

Sheriff McKnight Killed While In Act of Probing Threats Against Grayson County Family; Was Shot

SLAYER IS HELD

Posey Sexton Removed To Pulaski Jail For Safe Keeping

WAS THREATENED

While attempting to question Posey Sexton about threats which he, Sexton, is alleged to have made against members of Tom Isom's family, C. C. McKnight, 57, sheriff of Grayson county, was shot to death Sunday night by Sexton.

The shooting occurred about 8 p. m., at the Isom home, located on the Independence-Galax highway, about seven miles east of Independence. Sexton, it is claimed, fired a pistol at McKnight without warning. The bullet struck the sheriff in the chest killing him instantly. Sexton was taken to Independence immediately following the shooting, but when a large crowd gathered about the jail, offering threats of violence, the prisoner was quickly removed to the Pulaskia county jail, the trip being made by auto under a heavy guard. Sexton lives near Independence.

Sheriff McKnight was called to the Isom home by a small daughter of Tom Isom. She had phoned the sheriff and told him that Posey Sexton was at her home, making trouble. She requested him to come at once. The sheriff, accompanied by Deputy Sheriff W. C. Ward and John R. Wright, Justice of the Peace, drove to the Isom home as quickly as possible.

According to Deputy Ward, he and Sheriff McKnight left Wright in the automobile parked along the highway and then entered the Isom home. They found Sexton in the kitchen. Mrs. Isom was praying while Posey and Tom Isom were standing side by side. The sheriff placed his hand on Sexton's shoulder, Deputy Ward states, and told Posey to go out on the porch. At that instant, Sexton fired the pistol, he said.

When the first shot was fired, Ward immediately seized the gun, and as he held it, it was fired again, the bullet lodging in the wall of the kitchen. While Ward was attempting to wrest the gun from Sexton's hand, the sheriff fell against the struggling pair, and then slumped to the floor, dead. Wright, who heard the shots, went to the house and aided Ward in getting the gun from Sexton and handcuffing him.

Deputy Ward told county officials that all the Isoms fled from the kitchen when the pistol was first discharged. He also stated that while wrestling with the killer, Sexton threatened to kill him if he got loose. Ward said that the only thing which saved his life was his ability to place one of his fingers in the guard behind the trigger of the pistol.

According to records at Independence, Sexton was generally known to be a dangerous man and had been mixed up with liquor violators for many years. He is about 38 years old and unmarried.

Sheriff McKnight was one of the most popular men in Grayson county. Prior to being elected sheriff, approximately 14 months ago, he served as Federal prohibition officer in this district for eight years. He made his home at Independence.

Surviving McKnight is his widow, the former Miss Minnie Collins, two daughters, Virginia and Pauline; 6 brothers and three sisters: J. A. McKnight, Fries; G. D., Independence; Kelly Montrose, Colo.; C. H., Independence; Posey, Fries; S. M., Independence; Mrs. Lester Delp, Galax; Mrs. Jones Wingate and Mrs. Letcher Jennings, Independence.

Sheriff McKnight was well-known in Alleghany county and had a wide circle of friends here.

Funeral services were held at the Independence Methodist church Tuesday in the presence of a very large crowd and interment was made in the Pleasant Grove cemetery.

TAKES OWN LIFE

George F. Wilson, 52, for a quarter of a century owner of the Ford Motor agency in High Point, and a pioneer in the field of automobile selling there, ended his life shortly after six o'clock Monday night when he walked to a barn at the rear of his home and shot himself through the head.

Widow of Walsh



Mrs. Thomas J. Walsh, who as a bride of only a few days became a widow when her husband, the new attorney general in the Roosevelt cabinet, died unexpectedly on a train at Wilson, N. C., while enroute to Washington to take part in the inaugural ceremonies.

GRANGE TO GIVE PLAY SATURDAY

Will Be Held At Piney Creek School House At 7:30 o'Clock

The Piney Creek Grange will give the play, "Efficient Aunt Em", at the Piney Creek school building on Saturday night, March 18, at 7:30 o'clock. Women come and bring your husbands and take them away feeling good because they have found out what a woman's work is like. Maybe Aunt Em, the one who fixes everything can help you.

There will be a short program with real comedy. There will be a family of colored people here which will hold you spell-bound with their music, dancing and jokes. The "Red Fox Chasers" are going to make music and they are plenty good. So come and enjoy a real night of entertainment.

Admission 25 cents and 15 cents.

FLOOD TAKES TOLL

Damage of more than \$1,000,000 and the deaths of at least 20 people resulted from a flood that swept Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, Sunday. Many persons are missing and it is believed they were washed out to sea by the flood of the Yaquez river, swollen by 18 inches of rain, most of which fell in 12 hours.

SCRIPT ISSUE READY

The New York clearing house association Sunday night announced that it had perfected the machinery for circulation of script, or clearing house certificates, which will enable residents of the metropolis to pay their bills without the use of cash.

EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE

Great Britain, still nursing the wounds of her own national financial crisis, Monday watched with universal expressions of sympathy and confidence the launching of a swift and decisive program by the United States government for dealing with the American banking problem.

