

## COUNTRY NEWS LETTERS

### SOME INTERESTING HAPPENINGS IN VARIOUS SECTIONS.

#### News Items Gathered All Around the County and Elsewhere. Ehrhardt School.

The first month's work of the Ehrhardt school has closed. The faculty desire to announce that the work for the month has been very satisfactory. After adding together the recitation, department and attendance grades, it was discovered that quite a large number had made suitable proficiency to be placed on the honor roll, as follows:

- TENTH GRADE.**  
Clara Copeland, Ethel Smith.
- NINTH GRADE.**  
Allie Kinard, Lillie Kinard, Clyde Herndon, Carolee Hiers, Edward McDowell, Robt. Peters, Lander Whitaker.
- SEVENTH GRADE.**  
Leroy Hudson.
- SIXTH GRADE.**  
Henry Hutson, Inez Hutson, Ada Smith.
- FIFTH GRADE.**  
Vertol Wingate, Alice Pate, Eleanor Pate, Effie Ramsey.
- FOURTH GRADE.**  
Wilma Clayton, Ruby Kinard, Zeta Planer, Alston Hutson.
- THIRD GRADE.**  
Harvie Williams, Bernice Williams.
- SECOND GRADE.**  
Louise Simmons, Lyles Ehrhardt, Marguerite Copeland, Wilhelmina McKenzie.
- ADVANCED FIRST.**  
Nell Hudson, Alfred Hudson, Dorothy McDowell, Edna Kirkland.
- BEGINNERS FIRST GRADE.**  
Hildegard Dannelly, Sallie Morris, M. E. Hutson.
- Among those who deserve honorable mention are:
- SEVENTH GRADE.**  
Grace Moore, Estelle Hiers, Genie Ramsey.
- FIFTH GRADE.**  
Helen McDowell, Glen Smith, Alie Morris, Bettie Kinard.
- ADVANCED FIRST GRADE.**  
Louise Copeland, Cornelius Brabham.
- FIRST GRADE.**  
Robert Smith, Vera Planer.
- SECOND GRADE.**  
Furman Roberts.

#### ON CHARGE OF MURDER.

#### Two Held in Calhoun for Alleged Crime Committed Last May.

St. Matthews, Oct. 29.—Sheriff Rast brought in Moten Cheeseboro and Joe Felder, negroes, from Creston this afternoon under peculiar circumstances.

Last May a negro by the name of Sam Robinson was found dead on the Atlantic Coast Line tracks and removed by passersby before the train arrived. He had evidently been murdered and carried there with a view of shifting responsibility. There was no clue at the time, but the sheriff has never lost hope and finally procured evidence which cast suspicion upon these parties.

A little cabin stands about four hundred yards from the track, and near the station. It now develops that the bloody deed was probably enacted within its dingy walls. Blood stains were found on the floor of this cabin and covered well with sand. The theory is that a gambling bout was in progress during that fateful night, when a dispute arose, which caused Robinson to meet his doom. The prisoners were lodged in jail and will probably be tried at the approaching term of court.

#### In One Minute You Can

- Propose to a girl.
- Fall overboard.
- Miss the boat to Europe.
- Be hanged.
- Lose a fortune in the market.
- Kiss a girl from one to sixty times.
- Be kissed as many times.
- Acquire a fatal disease.
- Drop from a ten-story building.
- Take a cold bath.
- Run a hundred yards.
- Lose your job.
- Have your pockets picked.
- Write a check for a million.
- Make a good after-dinner speech.
- Make a bad one.
- See the point of a joke.
- Go crazy.
- Meet your affinity.
- Say the wrong thing.
- Lose a thousand.
- Say the Lord's prayer.
- Swear a blue streak.
- Buy a gold brick.
- Sell one.
- Be let into words with your wife.
- Be run over at a grade crossing.
- Read this.—Life.

## LESTER GUNTER SLAIN.

Shot and Almost Instantly Killed by Levi Gunter.

Lexington, Oct. 28.—Lester Gunter, a young white man of the Steadman section of this county, was shot and almost instantly killed in the public road about dark last night by Levi Gunter, his third cousin. The tragedy occurred in front of the home of Levi Gunter, and five shots were fired. A bullet from a 38-calibre revolver entered the side, ranging upward and lodged about two inches below the nipple, causing instant death.

