

CLINTON FARMER TAKES OWN LIFE

Broadus Cunningham, Despondent
Over Ill Health, Fired Fatal Shot
Yesterday That Ended His Life.

Despondent and discouraged over ill health, W. Broadus Cunningham, aged 42, a farmer residing just on the outskirts of the city on the G. C. Young place, took his own life yesterday shortly after noon by firing a shotgun into his abdomen from which death followed instantly. His father, seated on the front porch, heard the gun fire and ran up the stairway where he found his son lying on the bed in a natural position, the gun by his side. He drew a few breaths and was dead, never uttering a word or leaving any note or clue as a reason for his tragic death.

The tragedy occurred a few minutes after 12 o'clock. The dead man's father was seated on the front porch at the time and had been conversing with his son, following his return from Clinton early in the morning. They had been talking of their crop outlook and Cunningham's ill health. He advised his son to go to his sister's for a visit of a couple of weeks in the hope of recuperating, stating that he would look after the place in his absence. To this Cunningham agreed and was making his plans to go this morning. One of his daughters was in the kitchen at the time preparing dinner, his other two being away at the time visiting relatives. Cunningham got up without any intimation of his intentions, went up stairs and in a moment fired the fatal shot that instantly wiped out his life. Neighbors were on the grounds in a few minutes but to no avail, only to find his dead body lying on the bed in his working clothes in a pool of blood. Horrified by the ghastly find, the alarm quickly spread in the neighborhood and a large crowd assembled on the scene in a few minutes.

Sheriff Reid answered the call and arrived a short time later for an investigation. He ordered the body removed to D. E. Tribble Company's undertaking establishment where upon the arrival of Coroner Owings, a further investigation was made and the decision reached that the deceased came to his death by wounds inflicted by a shotgun in his own hands.

While Mr. Cunningham had given no one any intimation of ending his life, or left no note or message to throw light on the tragedy, circumstances point to the belief that his despondency of several weeks over continued ill health prompted him to end it all, the brooding leading to temporary mental aberration. The shotgun was found lying by his side and in the barrel was found a freshly exploded shell.

Mr. Cunningham had made his home in this section for a number of years and had a large number of friends and acquaintances who were shocked and grieved by his untimely death.

In addition to his aged father, the deceased is survived by three daughters, three brothers, John, Larry and Casper, and one sister, Miss Blanche Cunningham of Greenwood.

The funeral services will be held this afternoon in Laurens.

NATIONAL BANK BUYS SCHOOL BONDS

The \$80,000 school bonds offered for sale by Hunter school district No. 5, were purchased Tuesday by the First National Bank of this city at par. Several bids were submitted, the local bank, however, being the only one offering par for the issue of bonds.

CLINTON COTTON MILLS CLOSED THIS WEEK

The Clinton Cotton Mills closed down last Saturday at dinner and will not resume operation until next Monday morning, July 7th. The Fourth of July coming during this period, the mill operatives will have a full week's vacation in addition to the celebration of the national holiday.

ANOTHER COTTON BLOOM

A second cotton bloom was brought to The Chronicle office yesterday morning by R. F. Adair. It came just a few minutes after the one brought in by Mr. Jacks, so it is advised as about a tie between the two "early buds."

DOUBLE TRAGEDY CLOSE TO SWITZER

Aged Farmer Kills Wife With Butt
of Shotgun and Then Hangs
Self in Barn.

Spartanburg, June 27.—Believed to have been driven insane by protracted ill health, Perry Thompson, 72, wealthy and well known farmer, residing near Switzer, crushed the skull of his wife, 65, with the butt of a shotgun after the load in the gun had been fired into the pillow upon which she slept without striking its target and then took his own life by slaying his throat with a pocket knife and hanging himself in the barn, where he staggered after having gashed his throat.

The double tragedy was enacted last night, Mrs. Thompson dying in the hospital in Spartanburg this morning.

Fred Thompson, son of the dead couple, was called to the home of his sister shortly before 9 o'clock and returned some time later to find his mother lying in her night clothing upon the floor of her bedroom in a pool of blood, according to the story he told officers. He quickly spread the news and Sheriff Miller arrived soon from Spartanburg to investigate. He started a search for the assailant. He found a pocket knife lying open upon the dresser with splashes of blood upon it. Bloody tracks led out of the house to the barn. Passing through the open gate to the lot and the open door of a cattle stall, the sheriff came upon the body of Mr. Thompson, covered with blood, hanging from a rafter. He had cut his throat from ear to ear before hanging himself.

