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PERSONAL

Miss Bessie Nash returned home Saturday night for the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Barfield are spending some time with relatives in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. Wade Williford, of Athens, Ga., spent Christmas in the city with his uncle, Mr. Jas. F. Glenn.

Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Converse, of Florence, spent Christmas in the city with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Sumter.

Mrs. Julia Lester Dillon is spending the holiday season in Augusta, Ga.

Mr. Manning Scurry, who left Sumter county, twenty-three years ago and has since made his home in Philadelphia, is spending the holidays with relatives in the Brogdon section.

Mrs. M. B. Garret, of Laurens, is visiting her daughter Mrs. Earle Rowland.

Messrs. Richard Baker and McDonald Dick are at home from the University of Virginia for the holidays.

Mr. S. T. Burch, of Florence, spent Christmas in the city.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Jamison Cain who were married in Asheville Monday arrived in the city Monday and are at home on East Calhoun street.

Phillip Jennings, manager of the Western Union Telegraph office at Estell, Hampton county, S. C., who was home on a two day visit to his parents, returned this morning to Estell.

Mr. Odell Payer of Charlotte is spending the Christmas holidays with his parents on Kendrick street.

Mr. Hughson Green is at home from Columbia for the holidays.

Mr. John T. Green, Jr., returned to Jackson, Miss., Tuesday after spending three days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John T. Green.

Miss Rosalie Neyle is spending a few days at Congaree, Richland county.

Mr. J. R. Eard, of Columbia, spent Tuesday at the local store.

Mr. Albert Phelps, who is attending the Massachusetts School of Technology, is spending the holidays at home.

Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Rhame of Columbia spent several days during the holiday with Mrs. Rhame's grandmother, Mrs. A. J. Lide.

Mr. L. P. Lide of Waycross, Ga., is visiting his aunt, Mrs. A. J. Lide.

Mr. R. B. Allen has been called to Elywood, to attend the funeral of his father, Mr. Jas. F. Allen.

Mr. and Mrs. Sol Blott of Barnwell and Sol, Jr., are visiting Mr. Moses Green.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Green are visiting relatives in Florence.

Dr. Robert W. McKay is visiting friends in Columbia.

Miss Nell Stall of Columbia is spending a few days with Miss Reba Stall.

Miss Marie Roessler, of Spartanburg, is spending a few days with her sister, Mrs. Felder Weeks, on West Liberty street.

Midshipman C. E. Crombe, Jr., is at home from Annapolis with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Crombe during the holidays.

Miss Marian Satterwhite, of Winthrop College is spending a few days in the city.

Mr. Robert D. Sanders, of Florence, is in the city.

Another Highway Mass Meeting

A mass meeting of the citizens of Shiloh and Rafting Creek townships will be held at Sumter court house at 11 a. m. Friday, January 5th, to which every citizen, male and female of those two townships, the Sumter county legislative delegation, Sumter County Permanent Road commission and every business and professional man and woman of Sumter, the county seat of Sumter county, are invited and urged to attend.

The object of this meeting is to discuss plans whereby the necessary funds will be provided by legislative enactment to put the Permanent Road commission of Sumter county in position to carry out, as far as may be possible, the original program of hard surface highways for Sumter county, and give to Rafting Creek and Shiloh townships their rightful share of the mileage of hard surface highways to which these sections are entitled.

The committee of Shiloh citizens consisting of Messrs. W. H. Green, chairman; J. C. Truluck, Bryant Smith, Gamble Moore, R. W. Green and T. J. Keels, have requested E. L. Reardon, secretary of the Sumter County Chamber of Commerce, to give notice through the newspapers of this meeting. This committee emphasizes the importance of the business and professional men and women of Sumter attending this meeting and showing their interest in their friends and neighbors of Shiloh and Rafting Creek townships. Shiloh township is wide awake and will have a large representation present, and urges that Rembert, Hagood, Borden, and all other sections of Rafting Creek township get busy whooping up a big crowd to represent that township at this meeting.

DARLINGTON HAS FIRE DAMAGE

Darlington, Dec. 27.—Fire of unknown origin here tonight about 7 o'clock damaged a store room and fourteen bales of cotton that were stored in it. The building and cotton is owned by K. Simon and it is thought to have been insured. Good work by the fire department prevented the damage from being

FORMER MER ROUGE MAYOR ARRESTED

Dr. B. M. McKoin Found by Police at Johns Hopkins Where He Was Taking Post Graduate Work

Bastrop, La., Dec. 26.—The second arrest in connection with the Morehouse kidnaping of last August was made late today when Dr. B. M. McKoin, until a few months ago mayor of Mer Rouge, was taken in custody at Baltimore, at the request of Governor Parker, who charged him with murder. The physician was taking a postgraduate course at Johns Hopkins.

