

Men Charged With Killing Price Are Now Out On Bail

Bail has been granted all three defendants held in connection with the killing of Olin M. Price on February 2, which occurred at the store of Harmon Drug Co. The motion for bail was heard before associate Justice Cochran in Greenville last Thursday, and Ben Teal and Sam Perry were granted bail in the sum of \$100 each. Judge Cochran requested additional evidence in the case of Dr. Rice B. Harmon, which was forwarded him Saturday, and Monday evening Clerk of Court H. L. Harman received instructions to release Dr. Harmon in the sum of \$10,000, which was furnished Tuesday morning, and all three of the defendants are now out of jail.

The state was represented at the hearing in Greenville by Solicitor T. C. Callison while the defense was represented by George Bell Timmerman and Cyrus L. Shealy.

At the time the motion for bail was made the attorneys representing the defense offered the following affidavit of Dr. Harmon:

Personally appeared Rice B. Harmon who, being duly sworn, says: That he is a citizen and resident of the Town of Lexington, County and State aforesaid, and has lived there practically all of his life; that he is now 44 years of age; that he has been engaged in the drug business in the said town of Lexington for the past 18 years, and is now so engaged running a drug store therein; that he is at present held in the common jail of Lexington County in the custody of the Sheriff thereof, as he is informed, upon a commitment of the Coroner of said County, by reason of having been charged by a jury of inquest with the responsibility of the death of one, Olin M. Price; that he desires to make the following statement of fact concerning his connection with the affair, being advised that the statement to be made is the only one it is necessary or proper for him to make at this time; to-wit:

That just prior to the shooting, he left his home and went to his drug store, traveling a part of the way through an alley which he frequently used traveling between his home and his store, expecting to enter his said store by the rear door thereof as he frequently did; that he carried with him from his home his double-barrel shot gun and some shells which he intended taking with him on a hunt that afternoon; that at the time he left his home, he had no idea that the said Olin M. Price was at his drug store, or that he would come in contact with him there, or elsewhere; that before he left his store to go to his home, some twenty-five or thirty minutes before—as well as he can judge—he had seen the said Price in his drug store, at which time the said Price seemed to be in a hostile and ugly humor toward this deponent on account of some remark which Price claimed he had heard that this deponent had made about him; that deponent declined to talk to him, stating to him that he did not care to talk with him at that time, and asked Price to go away from his place of business which deponent thought he would do; that right after this statement to the said Price, he left the drug store and went to his home, and he expected that the said Price would be away from his place of business on his return; that he had no thought of seeing him any more that afternoon, or of having any trouble with him, that as he approached the rear door of the store, expecting to enter therein, he found the said Price standing at the door; that he did not notice the said Price standing there until he was within a few feet of the door for the reasons he was not expecting him, he was examining his gun to see if it was in good working order before he went hunting—having unbreeched and cocked it as he was walking toward the door; there was an obstruction between him and the door until he got nearly to it in the nature of a shed that had been built right at the rear of the store next to the door and on the side from which he was approaching, and a screen-door at the door in question being closed, somewhat obstructed the view of a person just inside the door; that he only noticed Price when Price spoke to him, say-

