

TWO TO DIE IN ELECTRIC CHAIR

King and Harrell Found Guilty In
30 Minutes of Slaying Officer.
Nov. 21 Set for Execution.

Chesterfield, Sept. 23.—Following a swiftly moving trial replete with dramatic moments, Mortimer N. King and Frank Harrell, young cotton mill workers, were given death sentences late today in circuit court here for the murder of Major Samuel H. McLeary, United States army officer, July 2, which they had both admitted in signed confessions.

Judge C. C. Featherstone, presiding, set November 21 as the day when they should be electrocuted in the state penitentiary at Columbia, advising them that he was giving them ample time to repent of their "most horrible" crime and to make their peace with their Master.

Mrs. McLeary, who was made a widow by the crime for which the youths were tried, was not in the court room when sentence was passed. She had been the first witness called by the state and was present throughout the progress of the trial until the jury retired.

She was dressed in deep mourning and at times could not restrain her grief, breaking into tears when some developments in the trial touched closely to the memory of her late husband. Mrs. Bonnie McLeary Kramer, a sister of the murdered officer, sat with Mrs. McLeary throughout the day. She, too, was dressed in black and wore a black veil, and like Mrs. McLeary, she wept silently at times.

Taking the stand as the first witness for the defense, King produced one of the dramatic moments of a day that kept the little court room packed and jammed with humanity silent by the drama being enacted. The 33 year old defendant, after making a brave effort to conceal his emotion, broke down and sobbed. He pleaded for mercy to both himself and his companion, he attempted to take the entire burden of the crime upon his own shoulders. Harrell, he declared, had never had a chance and had a wife, with a baby born just six days ago, depending upon him for support.

Harrell, he admitted, did not stand when he fired two bullets into the army officer's head with fatal effect. He was back at the automobile of Major McLeary in which the two had been given a lift by the officer. Harrell went back at his direction, the defendant said, to turn the engine of the car off. Several automobiles had passed while they were robbing the major in the woods, King testified, and he decided to have the engine of the officer's car stopped to lessen the chances of detection.

Throughout his story he maintained that the murder of Major McLeary was not planned in advance. After they had forced the officer into the woods, he declared, he did not intend to kill him but planned to tie him up with a tow rope in the rear of the car and to make off with the machine. Protesting that he did not realize what he was doing, King said he saw Major McLeary had struck at him and reached toward his own pocket as if for a weapon.

He told a story of weeks of wandering with Harrell in a vain search for employment in explaining why they decided to "stick up" some traveler.

"I had not eaten a bite for a day and a half when Major McLeary picked us up," he declared.

King showed less emotion during the course of the trial than Harrell did, although the latter while on the stand did not break down, and told his story in untroubled, but weak voice. He insisted that he had no knowledge that his companion planned to shoot the officer and that he was not aware that King intended to rob Major McLeary until King produced his pistol and ordered the officer to stop the car. He himself had no weapon, not even a pocket knife, he swore, and he did not see King fire either of the two shots that killed the officer.

Several times during the day Harrell appeared to be on the verge of tears. He licked his lips often as if they were dry and at frequent intervals his lips moved as if he were talking to himself.

Both King and Harrell refused to look at a photograph of Major McLeary when it was held before their eyes by Solicitor J. Monroe Spears, conducting the prosecution. King covered his eyes with his hands and sobbed, "Don't make me look at it." Harrell, after once refusing to look at it changed his mind, glanced at the photograph and said it was a likeness of the major they had robbed and killed.

When the death sentence was actually passed upon them, neither King nor Harrell, standing up before Judge Featherstone, showed any agitation. They were asked the usual question as to whether they had any (Continued on Page Two).

ANNUAL REPORT HOSPITAL WORK

Hospital Association Maintains Free
Beds For Deserving Cases at
Local Institution.

