

THE ALLEGHANY TIMES

DEVOTED TO THE CIVIC, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF ALLEGHANY AND BORDERING COUNTIES

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FORMER GRAYSON COUNTY MAN AND DAUGHTER MURDERED IN HOME NEAR RURAL RETREAT SATURDAY

One of the most shocking tragedies that has been enacted in this entire section for many years took place Saturday afternoon when T. Eugene Cornett, 37, together with his daughter, Mrs. Virginia Bausell, 25, were murdered in their home, which is located near Rural Retreat in Wythe county.

The slain man and his father, Henry F. Bausell, of Bristol, were later located by Wythe county officers in a Bristol hospital where they were receiving treatment for bullet wounds in a hand and shoulder, respectively, of the two men. They were placed under special guard charged with the crime, and will be removed to the Wythe county jail in Wytheville as soon as their condition will permit, Sheriff George Crockett of Wythe county, stated Sunday.

The three pistols used by the two Bausells and by Cornett in the gun battle are in the custody of Wythe county officers. Cornett is said to have used a .32 calibre Smith and Wesson gun, the younger Bausell a .32-20 Smith and Wesson and the elder Bausell an old model .32 calibre gun of the same make.

An autopsy on the body of Mrs. Bausell was performed Saturday night by Dr. E. M. Chitwood, coroner of Wythe county, and the bullet which entered her brain, resulting in her death, was removed.

The three pistols used in the fight were emptied by the participants. The gun which, it is alleged was used by Bernice K. Bausell, was a six-shooter and bears several blood stains. The guns used in the fight, the bullets taken from the bodies of Cornett and his daughter and those taken from the furniture and walls of the room in which the fight occurred will be examined by experts at the request of Wythe county officers.

According to reports, the young woman and her husband had been separated since early in the fall and trouble arose between Bausell and his father-in-law over the custody of a five-year-old son. A younger child had been in the care of Mrs. Bausell since the separation while the older one had been in the custody of his father until recently when it was permitted to visit the younger child at the home of Mr. Cornett. When Bausell came to the Cornett home for the child on the previous Sunday night, it is said, he was refused permission to take it away, whereupon an altercation ensued between the two men, during which Bausell was slightly wounded by his father-in-law and Mrs. Bausell grazed by a bullet fired by her husband from the gun wrested from Mr. Cornett's hands. Finally, after being beaten on the head with the gun, the latter forced his son-in-law to the floor, where he held him until he promised to refrain from any further molestation.

However, Saturday afternoon, Bausell, accompanied by his father returned to the Cornett home. The elder Bausell, according to reports went to the house and called for his daughter-in-law, who, when seeing them coming, took the children and went to an upstairs room where her father was preparing to make a trip to Wytheville. When she refused to come down, the elder Bausell is said to have gone back to the car and spoken a few words to his son, who, after taking an object from the door pocket of the car, accompanied his father back to the house. The two are said to have gone upstairs and forced open the locked door of the room where the murders were committed.

The scene of the tragedy shows many marks of the shots fired. About eight bullet holes are visible in the furniture, walls and ceiling of the room, which would seem to indicate that the shots, with the exception of two, were all fired in the direction of the places where the bodies of Mr. Cornett and his daughter were found lying.

Seven or eight bullets are said to have been removed from the dead man's body.

The Bausells left immediately with the child and when they met Mrs. Cornett, on their way out, were deterred from shooting her, it is said, only by her desperate pleas for mercy.

The Bausells according to reports, have stated that Mrs. Bausell was shot by a gun in the hands of her father but this statement appears to have been disproved by the fact that the bullet removed from the brain was steel jacketed and corresponded to the other bullets apparently fired by the murderers, while lead bullets were used in the gun found lying empty in the room, thought to have been used by Mr. Cornett.

MAGISTRATE DISMISSES KIDNAPPING CHARGE

Sylva, Jan. 18.—Charges of kidnapping against Alley Warfield, and Dock Turpin, Jackson county men accused of abducting Frank Rhinehart, a school principal, holding him captive two days and threatening him with violence, were dismissed by Magistrate B. O. Painter at the conclusion today of a preliminary hearing.