Officers believe that Mr. Thompson, who had been in ill health for months and had grown despondent, suddenly became crazed and fatally wounded his wife and took his own life.

The shotgun used in beating Mrs. Thompson was found lying near her with the barrel broken from the stock as if it had been used in dealing terrific blows.

Fred Thompson, the son, declared that his parents had retired when he was summoned to his sister's house. He said his mother rose from her bed and locked the door after he went out. The tragedy occurred within the next half hour, he said.

No inquest was held as Sheriff Miller and Coroner Turner were convinced that it was a plain case of murder and suicide.

FARMERS ENDORSE MARKETING BODY

Cotton Association Receives Resolution
Recommending Full Support
To Cooperatives.

Columbia, June 28.—The South Carolina Cotton Growers' Cooperative association yesterday received a copy of a resolution passed by the South Carolina Bankers' association at its annual convention in Charleston Wednesday endorsing cooperative marketing. The resolution, which was introduced by the resolutions committee and unanimously passed follows:

"Resolved, That the bankers of South Carolina realizing the absolute necessity of cooperation on the part of states, cities and individuals do heartily recommend and endorse the cooperative associations established in South Carolina and urge each member of the South Carolina Bankers' association to assist in every way these valuable aids of our people."

R. I. Woodside, of Greenville, retiring president of the association, in his annual message to the association, also commended cooperative marketing to the bankers.

"When cotton and tobacco cooperative marketing associations were in their experimental stage," said Mr. Woodside, "many planters doubted their worth, but today everybody recognizes these associations as being the definite influence in increasing the value of these products as well as providing a more orderly, economical method of marketing. As long as these cooperative organizations are operated along conservative lines and are well managed I urge every bank to continue supporting them with their credit as well as with their resources. Let's show our interest in South Carolina's cotton growers by giving them such full measure of cooperation that they will not find it necessary or advantageous to go out of the state for support."

Messrs. Charles Douglas, of Owings, and Karl McMurray, of Pendleton, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Copeland the past week.

BANKS AND MILLS PAY DIVIDENDS

July First Brings Usual Distribution
Of Dividends By Clinton
Concerns.

The semi-annual dividend disbursements of cotton mills and banks of the city, have been declared by these institutions and distributed among the stockholders on July the first. The compilation follows:

Clinton Bonded Warehouse, 10 per cent annually on capital stock of \$10,000.

The Clinton Cotton Mills, 4 per cent semi-annual on \$350,000 capital stock.

Lydia Cotton Mills, 4 per cent semi-annual on capital stock of \$160,000.

The First National Bank, 4 per cent semi-annual on capital stock of \$100,000.

The Commercial Bank, 5 per cent semi-annual on capital stock of \$50,000.

M. S. Bailey & Son, Bankers, being a private bank, does not pay a dividend following its usual custom, though it is one of the oldest and strongest banking institutions in the state.

ABSENT VOTERS MAY TAKE PART

Voters Who Are Absent Because Of
Business or Sickness May Cast
Ballots in August Primary.

Voters who are necessarily absent because of business or sickness may cast their votes in the Democratic primary by mail, as provided by the new rules adopted by the State Convention pursuant to the act of the General Assembly approved March 4, 1924. R. T. Wilson, chairman of the county Democratic executive committee, explained that the new rules are very considerate of the absentee voter, and allow local officials a large amount of discretion in the matter of deciding who is eligible to vote by mail.

According to the new rules any person who is absent at election time may apply to his club secretary for authority to vote by mail and secure the necessary blanks.

Chairman Wilson urges that every citizen enroll at an early date for the coming primary. No registration certificate, tax receipt, or any other document is necessary for a citizen to enroll on the Democratic club rolls. It is necessary, however, that all the spaces on the book, calling for full name and other information, be filled out completely and accurately.

All the women of the country are especially called on to enroll and vote in the primary. With the issues at stake in this election, the Democratic officials feel that every wife, mother, sister and daughter, who is eligible to vote, should do so.

BANKS TO CLOSE

The banks of the city will observe the Fourth as a legal holiday and will not open for business tomorrow.

