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KENNETH GOSSETT GIVEN 40 YEARS FOR CRIME

Sentenced By Judge Sease Saturday after the Jury Had Been Out 4 hours and 55 Minutes. Counsel For Defense Will Take Appeal To Supreme Court. Gossett Taken To Columbia

Kenneth Gossett was sentenced to 40 years in the State penitentiary or on the Abbeville County chain gang by Judge Thomas S. Sease Saturday afternoon for criminally assaulting a 16-year old girl near this city Sunday March 14.

The trial, one of the most sensational of its kind ever held in Abbeville County, began Thursday morning, going to the jury at 1:05 Saturday afternoon. The jury was out four hours and fifty-five minutes, bringing in a verdict of guilty on the first count of the indictment and recommending the defendant to the mercy of the court.

Judge Sease imposed the maximum penalty of the law in such cases and in doing so made the following statement:

"I don't know that anything I may say to you," began Judge Sease, meeting the direct gaze of the defendant, will do any good. It is customary that the court make some statement that may benefit the prisoner at the bar and the public at such times as this, and what I say will be brief. Let this be a lesson to all people. They must know that they must not violate any law, and especially this law for which you have been tried and found guilty.

"I agree with the verdict of the jury. They have taken a merciful view of your case and I am glad. But don't deceive yourself that a pardon will come to you soon. You have put yourself in this condition. Very likely your age has weighed in your favor with the jury. These long years you will have to serve wearing stripes will shine as a light to others and should be a lesson to other boys and girls.

"The jury has saved your life, but it will be a living death for the balance of your life.

"The sentence of the court is that you serve at hard labor on the roads of Abbeville county or in the state penitentiary at Columbia for 40 years. Sit down."

Over-ruled Motion for New Trial

As soon as the verdict was announced Attorney Price made a motion for a new trial on the same grounds given when a change of venue was refused by Judge Sease. These were that the jurisdiction of the court was unconstitutional and that the indictment should be quashed because the defendant was denied trial by due process of law. Judge Sease immediately over-ruled this motion. Attorneys for the defense will appeal next to the Supreme Court, having 10 days in which to prepare their case.

Take Prisoner to Columbia

Kenneth Gossett soon made final preparations to leave the jail and was taken to the Southern depot by Sheriff Burts and turned over U. S. Deputy Marshal Bruce, Deputy Sheriff T. L. Cann, and Special Deputy Burt Ferguson, who took him to the penitentiary in Columbia Saturday night.

The last day of court was the most tense of all. The crowd, though it was not quite so large as Thursday and Friday, having become surfeited on salacious testimony remained to hear the verdict. The general prediction being as stated above that it would

result in a mistrial. The long deliberations, however, it was learned, was due to the fact that several members of the jury insisted from the first ballot that the extreme penalty electrocution, be meted out. After the nearly five hours of discussion and balloting a compromise recommending mercy was agreed on. It was impossible to learn exactly how the jury stood on the first ballot. As soon as the verdict was announced citizens living a far distance from the county seat cranked up their cars and shortly there was the usual Saturday crowds on the streets.

Attorneys in the case who lived out of town and Judge Sease left immediately. Solicitor Blackwell came to Greenwood, George Bell Timmerman went by train to Columbia and General Bonham, Proctor A. Bonham, James H. Price and the judge went by automobile to Greenville.

The case against Kenneth Gossett (nobody seeming to take seriously the charge against John Gossett, innocent in appearance and more innocent in demeanor, who the afternoon before had been discharged by special order of the court, and without the notice of the closest observers, taken from the court room and to liberty) was argued brilliantly by both sides. Addresses to the jury began Friday afternoon with speeches by J. Howard Moore and James H. Price for the state and defense, respectively, and yesterday morning Solicitor Homer S. Blpackwell, graciously giving last place to his assistant George Bell Timmerman, poke first for the defense, followed by General Bonham, then Proctor A. Bonham and lastly Mr. Timmerman.

Those who heard the arguments were agreed that neither side suffered in the least from lack of support before the jury. Hon. J. Howard Moore, regarded as one of the leading attorneys at the Abbeville bar, analyzed the testimony to the one and pleaded for a verdict that would agree with and uphold the common sense of the jury. He laid special stress on the fact that the two young ladies were on their way to the house of worship when they were picked up by Kenneth Gossett. He also ridiculed the testimony of Tullis and Hutchison, witnesses, who wore they saw, as they judge it, the merry party returning to town.

