

# McCormick Messenger

TRUE TO OURSELVES, OUR NEIGHBORS, OUR COUNTRY AND OUR GOD.

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## Walter R. Tolbert, Federal Prohi Agent Killed From Ambush

AUGUSTA, Ga., Feb. 22.—Shot through the heart during a raid on a still in McDuffie County, Walter R. Tolbert, 26, federal prohibition agent working out of Augusta, was killed almost instantly about 1:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, according to word received here.

According to W. S. Harrison, Jr., police officer of Columbia County with whom Officer Tolbert and another Columbia County officer, D. Fuller, were raiding, the three had demolished two stills in McDuffie County near Harlem, about 20 miles from here, and were returning to Harlem. Near a clump of woods several shots rang out from an ambush, and Tolbert dropped instantly. He died in a few minutes. Fuller received a bullet through the arm. Who fired the shots escaped, according to Officer Harrison.

The police officer over long distance telephone said that investigation was under way which it was believed would result in the arrest of one or more men, already suspected of firing the shots, which were from a high-powered rifle. Mr. Harrison said that Tolbert and Fuller were somewhat in advance of him, returning to their automobile to come home, and that he heard the shots, saw Tolbert fall, and Fuller grasp his arm. As he rushed forward, Harrison said, the assailants vanished into the thick underbrush. He could not say whether there was more than one man in the ambushing party.

The Augusta Chronicle of Monday says: The six suspects in Richmond County jail held for the murder of Federal Agent, Walter R. Tolbert, who was shot and killed near Harlem, Ga. last Wednesday, after returning from a raid in McDuffie County, were again questioned yesterday by federal officers and county men. The result of the success of the questioning was not divulged by the officers. Their only comment is that they are progressing as rapidly as possible in clearing up the killing of the officer.

The six men in jail are Burley Adams, Sanky Beasley, Will Walden, Schley Walden, Jones Moore and Clayton Moore. All are charged with murder. Other than the officers investigating the case no one else is allowed to converse with the men.

The arrest of Adams, Beasley and Schley Walden took place a few hours after the killing. Will Walden was arrested Thursday and Jones Moore a Clayton Moore were arrested Friday.

Agent Tolbert was shot to death from ambush while he and two Columbia County officers were returning to Harlem after a raid in McDuffie County. The machine had reached a point on the Avondale road, about two and half miles from Harlem, when the shooting happened. Agent Tolbert fell with a bullet through the heart and DeWitt Fuller, county officer was shot in the left arm. W. H. Harrison, Jr., the other officer escaped unharmed.

Officers who are working on the case are confident that among the six suspects in jail here, they have the guilty party.

The Augusta Chronicle of Monday says:

Burley Adams, Columbia County moonshiner, has confessed to the killing of Walter R. Tolbert, federal prohibition agent, who was shot from ambush last Wednesday while he and two Columbia County agents were returning to Harlem, Ga., after raiding two stills in McDuffie County. The confession was made to Charles L. Redding, district attorney of this district, and Gary Whittle, jailer and chief deputy of Richmond County. In the confession Adams takes the entire blame for the killing of the agent, saying that he alone fired the shots that ended the officer's life. Nowhere in his confession did Adams indicate that there were others in the shooting. He explained in full detail everything regarding the killing, ending his confession by telling the officers where he hid the gun after firing the fatal shot.

Adams stuck to his story that when he started firing on the car he was under the impression that W. H. Harrison, Sr., Columbia County en-

## Downtins' Hens Again Win Distinction

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Downtin, of the Downtin section of the county, have again won distinction with their flock of 672 White Leghorn hens by winning second place in egg production for the month of January among the demonstration commercial poultry flocks of the state. During January the Downtins' flock laid a total of 9,988 eggs, or 14.8 eggs per hen, and was exceeded only by the flock of 580 White Leghorn hens owned by Mr. D. L. Blackburn of Ellenton, S. C., Barnwell County, which laid a total of 16,4 eggs per hen.

These demonstration flocks represent some of the best farm poultry flocks in the state, and it is a tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Downtin that their poultry management has placed them among the leaders in production. Their flock has been consistently among the first in the state since they started keeping records last November 1. For November 1926 they came third in the state with an average production of 7.4 eggs per hen. Then in December, they came second with an average production of 11.98 eggs per hen, and now with the January record showing them second again, it proves that there is good management back of these records.

For the months of November, December and January Mr. Downtin's flock paid a cash profit of \$338.66, which will be increased to over \$500.00 by the end of February. This flock of chickens is housed in a warm comfortable house which is kept well cleaned. They are fed a balanced ration of laying mash, and a mixture of scratch feed and whole corn, with plenty of green feed all the time. Mr. Downtin has bought cabbage to supplement the green feed since the freeze killed all he had planted for winter and spring feeding.

## Boy Scouts America Plum Branch, S. C.

The scouts held their regular meeting last Friday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock. Mr. Wilkes, scout master, led the devotional and made an inspiring talk, "Pressing forward to a goal."

A report on daily good turns was then given.

The father and son banquet was postponed until Thursday, March 1st. We adjourned until next Friday, March 2nd.

EDWARD HODGENS, Scribe ex-tempo.

## County Board Meets Friday Before First Monday Each Month

Until further notice, the County Board of Commissioners will meet on Friday before the 1st Monday in each month, at 6 o'clock p. m.

