of the crime. Saunders had been in the Norfolk jail since last October 1, charged with assault and intent to commit armed robbery.

Saunders told Sheriff Owens that on two occasions he had visited Winfall in company with a youth named Frank White and that on the first visit he had gone to Fred's Grocery to make some purchases and noticed that the safe was located at the rear of the store. He continued that on his second visit to Winfall he gained the impression that there might be considerable money in the safe. Later, on his return to Norfolk, he was in the company of three other youths, Kenneth Sheetz, Harry Willis and Clifton Goodwin, when the subject of this safe was brought up and that one of the youths asked him (Saunders) if the safe could be taken. Saunders replied he saw no reason why it couldn't be robbed. These four, according to Saunders' statement, left Norfolk and came to Winfall in a maroon 1947 Ford coach. The quartet parked the car on the lot formerly occupied by the Norfolk Southern station and then walked back to the grocery. Saunders said that they noticed a man walking down the road and thought he might be a night watchman and temporarily thought of calling the job off for that time. However, according to the statement, at that time a freight train was approaching and the youths decided to go ahead with the crime. Saunders said that he and Willis entered the building while Sheetz and Goodwin remained outside as lookouts. Both the latter two were armed with German Lugers.

The youth stated that it took only two to three minutes for them to crack the safe, steal the money and leave the store. He stated that Willis took the money from the safe while he (Saunders) was rifling the cash register. When questioned about the amount of cash taken, Saunders told Sheriff Owens that Willis divided only \$2,200 with him and the other two men. Apparently this bears out the old saga that there is no honor among thieves inasmuch as an estimate made of the robbery placed the minimum amount stolen at about \$7,500. Saunders told the Sheriff that Willis took a metal box from the safe and while they were enroute back to Norfolk they examined this box, found no valuables and tossed it into the canal. The youth stated that Willis attempted to break into the safe with a punch but this proved too short and finally Willis hit the face of the safe with a sledge hammer and broke it open.

When questioned concerning the possibilities of any local persons aiding or abetting in the commission of the crime, Saunders told Sheriff Owens that absolutely not—only the four persons named had any connection with the robbery.

Sheriff Owens stated, following his return from Norfolk, that Willis, one of the youths involved in the robbery, had jumped bail in Norfolk and was now being sought by the police. He added that he will request that all of the bandits be released to him for trial here, after they are released from prison in Virginia.

Vacancy Announced At Winfall Post Office

The United States Civil Service Commission, through W. G. Hollowell, postmaster at Winfall, this week announced an open competitive examination for the position of substitute clerk-carrier for filling vacancies at the Post Office at Winfall. Competitors, according to the announcement, will be required to report for a written examination at 3:30 A. M. on March 10, 1949, at Elizabeth City, N. C. Further details concerning information and applications may be obtained from Mr. Hollowell at the Post Office in Winfall.

Global Timekeeper



Many and varied are the functions of the century-old U. S. Naval Observatory in Washington, D. C., but principal among them is that of timekeeper for the nation and its ships at sea. The WAVE in the photo needn't be more than a few thousandths of a second off after setting her watch with the observatory's super-accurate transmitting clock. (Official Navy Photograph)

Board Chairmen Attend School Meeting Monday

E. M. Perry, chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, W. E. Dail, chairman of the Board of Education, and John T. Biggers, superintendent of schools, were among the more than 200 Commissioners and educational leaders attending a meeting in Raleigh on Monday of this week at which time full and complete details of the Education Foundation program were outlined and approved by the school leaders and other county officials.

According to a report submitted at this meeting, Perquimans County will benefit greatly if the program is adopted into law. The total number of county teachers will be increased under the program from 68 to 74 and the total county costs of school operation and maintenance will drop to approximately 51 per cent of the current year's outlay.

The Foundation program recommended by the Education Commission in its majority report calls for an outlay of some 111 million dollars to be financed approximately 85 per cent by the State and 15 per cent by individual counties. This program came into being as a result of the State-wide educational survey conducted during last year by the Education Commission.

Recommendations for the adoption of the program were made at the meeting last Monday, and it is believed that a bill calling for the program will be introduced in the General Assembly shortly.