The annual reports of officers of the Hospital Association show a year of fine activity and splendid work. Dr. S. C. Hays' report covers a period of 12 months, and shows that the number of occupants of free beds in the hospital during this period is 60. The report of the treasurer, Mrs. W. J. Bailey, covers a period of 18 months, and shows that a free bed has been maintained by the association beginning April, 1923, which cost the association \$50.00 per month. Four beds have been maintained, one by the Good Samaritans, one by Laurens county, one by the Clinton Mill and one by the Hospital Association. The outstanding work of the past year for the purpose of raising funds was the Bazaar last November, at which time \$1,362.00 was realized. Mrs. Bailey's report is as follows:

Receipts \$1,692.02

Expenditures:

Dr. Hays for bed \$900.00

Expenses of Bazaar

and banquets 117.65

\$1,017.65

Balance in Treasury Sept. 15 \$574.37

At its recent meeting, the board decided that a Chrysanthemum Show and Turkey Supper be held early in November, and also asks for the privilege of serving the supper to the Commercial Club on "Ladies Night." Also, the ladies will sell bulbs this fall, and a canvass will be made of the town at an early date. They will have in stock a large and fine assortment of Single Hyacinths, white, pink, blue and yellow; Darwin Tulips, pink and red; Paper White Grandiflorum Narcissus and White French Roman Hyacinths.

Dr. Hays' report on the free beds for the past twelve months, as submitted to the ladies organization, showed that of the 231 patients admitted during the year, 60 were admitted to the use of free beds, which is approximately 26 per cent. Of the 3010 total days for all patients for the same period, 771 were free beds, or 25 per cent of the total usage of beds and hospital accessories were paid for by the Hospital Association's work. The work of the association for this highly commendable purpose is something to be justly proud of.

Orphanage Children To Attend Circus

Management Walter L. Main Circus
Throw a "Red Letter Day" Into
Lives of 375 Boys and Girls.

Through the kindness of the Walter L. Main circus, the children of the Thornwell Orphanage will be their guests at the afternoon performance of the big show here on next Tuesday, October 30th. When Mr. Charles Bernard, advance advertising manager, was in the city last week, upon learning of the orphanage here, he voluntarily offered an invitation to the entire population of the institution to be their guests next Tuesday. The invitation has been accepted and the young people are looking forward to the occasion with unusual interest.

Wednesday, October 1st, being Founders' Day of the institution, is an established holiday. The change of the holiday has been made from Wednesday to Tuesday in order to allow the orphanage family to attend the circus and at the same time avoid two interruptions in the school work.

Goes to Richmond To Enter Seminary

Robert Matthew Lynn, son of Dr. and Mrs. L. Ross Lynn of this city, left Tuesday for Richmond, Va., to enter the Presbyterian Theological Seminary as a ministerial student. At a meeting of South Carolina Presbyterians held in Laurens on Tuesday, he was received under the care of the Presbytery. Mr. Lynn is a member of this year's graduating class at the Presbyterian College. During the summer he has been working at the First National Bank and as he goes to Richmond to enter upon his ministerial training, the best wishes of his large host of friends in the city will follow him.

New Owners For Oil Mill Property

The property known as the Clinton Oil Mill, formerly owned by the American Agricultural Chemical Co., of New York, has been purchased by the Kershaw Cotton Oil Co., of Kershaw, and one of their representatives has been in the city the past few days perfecting the changes incident to the new ownership. The ginny is now being operated, and cotton seed products handled. An announcement affecting the future plans of the new owners will soon be made, it was stated yesterday.

MALCOLM GANDY KILLED ON HUNT

Brother of Miss Helen Gandy, Former
Teacher Here, Meets Instant Death.

The many friends in the city of Miss Helen Gandy, for several years a member of the Clinton high school faculty, will regret to learn of the death a few days ago of her brother, Malcolm Gandy, at his home at Dovesville in Darlington county. The following account of the deplorable happening is taken from a Darlington paper:

"Malcolm Gandy, 15-year-old son of W. C. Gandy, of Dovesville, was fatally shot Saturday morning upon his return from a hunt with Theodore Williamson, a colored boy of the same age, and Williamson is in jail pending investigation to determine whether or not the killing was accidental. According to reports the body of young Gandy bore bruises and evidence of foul play, and the stock of the gun carried by Williamson was broken. Williamson admits the shooting but claims that it was accidental. It is said that he told his mother that he had killed young Gandy, and it was not until two or three hours later that the distressing news reached the Gandy home. Williamson was carried to Darlington, it is said, by his mother, who turned him over to the authorities.

"According to the story told by Williamson, he and young Gandy were resting near the home when young Gandy decided to return to the house. The negro lad declares that as he was rising he accidentally discharged his gun, the shot striking young Gandy, killing him almost instantly. The negro boy's story is incoherent, with varied versions, according to the investigators who are examining it further.