ing: "Where the hell are you? You must tell me something." Deponent said to him: "Obe, you go on out of my place of business. I don't want to bother with you now; that Price replied by saying: "God damn you, I'll go nowhere;" that he again told Price to go on out of his place of business; that he wanted to come in and wanted no trouble with him; that to this, Price replied by pushing the screen-door open, against which he already had his hand, and made us if to come down the steps on deponent—motioning his left hand forward as if to grab deponent, or his gun which deponent had just before re-breeched, saying, as he did so: "I'll go nowhere—you God damn dirty little pimp; I'll put your lights out; that deponent thought that the said Price intended to kill him, or do him serious bodily harm, and acted as if he intended to do so, and deponent, feeling that he was in danger, attempted to back away from him, and said: Don't do that, and as deponent was backing, and just as he was asking the said Price not to do that, he stumbled over some obstruction, when the gun discharged; that the deponent did not intend for the gun to fire when it did, and the same would not have fired had he not stumbled against the obstruction, unless the said Price had disregarded his warning not to do that, and had continued his advance on him; that deponent was trying to avoid a difficulty and the necessity of shooting when the gun was discharged, and he would have done so had he not stumbled against the obstruction, and the said Price had stooped his assault on him; that deponent is physically weak, and is a cripple, and he was not physically able to defend himself from an assault, or to run away from one—all of which the said Price well knew—while the said Price was a vigorous young man and in good health; that when deponent stumbled against the said obstruction, and the gun went off, it startled and excited the deponent, as he was not expecting either to happen, and he cannot tell exactly how the second shot was fired, except that the gun was discharged as he was trying to recover himself after stumbling, which was made more difficult because of deponent having a stiff knee-joint; that the deponent did not purposely fire the gun; that when deponent recovered himself, he did not see the said Price, and did not know where he was, and did not know whether he had been hit or not. That he went away from the scene in a highly nervous condition, to his home, and went to bed; and there surrendered himself to the Sheriff later in the afternoon, upon the Sheriff's coming to his home and asking for him; that deponent has undertaken to state above, as nearly accurate, as he can under the circumstances, the substance of the language used just before and at the time of the shooting.

That when deponent went from his home to his store, carrying his gun with him, he had no thought of a difficulty with the said Price, or with anyone else, or of doing anybody any harm; that the only reason that he had his gun at all was that he intended going hunting that afternoon; that if the said Price had left deponent's store as he was asked to do, some twenty-five or thirty minutes before the shooting, and had not waited there for him to return after he had gone to his home; or if the said Price had gone away from his store after deponent asked him to go away from it when he returned from his home, or if the said Price had not made the assault on deponent which he did, causing deponent to attempt to retreat in order to avoid a difficulty, there would have been no trouble; that deponent regrets, exceedingly, the affair that resulted in the death of the said Price, and states that he was not responsible for it, but that the said Price caused his own death, as hereinabove stated.

RICE B. HARMON.

FESTIVAL AT PELION.

We wish to announce that there will be a cake walk, ice cream festival and other amusements at Pelion to attract. Everybody is heartily invited to attend. It will begin about 6:30 o'clock p. m. Be on time.

Boiler Explosion Kills 2 Persons

James Griffin was killed outright and Burnett Griffin was fatally wounded when the boiler at the saw mill of Slighter & Guignard at Gaston exploded Monday afternoon. The cause of the explosion is not known. The following account of the accident is taken from The State of Wednesday morning:

The body of Burnett Griffin, 14 year old lad who lost his life in a boiler explosion Monday afternoon, was taken to Gaston, his home, yesterday morning, and the funeral services will be held at Sandy Run church at 3 o'clock this afternoon. Funeral services for James Griffin, who also lost his life in the tragedy at Gaston, were held at Sandy Run yesterday afternoon.

James Griffin was Burnett Griffin's uncle, and the former was acting as fireman and the latter standing around with a view to packing shingles, when the accident occurred. Bogan Griffin, father of Burnett and brother of James, was in Columbia yesterday morning to take Burnett's body to Gaston, and he gave the details of the tragedy. He himself was blown 20 feet and covered with ashes and debris, but strangely escaped unhurt. James Griffin died almost instantly and Burnett Griffin expired about 7 o'clock Monday night at the Baptist hospital, Columbia, about half an hour after he reached the infirmary for an operation.

Bogan Griffin and several Gaston citizens who came to Columbia with him yesterday expressed the opinion that a hung steam gauge caused the explosion but added that this was only a theory and that the exact cause was not definitely known. The boiler was of 40 horse power type and was being used at Slighter & Guignard's saw mill and shingle factory, which is located at the town of Gaston, Lexington county. The boiler was blown about 100 yards and about 50 feet in the air by the explosion.