LA FOLLETTE TO HEAD THIRD PARTY

Not Satisfied With Democratic Plat-
form and Will Go Ahead Regard-
less of Nominee.

Washington, June 29.—Senator Robert M. LaFollette and his advisers and supporters are entirely dissatisfied at the platform adopted by the Democratic national convention.

Now that the Democrats have shown their hand and outlined their policies, Senator LaFollette will rush his plans to head the Third party movement.

He was busy today putting the finishing touches on his declaration of policies and principles, which will be submitted to the conference on progressive political action at its convention in Cleveland, July 4.

LaFollette and his followers take the position that the Democratic platform straddles all important issues, deals largely in "glittering generalities," and offers no constructive program for the solution of perplexing and vital national questions, such as agricultural relief, the transportation problem and "the inflation of the currency."

After a careful perusal of the Democratic platform LaFollette and his group are convinced that it is no improvement over the Republican platform; in fact, that in some instances it is much weaker.

Having reached that conclusion, LaFollette now proposes to go ahead with his Third party program regardless of who is the Democratic nominee. Even should McAdoo be nominated, which to them now seems improbable, he would not, the LaFollette group believe, be able to hold in line the labor vote, or even the railroad men.

LaFollette intends to offer these group planks in his platform which will insure their support. While he will advocate lower freight and passenger rates, he will insist upon a high wage scale.

Close friends of LaFollette say the Democrats in New York are playing right into his hands, providing him with all sorts of good ammunition for his campaign. For instance, they point out the refusal to name the Ku Klux Klan in the platform and the fight which developed over that plank despite the pronounced opposition to that organization throughout the nation as a political menace. The LaFollette program will name the Klan and denounce it in strong language as an un-American and un-Democratic, say his supporters.

On that issue alone LaFollette will make a nation-wide appeal and will be certain of much support in practically every state in the Union, his followers believe.

FIRST COTTON BLOOM

The first cotton bloom of the season was brought to The Chronicle office yesterday by W. T. Jacks. It came from his farm on the Musgrove road near here and he expressed himself as optimistic over his outlook for a splendid crop this season.

EVERY DAY RISES ON A NEW WORLD

You may think that the world tomorrow morning will be exactly as it is today.

Not quite.

Fifteen per cent of the population becomes of age each year. That means that more than 45,000 people probably have their twenty-first birthday tomorrow.

Also, possibly as many as 30,000 people may die in the United States tomorrow.

Every day is a new day—every day people get married and become prospects for furniture and groceries and a thousand and one other things.

Every day there are new faces in the shopping district—new prospects for your merchandise.

Every day some of your old customers may disappear—may move away or take the last journey over the hill.

The rising generation has not been reading your advertising—they do not know you. Every day is a new day.

There are few products as well known as Ivory Soap. Yet Ivory Soap is advertised year in and year out. Why? Because every day is a new day—every day there are people reading advertising for the first time—every day there are people who are keeping house for the first time—every day there are people who are spending their own-earned money for the first time.

Can you afford to be complacent in such a situation? Can you afford to let competitors advertise in July, August and September, while you keep silent?

A prominent writer says: "Real ambition is insatiable; it is a flame to be fed with fresh fuel every day. You can always do better. When you succeed at one task, it simply proves that you are competent to go higher."

Do you think that Marshall Field or John Wanamaker achieved success by "resting"—by "waiting"—by shriveling up because the weather was a little warm?

Bruce Barton, New York advertising man, tells the story of a merchant who met an advertising solicitation with the question: "Why should I advertise? I have been here for twenty years. There isn't a man, woman or child around these parts that does not know where I am and what I sell and how I do business."

The advertising man in the story answered very promptly. He said to the merchant, pointing across the street: "What is that building over there?"

The merchant said to him: "That is the Methodist Episcopal Church."

The advertising man said: "How long has that been there?"

The merchant said: "Oh, I don't know; seventy-five years probably."

"And yet," said the advertising man, "they ring the church bell every Sunday morning."

CLINTON BOY KILLED IN WRECK

L. Brady Simpson Found Dead Under
Machine Near Rock Hill. Funeral
Here Monday.

L. Brady Simpson, son of Mrs. B. M. Dutton, of this city, was instantly killed last Saturday night near Rock Hill when the automobile in which he was riding turned over and resulted in the fracture of his skull. His body was brought here Sunday night and the funeral service was held at his mother's residence Monday afternoon, after which interment followed in the Presbyterian cemetery. Rev. Edward Long conducted the services. Though Mr. Simpson had not made his home

here for a number of years, he was well known and liked and his tragic death brings sorrow to a host of friends.