From the evidence adduced at the coroner's inquest this morning and from what can be learned from the accused, it seems that the trouble had its origin about a week ago, when, it is claimed, Lester Gunter and two or three companions went to the home of Ed. Gunter, father of Levi Gunter, and acted in a very ungentlemanly manner in the presence of the sisters of Levi Gunter. The trouble was renewed at the Baptist church at Steadman yesterday and, according to the statement of Levi Gunter, he was attacked by seven young men. Levi Gunter says that he ran, being unarmed. Lester Gunter was in the party, all of whom were under the influence of whiskey. Last night Lester Gunter, Glover Hall, and Clinton Corley, in a buggy, drove by the home of Levi Gunter.

Glover Hall testified that when they were about in front of Levi Gunter's house Lester Gunter said: "Boys, I believe I will see if he wants to shoot," and gave three yells. At this juncture, Hall said, Levi Gunter came to the door of his house and fired four or five times. None of the party in the buggy returned the fire; and after driving a short distance Lester Gunter said that he was shot, and he expired a few minutes later. The two companions carried the body of Lester Gunter to the home of his brother, four miles distant, where the inquest was held this morning. The testimony of the other young man who was with Lester Gunter at the time of the shooting is substantially the same as Hall's.

Levi Gunter, according to his statement, did not know that anyone was injured until he reached Leesville with his father this morning, and was apprised of the fact by some friends who had seen Sheriff Miller and Coroner B. D. Clarke pass through on their way to hold the inquest. The young man boarded the first train and came to Lexington and gave himself up at the jail. He does not hesitate to talk about the crime, although he was very visibly affected. He said that he shot in self-defense; that the young men in the buggy stopped in front of his home, began to curse and make all kinds of threats. He said that they told him that he would either have to shoot or be killed. At the time the buggy drove to his home he said that he was sitting around the fire-side with his wife nursing his two-year-old child. He said that when he went to the door he believed that he was going to be instantly shot, and that in defense of his own life he began to fire. He heard nothing further and did not know that he had injured anyone until this morning.

Levi Gunter has employed the law firm of Efrid & Dreher to defend him, and it is likely that an application for bail will be made as soon as the papers can be arranged. He is about 30 years old and has a wife and one child.

Lester Gunter was about 19 years of age and unmarried.

The dead man is a son of James V. Gunter, and his relatives have secured the services of E. L. Asbill, of Leesville, to assist in the prosecution of the case.

#### Butts Convicts Eat 5,000 Lbs. Fish.

Jackson, Ga., Oct. 28.—The Butts county chain gang has a record for devouring fish that is seldom equalled. Recently the convicts have been working the roads in Worthville district, which is near the pond of the Central of Georgia Power company. Now this body of water is full to running over with fish, particularly carp. Farmers in the neighborhood sold the gang 5,000 pounds of fish in one month, and the county had a bill of \$50 for fish.

Fish are both cheap and wholesome and the county chain gang uses large quantities of the finny tribe. The Central Georgia Power company pond is literally alive with fish and during the season hundreds of tons of fish are caught, catches of several tons a day being reported.

## IN THE PALMETTO STATE

### SOME OCCURRENCES OF VARIOUS KINDS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

#### State News Boiled Down for Quick Reading—Paragraphs About Men and Happenings.

George Keller, a young negro, killed his father-in-law, Heyward Jones, near Bradley, Greenwood county, on Friday.

President Taft will be invited by the mayor and citizens of Charleston to visit Charleston during "Fleet Week," Nov. 17-23.

The governor is out in an article in the newspapers advising all Democrats to vote at the election next Tuesday. We'll see how much effect the article will have.

A meeting of the members of the general assembly is to be held in Columbia this week, possibly to plan legislation at the coming session. It is said that Blease members called the conference, but some anti-Bleasites have been invited.

When the mules drawing a wagon driven by Frank Harrison, and carrying Mrs. Lawson and several children ran away Monday just before reaching the Southern end of the bridge over Tiger river at Nessbitt Shoals, in Spartanburg county, striking the end of the structure, a little girl, four years of age, was killed instantly. Mrs. Lawson was seriously injured and Frank Harrison sustained slight injury. A baby in Mrs. Lawson's arms escaped injury.