"The coroner's jury rendered a verdict that the killing was due to gunshot wounds inflicted by the colored lad, but did not absolve him of any blame. He is being held at the county jail. His case is continued to the next term of court, according to action taken at the September term Monday.

"Young Gandy entered the Hartsville city schools when they opened last week, and was a most likable young fellow, and popular with those who knew him. He is a brother of Mr. Howard Gandy, who has recently returned to Hartsville to make his home."

NEXT TUESDAY IS CIRCUS DAY

Posters Everywhere Tell of Coming of
Walter L. Main's Big Exhibition
September 30th.

Hey, kids, the circus is comin'. With elephants, lions, tigers, clowns, red lemons, and everything. The kid population of Clinton has already developed a sudden feverish interest in the news that the "city of tents" is to make its magic appearance here on next Tuesday, September 30th, arriving at the crack-of-day from Monroe.

Everywhere one looks, the work of the brush and paste bucket is in evidence heralding forth the tidings that will bring a thrill to all kids—from six to sixty.

And—while all the kids will be there, it begins to look like the grown-ups that wait too long to arrange a date with some little boy or girl to take them to the show—will be left alone, out in the cold.

Because—you see, it's like this. A grown-up must have an excuse for "goin' to th' circus" and there is none so good as that old standby—"Well, I gotta go to carry the kids."

Laurens Hospital To Governing Body

Board of Ten From Business and
Civic Leagues Take Over
Institution

Laurens, Sept. 21.—The Laurens hospital has been placed under the control of a governing board composed of five members from the Laurens Business league and five from the Woman's Civic league. The first meeting of the board was held in the Community hall Friday night, at which time George M. Wright was elected as chairman; L. G. Balle, secretary and treasurer, and other preliminary organization business transacted. The hospital is well equipped and it is understood that Dr. Black, former manager, has tendered the use of certain equipment and the different religious and civic organizations of the city have agreed to make certain donations, which will guarantee the expenses of continued operation. The institution had a very good year, according to the annual report, and its continuation is now assured.

The governing board members are: George M. Wright, A. C. Todd, L. G. Balle, G. H. Blakely, and W. P. Thomason from the Business league and Mrs. R. H. Roper, Mrs. M. L. Smith, Mrs. Weston Brumer, Mrs. H. S. Blackwell and Miss Lint Jones from the Civic league.

HELD FOR MURDER IN NEGRO'S DEATH

Leslie DeVore, Foreman of Chain
Gang at Greenwood, Is Convicted
and Placed Under Bond.

Greenwood, Sept. 22.—Leslie DeVore, foreman of county chaingang No. 1, was bound over to the present term of general sessions court today, under bond of \$1,000, to answer a charge of murder, in connection with the death Saturday afternoon of Melvin Payne, a young negro convict.

Coroner P. T. Faulkner announced that he would take no further action in the case after the inquest yesterday, when a jury rendered a verdict to the effect that Payne came to his death "from causes unknown after a severe punishment by E. L. DeVore." But Solicitor Homer S. Blackwell issued a bill of indictment upon the convening of court this morning and the grand jury returned a true bill this afternoon.

Payne was sentenced to serve three months by Judge Henry C. Tillman in county court last week for stealing an automobile and was sent to DeVore's gang Friday morning. Testimony at the inquest showed that the negro was not forced to work in the afternoon, when he complained that he had "cramps" in his left hand. But he returned to work Saturday morning, apparently in good physical shape, the guard stated, after he had given him 120 drops of spirits of ammonia in two doses.

The foreman whipped the prisoner for disobedience some time after dinner, the evidence at the inquest showed, and about 3:30 o'clock the negro quit work and sat on a ditch bank for about ten minutes and a few minutes later fell several times as he attempted to walk. In ten more minutes, according to the testimony, he was dead.

Dr. John L. Marshall, county physician, who performed an autopsy, testified at the inquest that he found Payne's heart and stomach slightly enlarged but said his lungs were normal. Dr. S. W. Page testified that he examined the negro before he was sent to the chaingang and found him to be in good physical condition. The physicians also testified that they found several "discolorations" on the dead man's hips.

Training School At the Orphanage

Department for Orphanage Workers
Is Established Similar to That
At Barium Springs.

