

# Witness Drops Dead On Stand First Day

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It to remain in the record until that question had been decided. The defense objected strenuously to the testimony.

Besides repeating the alleged conversation of Smiley, Mrs. Eitzen testified that Mrs. Black came to her home in a greatly worried state of mind the Saturday preceding the killing when, according to other witnesses, she had had an altercation with the defendant.

Edmund Bingham and his wife and two daughters followed the trend of the testimony closely for the greater portion of the day although at times the defendant appeared bored and yawning. From time to time he conferred with his counsel. Traces of emotion were manifested by him during the testimony of Dr. Smyser relative to exhumation of his mother's body.

Dr. Smyser's testimony was largely of a technical nature. He qualified as an expert on gunshot wounds by relating his experiences in attending emergency cases in Baltimore hospitals and attending wounded soldiers in France.

Offering the will of Mrs. Margie Black as the final link in the chain of circumstantial evidence it has been forging, the state rested late Tuesday in the second trial of Edmund D. Bingham, charged with murder in connection with the death of L. Smiley Bigham, his brother, Mrs. Black, his sister, Mrs. M. M. Bigham, his mother, and Leo and John McCracken, small adopted children of Mrs. Black.

Judge Hayne F. Rice reserved decision until Wed. on whether or not Mrs. Black's will would be admitted as evidence. The state had examined 30 witnesses from the opening of court last Thursday morning until Philip H. Arrowsmith, assisting Solicitor L. M. Gasque in the prosecution, announced that with the introduction of the will

the state would rest. The defense is scheduled to begin presentation of its witnesses immediately after Judge Rice's decision on the will is announced.

Two state's witnesses Tuesday swore that Edmund D. Bingham had in his possession the pearl handled pistol which was found in Smiley Bigham's right hand on the day following the tragedy, during the night after Mrs. Bigham, Mrs. Black, and the two children had been found shot to death and several hours before Smiley's body was located in a clump of trees about a half mile from the Bigham home. They were Mace Cox of Rock Hill and John W. McCracken, who said he was "supposed to be the father" of the two slain children. Both testified they spent the night of the tragedy at the Bigham home near Pamlico in Florence County with the defendant, members of his family and several neighbors who came to sit up with the dead.

**Skull of Mrs. Bigham**  
The bullet pierced skull of Mrs. Bigham was introduced as evidence early Tuesday during the testimony of Dr. N. B. Finklea of Hyman, who gave it as his opinion that the wound the woman suffered was sufficient to have produced instantaneous death. During the exhibition of part of his mother's skeleton, the defendant leaned forward showing interest in the examination and the words of the witness, but there were no signs of agitation visible upon the pallid countenance although he swallowed hard once or twice.

D. H. Williams a farmer living near the Bigham home, told of observing footprints leading from the scene of the tragic occurrence in the direction of the spot where Smiley Bigham's body was located early on the morning following the killing, several hours before the finding of the body in the grove of trees. Cox and McCracken had sworn that the defendant left his house early that day and was gone for approximately 30 minutes without saying where he had been.

family financial transactions was related on the stand by E. A. Black, widower of Mrs. Margie Black, and J. Bogah Cain of Florence, brother-in-law of the defendant. Cain, whose wife, now dead, was Letha Bigham, testified that when she died in February, 1920, about 11 months before the tragedy, five-sixths of the Bigham land estimated to be 1,000 acres valued at \$75,000 was in her name and the remaining one-sixth in the name of Mrs. Black. Deeds to the two women were made out, Black testified because Mrs. M. M. Bigham and Smiley were on the bond of Grover Cleveland Bigham, another brother of the defendant. Dr. Bigham, according to the records, was convicted of the murder of his wife in Georgetown county about five years ago, but appealed and was released on bond pending a hearing. It was this bond that his mother and Smiley were on. The records show that the physician jumped his bond and so far as is known, he has not been heard from since his disappearance. It was indicated in Black's testimony that the transfer of the Bigham property was made in order to avoid payment of the amount of the bond.

**Sought To Buy Interest**  
After Mrs. Cain's death, her husband testified, Edmund came to him and sought to buy his interest in the estate, saying he was acting for his mother. The deed was not closed however, and later Mrs. Bigham, Smiley and Mrs. Black engaged counsel to get the estate settled. It was developed that Attorney Arrowsmith was retained by the Bighams for this purpose. Cain testified that it was understood that Edmund D. Bigham had already received his share of the estate since the Pamlico tragedy January 15, 1921. Cain said he understood that A. L. King of the defense counsel in the present case had acted for the state in making settlement.

Attorney Arrowsmith stated that the will of Mrs. Black made on the Saturday preceding the killing was relevant in that it showed the connection of the exchanges of deeds and property with the case of the prosecution.

The state has contended that Edmund Bigham killed the other members of the family in order to come into possession of the Bigham property.

Edmund D. Bigham is the sole surviving heir of Mrs. Bigham, whose whereabouts is known, both of his brothers-in-law testified. The other heirs were the two witnesses and the nine year old son of Cain, besides Dr. Cleveland Bigham, who, it was said, had never received his portion of the estate.

