SECTION TWO

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CITY NEWS
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FEATURES

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EVENT and COMMENT

BY JULIAN S. MILLER

(Dr. Julian S. Miller, regular conductor of Event and Comment, is on vacation. LeGette Blythe, of The Observer staff, is substituting for him)

"THOSE men down there at Louisburg that lynched that negro did the State a good turn. Of course, they won't get any of them. I hope they won't. I'm tired of all this soft talk about lynching. There's nothing that will do more good in a community than a well-conducted lynching every now and then."

THE man who said that was one of the county's upstanding citizens, a man who is a leader in his own community, and in his church, a former officeholder. Were his name given—which it will not be—many people would be shocked, many surprised, many would applaud.

"There's much to be said in favor of lynching," this man went on. "Take that negro down there at Louisburg who cut off that farmer's head with an axe. It was a good thing they did when they hung him. It was all over pretty soon and there's one less criminal in the world. It didn't cost much to get rid of him, either, and the taxpayers won't have to pay for a trial.

"IF they hadn't lynched him, what would have happened? They would have had a big trial, called out the National Guards, they would have found he was crazy—which I guess he was—and would have sent him off to some hospital for the insane. And in a month or so or a year maybe he would have got out and chopped off some other man's head. As it is, he won't chop off any more heads, he's probably better off dead than alive, and the Louisburg folks won't have to pay for trying him."

COLD-BLOODED talk, eh? Yet that is the attitude of thousands of North Carolina's best citizens. If you doubt it, just look at Franklin county, where the crazed negro killer was lynched Tuesday. Franklin county boasts some of the best citizens in the State. No one could maintain with reason that its people are not substantially like the people of other counties. And yet an investigation inaugurated by the State, carried on by the State, and with the active interest of the Governor directed toward making it a success, fizzled out before it could get started.

THE sheriff of that county and his deputies are probably average sort of peace officers. They are probably as intelligent as the average sheriff, probably have as good eyesight, probably know as many people, relatively, as the politicians in other counties. Yet they couldn't recognize a single one of those unmasked mobsmen who lynched the negro about noon of a sunshiny day. And you can be sure that the farther away they get from that Tuesday, the less they will remember about it, and the people who made that day a dark day in North Carolina.

OF course, the upstanding Mecklenburg citizen hadn't thought this thing through. He has never had any of his relatives lynched. All his relatives also have been law-abiding, upstanding citizens. They have never been visited by an enraged mob of unreasoning men angry, cowardly men blind with fury and bent upon vengeance. He hasn't thought of the fact that if men—any men, the best men you can find in a community of good men, preachers, physicians, elders, deacons, stewards—are permitted to become the law and take out a crazy, mean, depraved negro and kill him, then some day another sort of mob might take unto itself the right to come around to this good citizen's house and burn it and the family in it simply because that mob doesn't like the sort of necktie this good citizen customarily wears.

A poor comparison, you say. Far-fetched. Well, maybe. But the principle is the same. If good men—if you can say that men who would do such a thing as was done down at Louisburg Tuesday were good men—are allowed to lynch depraved negroes and poor whites and go unchallenged—as those in Louisburg will doubtless go unchallenged by Franklin county, then all civilization that has been builded slowly and with many back-slidings through the long centuries is vanished, and we are returned to the jungle. If such philosophy is sound, then the Sermon on the Mount is a lot of soft poppy-cock, the teachings of the lowly Nazarene who was also lynched with the connivance of the best citizens of Jerusalem are but silly sentimentalities, and Christ Himself is a sob sister.

IT is high time we of the South—and we are not the only people who turn into howling, hell-possessed mobsters—began to think this thing through to a logical conclusion—and then acted upon it!

SCHOOL BOARD TO ASK FULL $330,000 WPA PROGRAM

City Police Placed Under New Rules

THWART HOLDUP AT ALBEMARLE

GIRL USES HER HEAD.—When young William Dry attempted to rob the Home Builders' association at Albemarle Thursday afternoon, Miss Geraldine Gaddy, (shown here), assistant secretary, eluded the robber and called Policeman Lewis A. Mason, (shown at left), who fired upon the robber. A. P. Harris (shown at right) played a big part in thwarting the robbery by delaying the handing over of money in order to give the policeman time to arrive.