The former mayor is expected to reach here within a few days to join a former deputy sheriff, who is now being held on the similar charge in the Bastrop jail.

While the arrest was being made a detachment of National Guard was reconnoitering along Lake La Fourche for evidence to lead to the arrest of dynamiters responsible for the blasting at a ferry landing last week when the bodies of two men, believed to have been tortured and murdered by masked and robed men, were blown from the bottom of the lake.

The company also was to act as a bodyguard for the sheriff who was to make arrests in the event his suspicions justified them.

During the day Adjutant General Toombs, suddenly called back from Washington by the governor, arrived in Morehouse to direct the operations of the three companies of state troops encamped here and at Mer Rouge.

It was persistently reported during the day that all preparations had been made to call out two additional state companies if conditions warranted.

Soldiers are on guard duty at the jail here and encamped in the heart of Mer Rouge, where the situation is such that the governor does not want to leave the townspeople to themselves for the fear there will be bloodshed because of the friction among them following the August event. Many of the populace are armed.

The military also was at the disposal of the civil authorities to take in custody any members of the hooded mob whose identity are known to the state authorities, according to department of justice men.

Attorney General Cocco stated that six or seven arrests will be made before the open hearing January 5.

It is reported the number of arrests will be increased as the identity of the dynamiters are established. Federal agents declare they have the name of the ring leader and his arrest is imminent.

Attorney General Cocco is expected to arrive at New Orleans tomorrow in preparation for the conference there Thursday, at which time plans for the hearing will be outlined and the reports of the coroner's jury that conducted the inquest over the headless bodies of Watt Daniels and Thomas Richards will be discussed.

Citizens were gathering on the street corners tonight discussing the arrest of two of their former law officials. The arrest of the man who had been their mayor until he resigned last August came as a complete surprise. Dr. McKoin was born and grew to manhood at Monroe and later moved to Mer Rouge where he was a practicing physician. His friends induced him to make the race for mayor and during his incumbency he fearlessly upheld the law and attempted to rid the community of moonshiners and other law-breakers, it was said.

On August 2 he reported assassins fired two loads of shot into his moving automobile as he was answering a sick call. He later received persistent warnings to leave the community and he did so. This event led to the tragedy of the 24th, in the theory of the states.

T. J. Burnett, arrested last Saturday, is denied visitors except under military surveillance. Today he grew sullen and restless and repeatedly gripped the iron bars in which he is inclosed. His battery of attorneys spent several hours with him.

It was recalled here tonight that four murders have been charged to hooded men since last May along the Arkansas-Louisiana border.

At Willnot, Ark., E. L. Gills, a farmer, was lured from his home, shot to death and his body burned. After his death the Louisiana-Arkansas law and order league was formed to secure evidence in the case but no arrests were made. The league was said to have been made up of 5,000 citizens of the two states and recently disbanded.

The kidnaping of five prominent Mer Rouge citizens on a highway last August is believed to have resulted in the death of Daniels and Richards. Two others were severely flogged and J. L. Daniels, 70 year old, father of Watt Daniels, was at the point of death for several weeks because of the cruelties inflicted upon him.

The Smackover invasion, the third event of the year, occurred last month and resulted in the death of J. D. Woods, 25, a Mississippian. He was riddled with shot after he had fired on a party of several hundred masked and white "sheeted" men who marched into the new oil field of south Arkansas to clean out the undesirables. One man was flogged and a gambling house, a two story frame structure, torn down. An exodus of more than 2,000 people from the region resulted. Officials made

DR. McKoin DENIED

Baltimore, Dec. 26.—Dr. B. M. McKoin, former mayor of Mer Rouge, La., who is in custody in connection with the Morehouse kidnaping and the killing of two mutilated bodies at Lake La Fourche, was arrested here today at the Johns Hopkins University-Brady Institute, where he is taking a post-graduate course. The arrest followed receipt of a telegram from Governor J. M. Parker of Louisiana, requesting the local police to arrest McKoin on a charge of murder.

After questioning by police officials Dr. McKoin was locked up to await further action by Louisiana authorities.