There were several differences in testimony, particularly in the cross examination of the sister of the prosecutrix. The testimony of the prosecutrix as to the medical treatment of her at home before the visit of the physician on the morning of March 15, about 20 hours after the alleged crime, was contradicted by the prosecutrix' sister. The prosecutrix, in her direct testimony yesterday, said that she had received medical home treatment on the night of March 14. The sister said that this treatment was not administered until the physicians visited her on the morning of March 15. Dr. Gamrell admitted that the treatment could have produced a physical condition which would appear from a criminal assault.

In directing the verdict in the case of John Gossett, Judge Sease took the position that the testimony

NO INTERFERENCE WITH THE MAILS

Vigorous Action Will be Taken Against Strikers if They De- lay Transportation

Washington, April 12.—Vigorous action will be taken if there is any interference with the transportation of the mails as a result of the railroad strikes, it was announced today at the Postoffice Department. Otto Praeger, second assistant postmaster general, has sent the following telegram of instruction to all superintendents of the railway mail service:

"Instruct all chief clerks, transfer clerks and others to report any obstruction, directly or indirectly by conspiracy or otherwise with passage of mails as a result of strikes, together with names of person or persons involved. Bring to immediate attention of local postoffice inspectors, inspector in charge and United States district attorney, with request that offenders be vigorously prosecuted if facts warrant. See Section sixteen ninety, seventeen twelve, seventeen fourteen and seventeen eighteen postal laws."

Reports to the postoffice department were encouraging. Chicago reported that local conditions were "very good" and that the railway companies handling all mails promptly.

A report from New York said conditions had improved and a similar report came from St. Louis. Some delay in mail was received from a number of points where the men are on strike, but officials said that thus far there had been no serious obstruction of the mail.

Yesterday of the prosecutrix' girl companion when she admitted that neither she, the prosecutrix, nor Kenneth Gossett had requested John Gossett to leave the automobile at the Long Cane Branch bridge completely exonerated the older youth. He said that the fact of John Gossett going to Greenville under an assumed name, on which much stress was laid by the prosecution, is explained by the natural feeling of youth when excitement was rife because of the alleged crime and his life might be in jeopardy. He said that the prosecution had failed to produce one vestige of evidence to show that the youth was aiding and abetting in the commission of the crime of criminal assault.

Spirited Away

As soon as the judge announced his decision, the lad was spirited out of the court room by Charles J. Bruce, United States deputy marshal, placed in an automobile and when court adjourned he was out of Abbeville county. His father Dolph Gossett and his sister, Mrs. Lula McCullough, and the father and mother of Kenneth, Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Gossett, were in the court room. In addition there were 75 relatives of the two youths in the court room. Members of the family of the prosecutrix and her girl companion likewise were in the court room.

Five other differences in testimony other than outlined in the foregoing, are:

1. The prosecutrix, in her preliminary examination which was made a part of the record today by the defense, swore that she was unconscious at the time of the alleged crime and did not know if she was assaulted, but yesterday, in her direct examination declared that she was conscious of what was transpiring and that Kenneth Gossett assaulted her twice.

2. Kenneth Gossett denied today that he made the statement in the Anderson jail, when incarcerated there, that he told John Gossett and the prosecutrix' friend if they didn't leave the automobile that Sunday afternoon he would remain out until midnight. Sheriff J. Olin Sanders and his deputy, J. W. Clamp of Anderson, swore yesterday that he did make it, and they were substantiated today by Charles J. Bruce, United States deputy marshal, and T. L. Cann, deputy sheriff of Abbeville county. John Gossett today substantiated his cousin's testimony and George Page, chief of police at Honea Path, who was present at the

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JUSTICE OFFICIALS CONFER ON STRIKE

Palmer Returns to Capital and Considers Situation, Admit- tedly Serious

Washington, April 12.—Attorney General Palmer returned to Washington today and immediately conferred with officers of the Department of Justice who have been kept in close touch with the railroad strike situation.

There was no indication what recommendations they laid before the Attorney General, but all admitted the situation to be serious.

Mr. Palmer's aides had received today a new sheaf of telegraphic reports on conditions at points of disturbance. They refused, however, to disclose their contents.

It was understood that staff attorneys have begun the preparation of governmental briefs for legal action in event Mr. Palmer decides to take a hand in settlement of the trouble.

W. N. Doak, vice president of the Brotherhood of Trainmen, and Senator Cummins, chairman of the Senate Interstate Commerce committee, which is to investigate the strike, called at the White House today to discuss the situation with Secretary Tumulty.