Church Conference Names New Trustee

L. C. Winslow, Hertford business man, was elected to position as a trustee of the Hertford Methodist Church at a church conference held recently, it was announced last Friday by the Rev. D. L. Fouts, pastor of the church.

Mr. Winslow was elected to the board of trustees to fill the vacancy left by the late J. C. Blanchard.

In addition to electing a new trustee, the church conference voted that the board of trustees of the church were authorized to invest a sum of \$1,001.96, left the church by the late T. E. Morgan, and that the proceeds from the fund are to be directed by the church conference.

World Day Of Prayer Scheduled March 4th

World Day of Prayer will be observed in Hertford at the Baptist Church with a union service beginning at 3:30 o'clock Friday afternoon, March 4, it was announced here today. The theme of the service will be "The Lord Is My Keeper."

Members of the Baptist, Methodist and Holy Trinity churches are uniting in this service that will be observed throughout the world. A cordial invitation is extended to members of other churches not holding this service at their respective churches.

EASTERN STAR TO MEET
The Hertford Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star will meet Monday evening at 8 o'clock. All members are urged to be present.

Edenton Officials Seek Many Housing Units In This Area

Units Needed For Use Of Marine Personnel Of Air Station

"We are even looking for places big enough to pitch a pup tent" was the remark of the big Marine Sergeant visiting Hertford last Friday with Peter Carlton, secretary of the Edenton Chamber of Commerce, seeking housing facilities for some 1,100 Marine families.

Mr. Carlton and two Marines, assigned as a team to locate facilities for service personnel expected to be located at the Edenton Air Base beginning March 1, visited Hertford, Plymouth and Windsor in their efforts to find a sufficient number of houses, apartments and rooms to house the large number of men who will be stationed at Edenton and who desire to rent space for themselves and families.

The situation is critical inasmuch as it appears that there are far too few houses and apartments to supply the number seeking them, and it is very likely that most of the men will, by necessity, be seeking rooms in which to live.

Commenting on the number of units desired by the service men, the Sergeant stated that about 1,800 men will be stationed at the base and a conservative estimate of the number that will desire to rent housing facilities will be 1,100.

Residents of Hertford and the nearby area who have extra rooms or apartments which can be arranged for rental and desiring to rent this space are urged to let their names and addresses be known to the Edenton authorities. This can be accomplished by phoning the information to The Perquimans Weekly and calling or writing directly to Mr. Carlton, Care of the Chamber of Commerce in Edenton.

Veterans Must File Income Report With VA By March First

Veterans taking institutional on-farm training under the GI Bill must submit reports of their 1948 earnings to their Veterans Administration Regional Office by March 1, 1949, in order to continue receiving subsistence allowances, VA said today.

Failure to submit the reports before the deadline may result in suspension of subsistence payments until such time as the reports reach VA.

The reports—covering income from productive labor only, for the calendar year 1948—will be used by VA as the basis for adjusting each veteran's subsistence for the current year (1949).

Under the law, subsistence allowance will be reduced if a veteran's monthly income from productive labor plus his subsistence exceeds \$210 a month if he has no dependents, \$270 if he has one dependent, or \$290 if he has more than one dependent.

The annual earnings report is based upon farm accounting records kept by the veteran farm-trainee as part of his course of instruction.

Veterans-trainees received necessary VA forms (Form No. 7-1922) early this year.

As a part of their course of training, they receive assistance from their instructors in closing their books for the past year, and in transferring data to the VA form.

Miss Clemma Layden Bride Of Roy Bunch

Miss Clemma Estelle Layden, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Archie E. Layden of Hobbsville and Roy Clarence Bunch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Warner C. Bunch of Hobbsville were united in marriage Saturday afternoon, February 5, at 4 o'clock at the home of the Rev. R. E. Brittle near Suffolk, Va. The Rev. Mr. Brittle performed the ring ceremony.

The bride was attired in a suit of light blue wool with winter white and black accessories. Her corsage was red rose buds. After taking a short wedding trip Mr. and Mrs. Bunch are at home near Hobbsville.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT
Born to Mr. and Mrs. Carl Lewis, a son, on February 17, at the Albemarle Hospital, Elizabeth City. Mrs. Lewis is the former Miss Rachel Mackey of Hobbsville.