CIVIL SERVICE DRAFTS ORDERS FOR PATROLMEN

Regulations Designed to Increase Efficiency.

TO BE ENFORCED RIGIDLY

Arresting Officers Warned to Be Courteous to All Persons.

New rules and regulations, adopted by the civil service commission, governing patrolmen and members of the radio patrol of the Charlotte police department, were put into effect yesterday.

Department heads have been furnished copies of the orders and will notify the officers under their jurisdiction that the rules and regulations must be executed.

For several weeks the commission had been studying and arranging new rules designed to increase the efficiency of the department. Officers violating any of the provisions are subject to immediate trial.

FOLLOWS REORGANIZATION.

The new instructions follow close on the recent reorganization of the department. The officers in charge are now working on a trial basis, and a new wage scale will be worked out for the department if the present arrangement is maintained at the expiration of the trial period.

Members of the civil service commission declared the new rules and regulations were adopted after consideration, and that they will be enforced "rigidly."

A separate set of rules are now being prepared for the detective division and will be put into effect within a few days, it was stated.

FOR REGULAR PATROLMEN.

Rules and regulations for patrolmen:

Rule 1. Every patrolman, in carrying out the functions of the department, namely the preservation of public peace, the protection of lives and property, the prevention of crime, the arrest of violators of the law, and the proper enforcement of all laws and ordinances which the department may make, shall constantly direct his best efforts to accomplish that end intelligently and efficiently. He shall be held to strict accountability for the good order of the beat or post to which he may be assigned for duty. Such hours of duty shall be designated by the chief of police.

Rule 2. A patrolman, unless otherwise directed, shall be present at the daily roll calls punctually 20 minutes prior to the time of departure from police headquarters. He shall be properly uniformed and equipped, and shall give careful attention to dispatches and orders read and issued by his superior officers.

Rule 3. A patrolman when assigned to a beat shall faithfully, diligently, constantly, and continually patrol every part of his beat until the expiration of his tour of duty. He must not sit, lounge, or loaf, or act the idler thereon. When necessity demands that he interrupt his regular patrol to answer a call for assistance, arrest an offender, or other police emergency, he shall attend to such duty with businesslike dispatch, without unnecessary loss of time, and must resume the traversing of his beat in regular manner.

Rule 4. A patrolman shall carefully inspect every part of his beat as often as possible and by his vigilance and activity, make it difficult for anyone to commit crime

Turn to Page 2, Col. 3 and 4.

Parole Head Cites Statistics To Deny Littlejohn's Charge

Edwin M. Gill Says Practically All Clemency Orders Issued Upon High Court Official's' Recommendations.

RALEIGH, Aug. 2.—(AP)—Denying a "wholesale granting of pardons and paroles" and citing statistics to bear out the fact that a small percentage of prisoners receive clemency, Edwin M. Gill, State parole commissioner, late today said recommendations of high court officials form the chief basis of granting or denying applications of prisoners for freedom.

Gill's statement was in an answer to criticism of Frank N. Littlejohn, chief of detectives in Charlotte, Thursday night relative to the state parole system.

GOVERNOR IS SILENT.

Governor Ehringhaus said earlier today that he had no comment to make on Littlejohn's criticism, growing out of the commutation yesterday of the death sentence of Will Thomas Carter, negro, convicted in Mecklenburg of murder.

Gill's statement in full follows:

"The statement from Frank N. Littlejohn, chief of detectives in the city of Charlotte, relative to paroles and pardons is so completely at variance with the facts that I feel the public interest requires a reply.

"With reference to the commutation of sentence of Will Thomas Carter from death to life imprisonment, Littlejohn implies that Governor Ehringhaus acted upon the advice of defense attorneys.

"In commuting the sentence of Will Thomas Carter, the Governor acted upon petition of Superior court Judge Shaw of his own volition wrote the clemency office three times urging commutation of this 16-year-old boy's sentence.

CITES STATISTICS.