PERMIT BANKS TO OPEN TO PROVIDE FOR NECESSITIES

Must Follow Closely Restrictions Outlined By Government

HOLD ON TO GOLD

Raleigh, March 7.—Rules and regulations by which North Carolina banks may engage in modified business during the banking holiday were announced late tonight by Gov. J. C. B. Ehringhaus and Commissioner of Banks Gurney P. Hood.

Banks which were not operating under restrictions when the holiday went into effect after close of business Saturday may open tomorrow under rules and regulations prescribed by the United States secretary of the treasury.

These permit the exercise of "usual banking functions to provide for absolutely necessary needs of communities for food, medicine, relief of distress, pay rolls and expenditures to maintain employment, provided no gold or gold coin certificates shall be paid out."

Banks which had imposed restrictions on withdrawals of deposits, in accordance with emergency banking legislation enacted last Friday, were authorized to perform these functions in so far as they are "not in conflict with terms of the order of the commissioner of banks authorizing the operations under restrictions."

At the same time Governor Ehringhaus announced the three-day holiday proclamation probably will be extended upon its expiration tomorrow. Under another emergency bank law enacted last night, he may extend it for any time he sees fit with approval of the council of state.

Banks in North Carolina probably will continue to operate under the modified holiday until the federal government moves to clear up the financial situation. The governor said he would closely follow the special session of Congress convening Thursday.

In a statement tonight, Ehringhaus urged North Carolinians to have confidence.

"There is neither need nor occasion for hysteria," he said. "Our banking structure is, in my opinion, essentially sound and conditions in North Carolina better than in most states."

"The situation challenges our patience, our courage, our forbearance and our patriotism. I am confident that our reserves of high qualities—qualities which have always distinguished our citizenship—are sufficient to meet the demands of the present hour."

In explaining the call of the North Carolina bank holiday, Governor Ehringhaus said "it became necessary for us to act in order to prevent our state from being bled dry as would have resulted if our banks alone in the nation remained open."

HITLER SHOWS STRENGTH

Adolf Hitler's national socialist party showed a vast increase in strength in Sunday's reichstag election, and on the basis of tabulation of 85 per cent. of the vote, apparently was succeeding in obtaining majority control of the national legislature in alliance with the nationalist party.

CRISIS HALTS DIVORCE

There was a holiday on divorces, too. Several women, at Reno to have their marital bonds broken, were unable to pay filing fees at the county clerk's office because their money was in the First National bank, closed by presidential proclamation.

As a result of the cigar makers' strike in Havana, Cuba, most of the manufacturers have moved their factories to interior points.

Local Bank Accepting New Deposits; Cashing Government Checks

Budget Director



Representative L. W. Douglas of Arizona is the new director of the Budget in the Roosevelt administration. Announcement of his appointment was received with favor in Washington.

FARM NEWS

By W. B. COLLINS, County Agent

There are three general rules which the farmers of the county should follow in order to make sheep growing more profitable.

1. Docking and castrating. Every lamb that will be sold after June 1 should be docked and castrated. This operation is very simple and any farmer should be able to dock and castrate his lambs. In the 1932 season the untrimmed lambs sold for 1/2 to 1c less per pound than the trimmed lambs. This meant a loss of an average of 50c per head to the farmer who did not dock and castrate his lambs. In a flock of thirty lambs, this is a loss of \$15.00 which could have been saved with half hours work by two men.

2. Feeding. Good feeding for sheep is far more important than a great many farmers realize. One sheep grower in the county who gives his sheep the best of feed and care, in 1932 made a wool clip of 7 pounds per head, raised 150 per cent lamb crop, and made his sheep pay him better than \$7.00 per head for each ewe he kept. Some farmers made their sheep pay as low as \$3.00 per head for each ewe they kept.

In my opinion soybean hay is the cheapest and the best feed for our sheep. If you make sufficient soybean hay for your sheep you can dispense with the grain ration entirely. Five acres of soybeans should make sufficient feed to winter 30 head of sheep. It will cost approximately \$10.00 for seed and \$6.00 for fertilizer to grow the five acres of soybeans, or a total outlay of about 53 cents a head for winter the sheep. This is cheaper than feeding meadow hay and grain and it will give far better results.

After the feeding season is over lambs should be put on good pasture. Do not let your lambs get stunted. Keep them growing. A poor lamb always brings a poor price on the market.

3. Co-operative Selling. This year we have three good men on the selling committees in each township to sell the lambs and wool. Common sense teaches us that three committeemen can sell two or three hundred lambs at one time better than one farmer can sell a few lambs, and the same principle holds true with the wool.

In 1932 the pooled lambs brought the price of lambs up from 1-4c to 1-2c per pound every time that pooled lambs were sold. We have always sold our pooled wool at 2 1/2 to 5 cents per pound more than wool was bringing on the local market at the time we sold.

By docking and castrating our lambs, better feeding of our sheep, and through co-operative selling of lambs and wool, we can realize better than \$1.00 per head extra profit on our sheep. This one dollar extra profit per head would mean a saving of \$6,000.00 per year to the sheep growers of the county.