Other than requesting the local authorities to arrest McKoin there was nothing contained in Governor Parker's telegram. It read:

"Important. Arrest Dr. McKoin for murder. Hold him for Louisiana authorities."

Dr. McKoin denied knowledge of the killing of the two men. "All I know," he declared, "is that both men killed were on the bad side—the side of bootleggers, gunmen and men who associated with negro women."

The discovery of Dr. McKoin here and his subsequent arrest came about purely by accident. Word was received here several days ago that Dr. McKoin was a student at Johns Hopkins and department of justice agents sought to question him. However, university officials denied McKoin was registered as a post-graduate, and stated several letters had been received there, but unable to locate him the letters were turned over to the postoffice department as "unknown."

Early today a policeman was found on the water front unconscious. He was removed to a hospital. When the hospital report reached police headquarters it was signed by Dr. McKoin. It was then that local newspapermen rushed to the hospital and interviewed him. Up to that time the telegram from Governor Parker asking for his arrest had not been received. Dr. McKoin spoke freely and insisted he was not a fugitive from justice, and that he had made no attempt to conceal his identity.

He stated he has been in Baltimore since October 1, and had left Mer Rouge after an attempt had been made to assassinate him.

Dr. McKoin insisted he was not a member of the Ku Klux Klan. He praised the organization, however, saying the members "did much to hold down bootlegging and immorality, while I was mayor of Mer Rouge." He also stated that lawlessness is a common occurrence at Mer Rouge and that he was among those who started to clean up the place. The result, he said, was a hard battle with bootleggers, moonshiners, and men of bad repute.

"Just before I left Mer Rouge a boy of a good family was shot in the back. What did the sheriff and governor do? The case was dismissed after a jury filled with bootleggers and the vicious element declared the alleged murderer innocent.

"Now, however, when a bootlegger and some one else is killed, the governor joins in the investigation. This affair, in my opinion, will decide whether the 28-cent and good element of the town will control."

Dr. McKoin stated he had received threatening letters a long time before he left Mer Rouge and asked the sheriff to investigate without success. "Just as I left the mayorship and the successful candidate went into office," he continued, "gangs that paraded the streets fired shots around my house. I asked the sheriff to take matters in hand, but nothing was done."

WILL FIGHT EXTRADITION

Baltimore, Dec. 27.—A habeas corpus writ for Dr. B. M. McKoin, former mayor of Mer Rouge, La., arrested here on the charge of murder, was issued today by Chief Judge Gorter of the city court. Dr. McKoin, who was arrested on instructions of the Louisiana governor, declared he was innocent and would fight extradition. A telegram from Governor Parker said extradition papers would be forwarded. The police court was asked to hold Dr. McKoin for ten days.

Engagement Announced.

The Savannah Press of Saturday, December 23rd, contained the announcement of the engagement of Miss Marion G. Byck of Savannah, Ga., and Mr. Alva I. Green, of Sumter. The date of the wedding is not announced.

Death.

Mrs. Isabel Sanders Bultman, wife of F. A. Bultman, died at the Toumey Hospital Thursday morning at 3 o'clock, after an illness of several months duration. Mrs. Bultman was the daughter of the late Marion Sanders, former sheriff of Sumter county, and was one of the most popular women of Sumter. She was married to Mr. Bultman twenty-six years ago, and has lived here all her life. She was a woman of many lovely traits of character and to know her was to love her. She is survived by her husband, Mr. F. A. Bultman and two children, Polly and Francis, Jr., also by her sister, Mrs. J. C. Huger of this city and one brother, Mr. Robert D. Sanders, of Florence.

The funeral services will be held tomorrow, Friday, morning, at Trinity Methodist church at 11 o'clock.

New Orleans, Dec. 26.—The general federal prohibition officers here today telegraphed Governor Parker to protest against the arrest of McKoin.

Staubenville, Ohio, Dec. 26.—Prohibition officers here today declared war any one on the blind fingers and private drinking parties, following the killing yesterday of Charles E. Blinn, leader of the dry agents. They announced Blinn was the fifth Jefferson county prohibition officer killed by unknown persons.

London, Dec. 26.—An Exchange Telegraph Athens dispatch says that Premier Gonatas declared the Greek government never thought of acceding to the Turkish demands for the removal of the Greek patriarch from Constantinople, even though the allies accept the Turkish viewpoint, expressed at the Lausanne conference. He said it was a national problem and the cabinet must stand firm.