"Chief Littlejohn leaves the impression there has been a wholesale granting of pardons and paroles by Governor Ehringhaus. The statistics of Mecklenburg county, which are typical of the state, reveal that not a single pardon has been issued to a prisoner from Mecklenburg county during this administration and only 39 prisoners from Mecklenburg county have been paroled during two and one-half years. All these paroles were recommended by high court officials and several of these were recommended by Mr. Littlejohn himself.

"In comparison with the 39 paroled, approximately 1,000 prisoners have been committed from Mecklenburg county during the Ehringhaus administration. It can be seen that only an insignificant percentage of men sent to prison from Mecklenburg county have been released by executive order. Of the total number of paroles issued to Mecklenburg prisoners only two have been revoked. If Mr. Littlejohn or other peace officers in the state know of any prisoners violating the conditions of his parole, it will be promptly revoked upon receipt of confirmed evidence at this office.

"Mr. Littlejohn can have no serious complaint against the clemency office. We have made every effort to co-operate with him. The records show that every recommendation for a parole made by Mr. Littlejohn has been granted except one and this case deserves special mention.

SOUGHT CLEMENCY FOR BAILEY.

"Littlejohn wrote the clemency office recommending the parole of Carl E. Bailey, serving sentence in the State's prison for his part in the holding up of the money truck of the American Trust company of Charlotte. Littlejohn declared in this letter: 'I feel that Bailey has been punished sufficiently . . . and his family needs him badly.' Judge John M. Oglesby vigorously opposed the release of Bailey and the Governor declined the petition.

"The records of communications from death to life imprisonment insofar as Mecklenburg county is concerned reveal that since the beginning of the Ehringhaus administration only two men besides Carter have been commuted. These men were Willie White and Henry Hudson. In each case the Governor acted upon the petition of Judge N. A. Sinclair and Solicitor John G. Carpenter.

"In all North Carolina there are no more faithful guardians of the law than Judge Shaw and Judge Sinclair and no more diligent prosecuting attorney than Solicitor Carpenter. The Governor has been glad to act upon their recommendations and will continue to count them of great value.

"Personally, I believe respect for law and order is increased by the fact that judges and solicitors of this character do not hesitate to be humane.

"Mr. Littlejohn hurls the implication that the State's crime record lies at the door of the parole office.

"This is not borne out by the record which shows that during the biennium of 1933-35 a total of 34,685 persons were committed to prison in North Carolina and only 1,194 paroles were issued. An average of less than fifty prisoners are paroled each month while between 1,500 and 1,700 men go back to society by reason of expiration of their sentence and with no assurance of their reformation.

"Every parole granted to a prisoner from Mecklenburg county has been advertised in advance with the exception of one concerning a prisoner serving a 60 days sentence for violation of the prohibition laws, who was released because of illness.

"The records of this office do not reveal a single protest of Chief Littlejohn in any of the 38 cases which were advertised in the papers of his county.

"If the parole office has made any mistake in releasing Mecklenburg prisoners, then Chief Littlejohn must bear his share of the reponsibility in those cases where he recommended a parole."

CITY GROUP TO ASK COUNTY TO GIVE APPROVAL

Limit of $100,000 Denounced as Short-Sighted.

TO MAKE PLEA MONDAY

September 16 Set as Tentative Opening Date Because of Infantile Paralysis.

The Charlotte city school board will appear before the county commissioners Monday morning to urge indorsement of the $330,000 school program planned under the Work Progress administration's provisions.

Decision to make another effort to get the program approved was made at a meeting of the city board last night, when great dissatisfaction was expressed over the action of the county commissioners in approving application for only $100,000 in WPA funds for the city schools. Members of the board explained that they had not asked for anything that the city does not need and declared that it would be "short-sighted" for those responsible for the welfare of school children not to take advantage of the opportunity offered by the WPA program.

The school board approved a recommendation made by Dr. G. L. Rea, city health officer, that the schools should not open before September 16 because of the necessity for guarding against spread of infantile paralysis. The date of September 16 was tentatively adopted with the provision that the opening shall be further postponed if it is found advisable.

TEACHERS NAMED.

The employment of R. T. Allen, Jr., as director of physical education for Central high school, was approved. Mrs. Pattie Lee Biggers McGee was named as principal of Hutchison school, and Miss Sara Jamison was transferred from the principalship of First Ward school to the same position at Villa Heights. A report of the teachers' committee recommending employment of several new teachers to fill vacancies was approved. H. P. Harding, superintendent of the city schools, announced that a list of all teachers for the city schools will be published as soon as all vacancies have been filled.