#### PROSECUTION ASKS DELAY.

#### New Turn in Case Against Greenville Officers.

Greenville, Oct. 29.—If the request which the prosecution made this afternoon for a postponement of the preliminary in the case against Police Inspector Gilreath, Policeman Phillips and Constable Gosnell is not granted, it is said the warrants against these men will be temporarily withdrawn. The attorneys for the defence declare they will oppose vigorously any postponement of the preliminary.

It is understood that the grounds upon which the prosecution will ask continuance is that it has not been able to secure witnesses. Just what the prosecution means by its statement that it has not been able to secure witnesses is somewhat problematical, as it was generally understood here that the warrants were sworn out on the testimony of T. U. Vaughn, who claims that these officers assisted him in breaking jail here in May, and who is now in Columbia under sentence of death.

It is the consensus of opinion locally that the withdrawal of the warrants to-morrow, should the magistrate refuse to continue the hearing, will mean the end of the matter, unless the defendants decide to bring civil and criminal suits against the men who they charge with engineering their arrest.

#### Do Not Believe Gilreath Guilty.

Greenville, Oct. 28.—There was little, if any abatement to-day of the intense feeling engendered here Sunday night by the treatment accorded one of Greenville's most highly respected citizens, ex-Sheriff Jeff D. Gilreath, and the other two men, both of whom are men of integrity, when they were arrested on warrants charging them with assisting T. U. Vaughn to escape from the Greenville jail last June. The affair is openly declared by some to be a conspiracy designed to bring about the official decapitation as police inspector of Mr. Gilreath, who has been making blind tigers and operators of gambling dens sweat blood since his election to that office October 1.

Two of Vaughn's brothers stated to-day that they did not believe any of the three accused men had anything to do with the prisoner's escape. They went further and stated that they had serious doubts as to their condemned brother making a confession implicating the three men.

The three defendants will be given a preliminary hearing Wednesday afternoon before Magistrate Stradley. A dozen or more of the leading members of the bar have clamored for the privilege of representing the defendants.

#### Lucky "Babe."

Chattanooga, Tenn., Oct. 24.—"Babe" Stephenson, while burning brush on the side of Lookout Mountain, near Fort Payne, found \$3,050, nearly all in \$100 bills. The end of the roll of bills which was exposed was rotten, showing it had been buried some time.

## MURDER OR MENDICOS' PRANK?

Woman's Body Discovered—Police Unable to Solve Mystery.

St. Louis, Oct. 26.—The nude and partly decomposed body of a woman, with five gashes on the head, a rope around the neck, a gag in the mouth, a gunny sack over the head and the hands tied together with a cloth, was found to-day in the basement of a house, which had been vacant since September 3.

One end of the rope was wrapped around a gas pipe in such a way that it supported the body in a sitting posture. Indications are that the body had been in the basement for several weeks. The cuts on the head, it was said, at the morgue, might have been made with a hatchet. No weapon with which the cuts on the head might have been made was found near the body.

The finding of the body was the result of a note received by mail by Chief of Police Young, which read: "If you will go to 2,307 Locust street you will find a body hanging. Janie Ashley."

Beside the body was a pile of clothing, all of it much worn. On the floor near the body was a newspaper dated September 28 folded so that it displayed a story of the arrest of men alleged to have been connected with the New Westminster, B. C., bank robbery.

The latest tenants of the house are unable to-night to aid the police in identifying the woman. The police to-night investigated, without reaching a conclusion, a rumor that medical students placed the body in the basement and arranged the scene to give the appearance of a murder.

#### SLAYS HIS WIFE'S PARENTS.

Because He is Not Permitted to See Her and Baby.

Sheboygan, Wis., Oct. 28.—Alvin Roehr, a young farmer of Plymouth, late yesterday shot and killed his father-in-law, Philip J. Ott, Mrs. Ott, and Mrs. Ott's father, Fred Haut, 80 years old. Roehr had been refused permission to see his wife, from whom he had lived apart. He escaped. Mrs. Roehr and her baby escaped by hiding three hours.

About a year and a half ago Roehr married Ott's daughter. They did not get along well and Mrs. Roehr some time ago took her six-month-old baby and returned to her father's house, just across the road. She then started suit for divorce. Roehr started suit for recovery of the child, but failed.

