THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★★ FINAL

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Accused Man Escapes From Fayetteville Jail

Jailer Is Tied, Auto Is Stolen

FAYETTEVILLE (AP) — A man accused of robbing a branch bank at Ft. Bragg and slaying the teller Feb. 20 escaped from the Cumberland County Jail here early today, authorities reported.

The State Highway Patrol said Charles Thomas Bradford, 28, the accused bank robber, and John Odum, who was being held on an auto theft charge, overpowered a jailer and tied him.

The escapees were said to be armed with two pistols and two blackjacks.

Roy K. Moore, special agent in charge of the Charlotte Federal Bureau of Investigation office, said the two overpowered assistant jailer E. V. McLaurin about 2:30 a.m., bound him and gazed him and took McLaurin's .32 caliber pistol.

FLEE IN CAR

The pair took the elevator down from the jail and escaped in McLaurin's automobile, which contained a .32 caliber revolver.

Officers said two Hungarian refugees, Jeno Ronasi and Zoltan Scabu, helped in the escape. The two, being held on a charge of rape, left with Bradford and Odum but returned at 3:45 a.m. to the jail cell.

McLaurin, 47, said they told him they decided not to go and said Bradford and Odum had tossed the keys to the cell on top of the court house. The jailer said he told them how to get out on the roof and the two retrieved the keys and opened the cell.

The assistant jailer was not able to free himself until about 4 a.m. when an alarm was sounded.

Roadblocks were set up over a wide area for the two described as armed and extremely dangerous.

The FBI said Bradford, 26, is five feet, nine inches tall and weighs about 165 pounds. He has light brown hair, hazel eyes and has a slight cast in one eye.

Odum, 18, is five feet, eight inches tall and weighs 160 pounds. His hair is blondish brown.

The automobile the two are believed using is a 1953 Ford tudor sedan with a cream bottom and blue top. It has a 1959 North Carolina license tag WA 711.

Bradford was awaiting trial April 6 for the February robbery of the First Citizens Bank and Trust Co. branch bank at Fayetteville and for killing the bank's teller.

Jurors Test Trigger Pull

INDIANAPOLIS — (AP) — Twelve male jurors took turns today in testing the trigger pull on the French revolver with which Minnie B. (Connie) Nicholas is accused of killing her wealthy lover.

The clicking of the gun echoed in the silent basement courtroom as the 12 married men decided for themselves to check the strength of the trigger pull.

It was a key point through which the state hoped to prove that the gun couldn't have been fired accidentally in a struggle between Mrs. Nicholas and Forrest Teel.

The .25 caliber French revolver was given to the jury after a legal battle on the question of what the jurors should be asked to do with the gun.

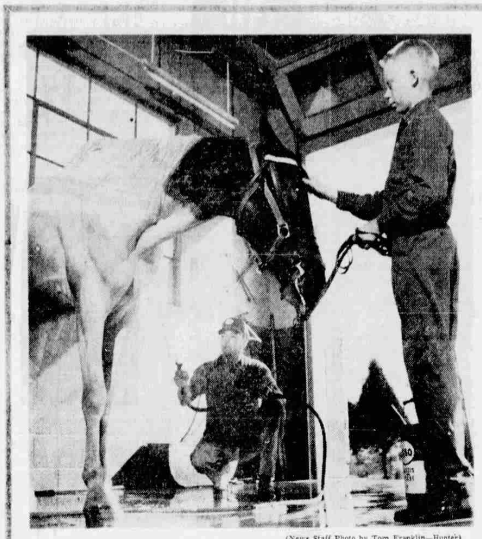
Judge Thomas J. Faulconer sided with the defense in ruling that the jury should not be asked to test the trigger. That, said Frank Symmes, one of Mrs. Nicholas' lawyers, would in effect be making witnesses out of the jurors.

However, Judge Faulconer made it clear in his ruling that the jury of 12 married men could check the gun as they chose. He overruled a defense objection to the handing of the gun to the jury.

RUNS AGROUND

IJMUIDEN, Netherlands (AP) — The 14,000-ton American-owned liner Atlantic ran aground today in dense fog after hitting a 40-foot high jetty guarding this entrance to the port of Amsterdam.

The liner was refloated under her own power, and two tugs were sent to tow her into Amsterdam.



(News Staff Photo by Tom Franklin—Hunter)

Doug Holds Duke, Making Shannon Live Up To His Word

—'DUKE' TREATED LIKE KING—

Horse Gets Spring Cleaning

Doug Elder is a 13-year-old with a horse.