The deceased is survived by his wife and three children, by his mother, Mrs. B. M. Dutton, of this city, one half sister, Frances Dutton, one half brother, Braxton Dutton, three sisters, Mrs. V. D. Ramseur and Mrs. Tom Poe of Greenville, and Mrs. J. B. Kaufman of Wadesboro, N. C., two brothers, J. B. Simpson of Monroe, N. C., and J. D. Simpson of Bishopville.

The following account of the tragedy under a Chester date line, appeared in The State Monday:

"L. Brady Simpson, who up to a few years ago was manager of the Chester office of the Western Union Telegraph company, was almost instantly killed about midnight when the automobile in which he was riding turned over on the Carolina short route highway between here and Rock Hill.

"For the past few years Mr. Simpson has traveled, selling textile manufacturing supplies and was en route to Chester. He is survived by his widow and three children. His tragic death caused profound sorrow in Chester, where he had many friends.

"Mr. Simpson was found between 11 and 11:45 o'clock Saturday night approximately ten miles north of Chester, lying with his body partly on the highway and partly in the ditch, with blood streaming from his nose, mouth and ears, by Wake H. Myers, proprietor of Myers' hotel of Chester, who was returning from a trip to Rock Hill. Mr. Myers said he saw the large touring automobile standing across the highway with the lights burning and at first he thought it might be highwaymen. He got out of his automobile and saw the body of some one lying near the automobile and went up to see if he could be of any help and was shocked to see that it was Mr. Simpson, and after reaching him he breathed only once. Mr. Myers immediately summoned assistance from a nearby house and he and another man went to a telephone, where officers at Rock Hill were notified and were quickly on the scene and the lifeless body of Mr. Simpson was carried to Rock Hill. Mr. Myers stated that there was no evidence of foul play and it seemed to him that Mr. Simpson had run into a small ditch and was endeavoring to pull out of it when his big automobile turned over at least a couple of times, precipitating him on the ground. The automobile was badly wrecked."

The time for candidates to file their pledges will expire on July 29, at 6 p. m. This is the same time that the enrollment books close. After this date, no candidate can announce for any office.

The meeting Monday was attended by the following executive committee-men from this section: W. W. Harris from Clinton, J. M. Copeland of Renno, and C. R. Workman of Hopewell.

LYDIA TO HAVE BIG CELEBRATION

Glorious Fourth To Be Celebrated
With An Interesting All-Day
Program.

The Fourth of July, according to a custom of long standing, will be celebrated at Lydia Mills tomorrow in true style. The celebration will be staged under the auspices of the Lydia Mills Athletic Association, headed by Superintendent R. E. Ferguson, and a program of interest has been announced.

The various field events will be staged at the ball park beginning at 8:30 a. m. There will be bicycle and sack races, 60 and 100 yard dashes for men and girls, cracker eating contests, wheelbarrow races, nail driving contests, running broad jumps, and numerous other events of interest. In all of these entries, prizes have been offered the winners by various merchants and business houses of the city.

In the afternoon the big ball game will be staged, Laurens Mill offering the opposition. The two teams are rivals of long standing and a thrilling game in keeping with the Fourth is expected.

Everything is in readiness for the big day and a record-breaking crowd is expected for the festivities.

OPEN MEETING SUNDAY

Sunday afternoon's meeting of the Billy Sunday club will be an open meeting to which visitors are cordially invited. Each member of the club will extend an invitation to a non-member or friend for this special occasion. The meeting will be held in the First Baptist church beginning promptly at two o'clock.

WITH NATIONAL BANK

Mrs. Workman Johnson is now connected with the First National Bank of this city as stenographer. She succeeds Mrs. Stanley Pitts, resigned.

Laurens Attorneys Preparing Appeal

Laurens, June 27.—A statement was made here yesterday by W. B. Knight, one of the attorneys in the case of the state against Mrs. Alice Young and Miss Emma Stroud, found guilty of assault and battery with intent to kill with a recommendation to mercy, that the appeal will be perfected and will probably be heard by the supreme court in October. This statement sets at rest any speculation as to the perfection of the appeal.