Henry Benoit, chairman of the finance committee, reported that an over-expenditure of approximately $3,000 had been made by the city school system in the year. This includes $1,800 owed to the city on rent for the school offices in the City Hall, a charge which officials hope the city council will mark off. It was decided that the $1,200 deficit remaining will be made up by transferring funds from the school cafeteria balance of between $9,000 and $10,000. It was explained that enough money will then remain in the cafeteria fund to pay the costs of equipping the cafeteria at the new high school and to have a good amount left over for any other expenses which may come up.

Expenditure of $3,500 more in

Turn to Page 2, Col. 4.

People Offer Many Goals For Chamber

Call For Suggestions Brings Proposals For Boulevards, Swimming Pools, Auditoriums, and Stadiums.

Millions of dollars should be spent in Charlotte on boulevards, swimming pools, stadiums, auditoriums, an uptown park, and other projects, the Chamber of Commerce has been told by interested citizens, who have been prolific in suggestions for objectives to be taken up by the organization this fall.

In response to a recent story in The Observer in which Clarence O. Kuester, business manager of the Chamber of Commerce, appealed to residents of the city to send him suggestions to submit to the board at the August meeting for the Chamber to adopt as objectives in the fall, scores of citizens have told Mr. Kuester their desires for the city.

Suggestions made to Mr. Kuester to date include the opening of an uptown park where elderly people would have a place to sit and read and rest, the building of a combined convention auditorium and music hall uptown with a seating capacity of 2,000 persons, the building of adequate public comfort stations in the business section of the city, erection of underpasses that would "unbottle" the western section of the city, the building of a wide boulevard over Irwin and Sugaw creeks encircling the city.

URGE TRAFFIC OUTLET.

Other residents want a boulevard opened somewhere between fourth and Morehead streets to help carry the heavy volume of traffic between the business section and Myers Park and Dilworth. It was pointed out that all this traffic now moves over East Fourth and East Morehead streets, and another through street to Myers Park is needed.

Two large concrete swimming pools should be erected in the parks here, one citizen has pointed out. Another suggested that the seats be built at the new stadium in Independence park and that efforts be made to obtain some college football games there this fall. An athletic field house was suggested for the Central high school athletic field.

URGES AVIATION SCHOOL.

An aviation school was listed by one citizen as a need of Charlotte at this time. This resident pointed out the city has a good airport, and, if a school were developed here, an aviation shop probably would grow out of it later.

Proper publicity for Kings Mountain battlefield will attract

Turn to Page 2, Col. 8.

AUTO ABDUCTOR QUICKLY TAKEN

Man Drives Off in Car From Parking Lot, Captured 30 Minutes Later.

Robert Rector of Newell was taken into custody yesterday by city detectives after he had blandly driven a new automobile, owned by Norfleet Motor company, from a parking lot.

He was lodged in the city jail on a charge of "larceny of an automobile."

Rector, Detective Chief Frank N. Littlejohn said, was arrested by Detectives Hunnicutt and Lineberry 30 minutes after he had driven away in the new car.

Rector, it was stated, walked into the parking lot, and after inspecting several automobiles jumped into one and drove away. Several workers became suspicious and notified their employer, who instructed them to start an immediate search.

Chief Littlejohn said Rector admitted he had taken the car. He was found on North College street, where he parked the machine, Chief Littlejohn said.

REV. E. T. PARHAM ACCEPTS SOUTHSIDE PASTORATE

Rev E. T. Parham has accepted the pastorate of Southside Baptist church here. It will mark his first pastorate since his graduation at Wake Forest college. For the last two years he has been principal of Polkton high school. He was born in Wilson county 33 years ago. He married Miss Geneva Phillips of Jacksonville, N. C., in June of last year.

BELIEVE YOUTH KILLED HIMSELF

Bullet in William Dry's Head Evidently Fired From His Own Pistol.

ALBEMARLE, Aug. 2.—(AP)—Coroner R. M. Lefler today expressed belief the bullet which killed William Dry, 20-year-old farm youth turned bandit, came from Dry's own gun.