The double tragedy caused widespread grief in the Gaston community where the Griffins are well known and well liked. James Griffin, who was 25 years of age, is survived by his wife, one child, his mother, and several brothers and sisters. Burnett Griffin is survived by his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Bogan Griffin, and five brothers and sisters.

James Griffin was the son and Burnett Griffin the grandson of the late Henry Griffin of Gaston.

THE PLAY TUESDAY NIGHT.

The Ladies' School Improvement league of Lexington did itself proud when it offered to the amusement-loving people of Lexington Tuesday night "Lotta Gabb's Minstrel." To try to pick out the "high-lights" would be a hard task. The entire show was well put on, and those taking part, individually and collectively, did exceedingly well. The house was comfortably filled when the curtain went up, and but for the inclement weather no doubt would have been filled to capacity. The proceeds of the show go to help pay for the heating plant recently installed in the high school building.

The majority of those present fully enjoyed the play, we are sure, but we cannot vouch for a few, including Mr. Frank George, Dr. G. F. Roberts, H. Dibble George, and one or two more, at whom some of the jokes were directed.

SHERIFF ROOF GETS LIQUOR MAKING PLANT

Sheriff E. A. Roof last Friday captured a still and arrested Isiah Corley in connection with the still. Sheriff Roof discovered the still in an out house on Mr. Corley's place, and also found several barrels that indicated they had been used for the purpose of souring mash.

OYSTER SUPPER AND PLAY AT PELION SCHOOL.

There will be an oyster supper given by the Ladies' Improvement league on Tuesday night, February 21 at 7 o'clock, at the Pelion high school building, after which there will be given a play entitled "Mr. Bob." A large attendance will be appreciated.

BON HEUR CLUB

Mrs. E. K. Mitchell will entertain the Bon Hour Club Friday afternoon, at 4 o'clock.

Edmund News For Past Week

Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Crout and children spent Sunday in Gilbert with relatives.

Mrs. C. O. Hutto visited relatives in Pelion Saturday.

Count, Superintendent of Education Julius E. Sharpe and Mrs. Sharpe came down from Lexington and spent Sunday afternoon with the former's mother, Mrs. W. H. Sharpe.

Mr. and Mrs. Julian Sharpe spent Sunday with Mrs. Sharpe's mother, Mrs. C. M. Schneider up above Lexington.

Mr. A. P. Corley down on Congaree Creek is confined to his room with an attack of influenza from which we hope he will soon recover. Such weather as we have been having the last couple weeks is very conducive to flu and its kind ailments.

Mr. Boyce Tanner left Monday for Norfolk after a visit to his parents here on leave of absence from the navy.

Have you noticed that our political "perennials" are beginning to show signs of life again, specially the bi-annuals? The hand thrown up in greeting from a distance, the hats beginning to show wear on the brim from raising to the women, and the warm hand grasp all give evidence of the political pot beginning to boil. The quadrennials are still in the quiescent state, having two whole years to the good yet.

Speaking of things political, another brand-new voter arrived at the home of Mr. L. E. Jefcoat one day last week and the family are as pleased as everything. This is a boy—time was when you didn't have to tell—everybody knew that "voter" meant a boy.

Mr. Hunnicutt, cotton warehouse inspector, was in Edmund Saturday.

Miss Mamie Spires of Sunny South spent Saturday night in Edmund with relatives.

C. E. Corley, Jr., of Lexington spent the week-end with his grandmother, Mrs. G. W. Reeder.

Mrs. Julia Clark Shealy is spending the week in Lexington with her sister, Mrs. B. D. Clark.

Mrs. Annie Frye and children spent Sunday with Mr. S. D. Shumpert and family.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Shumpert went to Lexington Saturday looking after business matters and shopping.