New York, Dec. 26.—Despite the fact that the police records show that yesterday was the driest Christmas in the history of the city there were six deaths, attributed by the police to bootleg whiskey. There were no drunks in the westside police court.

Seattle, Dec. 26.—A Search for Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, who escaped in May, 1920, while serving two years for desertion from the United States army was started here last night. A restaurant keeper reported that a man looking like Bergdoll came in to his place and seemed uneasy.

London, Dec. 27.—The British financial mission, headed by Stanley Baldwin, chancellor of the exchequer, sailed for New York today on the liner Maestric.

New Orleans, Dec. 27.—Two men and two women are being held here in connection with the robbery of five messengers of the Drovers National bank of Kansas City, in which the highwaymen obtained \$7,000. The men gave their names as George Wilson and Jim Covert, and said the women were their wives. Eighty-three hundred dollars was found in a handbag.

London, Dec. 27.—A Reuters dispatch from Lausanne says there is serious danger of the Near East conference becoming abortive if the Turks persist in their present methods.

Moscow, Dec. 27.—Acting Commissar of Finance Sokolnikoff yesterday recommended to the all-Russian soviet congress that the tax system be changed. He said he thought it best to change to a monetary basis from the present system whereby peasants pay for farm products. He said he could present an annual budget because of the instability of the ruble.

Lausanne, Dec. 28.—The East conference commission capitulations today reached a deadlock, pending the receipt of instructions by the Turkish delegates, some of the allied delegates said after the meeting adjourned.

Columbia, Dec. 28.—Capt. C. Roberts of the state penitentiary guard has gone to New York with requisition papers for Will West, alias Jack Hasty, a negro, who escaped from the prison farm in 1919. He still had more than two years of his sentence to serve. West is said to be serving a short sentence in New York and penitentiary officials were notified that his term would expire on December 30. Capt. Roberts left Columbia in time to reach New York before that date.

Shots Strike Five

Anderson, Dec. 27.—Five children who were playing together in the rear of their home in Anderson mill village were shot by Wildeman Walker, a young man who said he was just celebrating Christmas and had intended to fire into the ground. Eunice Scott, 12 years old, received seven shots in the abdomen. Ethel Scott also received some of the shot in her abdomen and legs. Harold Scott was shot in the chest. A small girl named Elrod and a boy named Sneed, who were orphans and visiting here, were also struck. The attending physician says none of the children are seriously hurt but are painfully wounded.

NOTICE

The annual meeting of the County Board of Commissioners will be held in its office in the Court House at 10:30 o'clock on the morning of Thursday, January 4th. All persons holding demands of any kind against the county, not previously presented, must file same with the clerk on or before the first day of January as required by law.

D. M. BLANDING, Clerk to Board.

WOODS WINS

Columbia, Dec. 27.—The division of the state committee for the Morehouse foundation, which was made up of Governor Harvey and women of the state, voted \$73,177 toward the foundation. Its quota was \$82,000. "I feel sure that raised our full quota," Mrs. W. J. chairman of the women's division said in speaking of the amount.

The woman's division was announced, with the total South Carolina quota of \$25,000.

Mrs. Melton's resignation was admitted to Hamilton, chairman of the Women's division.

MYSTERY INC

Louisville, Dec. 27.—A mystery surrounding the death of C. L. Black in the city of Mrs. Olive L. Jones had been increased today, as police detectives discovered by police detectives. Mrs. Jones had been increased to \$10,000. Mrs. Jones had been increased to \$10,000.

Monday, Dec. 27.—The office of the day and night call was between day and night.

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COLUMBIA GAS RATE CASE

Columbia, Dec. 28.—Hearings on the petition of the Columbia Railway, Gas and Electric Company for permission to increase rates on gas and electricity will be resumed by the South Carolina Railroad commission Wednesday morning, January 2, at 11 o'clock, it is announced here.

Milling Plant Burns

Dillon, Dec. 26.—Fire destroyed the Pee Dee Milling company's plant last night about 12 o'clock and the warehouse in which it was located. The location of the plant was to the rear of the People's bank building, only an alley separating the two buildings. Except for a high brick wall on the south side of the warehouse facing the rear of the bank, the bank building would likely have also burned. The window frames of the lower and upper stories of the bank were burned. The warehouse was the property of the estate of A. J. C. Cottingham and the milling plant belonged to W. A. Mears. The building loss was about \$3,000 and the milling plant loss about the same. Mr. Mears had insurance on his grist mill and the small stock of groceries he carried in stock.