COTTON MEETING

The thirty-seventh annual convention of the American Cotton Manufacturers' association will be held at Pinehurst April 27, 28 and 29.

PAYING NO GOLD

Business Men Declare There Is No Need For Alarm

MONEY IS CHANGED

At a meeting of the merchants and business men of Sparta with the cashier of the Bank of Sparta, Edwin Duncan, Monday night, it was agreed that the bank open for a certain amount of business Wednesday at noon.

The bank will not be allowed to take any gold certificates from the vaults until further instructions, but they are authorized to pay off all government checks, take any deposits and issue change to merchants and business men.

This system of banking will be entirely different from the regular form of banking in that, all monies taken on deposits now will be separate from the monies already deposited before the holidays began.

Some depositors have already expressed alarm at the present condition of things, but according to the best of our business men, there is no need for alarm, since the change is merely made to help the banks in any possible run and to save any further hoarding of monies that is necessary to be in circulation.

When the holidays are over the depositors will be allowed to withdraw only a certain per cent of their deposits if the bank officials determine it best for the safety of the bank.

This step is deemed only a safeguard to the banks and to the depositors and there is absolutely no need for alarm.

HOLD MASS MEETING PROTEST NEW TAX

Alleghany Citizens Pass Resolution And Send To Doughton

At a general meeting of citizens from every section of Alleghany county, on March 6, at Sparta, the following resolutions were unanimously passed:

Whereas, the income from farms, from business, and from industry have practically dried up, and:

Whereas, the farmers and merchants and the factory owners, and the people generally are in such condition financially that they cannot assume any additional burden of taxation, and:

Whereas, the best interest of the people of North Carolina generally and of the State Institutions can best be served by balancing the budget by curtailment of expenses, instead of resorting to new forms of taxation;

Now, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the legislature of North Carolina be requested to balance the budget by curtailment of expenses in every activity of the Government, rather than by resorting to new or additional taxation in any form;

that the 15c ad valorem on land be removed if possible; that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to our representative, Hon. R. A. Doughton, and our Senator, Hon. P. T. McNeil, and a copy published in the Alleghany Times.

D. L. DUNCAN, Chairman
M. A. HIGGINS, Secretary.

Methodist Church News

Don't forget the Christian Education Institute at Sparta church Friday night March 10th.

There will be an all-day service at Shiloh church next Saturday. Mr. Kale, head of our Christian Education work will be present for the institute to be held in connection with the quarterly conference.

Regular services will be held at Shiloh church next Sunday at 11 a. m. and at Piney Creek at 2:30 p. m.

WOULD LIMIT WITHDRAWALS

The senate Monday night received and sent to the house a bill to require 30 days notice before funds may be withdrawn from building and loan associations.

LATE NEWS from the State and Nation

Work On Plans

Washington, March 7.—Between bites of luncheon hastily served on the President's desk, Franklin D. Roosevelt and his new director of the budget—Lewis Douglas—today neared an agreement on a sweeping program to reorganize the government.

Refuses to Participate

Moscow, March 7.—The soviet government tonight refused to participate in the league of nations consultative commission in the Sino-Japanese conflict because of what was termed the "hostility" of the majority of the participants toward the Soviet union.

Abolish Commission

Raleigh, March 7.—Final action on the reorganization's committee's bill to abolish the corporation commission was taken in the house this afternoon, and this rate court before which have been fought furious utility battles will be no more after January 1, 1934.

Pork Advances

Chicago, March 7.—Spectacular advances in wholesale fresh pork prices, in some cases more than 100 per cent, today added a problem to the average citizen's search for ready cash while banks were closed or restricted.

Battle Starts

Tokio, March 7.—A Rengo (Japanese) news agency dispatch said today a battle for possession of Koupeikow, a pass in the great wall of China between Jehol province and Peiping, started early today.

Charges Filed

Denver, March 7.—Federal charges of kidnaping were filed against six suspects in the Charles Boettcher, II, kidnaping in the United States district court here late today.

Mattie Jane Finley Is Claimed By Death

Mattie Jane Finley, colored, died at the Elkin hospital last Saturday morning following several days' illness from diphtheria. She had been in declining health for some time but was thought to have been improving when she suddenly became worse.

She was the daughter of the late Ben Finley and was highly respected by both white and colored.

The funeral was conducted from White Plains church Sunday and interment made at the church cemetery.

Stratford News

W. L. Irwin gave a social at his home last Saturday evening which was enjoyed by a number of his friends both young and old.

W. Carl Irwin, in company with some of his friends made a business trip to Raleigh last week.

Grove Enopter is suffering from minor injuries sustained in an auto crash here last Saturday evening.

A good many citizens from here attended the Taxpayers meeting in Sparta last Monday.

Homer Smith spent the week-end with his family here.

Welter Joines and his bride of four months, of Pennsylvania, are spending some time with his parents Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Joines.

Mr. and Mrs. John Joines and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Joines, sons and daughters-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Rowan Joines, are remaining here as welcome visitors. They have been making their home in California.

Mr. and Mrs. George Edwards, of Akron, Ohio, are spending some time with Mr. and Mrs. S. O. Edwards.