Cain told on the stand that the deeds torn from the record book of the Florence County Clerk of Court were those that conveyed the bulk of the Bigham property to his wife. The mutilation of the records for which Clerk of Court E. M. Singletary in his testimony blamed Smiley occurred shortly after Mrs. Cain's death, the missing records were later found under the Bigham home.

A dramatic scene was precipitated by Judge Mendel L. Smith of defense counsel, in cross-examining McCracken.

**EVERGREEN S. I. A.**  
TO MEET OCT. 3

The Evergreen School Improvement Association will hold its regular meeting at Evergreen School house Friday night, October 3, 1924. Refreshments will be served by the Ladies of the association. The public is invited to come.

**FOR SALE**—173 acre high land farm, good buildings, recently built. Price less than \$30.00 per acre, easy terms.—B. F. Whittington, owner, Loris, S. C. R. F. D. No. 1.  
10-2-24 34; pd.

## Parent-Teachers Meet October 7

The Parent-Teachers Association of the Burroughs High School will meet Tuesday afternoon, October 7 at 4 o'clock in the Auditorium. At this meeting the officers for the coming year will be elected. A large attendance is desired.

Mr. Alton Anderson is leaving Thursday for Montgomery, Alabama, where he will visit friends. Mr. Anderson is an employee of the seaboard air line railway Co.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
The Conquest of the City will be the subject of the morning sermon at our Church Sunday morning. This constitutes our chief challenge as a denomination today and all will do well to consider the question in the light of God's word.

Despite weather conditions a great crowd gathered at Sunday School last Sunday and plans for larger and better things in this department are being worked out from week to week.

The young people are moving almost in mass toward a goal that is well worthy of any church of our size.

In order that a local color may be given the consideration of the City problems we will invite the Chamber of Commerce to come with us and lend their attention to some things for the good of Conway.

Come along all job-merchants and professional men of every walk of life in our little city.

We will encourage every man, his neighbor and make of Conway a larger and better place in which to live. Come along everybody.

## BOX PARTY AT ZION SCHOOL HOUSE

There will be a box party at Zion school, Galyants Ferry, Friday night October 10th. The public is cordially invited. Come and bring a friend.

## WRIGLEYS

After every meal

A pleasant and agreeable sweet and a health-giving benefit as well.

Good for teeth, breath and digestion. Makes the next cigar taste better.



# Mayor Needs Help In Selecting Most Beautiful Girl

Who is the prettiest girl in Conway? That is the question now confronting Mayor Suggs. He has been requested to select the prettiest girl here to represent Conway in the huge Farm Festival to be held at Florence in connection with the Pee Dee fair which begins Oct. 13, and he is wondering just how he will go about this.

There are any number of young ladies here who should qualify for the position, and it is because of this that Mayor Suggs is worrying himself bald. He doesn't know which one to select. He doesn't know which one occurred one, then he will make the others mad, and if he does not select anyone, then he will make all of them mad.

So, there you are. Will some one suggest a method of selecting a young lady to the Mayor. He is greatly in need of help; and stated that he will greatly appreciate any assistance.

The fortunate young lady will be the guest of the city of Florence on Wednesday, Oct. 15 and she will contest with other young ladies from all over the Pee Dee section for the privilege of being crowned queen of the festival; which is quite an honor for any town in this section.



**Game Tournament**  
One of the first social events of the season, among the Club Women of Conway was a "Game Tournament" last Friday afternoon given by The Fine Arts Club at the home of Mrs. T. B. Ludlam.

There were twelve tables of different games, and a very happy afternoon spent by the forty-seven ladies and a gentleman who were present.

Mrs. Ludlam's lovely home was more than pretty with the beautiful fall flowers everywhere.

The guests were met by Mrs. E. P. Walsh and W. A. Freeman and introduced to Mrs. G. L. Ford who was presiding over the "collection plate" where 50c. was deposited; Mrs. Ludlam and Mrs. D. G. Spivey, President of the Club, met the guests here and showed them to the different tables.

The Club presented the winners at each table with a prize, a delicious sweet course, was served by the reception committee.

The "Fine Arts Club" is one of the most alive and interested, among the Federated Clubs in this County. Their work is being felt more and more in the community life; and the money raised at the parties and other events under their auspices is always wisely invested in community work.

## FISH-FRY

One of the most enjoyable events of the week was the fish-fry given by Miss Essie Elliott on Friday evening. Leaving here about seven o'clock the jolly crowd of young people motored to Bucksville. Under a huge oak near the river, fires were lighted and the fish prepared. The various couples alternated turns at the frying-pan while the others sang and chatted.

Among those who enjoyed the outing were: Misses Essie Elliott, Edna Taylor, Grace Swicord, Celia Swicord, Mary Alice Leath, Lucy Timmerman, Lucy Little, Elizabeth Stille, Mary Gentry, Sarah McMillan, Ella Sessions, Lee Cooper, Martha Dykes, Grace Woodward, Messrs.: Dick Winstead, E. L. Easterling, Kenneth Suggs, Joe McMillan, Clarence Sessions, Henry Woodward, Paul Little, H. Marlow, Parratt.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Barret chaperoned the crowd.