The magistrate held the state had failed to show probable cause to bind the defendants over to superior court. However, he ordered Warfield Turpin held for superior court on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon in connection with an altercation with Rhinehart prior to the alleged kidnapping.

The preliminary hearing for the Turpins consumed three days. All attempted to set up alibis and the defense offered a surprise witness, Nelson Sexton, of Mountain City, Ga., who testified he "thumbed" a ride with Rhinehart in the latter's automobile during the time the school principal said he was held captive. Rhinehart took the stand this afternoon and denied ever seeing Sexton.

The school principal reported he was seized on a road near here during the latter part of last December carried about in his captor's automobile for two days and subjected to various indignities and threats before being released. He said he recognized the Turpin's as his abductors.

ADOPTION OF BLUE RIDGE ROUTE FOR HIGHWAY IS URGED

The next meeting in the interest of the road will be held in Hillsville on Saturday, January 27.

Much interest was shown at a meeting held Saturday in the court house in Hillsville in connection with the Skyline Drive, which it is hoped will be built along the crest of the Blue Ridge, closely following the Appalachian trail.

A main feature of the meeting was the decision of the committee to form an association, permitting anyone who might desire to make a donation for damages incurred in removing buildings etc., to join.

W. D. Tompkins, chairman of the association, delivered an interesting address.

Committees were appointed to visit land owners along the proposed route for the purpose of obtaining rights-of-way.

Mr. Tompkins, in his address, advanced the idea of getting together and continuing the efforts to have the Blue Ridge route adopted. He urged that petitions be circulated in an effort to obtain the necessary rights-of-way. He explained that many people do not understand the proposition and say that it is a waste of money to build a road 300 feet wide. He said that the road would be beneficial for the advertising of the beautiful views of the state. "If they are going to spend money," he said, "shouldn't we put forth every effort to bring it here to show tourists the beauties of this mountain country?"

Other speakers who approved of the chairman's recommendations were Will Quesenberry, C. M. Willis, Glenn Edwards, Reed Quesenberry, Dexter Goad and Miss Vinnie Caldwell.

The deceased man was a native of Grayson county, being a son of Mrs. Amelia Cox Cornett, who lives between Fallville and Elk Creek, and the late Peyton H. Cornett. In addition to his aged mother, he is survived by two sisters and five brothers, as follows: Mr. Bayc Osborne, Mrs. Con A. Cornett and Ovis P. Cornett, Elk Creek; Summitt E. Cornett, cashier of the Bank of Speedwell; Dr. Horace V. Cornett, Philadelphia, Penna.; Dr. Baron F. Cornett, Bluefield W. Va., and Carl C. Cornett, Marion.

Mr. Cornett was an uncle of Miss Mayme Osborne, Galax.

Funeral services for the slain man and daughter were conducted Monday afternoon. A short service was held at the home at 1:30 o'clock, followed by the funeral at Fairview Methodist church on the Rural Retreat circuit at 2 o'clock. The services were in charge of Dr. R. B. Platt, Jr., pastor of Grove Avenue church, East Radford, and a former presiding elder of the Wytheville district assisted by the Rev. W. D. Farmer, pastor of Fairview church.

Both bodies were buried in Fairview cemetery.

Grayson Carroll Gazette

Mr. Robert Choate, of Maryland, visited his father, Mr. John Choate, Tuesday night.

MILLIONS ASKED FOR EMERGENCY EDUCATION

The Federal Advisory Committee, consisting principally of representatives of twenty or more national organizations, held a second general meeting in Washington, D. C., on January 7th to consider means for emergency aid in education.

After much deliberation upon all the questions involved the committee decided upon the following program:

(1) The emergency problem of keeping elementary and secondary schools open on as nearly normal a basis as possible during the school year 1933-34 should be met by a federal appropriation of \$50,000,000 to be allocated according to emergency needs in the several states. This sum may be provided in one or two ways:

(a) by a special provision in the relief act, or less preferably

(b) by a separate federal appropriation.