Late yesterday afternoon Roehr went to his father-in-law's home and demanded to see his wife. The grandfather answered the door, but refused the young farmer admittance. Roehr went back to his home, but returned in ten minutes with a shotgun and as the grandfather, Fred Haut, went to the dairy shed, Roehr shot and killed him. Mr. Ott and his wife came out of the door and Roehr shot them also, killing them.

Then he entered the house in search of his wife. She had heard him and had taken her baby and hidden in a chimney cupboard where she remained for three hours.

Finally she slipped out and gave the alarm to neighbors.

A witness to the crime was the four-year-old adopted son of Ott, who was at the milk shed. Thinking the entire family had been killed, he went upstairs and hid in bed.

Roehr's father committed suicide about five years ago. Ott was one of the most prominent farmers and stock raisers in this county.

#### Throw Victim Into Bushes.

Glen Rock, N. J., Oct. 28.—An automobile containing three women and three men killed George Price, a contractor, here last night and after the men had thrown the body into weeds at the roadside they entered the car and hurried away.

A nine-year-old boy who saw the accident told local authorities and the police of nearby places were notified and the party escaped.

#### HUNGRY BULL GORES OWNER.

Bystanders Prevent Tragedy at Georgia State Fair.

Macon, Ga., Oct. 25.—A prize Jersey bull, angry at not being given his morning feed, attacked its owner, O. H. Selman, a young farmer of Douglasville, Ga., at the State fair grounds this morning, and seriously injured him.

## ARRESTS FOLLOW TRIAL.

WARRANTS FOR PHILLIPS, GILREATH, AND GOSNELL.

Charged That Well Known Men Aided in Escape of Prisoner From Greenville Jail.

Greenville, Oct. 27.—Upon an alleged statement of Thurston U. Vaughn, sentenced to die for criminal assault, and at the instigation of Gov. Blease, ex-Sheriff Jeff D. Gilreath, inspector of police; ex-Jailer A. A. Phillips, of the city police, and Reuben Gosnell, a magistrate's constable, were arrested to-night on warrants charging them with assisting Vaughn to escape from the county jail last June. The three men were hauled through the streets of Greenville to the jail where they were incarcerated for an hour or more.

Five substantial business men, commanding more than \$1,000,000 cash, later rushed to the jail from their respective churches together with hundreds of other citizens who crowded about the prison and clamored as to who should be the first to sign bonds of \$1,000 for each of the parties. Feeling is intense to-night and excitement is running higher than at any time during the past few days of sensational happenings in Greenville.

Rumor spread like wildfire on the streets about noon that arrests were to be made in connection with the escape of Vaughn from Greenville's jail some time ago. Warrants were drawn up late in the afternoon and just before night were signed by Magistrate Samuel Stradley and placed in the hands of sheriff elect, Hendrix Rector, for service. The deputy set out to apprehend his men and located Policeman Phillips first at Green avenue and Pendleton streets as the officer was going from his home to the police station. He was arrested and conveyed to the jail and locked in a cell.

Rector then set about to locate Mr. Gilreath, finding him at the point near the grand opera house. Both got in a hack and started toward the jail. As the two came through Main street a tremendous throng gathered and raced behind the vehicle shouting and making the night ring with their cries. Mr. Gilreath was placed in a cell with the common prisoners after which the deputy set about to find his third man.

#### The News Spread.

In the meantime news of the arrests spread through several of the churches of Greenville and many of the most prominent men of the city left their pews and rushed for the jail. They insisted on Magistrate Stradley being sent for so that he could make bond for the prisoners. A messenger went to a church after the magistrate and brought him to the prison. By the time he arrived the deputy had returned with Reuben Gosnell, his third prisoner. Bonds were drawn up and signed by Avery Patton, Henry P. McGee, J. M. Geer, A. Lester Furman, C. O. Allen. The prisoners were released and left the jail at once, while the crowd that jammed the street in front of the prison dispersed.

The intense feeling in the case is caused by the sharp lines between the law and order faction of which Gilreath is a member, and the blind tiger element of Greenville. Gilreath was recently elected police inspector and has been making war on the law-breakers with a vengeance ever since thereby incurring the enmity of the lawless. The men who signed the bonds were representatives of Greenville's best citizenship.

To-night, at the county jail, in the presence of the prisoners and a score or more of prominent citizens of the city, Sheriff J. Perry Poole gave out a statement in regard to the alleged confession of Vaughn. He stated that as he, Deputy Sheriff Hunsinger, Sheriff-elect Rector and J. B. Watson were carrying Vaughn from the court house to the train late Saturday afternoon for the purpose of taking him to Columbia the prisoner made an open confession to how he escaped from the jail last June.