## Colds Cause Grip and Influenza

LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets remove the cause. There is only one "Bromo Quinine" E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 25c.

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of South Carolina, in the matter of N. J. Ferris, Bankrupt.  
Notice is hereby given that the above named bankrupt has filed a petition for discharge and that a hearing has been ordered to be had upon the same on the 15th day of October, A. D. 1924, before this Court, at Charleston, S. C. at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, at which time and place all known creditors and other persons in interest may appear, and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of the said petitioner should not be granted.  
RICHARD W. HUTSON, Clerk.  
For publication in The Field, September 11, 15, 25, October 2, 1924. 44t.

# METHODIST S. S. RALLY DAY

## Miss Mary Lemmon to Speak Afternoon and Night

Every Methodist and friend of the Methodist Sunday School in Conway is cordially invited to attend the Rally Day exercises in the various Departments of the School, conducted by the Department Superintendents.

Jno. E. Watson, President Hut Class.

Miss Ella Sessions, President Service Class.

Mrs. Ella D. Smith, President Spannah Wesley Class.

Mr. C. D. Gasque, President Young Peoples Department.

Mr. R. W. Lane, Superintendent Senior Department.

Mrs. G. P. Watson, Superintendent Intermediate Department.

Mrs. L. H. Burroughs, Superintendent Junior Department.

Mrs. D. M. Burroughs, Superintendent Primary Department.

Mrs. A. C. Thompson, Superintendent Beginners Department.

Mrs. V. F. Platt, President Mothers Class.

Mrs. Oscar D. Richardson, Superintendent Cradle-Roll.

These officers with their teachers will do all in their power to see which department reports the highest average on attendance. The Hut Class and the Service Class will vie with each other in seeing that the old folks and the babies on the cradle roll have some means of getting there. If anyone knows of anyone that needs conveyance to get to the school notify Mr. M. R. Smith, Assistant Superintendent of the School.

The Eleven o'clock hour will be devoted to topics from various departments of the School on the Forward Step movement for Children's week.

Miss Mary Lemmon, Superintendent of Elementary work for the South Carolina Conference will conduct a parent-teacher round table at three-thirty in the afternoon and will address the congregation at the evening hour. A treat rich in store for all who believe "The Race Moves Forward on the feet of little children."

Conway, Star Rt. No. 4  
8-28-24. 44t.

**Mrs. G. F. Stalvey Dies at Lake City**  
Mrs. G. F. Stalvey died at her home in Lake City Monday morning, September 9. She had been seriously ill for months. She was well known here, as Conway had been her home up to about fifteen years ago. There are many relatives and friends here who sympathize with her husband.

## FOR SALE

In Cedar grove section adjoining the Pee Dee school grounds, 1 place for quick sale, containing 73 acres, 35 acres cleared. One six room dwelling and out buildings. Two tobacco barns, 1 pack house and 3 room tenant house with out buildings.

J. BEN HUCKS.  
Conway, Star Rt. No. 4  
8-28-24. 44t.

## NOTICE OF SALE

Under and by virtue of the decree and judgment of the court made by his Honor S. W. G. Shipp presiding Judge, in the case of J. E. Dawsey, Plaintiff vs. J. W. Dawsey, et al, defendants, and dated the 10th day of Sept. A. D. 1924, I, the undersigned W. L. Bryan, as Special Master of Horry Co., and State of South Carolina, to the highest bidder before the Court House door, at Conway, in Horry County State of South Carolina, during legal hours of sale, on salesday in October next, it being the 6th day of said month, all and singular that certain real estate situate in Horry County, and described as follows, to wit:

All and singular all that certain piece, parcel or tract of land in Galyants Ferry township, County of Horry and State of South Carolina, containing two hundred ninety-six (296) acres, more or less, bounded and described as follows, to wit: Bounded on the north by the lands of W. E. Graham, on the east by the estate lands of Daniel Graham, on the south by the estate lands of Waterman Grainger, Freadwell Swamp, the line, and on the west by the lands of H. M. Timmons and Wright Shelly.

Terms of Sale Cash. Purchaser to pay for papers and stamps.  
Sept. 10th, 1924.

W. L. BRYAN, C. C. P.,  
Horry County.

T. B. LEWIS,  
Plaintiff's Attorney.  
9/11/24. 44t.

With Genuine Balloon Tires—Standard Equipment

## You Pay No More for All Closed Car Comforts in the Coach

Hudson and Essex alone have the Coach. No other type and no other car gives "Closed Car Comforts at Open Car Cost." Everyone knows it represents highest closed car value. That is why it is the largest selling 6-cylinder closed car in the world.

Now it adds the proven superiority of balloon tires—greater riding ease, finer appearance, improved road steadiness, and almost doubled braking efficiency.

It marks another margin of advantage in a leadership that all acknowledge.

**HUDSON SUPER SIX COACH \$1500**  
**ESSEX SIX COACH \$1000**

Freight and Tax Extra

**H. G. CUSHMAN**  
Conway S. C.

44t.