This gave Doug a problem. How do you wash a horse?

He complained of the fact in the presence of a friend of the family, Bill Shannon, who operate a service station near Doug's home. Doug, the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. I. Elder, lives at 5114 Monroe Rd.

"Bring him down to the station. We wash cars and trucks, why not horses?" Shannon joked.

There it was—Shannon's foot squarely in his mouth.

Because a couple days later Doug did just that. He clopped into the service station on Duke's back and ordered a wash job.

Now Shannon isn't a man to go back on his word. He led Duke to the wash rack, pulled out the hose and soap bucket, and went to work. (The whitewall tire brush worked fine on Duke's hooves.)

An hour later Duke looked like a new horse. (He appeared to enjoy being squirted full blast with the hose.)

Doug was a proud boy, and Shannon was a tired man.

Then came the obvious question: does Shannon now offer horse-washing as an added service?

"Sure, we'll wash all we get," he said. The price?

"Two dollars,' said Bill. "Fifty cents extra because a horse can move around on you. A car will sit still."

Henderson Workers Are Jeered

HENDERSON (AP) — Spirited but orderly crowds jeered at incoming workers today in the wake of a breakdown in negotiations to settle Henderson's turbulent cotton mill strike.

Crowds of about 100 persons each gathered at the two plants of strike-bound Harriet-Henderson Mills. They shouted at non-striking workers but there was no violence.

Tension was high as a result of the announcement yesterday that mill management and the Textile Workers Union of America were deadlocked.

The strike scene was quiet last night as a "night watch" of about 200 Henderson citizens assisted law enforcement officers in patrolling the city's two mill areas.

No strike-connected incidents were reported.

Formation of the "night watch" team of local citizens was announced after Gov. Luther Hodges reported failure in his efforts to mediate a settlement in the long Harriet - Henderson Cotton Mills strike. He said he was withdrawing from the negotiations.

A mass meeting of the two local Textile Workers Union of America units was scheduled today to hear a report on the negotiations and to map "our future course," a union spokesman said.

Hodges announced at a news conference in Raleigh that the negotiations had broken down. Later, he met with state, Henderson and Vance County officials. Hodges said he called them together "to discuss our fear that we were going to have further violence and to set up our preparations."

THE BREAKDOWN

"The negotiations," Hodges said earlier, "finally broke down over the issue of job rights of the workers now in the mills as compared to strikers, and also the question of the check-off of union dues."

The governor had met with union-management leaders for six days at the executive mansion. He said the differences between the management and union "are still serious and are of long-standing."

Boyd Payton of Charlotte, Carolinas regional director for TWUA, said Thursday night, "Unless the company can change its position there i sreally not mpch need to negotiate any further. We've made a rock bottom proposal of settle it."

He added, "We're not defeated. "Ninety-five per cent of the people who went on strike are still on strike."

Hodges told the press conference, "Both sides are at fault and both sides deserve credit" for concessions made in an effort to agree on a contract.

The strike began Nov. 17 after disagreement on an arbitration clause.

EXERCISES SET

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — SEATO military advisers nearing the end of a three-day secret meeting today announced naval exercises later this month will be the biggest in the history of the Southeast Asian defense alliance.

(AP Photofax)

Debbie Reynolds Hugs Son, Todd Emanuel Fisher, After Arrival In Hollywood

Wedding Day Ahead

'Liz Is Flipping' After Divorce OK

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — (AP) — An ecstatic Elizabeth Taylor and Eddie Fisher today made plans for a private wedding that will take place probably May 11.

"No one will know about it until it's over," the joyful actress said last night.

"We are both very grateful to Debbie."

She was referring to Debbie Reynolds, Fisher's wife, who announced yesterday she would not oppose Fisher's desire to get a quickie Nevada divorce so that he could marry Miss Taylor.

"I wish Liz and Eddie happiness," Debbie said as she arrived in Los Angeles after a flight from a movie location in Spain.

The news made Liz and Eddie so happy that they literally jumped for joy. A reporter told them of Debbie's statement while the two were at the $500-a-week dude ranch that Miss Taylor rents while Fisher performs nearby at the Tropicana Hotel.

"Liz is flipping," said Fisher. "She's jumping all over the room. I'm grateful that Debbie did this."

Then Liz got on the telephone and said: "I'm so happy I almost passed out at the news. I knew all along that Debbie would consent."

She was not at Fisher's supper show last night but the singer went out to the ranch between shows and she returned with him to the midnight show.