Varied Court Docket Heard By Recorder In Session Tuesday

Decline Noted In Number Of Traffic Violations Listed

A varied court docket of sixteen cases was disposed of at the Tuesday session of Perquimans Recorder's Court here this week. The docket listed only eleven violations of traffic laws, which is a decline in the number of these cases handled in recent weeks.

Prayer for judgment was continued in the case charging John Phillips, Negro, with assault with a deadly weapon. Phillips entered a plea of guilty to this charge and Judge Charles E. Johnson ordered the defendant to pay the costs of court and all doctor and hospital bills received by Willie Webb, Negro, who suffered serious knife wounds inflicted by Phillips.

A fine of \$25 and costs of court were assessed against Delmar Hunt on a charge of reckless driving.

Milton Brant and Horace Bodell entered pleas of guilty to charges of speeding and each paid a fine of \$15 and costs.

Six defendants, Roy Cooley, Samuel Cohen, Thomas Martin, Frank Perkins, John Baufox and Joseph Bailey, entered pleas of guilty to charges of speeding and paid fines of \$10 and costs of court.

Judge Johnson returned a verdict of not guilty in the case charging Henry Skinner, Negro, with assault.

S. Gold was ordered to pay the costs of court after entering a plea of guilty to passing on a curve.

Thomas Brewitt was fined \$10 and ordered to pay the costs of court on a charge of passing a school bus while the bus was unloading passengers.

James Byrum was taken with the court costs on a charge of being drunk and disorderly on the highways.

Hershey Phillips, Negro, who entered a plea of guilty to a charge of fraud, was ordered to pay the costs of court and a cab bill.

James Skinner, Negro, found guilty on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon, was sentenced to the roads for 60 days, sentence suspended upon payment of a fine of \$20 and court costs and doctor's bill of Benjamin Riddick.

Indians And Squaws Participating In Tourney This Week

Coach Joe Levinson's boys and girls basket ball teams of Perquimans High School are participating in an invitational tournament being held this week end at Central gym in Pasquotank County. Teams entered in the meet besides Perquimans are Central, South Mills, Manteo, Griggs, Columbia, Creswell, Plymouth and Weeksville.

The Indians played one game in the ACC tournament at Wilson early this week but were eliminated from the meet when defeated by Beaufort in a game Monday afternoon. The final score of the contest was 37 to 23. Piner was high point man for Beaufort, counting for 13 of his team's points. Scoring by the Indians was as follows: Pitt 8, Layden 5, Jordan 4, Lane 3, Pegram 2 and Britton one.

Much interest in the tourney at Central is being manifested among local fans and pre tourney dope places the Perquimans boys' team as one of the favorites to win the top honors. The local girls' team also figures high among the competitors of the invitational meet and are capable of carrying off the honors in the girls division.

Perquimans Charge Layman Day Sunday
Layman's Day will be observed in the four Methodist churches of the Perquimans on Sunday, February 27, it was announced today. All services will be conducted by laymen, with services scheduled as follows:

Oak Grove Church, 11 A. M., with J. F. Pugh as speaker; New Hope Church, 11 A. M. with J. L. Delaney as speaker; Cedar Grove Church at 3 P. M. with W. T. Lewis as speaker; Epworth Church at 7:30 P. M. with H. L. Swain as speaker.

An offering will be taken at all services for the retirement home of ministers. Members are urged to attend, and the public is cordially invited.

Laymen's Day At Methodist Church

Laymen's Day will be observed at the Hertford Methodist Church Sunday, February 27, it was announced today by the Rev. D. L. Fouts, pastor of the church, who stated that W. F. Veasey, superintendent of Beaufort County schools, will be the lay speaker at the 11 A. M. service.

The entire service, Mr. Fouts said, will be under the direction of laymen, and in addition to Mr. Veasey, Henry C. Sullivan, J. R. Jarvis and R. T. Brinn will have part in the program.

Red Cross Chairman Announces Plans For Annual Campaign Starting March 1

For Mercy's Sake



On call at all times, thousands of Red Cross volunteers are ready to respond for emergency service as varied as human need itself.

THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

Governor Kerr Scott told newsmen at a press conference Tuesday that he would be willing to present definite tax bills to the General Assembly if that is what it takes to get the legislators to pass the State Educational program. The Governor stated he had no desire to avoid taking the "cussing" for offering tax bills but he did not want the Assembly to make him the "goat" in the event he did present tax bills.