Miss Ollie Tanner spent Sunday afternoon with Miss Louise Griffith.

Miss Sallie Shumpert spent a part of last week with relatives up near Bolling Springs.

Mr. H. P. Galde and son, Lee, were in Lexington last Saturday.

Messrs. Brooks Taylor and Carl Smith of the Wateringford community were down this way on business Saturday.

LEXINGTON COUNTY TEACHERS TO HOLD MEETING SATURDAY

The Lexington County Teachers association will hold its regular monthly meeting in the Batesburg-Leesville High School auditorium Saturday.

The meeting will begin promptly at eleven o'clock. Every teacher in the county is urged to attend. Many helpful suggestions and ideas are gained by attending these meetings. It is a source of regret that they have not been attended in much larger numbers heretofore. The program is always interesting and helpful and especially so this time as the Summerland College Glee Club is to furnish the music. An effort is being made to secure Dr. Patterson Wardlaw of the University of South Carolina to deliver an address. If Dr. Wardlaw is unable to be present there will be other prominent speakers on the program. Refreshments will be served. There will be only a few more meetings of the teachers during this session and every one who can should take advantage of these opportunities. Let us make this the largest and best meeting of the year.

TIME TO MAKE YOUR TAX RETURNS HERE

The time for making tax returns will expire February 20, after which a 50 per cent penalty will be added. Make your returns before next Monday.

House Committee Reduces Expenses By Million Dollars

Columbia, Feb. 14.—Very little progress has been made by the legislature since the last issue of The Dispatch-News went to press. The house has completed its program of redistribution of the tax burden, sending over to the senate today, the so-called luxury tax bill. But the senate has taken no definite action on any of the revenue measures except the gasoline and inheritance tax bills.

It may be well to give some idea of what the luxury tax bill as it now stands will mean. It carries a tax of 10 cents on a gallon on soft drink syrups. For admissions to amusements given for the profit of individuals there, is a tax of one cent for each 30 cents admission charged. Chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, cigars, cigarettes and snuff are taxed one cent for each 10 cents. Dice and playing cards come in for a tax 5 cents a set; while perfumes, toilet water carry 5 cents on each sale and chewing gun will come in for 1 cent a package. Candy costing 50 cents a pound or more will bear one cent a half pound. The Bill also provides 2 one per cent sales tax on the price of automobiles, while ammunition of all kinds is to be taxed \$1.00 per thousand rounds.

The estimated revenue from such a law is said to be about a million dollars a year. It is proposed to have the tax commission enforce it and to collect the revenue by means of stamps as the United States government gathers a similar tax.

Appropriation Bill.

The ways and means committee of the house has completed its work on the appropriation bill and Tuesday night introduced the measure in the house. The bill carries a total of \$5,671,684.67 compared with \$6,767,135.32 appropriated in 1921, making a cut of little more than a million dollars. This is a cut of nearly a million dollars below the recommendations of Governor Cooper, which totaled \$6,466,240.15. Severe cuts were made in the appropriations for aid to schools, some salaries were cut ten per cent and all new building projects for institutions were eliminated. The house having passed all of the revenue bills, placed the levy at 5 mills, which is a reduction of seven mills over the levy for the past year. Without these new revenue measures, however, a levy of about 10 1-2 mills would be required to meet the appropriation bill as brought in by the ways and means committee.

Other Measures.

Among measures of state wide interest which have occupied the attention of the legislature the past week may be mentioned the "bad-check" law, which has passed the house and is now before the senate. This measure is intended to give better protection to persons who suffer because of having bad checks passed upon them.

The senate last week by a vote of 16 to 15 killed the bill by Representative Simonhoff which would have required all men to secure a doctor's certificate before marriage.

The house today killed a bill which would have allowed absent citizens to vote by mail.

The legislature will certainly be in session three weeks longer and maybe four. It will be way up March before final adjournment.

Notes.