An examination of the body of the youth, fatally shot yesterday in an attempted holdup of the Home Builders association here, disclosed he was struck by two bullets, one in the right shoulder and one in the head.

The coroner said the bullet which went into his head was of .32 calibre and the other a .38, the calibre of the gun used by Officer Lewis A. Mason who fired one shot at Dry. The .38 bullet passed through the shoulder and was found imbedded in the wall.

Funeral services for Dry, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Dry, who live three miles north of here, were held this afternoon at the home and burial was in Bethesda cemetery.

Young Dry entered the Home Builders' office yesterday afternoon and attempted to rob the place. A. P. Harris, secretary and treasurer of the association, stalled for time in handing over funds while Miss Geraldine Gaddy, his assistant, braved possible gunfire to call Officer Mason. Dry, trapped in the rear of the building, fired twice, it was reported. Officer Mason then opened fire, but the shot fired by him evidently would not have proved fatal.

STORE BOUGHT BY WORD WOOD

Head of American Trust Company Purchases Business Property as Investment

The store building at 711 Providence road occupied by Henry Hayman's food store and meat market has been purchased by Word H. Wood, president of the American Trust company, as an investment, it was learned yesterday.

Mr. Wood bought the store from O. J. Thies. It is considered a valuable piece of property and was erected about five years ago. No announcement was made as to the purchase price.

Questions For Today

You should be able to answer at least half of the following 10 questions. Turn to page 10 for the answers.

1. Who played the role of Frankenstein in the photoplay of that name?
2. What is a July dun?
3. Define tutelage.
4. What is a wisket?
5. What is a synonym for chortle?
6. When was gold discovered in the Klondike?
7. What is a bolero?
8. Who discovered that the Milky Way was made up of stars?
9. What is Hudson seal?
10. Who wrote "The Pirate?"

UNDERPASS FOR CITY PROMISED

State Will Build Structure if City Gets Right-of-Way, Waynick Says.

Capus W. Waynick chairman of the State highway commission, yesterday morning informed City Manager J. B. Marshall that the State would construct an underpass beneath the tracks of the Southern railway on West Sixth street, provided the municipal government obtained a right-of-way to the property.

Mr. Waynick said his approval of the direct Federal grant of $135,000 for construction of an underpass here would be subject to the approval of the bureau of roads at Washington.

City Manager J. B. Marshall said he would look over property at the West Sixth street crossing in anticipation of obtaining a right-of-way.

If the underpass is constructed, it was stated, West Sixth street would be widened and on the west side of the tracks extended to Cedar street.

It will be comparatively easy, it was stated, to extend the street beneath the tracks. The proposed street would extend across part of Elmwood cemetery.

DEATH TAKES OLD NEGRO OF GOOD SOUTHERN DAYS

William "Uncle Bill" Porter, one of Mecklenburg county's oldest and most respected negroes, died Thursday at the Caldwell place on Hickory Grove road after a lingering illness.

Uncle Bill—who typified servants of the Old South of the '60's through his honesty and courtesy—will be buried tomorrow at 2:30 p. m., in the Beri-Salem Presbyterian church cemetery. He is survived by his widow and two sons, Ben and J. B. Porter.

GUS TRAVIS' DAILY FLASH

GAY colored auto tires, I hear, will be the rage within a year. The time is not far off, I think, when sausage will be tinted pink—and scramble eggs a purple hue. Our biscuits will be green or blue. And lavender beans may be the mode. Our dogs and cats may be Duced. But after all is done and said—we'll all still want our likker red.

Proof of French Simple-Mindedness

For an engine that ran his auto a whole year by compressed air and plain gas oil, Henri Nequin won the grand prize at recent Inventions Exhibition in Paris. Hm. How simple. Lots of fellows in this country have profitably run their entire lives on nothing more substantial than expressed air and banana oil — two things banned from The Observer want ads. That's one reason why this one rented the housekeeping rooms so readily:

ELIZABETH — Park Court, furnished, two rooms, kitchenette, semi-private bath.

THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Has Published
84,450
Want Ads
So Far This Year
and leads all newspapers both morning and evening in the two states of North and South Carolina in the number of want ads published.