Fritz Kuhn, former leader of the German Bund here in America, was freed this week by a German court of charges of being a top ranking Nazi. Kuhn had served 2½ years of a 10-year sentence when the court of appeals reviewed the case and freed the Bund leader. Kuhn's American citizenship was revoked during the war. He stated that he will attempt to regain American citizenship.

Supporters of the State's ABC system met in Raleigh this week with a legislative committee to air reasons why a State-wide referendum on liquor should not be held. The advocates of the ABC system told the committee that local option, while not the ideal solution for the liquor problem, was a better method of handling the problem than any other system ever tried. A report from Raleigh stated that the Senate committee will act this week on the bill calling for a referendum. However, indications are that no referendum will be called.

President Truman this week unfolded his program for a wide increase in the Social Security system for the nation. The plan would be an additional 20 million Americans into the old-age insurance system. The plan would hike old age insurance rates from one per cent to one and one-half per cent on the employees' first \$3,000 in wages. The program would also cover a large field of employees not now included in the program. While this program was one of President Truman's campaign issues, there appears to be some reaction to the plan among Congressmen and Senators.

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County Quota Set at \$1,100; Solicitors Are Ready For Drive

Perquimans County's annual Red Cross Roll Call campaign will open here next week, it was announced today by C. R. Vann, campaign chairman, who stated today that all plans for the drive have been completed and it is the hope of the local Red Cross Chapter that this drive can be brought to a successful close within a short time.

He pointed out that everybody is familiar with the Red Cross and its great work and that inasmuch as these roll calls simply are drives which give individuals an opportunity to join the Red Cross membership, he hopes that each resident of the county will join to help place Perquimans among the first counties to reach the 1949 goal.

"Our goal this year," Mr. Vann said, "is approximately \$1,100. This sum is slightly more than the quota assigned to us last year, but the budget for our local chapter is somewhat higher and this makes it necessary to increase our roll call figures."

The chairman announced that the county will be divided into a number of sub-divisions and that vice chairmen for each of the sub-divisions have been appointed to carry out the task of raising the goal. Mrs. Julian A. White is chairman of the residential division for the Town of Hertford, A. T. Lane is chairman of rural communities; R. C. Murray, James Newby, Wilson Dillon and Edgar White have been named to a committee heading up the drive for the business section of Hertford. W. E. Stroud, assisted by R. L. Kingsbury and H. E. Brown will serve as a committee to direct the efforts among the colored residents of the county.

The campaign will start March 1 and will continue throughout the month until the county quota has been raised. The public is urged to respond readily to the membership drive and it will be very helpful to solicitors if residents will contribute when first contacted. This will enable solicitors to complete their canvass without wasting time making return trips to individuals not contributing on first contact.

County Bookmobile Proving Popular

Perquimans County's Bookmobile is proving to be a very popular asset, according to reports made at a meeting of the County Library Board, held last Tuesday morning. These reports showed that the bookmobile has been responsible for a wider circulation of books among residents of the county. More and more books are being borrowed from the library source each trip the bookmobile makes in touring the various communities of the county.

In connection with the reports, Miss Mae Wood Winslow, chairman of the Board, announced that if there are individuals residing in the county not being reached by the bookmobile and who desire this service, it can be obtained if the individual will drop a postal card to Mrs. Addie Jones, librarian. It was pointed out that the bookmobile belongs to the county and that the Board desires every resident to avail himself of the service.

Members of the Board also went on record commending E. Leigh Winslow, County Representative, for assistance rendered in connection with the appropriation bill now before the General Assembly. According to a report, Mr. Winslow was instrumental in restoring certain library funds to smaller counties which will enable the local library to continue operating on the same level as previous years.

Following is a partial list of new books at the library: Baseball Stories; Three, Two Pitch; She Came Back; Big Fisherman and I Captured a Castle.

Week Of Prayer To Be Observed

A week of prayer will be observed at the Hertford Baptist Church Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, February 28, March 1 and March 2, at 7:30 o'clock. The public is cordially invited.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT
Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Johnson of Greenville announce the birth of a daughter, born Wednesday, February 23, at Greenville. Mrs. Johnson was Miss Alice Roberson before her marriage.