Co-operating with the Westminster Teacher Bureau of Louisville, Ky., the Thornwell Orphanage has decided to give training to a limited number of women in institutional work. These workers will be recommended by the Bureau and will take up their temporary residence in the institution to gain practical experience, such as work in child psychology, in child health problems, in Bible, especially in methods of Bible instruction for children.

At the conclusion of the period of instruction the orphanage will furnish to the Teachers Agency a candid opinion of the fitness of the individual for work of the character done. The agency is then in a position to act with greater intelligence in locating these workers, and vacancies occurring in the institution's staff of workers will be filled from this eligible list.

This type of practical training for workers is now being done by the Presbyterian Orphanage at Barium Springs, N. C. With the new department added at Thornwell the two institutions will work along the same lines and the work to be done will prove quite helpful to both.

State Takes Over Highway Project

The State Highway Department has taken over for maintenance the sections of the Calhoun highway from Clinton to North Creek and from Clinton to Garlington. The Savannah Long Branch bridge on the Calhoun highway, also the Bush River bridge, have been finished and traffic is now moving over the former. The Sand Creek bridge is now under construction.

The route from Garlington northeast towards Whitmire on the Calhoun highway has been staked off by Engineer Patton in a direct line towards the Hill place, the Newberry county line, thus reducing the distance by a mile or more between Whitmire and Clinton.

City Buys Lot For New Filter

The City of Clinton has purchased the C. W. Stone lot on South Sloan street and will shortly begin the construction of a sedimentation basin for raw water, from which the water will feed by gravity into the new filter.

DAVIS SAYS SIGNS POINT TO VICTORY

Returns From West Confident of
Success—Says People Have Re-
sponded Nobly to Cause.

New York, Sept. 21.—Returning here tonight from a 5,000 mile campaign through the West, John W. Davis, the Democratic presidential nominee, declared that "all signs point to a sweeping Democratic victory in the coming election."

"I return to the East confident of success," he said. "Privilege has won its last battle. We are laying our cause before the American people and they are responding nobly."

Mr. Davis said everywhere he went in the West all those with whom he talked brought the same message—"that the great silent vote, that vote which has turned every election in the past when the American people came to a cross road, has made up its mind this year to turn to the Democratic party as the only possible avenue of relief."

"The people fully realize," he said, "that the choice lies only between continuing the present discredited Republican regime or installing the Democratic administration in its stead."

Asserting that in all the states he had visited—West Virginia, Illinois, Indiana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas and Missouri—he had found the Democratic party intact and undivided, Mr. Davis said its members were working together in an "absolute unity of purpose and with an interest I have never seen surpassed in any campaign."

"Everywhere that I have been I have heard the same story," he added and it has come to me from men regardless of previous party affiliation—it is that of dissatisfaction with the service rendered—or rather denied, by the government during the last three and a half years.

"The farmer resents the deception that was attempted by the Republican party in placing an utterly ineffective tariff duty on his products; he realizes the artificial increase in the price of all things he buys and he is convinced that there is no sincere purpose on the part of the Republican party to take relief measures for him."

"The laboring man is no longer deceived by the cry of Republican prosperity and feels keenly the rising cost of living."

"The exposures of corruption in Washington made a far deeper impression on the public mind and the moral sense of the country than the leaders of the Republican party are willing to admit. They have not been forgotten and will not be forgiven."

"I found, moreover, that in the Middle West—contrary to the impression which prevails in some quarters—the people were deeply interested in the foreign policy of the government and entirely out of sympathy with the timid and evasive course which the present administration has pursued."

"They fully realize, moreover, that to accomplish any reform whatever the legislative and executive branches of the government must be in complete and entire sympathy. The lack of leadership and coherence which the Republican party has exhibited has made a deep impression."

"Unquestionably the people of the West are in favor of disarmament and opposed to any militaristic scheme. Nevertheless they are resentful that our navy has been permitted to fall in strength in comparison with other powers, a fact to which I called attention in my speech at Cheyenne, Wyo., September 12. They regard the navy as the first line of defense and are determined to maintain it as such. I do not think they will be impressed with the belated interest shown in the recall of Secretary Wilbur from his speaking tour on the Pacific coast."

DOCTORS HOLD MEETING HERE

Monthly Meeting of Laurens County
Medical Association Offers
Interesting Program.