#### Statement from Sheriff.

Sheriff Poole said in part as follows: "We were going along Hudson street when Vaughn made his confession. He said that his brother gave Jailer Phillips \$10 to transfer T. U. Vaughn from the main cells to a cell used for women which has a barred window opening on the jail yard. The night before he escaped Vaughn said, Reuben Gosnell came to the jail window for the purpose of sawing the bars, but that conditions were unfavorable for the job and he went away. The following night he said Mr. Gilreath came to the win-

## TO WED GIRL FATHER WHIPPED

Marriage License Issued to Dawson Boy and Essie Carter.

Macon, Ga., Oct. 28.—A marriage license has been secured from Ordinary Wiley by Vogt O. Dozier, of Dawson, and Essie Carter, of Macon. They say they will marry to-morrow.

Dozier is the 20-year-old son of W. S. Dozier, clerk of the Terrell county superior court at Dawson, and is the young man on account of whom his father severely whipped the Carter girl at Dawson last July. The elder Dozier and several of his friends are now defendants in a suit for \$25,000 damages brought in the United States court by Essie Carter.

Essie Carter states that she and Vogt Dozier made an effort to marry Saturday night, but could not locate a justice of the peace, and postponed the affair until Tuesday on account of their unwillingness for a minister to perform the ceremony.

#### Constable Takes His Life.

Hampton, October 28.—Frank Brown, constable of Magistrate J. C. Dowling, of Brunson, committed suicide this morning by shooting himself through the head with a 38-calibre pistol, the muzzle of the pistol having been placed in mouth, from all appearances. No one knows what the cause was.

Mrs. Brown, who was Miss Clara Harrison, daughter of W. F. Harrison, states that her husband had been more or less despondent for the past two or three weeks, and that he had said he was going to kill himself. She kept him from his pistol until this morning, when he managed to obtain possession of the weapon. About 7 o'clock he went out into the back yard and, in a squatting position, leaned up against a fowl house, where he killed himself. No one heard the report of the pistol, and it was not until Mr. Crosby went over to Mr. Brown's house to return a buggy that the body was discovered. This was shortly after 7 o'clock.

Some seem to think that business troubles brought about this act.

Mr. Brown leaves a wife and several children.

#### WOMAN GETS LIFE SENTENCE.

Religious Fanatic Confesses Committing Nineteen Murders.

Lafayette, La., Oct. 25.—Clementine Bernabet, the negro "axe woman" and follower of the Church of Sacrifice, whose confessed murders number 19, was to-day found guilty of murder and was sentenced to life imprisonment in the State penitentiary.

The negroes of the community, who had feared her, both because of the crimes she had committed and for the "evil eye" they believed she possessed, had threatened to lynch her should she be acquitted.

The woman's trial began yesterday on one charge, that of having killed the wife of Norbert Randall. All of her victims were negroes.

A year ago the negro woman's father, Raymond Bernhardt, and her brother, Zepherin Bernabet, were convicted for murders that the "axe woman" later confessed to having committed. What disposition now will be made of their cases has not been determined.

down and did the actual sawing of the bars, handing the saw through the window to the prisoner just before the last bar was severed. Vaughn said he finished the job. Vaughn further said that he would sit in the electric chair itself and make the same confession as to who helped him to escape."

The confession made by Vaughn must have reached the ears of Gov. Blease, for the officers stated that the chief executive telephoned here to-day and ordered the warrants sworn out at once and served. It was repeatedly stated at the jail to-night by the arresting officers, the prosecutor and others interested in the case that Blease had ordered the arrests to be made that day. The three warrants were sworn out by Dr. W. L. Mauldin, and each one charges the respective defendants with "aiding a prisoner to escape."

The specific charges in the warrants against Gosnell and Phillips are that they assisted T. U. Vaughn to escape from the Greenville county jail. The warrant against Mr. Gilreath charges that the defendant "did convey into the Greenville county jail tools adapted or useful to aid a prisoner to make his escape with intent to facilitate the escape of a prisoner." The witnesses in each case are J. Perry Poole, Hendrix Rector, John S. Hunsinger, and T. U. Vaughn.