In either case such appropriation shall be administered preferably by a board of which the U. S. Commissioner of Education shall be chairman and executive officer.

(2) In view of the fact that the inability of many communities adequately to maintain schools is certain to continue during the fiscal year 1934-35, a federal emergency appropriation or allocation of not less than \$100,000,000 should be made available beginning July 1, 1934; this appropriation or allocation to be distributed in an objective manner, determined by a board of which the U. S. Commissioner of Education shall be chairman and executive officer, and based upon reasonable evidence of needs and resources.

(3) That the instability of educational support even in the ablest states and communities, due to the shrinkage of local ability to support schools during the depression, constitutes an aspect of the present emergency of such proportion as to endanger the effectiveness of the school throughout the nation. The fundamental relief which is necessary in order that public educational institutions may be adequately supported can be secured through the adoption of measures for the federal emergency aid to education during the 1934-35. The situation is so critical in education that the people are justified in using federal funds to insure the normal operation of schools. Accordingly, it is recommended that a substantial sum be distributed from the Federal Treasury to various states to assist them in meeting this phase of the emergency.

It is the sense of this conference that the method of distribution should provide first, that a flat sum objectively determined be distributed to all states; second, that a supplemental sum objectively determined but weighted to meet the needs of the poorer states be included in the distribution; and third, that the method of distribution be stated in the statutes, provided that a contingent fund not to exceed 10 per cent of the amount so provided for 1934-35 be reserved for distribution to states and local units to meet exceptional and unforeseen needs under the direction of a board of which the U. S. Commissioner of Education shall be chairman.

(4) Local funds should be released for school maintenance by:

(a) refinancing school district indebtedness of such municipal or county indebtedness as may have been incurred in behalf of the schools.

(b) providing federal loans to school districts or to municipal or county corporations, where, (in the case of the latter) the loan is to be used for educational purposes; provided that in both instances the loan shall rest on the security of delinquent taxes, frozen assets in closed banks, or other acceptable securities.

(5) Out of any new appropriation made for Public Works not less than 10 per cent should be allocated for buildings for schools, colleges and other educational enterprises. Such grants shall be available provided that an approved survey has been made, and that the survey shows the need for the buildings. In cases where such surveys have not already been made these surveys shall be made under the direction of the Office of Education through a decentralized regional organization. The cost of these surveys shall be charged to the Public Works appropriation for school plants. We recommend that the grant for such projects be made on a 100 per cent basis. In administering this fund major attention should be given to the needs of the rural schools.

(6) A federal appropriation or allocation of \$30,000,000 should be provided to assist students to attend institutions of higher education for the period ending July 1, 1935, by:

(a) special provision in existing acts, or

(b) by a separate federal appropriation. This fund should be administered by the U. S. Office of Education.

REYNOLDS AGAIN PROTESTS DECISION OF PWA

Washington, Jan. 14.—Senator Reynolds (D. N. C.), aroused by the Public Works Administration's refusal to finance the Waccamaw Fibre Farm Forestry project near Bolton, N. C., today called on the people of the State "who have a feeling on this subject" to write their protests to him.

Senator Reynolds, in a formal statement, said the Waccamaw project, if approved, "would create a pattern" for similar projects which would result in giving farmers a "market for wood," and idle woodsmen "a job."

Reynolds' statement said: "Because wood fibre raised by our timber land owners is the largest crop raised by the farmers of North Carolina, I have devoted more time to the Waccamaw fibre farm project, which is located in Eastern North Carolina, than to any other problem in that portion of the State."

Reynolds said: "The unemployed woodsmen live in remote places and in this relief work, his voice has not been heard to any practical extent. I have tried to bring aid to these woodsmen and to the tree farmers of the State through this forest project."