The monthly meeting of the Laurens County Medical Association was held here Monday at noon with the president of the association, Dr. R. E. Hughes, of Laurens, presiding. The attendance was not as large as usual due to the rain and the bad condition of the roads of the county.

The members assembled at the Mary Musgrove Tea Room where a delightful luncheon was enjoyed. Later they went to the Commercial club rooms in the Masonic Temple where an interesting program was carried out.

Dr. Robert W. Houseal of Newberry, was the guest of the association and was on the program for a paper on, "Bacterial Endocarditis," which showed considerable thought and was highly enjoyed by the medical fraternity.

The association meets monthly, alternating between Laurens and Clinton. Dr. J. W. Davis of this city, is the secretary.

BIGHAM TRIAL BEGINS TODAY

Florence Man to Again Face Charge
of Fratricide. State Disinters
Body of Mrs. Bigham.

Conway, Sept. 22.—Trial of Edmund D. Bigham, Florence county farmer, for the second time in a charge of slaying one of the five murdered members of his family, is scheduled to open here Thursday morning in the Circuit Court of Horry county.

Judge H. F. Rice, presiding, today signed an order directing the sheriff to go to Florence where the prisoner was held in the county jail and transfer him to the Horry jail.

Solicitor L. M. Gasque, following his previously announced plan, asked for a postponement of the trial until Thursday. The court agreed to the request, although defense counsel were against the postponement.

Bigham was convicted in March, 1921, and sentenced to death for the murder of L. Smiley Bigham. He occupied a cell in the death house in the state prison at Columbia for two years while the legal battle that began with his first trial progressed. After several appeals had been refused by the Supreme Court the court remanded the case to the Circuit Court for the hearing of a motion by the defense for a new trial based on after-discovered evidence. Following the hearing a new trial was granted by the Circuit Court judge.

The motion that resulted in the defendant's receiving a new trial was based on the ground of after-discovered evidence, part of which was a letter alleged to have been written by Smiley Bigham, which indicated the writer's plan to kill other members of the family. The state denounced the letter as a forgery.

The crime for which Bigham was convicted was committed about the middle of January, 1921, at the old Bigham home near Pamplico, in Florence county. Mrs. M. M. Bigham, mother of the defendant and widow of a former state senator; her mother, Mrs. Marjorie Black, and two small adopted children of the latter, John and Leo McCracken, were found shot to death at the Bigham home. A few hours later L. Smiley Bigham, a brother of the defendant, was found dead in a nearby clump of bushes with a pistol clasped in his hand.

Edmund Bigham was arrested shortly after and charged with practically wiping out the Bigham family. Protesting his innocence he declared that Smiley had killed the other members of the family and had committed suicide. The prosecution contended that Edmund Bigham had committed the crime to obtain possession of the family estate.

Mendel L. Smith, former circuit judge, and recently elected to the House of Representatives from Kershaw county, and A. L. King, of Florence, are representing Bigham. Solicitor Gasque is conducting the case for the state.

During the past few months Bigham has been confined in the Florence county jail. His second trial was scheduled for the spring term of court in that county, but a change of venue was granted on motion of the defense, which contended that the defendant could not get a fair trial in Florence county.

It was learned here today that a party consisting of the coroner of Florence county and physicians of that city had left the city to disinter the body of Mrs. Bigham, over three years under ground, in order to ascertain at what angle the bullet entered her body. The action taken by the coroner is understood to have been at the instance of the state.

Bigham, accompanied by deputies, arrived here tonight. The officers said he appeared to be in good spirits. The only reference he made to his trial, the deputies declared, was that it would soon come off.

Bigham brought with him a tin covered box and a lot of bed clothing. When jailer W. J. Johnson began to search through his belongings Bigham told him, "You may look through them, but there's nothing in there."

Solicitor Gasque will have associated with him in the prosecution of the case, P. H. Arrowsmith of the Florence bar, while Bigham will be defended by A. L. King of Florence, Mendel L. Smith of Camden, and Sherwood and McMillan of the Conway bar.

NEWBERRY SALESMAN JOINS CLINTON CONCERN

George C. Hipp of Newberry, has accepted a position with the Milling Grocery Company of this city. Mr. Hipp is an experienced salesman in the grocery business and is highly esteemed by all who know him. Already he is making a number of friends in the city and receiving a cordial welcome.