"I'll be here every night from now on," she said, "either out front or around the dressing room."

Debbie got a California decree in February from Fisher but it will not be final for a year. As a result Liz and Eddie cannot live in California as man and wife until February, 1960. Otherwise Fisher would be subject to prosecution for bigamy in that state.

NO HARDSHIP

"It will be no hardship to spend a year away from California," Liz said. "I've already packed for a year's absence."

Debbie, who had turned 27 during the transpolar flight, was smiling and gracious at the Los Angeles airport yesterday. But her manner was matter-of-fact and her initial announcement a crisp: "Yes, I will consent."

The petite actress then expressed some bitterness because she had learned of Fisher's latest entreaty from reporters.

"This has caught me a little by surprise to say the least," she said. "However, this will be my last statement on the subject. I'm sure everyone is exhausted by this topic as much as I am."

Holiday Turns Into Nightmare

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)—A carefree holiday turned into a near nightmare Thursday night for a businessman who was mistaken for one of the FBI's 10 most wanted fugitives.

"It wasn't too pleasant, I'll tell you," said Truman Pennell of Wichita Falls, Tex., as he left police headquarters. A frantic manhunt had led to his arrest.

Police believed he was Frank Lawrence Sprenz, 29, the flying bank robber who has been on the FBI'S most wanted list since Sept. 10, 1958.

Pennell, 36, was arrested after his four-passenger plane, which matched the description of one in which Sprenz has been hopping about the country, crashed nearby.

Alerts for Sprenz' plane had been put out in neighboring Mississippi and earlier in the day at Chicago and New Orleans.

Police became even more certain Sprenz was in the area when the plane's occupant did not arrive at a hospital for which he had started.

"I just changed my mind," Pennell explained later.

He and his pilot, Jimmie Lynn Hamilton of Columbia, S.C., left the crash scene with S.Sgt. and Mrs. Paul E. Pearson who offered to take them in their car to the Little Rock Air Force Base hospital.

On the way Pennell and Hamilton decided they were not hurt badly and would drive into Little Rock.

They were on their way when police, armed with shotguns, stopped them.

Warned that Sprenz would be armed and dangerous, police officers took no chances and ignored Pennell's protests.

Hamilton said the plane either ran out of gas or developed engine trouble and he crash-landed in the best spot he could find.

Sprenz is charged with a $25,000 robbery at Hamilton, Ohio, and with other crimes.

Japan Calls For Decision Reversal

TOKYO — (AP) The Japanese government asked the supreme court today to reverse a lower court ruling that the presence of U. S. bases and troops in Japan is unconstitutional.

The district prosecutor's office appealed directly to the highest court, by passing an intermediate appeal court. It thus hoped to speed up a final ruling, which under normally slow Japanese court procedure could take months or even years.

If the Supreme Court upholds the decision of the Tokyo district court, it could mean Japan's removal from the non-Communist world's defense setup. Undoubtedly such a decision would result in an urgent campaign to amend the Constitution, which some circles in Japan have been urging for some time.

Projects Listed

Mayor Jim Smith To Seek Re-Election

By DICK YOUNG
News Staff Writer

Mayor Jim Smith announced today he will seek re-election as Charlotte's chief executive.

As has been his custom since entering public service he will run independently in the April 27 city primary and May 5 election.

As a political neophyte Mr. Smith outran all candidates for the City Council in his first bid for public office in 1953. As the top man that year he was named mayor pro tem.

He repeated in the next election in 1955 and became the first man to be mayor pro tem twice in succession.

In 1957 he ran for mayor and won easily.

He said today he is seeking re-election to carry to completion a number of city projects planned or started during his administration.

"While I am an independent candidate," said Mayor Smith, "I want it clearly understood that I will work in harmony and co-operation with the members of the City Council chosen by the people."

City administrations during his tenure at City Hall have launched many needed and worthwhile projects, the mayor said.

MAYOR SMITH

PROGRESS CITED

He cited a few—such as initiation of the railroad grade separation program by construction of the Southern Railway's crossline south of the city, promotion of the extension of the city limits scheduled to be done Jan. 1, 1960, construction of a new health center, costing close to three-quarters of a million dollars; and completion of $4,700,000 water filtration plant at Hoskins which will be dedicated next week.

And he added:

"If I am re-elected I intend to push with vigor the several undertakings that are of importance to Charlotte's growth.

"During the campaign for extension of the city there were some very definite promises made.

"And I intend ot see that those promises are carried out if we have to strain to do it.