"Congress authorized that financial aid be given forest projects of this type, and legal, engineering and banking departments of the Public Works Administration approved this project. The project is classified as one belonging to a private corporation that was limited as to dividend and that is regulated by the SState. The owners of the project have consented that when the value of the 116,000 acre timber farm has been returned to them in dividends, these 116,000 acres will become the property of North Carolina. I was anxious for the State to become the owner of this reserve."

"The State of North Carolina enacted legislation that was prescribed by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, which guarantees absolute State regulation and control of the project. The project is more than semi-public.

If this project were established in North Carolina it would create a pattern from which other similar projects in the State would result. Our State needs five or six more plants similar to the Champion Fibre Company's plants at Canton, N. C. If these plants were within our State then our farmers would have a market for wood and idle woodsmen would have a job.

MARAUDER DESTROYS TREES IN ELKIN CEMETERY

Elkin, N. C. Jan. 11.—Of approximately 50 small American elm trees set out within the past week in Hollywood cemetery by CWA workers for the purpose of beautifying the place, 34 were found cut down early Tuesday morning.

As a result, a reward of \$100 has been offered by the town commissioners for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person guilty of the act.

A bloodhound brought here from North Wilkesboro Tuesday afternoon trailed the guilty party from the cemetery for a distance of about half a mile to the highway in the vicinity of John Hudspeth's filling station on highway 26. Here the trail ended, but officers plainly saw tracks of an automobile that had been parked in the edge of the woods some distance from the hard surface.

Whoever was guilty of cutting the trees wore overshoes, tracks at the scene disclosed. His tracks measured slightly more than 11 and one-half inches. Apparently he used a hatchet with which to chop down the small trees. The trees were left laying where they fell.

SENATOR ROUP WRITES ABOUT WASHINGTON LAWMAKERS

A recent issue of The Pullman Herald, Wash. carries an interesting article by Senator George W. Roup, who writes about "the doings of the Legislature". One of the most important problems before the legislators of that State is the question of liquor control, and quite a fight is being put up by various factions for certain control plans favorable to particular groups. Senator Roup is taking an active part in legislative proceedings in the State of Washington. He will be remembered here as the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Roup of Sparta.

PERFECT ORGANIZATION TO AID FARMERS

Representatives from the following counties met December 20th. at Wilkesboro and organized the Wilkesboro Production Credit Association: Wilkes, Alleghany, Surry, Yadkin, Caldwell, and Ashe. The organization will also embrace Watauga, but as yet this county has no representative from that county, tho it will have representation later.

This organization was perfected under the auspices of the Production Credit Corporation of Columbia which owns seventy five per cent of the stock, the other stock being owned by the local holders. It was capitalized at \$65,000.00 Directors were elected at the December meeting and January 8th, the Directors met and elected the following officers: Paul J. Vestal, Moravian Falls, President, A. S. Speer, Booneville, Vice President, T. W. Ferguson, Ferguson, Sec.-Treas. This is a farmers credit organization and will be open for business about January 20th. It will make loans upon crops and livestock as collateral and will take the place of the Regional Agricultural Corporation of Raleigh. It might be stated, therefore, that the Regional Agricultural Corporation of Raleigh will make no further loans after Jan. 15.

Respectfully Submitted,
T. W. Ferguson, Sec.-Treas.
Wilkesboro Production Credit Assn.
Jan. 12, 1934.

CWA PAY-ROLL IS MILLION A WEEK

A total of 72, 728 North Carolinians was on CWA pay rolls during the week ended January 16, drawing a pay roll of nearly \$1,000,000. Mrs. Thomas O'Berry, State CWA Administrator, announced yesterday Mrs. O'Berry reported that many hours of work during the week totaled 2,057,248 with the total pay roll being \$928,031.95. North Carolina's total CWA quota, including jobs strictly federal in nature and special projects for women is 90,000.

Women held down 5,745 CWA jobs during the week, pay roll for service projects being \$58,427.72. Typical projects for women are:

Bookkeepers, cafeteria workers clerical workers, dietitians, census takers, home-making demonstrations, janitoresses, mattress making, toy making, weaving, laundry work, disbursing agents, nurses, time-keepers, teachers, farm housing survey work.