Postoffice Department officials said today that thus far there had been no serious interruption of the mail service, but that mails were being delayed at a number of places, including Chicago, St. Louis and other cities. Mail coming to Washington from New York is several hours late as is also that going into the south.

The strike of switchmen on the local yards which began yesterday was being felt today. Some trains arriving from the south could not be handled at the union station and passengers were put off after the trains crossed the Potomac into the city.

Congress May Make An Investigation Of Reserve System

Washington, April 12.—The House rules committee will be called upon Thursday to decide whether Congress shall begin immediately an investigation of the Federal Reserve system.

In urging action on his resolution providing for the investigation Representative King, Republican, Illinois, a member of the Banking and Currency committee, declared today it would show that 75 per cent of the high cost of living was "due to the financing of speculators and hoarders by the Federal Reserve system."

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley of Washington; Charles De B. Clairborne of New Orleans, chairman of the National and State Bankers Protective Association; L. R. Adams, Atlanta, secretary of the organization and Alexander W. Smith, of Atlanta, are among witnesses named to appear Thursday.

"Don't put all the blame for exorbitant prices on the speculators," Representative King said, "but blame the bankers who are financing the speculators and the system which permits them to do it."

Conference to Hear of Treatment Accorded Sin Fein Prisoners

Paris, April 12.—George Van Duff, Sinn Fein member of parliament and envoy to the Irish republic to the peace conference, is bringing to the official attention of the conference the treatment of the political prisoners in Dublin. His step was actuated by the following telegram which he received yesterday from Dublin:

"Over 100 republican prisoners incarcerated in Mount Joy prison in Dublin as common criminals, many being detained on suspicion without charge, have been on a hunger strike since Sunday, April 4. They demand the observance of the agreement obtained by Bishop Macrory and the lord mayor of Dublin whereby the English government undertook to recognize the special status of political prisoners.

Several men are in grave danger and crowds are reciting prayers for the dying at the gates of the jail."

The telegram was signed by Kathleen Clarke, of the board of aldermen, and Madam O'Rahilly, for the republican prisoners committee.

May Use Trucks to Break the Strike

Washington, April 12.—Chambers of Commerce and business organizations in all cities affected by the railroad strike were asked today by Charles W. Reid, manager of the transportation bureau of the Federal Highways Council, to report on the situation in their cities with a view to utilization of motor trucks to transport food-stuffs. The highways council announced it had tendered its services to the council of national defense for mobilization of motor transport services should the need arise.

FRANCE TO REMAIN FAITHFUL TO ALLIES

Millerand Expresses Regret There's Been Occasion for Any Controversy

Paris, April 12.—Premier Millerand's reply to the latest British note has not been made public but it is declared to make no material change in the situation. It expresses regret that there has been occasion for any controversy but points out that if France acted alone in her occupation move east of the Rhine it was because she was left alone in the face of a situation which required prompt action on her part.

The note assures Great Britain that France is determined to remain faithful to the alliance, but it intimates that the government cannot promise to abstain from defending the interests confided to it when its action is not contrary to the objects of that alliance.

The foreign office has not received further cables from the powers to its notice of the occupation of Frankfurt, but it is learned that Baron Matsui, the Japanese ambassador, has unofficially stated that Japan has no objection to the action of France.

The softened tone of the correspondence with Great Britain is noted with some satisfaction but was remarked with some surprise, it was said, that while negotiations over questions disagreeable to adversaries of the Entente were conducted with a deliberation that was sometimes wearing to patience, the British government had established a record for rapidity in developing its grievance against an ally.

Memphis Physician Killed by Police In His Own Home

Memphis, April 12.—Dr. Buford N. Dunavant, Memphis' physician who served in the world war as a medical officer attached to the 115th field artillery, with the rank of Major, was shot and fatally wounded late last night, by policemen summoned by neighbors to quiet a disturbance at the Dunavant home. Dr. Dunavant died shortly after being taken to a hospital.

According to the report made by the officers they were met at the front door by Mrs. Dunavant and while in conversation with the woman and her eight-year-old daughter, the police declare, Dr. Dunavant appeared and opened fire on them. They returned the fire and three of their bullets took effect, inflicting what proved to be fatal wounds.

Dr. Dunavant was 36 years of age. He came to Memphis some time ago from Little Rock, Arkansas.