"My concern will be centered in competition of the grade separation program which will include the removal of the Southern passenger station, construction of underpasses on the westside and widening the underpass on E. 4th St.

"Then, too, I will work unceasingly to unbottle downtown Charlotte and provide easier traffic movement through such street projects as widening E. 5th St. and other streets.

"We will soon have the results of the comprehensive traffic survey which has been going on for a year by a firm of traffic experts. This will not only be helpful in unbottling downtown but it will guide us in relief of traffic throughout the city and around the city through the co-operation of the State Highway Commission.

AIRPORT PROGRESS

"We have made marvelous strides in developing facilities at our airport, which is one of the finest in the nation and I shall give my undivided support for additional facilities to further en-

See MAYOR on page 2-A

Evening Prayer

We thank Thee, O Lord, that Thou didst taste the bitter cup of suffering in body and soul so that we could taste the sweetness of the water of life. Thou dost satisfy our longings. Thou dost fill our hearts with joy. All praise and honor and glory be Thine, now and evermore. In Thy name we pray. . . . Amen.

The Lighter Side

Court Held Where Deed Took Place

(From AP Reports)

When Game Warden Jack Reavis found four men fishing in a restricted area near Thermopolis, Wyo., he didn't have to take them into a courtroom for a hearing.

One of the four called court into session on the river bank and fined himself and the other three $10 each. Then he suspended the fines on condition of good behavior.

The angler in charge was Justice of the Peace F. L. Welch.

At Long Last

A divorce granted July 17, 1925, has become official at long last.

Dist. Judge Sears McGee signed an order in Houston yesterday divorcing Florence Cox, now Florence Johnson, from John E. Cox.

The original divorce was granted by retired Dist. Judge Ewing Boyd but never was entered in the court's official minutes. Mrs. Johnson, who remarried 30 years ago, learned of it when she asked for a copy of the decree as a document for Social Security compensation application.

Censorship, Eh?

The Florida State Prison at Raiford has 20,000 new books for the library, but none is on firearms, gunpowder or medicine.

The Volunteers of America, who presented the books, said the books were screened.

Books on medicine were left out, the donors said, because some inmates fake symptoms found in medical books and are able to goldbrick for several days before doctors discover the faking.

Our Weather

Mostly fair today, partly cloudy with scattered showers tonight, tomorrow fair and cooler.

Low this morning 38
Low tomorrow morning . 54
High today 74
High yesterday 69
High tomorrow 65

Sunrise today 6:08 a.m.; sunset today 6:46 p.m.

More Weather Data on Page 2-A

Pancho Blows His Stack

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Obituaries	10A
Radio-TV	7B
Serial	7B
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Sports	12-15A
Theaters	8B
To Your Good Health	14B
Women	2-5B
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—NEW TRICKS FOR OLD HORSE?—

Cavalry To Rescue As Usual

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Army, which abolished cavalry years ago, used old-fashioned horse sense in answering a boy's plea for help with his horse.

The boy with the problem is 11-year-old Philip Peatman, Madera, Calif.

Philip addressed a letter to the "chief of cavalry," United States Army, Washington.

His letter explained that he has two brothers, 12 and 6, and a 10-year-old horse.

The horse, Philip wrote, "rides well in the field but when we are coming home he wants to run back to the corral."

What Philip wanted to know was "How would you stop him from running back to the corral? No matter how hard we pull he won't stop."

Although the Army abolished its chief of cavalry before World War II, the boy's letter fell into good hands in the adjutant general's office. Brig. Gen. Frank S. Henry, whose present job is handling the assignment of general officers, took on the answering of the letter after it had been passed around in the highest army circles. Henry started his military career as a cavalryman and has been rated as one of the best horsemen in the Army. His present specialty is tanks and armored warfare.

PROBLEM APPRECIATED

Horseman Henry told Philip in a letter sent from the Pentagon yesterday that his problem was "readily appreciated," because the Army in past years frequently had the same problem with its horses.

The general offered "two suggestions to solve Philip's problem. First, he recommended using a double bridle with both a curb and snaffle bit, but urged Philip to talk this suggestion over with his dad "because some horses do not react too well with these bits." A snaffle bit is a more complicated vegaion of the simple curb bit which fits into the horse's mouth.

The general's second piece of advice was that Philip and his brothers, when returning home after a ride in the field, pull the rein on only one side. That would turn the horse in a small circle until he slows his gait.

Henry added that he fully realized that it is "pretty hard to teach a 10-year-old horse any new tricks, but I believe that if you will follow one or both of the suggestions, you should get a slower ride home."