Actual "staggering" of work on CWA projects in rural sections and communities of less than 2,500 population was begun in some counties yesterday. The "staggering" rule provides that no person may work on a CWA project more than 15 hours per week, the former limit having been 30 hours a week. The man hours for each accepted project will be unchanged, but the quotas where "staggering" is adopted will not be doubled but will be increased 80 per cent only. This will decrease original man hour quotas by 10 per cent.

Sparta Man and Motorcyclist Collide Near Independence

W. M. Jennings, of Cliffview, received serious injuries Wednesday morning when the motorcycle he was riding collided with a truck about one mile east of Independence. The truck is said to have been driven by J. A. Osborne, of Sparta.

The injured man was brought to Galax hospital where it was found that both of his legs were broken and that he had received other injuries. Latest reports from the hospital indicate that his condition is critical.

The driver of the truck was given a preliminary hearing and it was decided that he was not responsible for the accident and was released.

Mr. Osborne was proceeding toward Galax and stated that he was far on the right side of the road, when for some reason the rider of the motorcycle came diagonally across the highway and struck the front of his car with such force as to fling the rider clear of the motorcycle.

Mr. Osborne is proprietor of a general mercantile business just out of Sparta.

Winston-Salem, Jan. 9.—Tony A. Williams, 21, of Hanes, died here today of injuries suffered when struck Sunday night by an automobile allegedly driven by James Darney, 18, of Hanes, who was held on manslaughter charges under \$500 bond.

DOUGHTON REGARDED AS PROBABLE CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR

Despite information from Washington that Congressman R. L. Doughton, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, is slated for a berth on the Tariff Commission, North Carolinians who keep up closely with such matters in season and out of season, are convinced that the veteran Congressman, who has been in the House for 22 years, will serve one more term there and then offer for Governor of North Carolina in 1936.

If that prediction is correct, and those in a position to know are confident it is, the entry of Mr. Doughton would probably have the effect of narrowing instead of broadening the field. Among those now regarded as actively in the race or as giving the matter most serious consideration are Lieut.-Gov. A. H. Graham, of Hillsboro; Col. T. L. Kirkpatrick, of Charlotte; Judge Wilson Warlick, of Newton, and former Judge T. L. Johnson, of Asheville. Among those most prominently listed as potential candidates are Clyde R. Hoey, of Shelby, and R. Gregg Cherry of Gastonia.

There may be others, but if either Mr. Doughton or Mr. Hoey enters the race the field is expected to be smaller than if both stay out. North Carolina has never had more than three candidates for Governor in a Democratic primary, but the race is far less of a foregone conclusion than it has been this close to any primary ever held since the legalized primary began more than 20 years ago.

Governor Ehringhaus also figures largely in speculation on the 1936 campaign as a potential candidate against United States Senator Josiah W. Bailey.

But last week, Governor Ehringhaus figured even more largely in actual developments. Since January 1, the Governor has been confronted with the necessity of appointing two Associate Utility Commissioners in compliance with the 1933 act abolishing the old Corporation Commission. These commissioners may receive only \$900 annually, but their duties are regarded as among the most important to be performed by any public official. Interest in the appointments was heightened by the delay in making them.

The Governor finally centered on Dr. William Louis Poteat, president emeritus of Wake Forest College, and Prof. Frank William Hanft, a member of the law faculty of the University of North Carolina and an expert in the field of public utilities. In making these selections, the Governor passed up an opportunity to reward two political friends and to please scores of others who had endorsed some of the many candidates for the positions.

But it is generally believed that the Governor has once again demonstrated the truism that no politics is often the best politics. Dr. Poteat has never been in politics but no man in North Carolina in or out of politics has a larger personal following. Professor Hanft is unknown to the State at large, but by his record exemplifies the type of man thousands of people in the State wished to see appointed to one of these positions.