Universal Training Up in Senate Again

Washington, April 12.—The Senate today was prepared to again grapple with the question of universal military training in resuming consideration of the army reorganization bill. Pending was the motion of Senator McKellar, Democrat, Tennessee, to strike out provisions for voluntary training of youths from 18 to 23 years of age which were substituted last week for the military committee's compulsory training plan.

Victims of Munition Explosion Removed

In Armored Cars

London, April 12.—Two hundred persons injured in the explosion of a munitions dump at Rotenstein, near Koenigsberg, East Prussia, yesterday have been rescued, according to a Berlin dispatch to the Daily Mail. Explosions are continuing and rescuers are able to approach the scene only in armored cars.

Fuses were being removed from big calibre shells at the dump when one was ignited in some way and thirty tremendous explosions followed, wrecking dwellings over a wide area and shattering thousands of windows in the city.

Berlin, April 12.—Seven persons were killed in yesterday's explosions at Rotenstein, according to dispatches received here.

Hospital Furniture Arrives

A carload of hospital furniture and fixtures has been received by the Abbeville County Memorial Hospital and will be placed as soon as the plastering has been completed.

Practically all of the furniture and other equipment has been bought and soon as the building is finished the hospital will be ready for occupancy.

CLEMSON TRUSTEES VINDICATE RIGGS

Col. Cummins, Commandant, is Also Upheld by the Board

Clemson College, Apr. 11 (Special)—President Riggs and Colonel Cummins have been vindicated by the board of trustees. Findings of the board in the investigation asked for by President Riggs and Colonel Cummins may be summed up in the following quotations from the official report:

"The board expresses its very fullest confidence in the veracity, integrity and loyalty of President Riggs, both to the college and its students and deems it unnecessary to express an opinion touching his extraordinary efficiency, so well known to the people of the State."

As to the disagreement between President Riggs and members of the freshman and sophomore committees, "The board believes and adopts the theory of President Riggs himself, made at the hearing and found in his testimony, the following: 'My own theory is that these young men, whether through my mistake of their questions or their mistake of my answers, got mixed in the matter of my approval of this order, or my seeing this order, with my not knowing of this order. That is now the only theory upon which I can explain it. The reputation of this student body is as dear to me as it can be to any living soul. I would not wish at this time to have you think that the young men of this corps would attempt, directly or indirectly, deliberately to deceive me. I ask you to accept their statements of the conference with the same sincerity that you accept my recollections to the contrary.'

Regarding the charge of harsh and unjust administering of discipline, the board found as follows: "The testimony offered to support the charge that discipline had been administered harshly or unjustly does not sustain it. The character, veracity and efficiency of the commandant, Colonel Cummins, was not even brought into question. The board allowed any cadet to offer complaints or testimony against Col. Cummins or his assistants. Five cadets out of the corps of 800 offered complaints and testimony, but it is the belief of the board that every one who heard their evidence was convinced, as was the board, that these complaints were not sustained."

All the trustees were present, as follows: Alan Johnston, chairman; Ex-Gov. R. I. Manning; A. F. Levee, Henry C. Tillman, W. D. Barber, J. E. Wannamaker, B. H. Rawl, M. L. Donaldson, W. W. Bradley, I. M. Mauldin, R. H. Timmerman and J. J. Evans.

Four More Women Named on Democratic National Committee

Washington, April 12.—Appointment of four additional women as members of the executive committee of the Democratic National Committee, was announced today by Chairman Cummins. They are: Mrs. Henry Ridgeley, of Dover, Del., Mrs. Charles A. Ames, Washington; Mrs. Otto Wittmann, Jersey City, and Miss Kathrine Flene, Boston. Two other women members soon will be named. Chairman Cummins said, giving the women equal representation with the men in the executive body of the Democratic National organization.

The executive committee will hold its first joint meeting in Chicago April 20, simultaneously with a meeting of the committee on arrangements for the San Francisco convention.

ROAD COMMISSION

The road commission, authorized in the top soil road bill, passed by the legislature and ratified by a recent election in this county, will meet here Thursday to organize. Officers will be elected and the question of hiring an engineer will be discussed.

Negro Gives Bond.

Jesses Freeman, who shot Charlie Hall near Antreville April 4, gave bond of \$1000 here Saturday, Hall having died Thursday night in a hospital in Anderson. Freeman claims self defense.

COTTON MARKET.

Spot Cotton	43.00
May	41.40
July	38.95
October	34.87
December	33.83
January	32.78