Members of the house will watch with interest the race which Hon. E. T. Hughes, chairman of the ways and means committee, will make for congress this year. It has been a long time since the house numbered among its members a leader who inspired more confidence and who is so universally esteemed as is Mr. Hughes. This year he has had a very difficult problem to face, but he has at all times been master of the situation and has carried through the program of his committee in fine shape.

Another member of the house who is extremely popular with the "boys" is the Hon. Eugene Buckingham, of Aiken. "The Duke," as he is familiarly known, always has a smile for everybody. His hearty manner and his sterling worth have attracted quite a following and some of his friends are urging him to run for governor.

Representative Eugene Blease is another house member who is being

talked of for governor. It is understood, however, that he will not run against his brother "Collie," who has definitely announced that he will be in the race. Representative Blease is serving an unexpired term in the house, but he has rapidly forged to the front. He is an attractive speaker, a very likeable gentleman and has made many warm friends in the legislature.

On the senate side there is also gubernatorial prospects. Senator George K. Laney of Chesterfield is being urged to enter the race, but he has not yet made a decision. Senator Laney is one of the strong men of the senate. He has had a long service and has always worked industriously. He is always in his seat and ever on the alert. He is chairman of the judiciary, one of the most important committees. The senator is a strong speaker and his friends predict that he would prove a power on the stump.

MR. AMICK WOULD REPEAL RURAL POLICE LAW

Columbia, Feb. 14.—Representative Amick has introduced in the house two bills in regard to the county rural police. One of these bills would abolish the system, while the other would submit the question of abolishing to an election. The other members of the delegation are said to be opposed to the bills, so there is not much likelihood of their passage.

COL. WINGARD SLIGHTLY BETTER—AT HOSPITAL

Columbia, Feb. 14.—The condition of Col. J. B. Wingard, who has been confined to the Baptist hospital for several weeks, was said to be slightly improved Monday. Col. Wingard's friends hope that he will soon be up and about again.

AT ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOL

A valentine carnival and minstrel will be given at St. Andrew's school house, Friday evening, February 17th, under the auspices of the school improvement association. The doors will be opened to the public at eight o'clock and the public is cordially invited to come and enjoy the fun.

NORTH EDISTO 87.

The Improvement Association met Friday afternoon to elect a delegate to attend the meeting of the State Improvement Association in Columbia, 17th March, 1922, and Mrs. M. J. Jefcoat was elected.

The Improvement Association was entertained with a program gotten up by a representative from each grade elected by the children themselves. It was much enjoyed by all.

January "honor roll" is as follows:

Seventh grade—Everette Jefcoat, Carl Jefcoat, Mary Jefcoat, Jack Flake, Lucile Spires, H. H. Schoenberg.

Sixth grade—Estelle Williamson, Maggie Williamson, Lella May King.

Fifth grade—Cornell Tindall, Annie Wise, Annie Lee Flake, Nona Re Horsey, Annie Sharpe, Cecil Jefcoat, Wiley Jefcoat.

Fourth grade—Theodo Tindal, Evelyn Sturkie, Willie Lee Peel, Bertha Spires, Jettie Kirkland, Talmage Sturkie, Edmond Melver, Corner Hoover.

Third grade—Johnnie King, Lottie Flake.

Second grade—Melvera Jefcoat, Melton Jefcoat, Lula Jefcoat, Carrie Bell Jefcoat, John Poole, Marlon Sturkie, Alma Jefcoat, Doris Kirkland.

Second grade—Johnson King, Jr., Leola Spires, Odell Hoover, Downie Furtick, Miriam Flake, LeGare Peel.

Advanced first grade—Fritz Hoover, Percy Jefcoat, Lucious King.

1st grade—Wildon Flake.

The health of this community is very good at present.

The farmers of this section are busy plowing.

There will be a supper at North Edisto school February 22. Also music by Mr. Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. U. G. Jefcoat are all smiles; it's a fine girl.