But while the appointments have been most favorably received, it is possible that the Governor added to the restiveness of the Western part of the State which has been rather vociferously demanding more recognition in the State government than it has received.

Another action taken by the Governor last week was also favorably received in the State as a whole but was definitely displeasing to citizens of the Far Western counties. The Governor declined to extend clemency to four former bankers and public officials of Transylvania County who paid in \$30,000 to the County on condition that the Governor relieve them of prison sentences imposed by the court.

If the recommendations of Senator Bailey is followed and Solicitor Carlisle Higgins is named District Attorney in the middle District, the Governor will have to appoint a successor to Solicitor Higgins, whose solicitorial record is now being investigated by Federal authorities.

This Solicitorial district contains Surry County, in which resides A. D. Folger, about whom has centered much of western complaint. Mr. Folger, along with a number of other lawyers, would like to be an emergency judge, and the westerners have frequently pointed out that easterners now hold two of these positions while only one is filled by a westerner.

Moreover, friends of Mr. Folger assert that he was given position assurance of such an appointment if

WINSTON-SALEM TEACHER PUBLISHES NOVEL

Coming from the press of Corward-McCann, New York publishers, on January 25 is a book by a North Carolinian—James M. Shields of Winston-Salem.

Mr. Shields was, and still is, better known as a teacher than as an author. He has been teaching for 13 years. "Just Plain Larnin," as the forthcoming volume is entitled, is his first book.

Until word got out in Winston-Salem last fall that the pleasant countenanced and hard-working principal of South Park Junior High and Forest Park school had planned a novel with a publisher, few persons outside of an intimate circle of acquaintance even knew that he was writing a book.

James M. Shields no doubt dispensed the advice usual in the elementary stages of instruction for those with the urge for literary expression—write about what you know. Anyway he followed it.

For thirteen years he has been dealing out "just plain larnin," as a part of the educational machine that goes under the title of Winston-Salem Public Schools.

Before he started dealing it out he was on the receiving end in Ohio and North Carolina, completing his formal education with the degree of Master of Education from Trinity College—now Duke University.

His natural inclinations toward schoolmastery came to the fore while he was trying to sell automobiles after leaving the Trinity campus.

He got a job in 1921 as teacher of literature and composition in the Winston-Salem High School, and probably started giving good advice about writing about familiar subjects to his students that long ago.

"Just Plain Larnin," is about just that—learning as it is taught in the public schools of a North Carolina city.

The author, although this is his first novel, is no novice at professional writing. He has been a frequent contributor to educational journals, and has the reputation among educators of knowing what he is talking about when it comes to the public schools.

Mr. Shields is a North Carolinian by adoption. He was born in Port Washington, Ohio, the fourth son of a struggling minister. In the one-room village school of his home town, he made the conquest of elementary reading, writing, 'n' 'rithmetic.

He came out of a small denominational college with an A. B. and a desire for more learning.

From what is now Duke University he obtained his master's degree and in Statesville, N. C. found that his calling was not automotive salesmanship.

So he went to Winston-Salem and spent 13 years in the public school system there, rising to the position of supervising principal.

"Just Plain Larnin," a novel by a North Carolinian for national distribution, is the result.

Charles J. Parker
Raleigh News and Observer

Uncle Sam Wants Social Economists

The United States Civil Service Commission will accept applications until February 2 for positions of Associate Social Economist and Assistant Social Economist to fill vacancies in the Children's Bureau, Department of Labor.

The entrance salary for Associate Social Economist is \$3,200 a year, and for Assistant Social Economist \$2,600 a year, less a deduction of not to exceed 15 per cent as a measure of economy and a retirement deduction of 3-1/2 per cent.

All States except Delaware, Iowa, Maryland, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia have received less than their share of appointments in the apportioned departmental service at Washington.

Full information may be obtained from the Secretary of the United States Civil Service Board of Examiners at the post office in any city which has a post office of the first or the second class, or from the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C.

Governor Ehringhaus was elected, although it is not asserted that the Governor himself was a party to the alleged assurances.

Raleigh News and Observer