J. O. PATTERSON, Clerk.

forement officer, was an occupant. In answer to questions if it was his intention to kill Mr. Harrison, Adams said, "Correct." When asked why he shot, Adams replied by saying, "Just on account of Mr. Harrison's reputation for shooting people." Throughout the confession Adams said that he did not know that it was Tolbert who was in the car.

The gun was found by the officers without any trouble, after Adams had given them the exact location. It was located in the hollow of a pine tree about 200 yards north of Adams' home. The hollow was just small enough to permit the placing of the rifle in it, and so tightly was it wedged that the officers experienced difficulty in dislodging it. With the rifle was found a box of 30-calibre dum-dum, or soft-nosed lead bullets, bullets that inflict tearing wounds when they once enter the body, officers said. In the chamber of the rifle was found eight steel-jacketed bullets. The officers were unable to determine what kind of bullet was used in the rifle the day Tolbert was slain. Adams was 226 yards from the car when he fired the fatal shot.

## Low Bidders For Roads Announced

COLUMBIA, Feb. 23.—Low bids on road and bridge construction projects, received Tuesday by the state highway commission were announced Wednesday. Contracts will be entered into under a statute which provides that low bidders shall be awarded contracts provided they can qualify with the commission. The bidders and their bids are as follows: Federal Aid project No. 251 (bridge work) Kershaw County; Harrison-Wright Company, Charlotte, N. C., \$13,394.

Federal Aid project No. 235-E road work, Chester and Union Counties; Hendricks and Kennedy, Charlotte, N. C., \$29,078.15.

State project 657-B road work, Spartanburg County; J. R. Crye, Hendersonville, N. C., \$21,905.61.

State project 585-B and 672-A, road work, Orangeburg County; J. C. Cleckley, Cope, \$25,529.74.

State project No. 677, road work, Union County; Monarch Mills, Lockhart, \$6,076.81.

State project No. 670, road work, McCormick County; W. C. McCoy, LaFayette, Ala., \$88,677.87.

State project No. 672-A, bridge work, Orangeburg County; Paul Gilmore, Spartanburg, \$2,896.27.

Federal Aid project No. 289-A, road work, Cherokee County; A. B. Hook, Charlotte, N. C., \$28,428.46.

State project No. 663-A, road work, Lexington County; W. R. Carlton, Batesburg, \$27,988.22.

Federal Aid project No. 289-B, road work, Spartanburg County; W. F. Bowe, Augusta, Ga., \$53,233.75.

Federal Aid project No. 285-A, road work, Anderson County; W. W. Tuck & Son, Virgilina, Va., \$57,603.64.

Reconstruction of Catawba River bridge Aust'n Bridge Construction Company Atlanta, Ga., \$1,375.

State project No. 602-A, Edgfield County; W. R. Carson, Batesburg, \$99,962.14.

State project No. 664-A and B; road work in Lexington and Richland counties; Smith and Bradford, Macon, Ga., \$24,885.32.

Federal Aid project No. 284, bridge work in Kershaw County; C. D. Fulmer, Leesville, \$24,071.93.

Federal Aid project, No. 277, bridge work, Richmond County; Hardaway Construction Company, \$263,522.26.

## All Farmers Should Plant Purebred Seed

In planning for the 1928 cotton crop, the farmers of McCormick County should make arrangements to secure purebred seed of a recognized and tested variety, and from a reliable source.

It has been proved that purebred seed pay in better yields and staple, just as purebred livestock pays in better average production of livestock products. If we are to grow cotton profitably in the eastern section of the cotton belt, we must produce higher yields of a better staple than we do at the present time; otherwise, the western cotton belt will crowd us out. Not that they produce a better staple or a higher yield per acre than we do, but that they are able to produce cotton at much less cost than we do.

Increasing the yield of cotton to the acre is the greatest problem before the cotton farmers of McCormick County at the present time. It does not take a mathematician to figure that we shall never prosper with an average yield of 106 pounds of lint cotton per acre as we produce now. Purebred seed, better fertilization, more soil improvement and more fighting of the boll weevil are things we need to do most.

Every farmer should give serious thought to this question of pure seed. And once he has pure seed, he should make arrangements to keep them ginned clean, and in this way keep them clean and free from mixing year after year.

See the county agent if you want to get good seed for planting this year, or get some good recognized pure seed that will produce high yields of cotton of a good staple.

THOS. W. MORGAN, County Agent.

## Dr. Killingsworth's Home Burned

Dr. R. G. Killingsworth's home on Court House Circle was destroyed by fire about 10 o'clock Saturday night. The fire got its start from a defective stove in one of the upstairs rooms and rapidly spread to the roof and other parts of the nine-room building.

The fire department soon got on the scene and conquered the flames, leaving the hull of the building standing there as evidence of excellent work done with the town's fire fighting equipment. With the exception of a portion over the kitchen, the entire roof, upstairs floor and part of two walls were burned. The firemen were somewhat handicapped on account of the house being a two story building on top of a hill, which robbed them of the chance to stand back some distance and throw water on top of the roof. The pressure on the hose from the tank was sufficient but the pump at the engine house was put to work later on for the purpose of testing it out.

Most of the household effects were saved, though many articles were badly broken up and damaged by water. The loss on the building was only partially covered by insurance.

Dr. Killingsworth and family are at present making their home with Mr. J. M. Brown.

## Mr. J. B. Nelson Dies Suddenly

The town and county were shocked and grieved yesterday morning to learn that Mr. Joseph B. Nelson had died at 6 o'clock, after being ill only several hours during the earlier part of the morning. He had been in poor health several months, but was on the streets and attended his regular duties Tuesday, and was feeling as well as usual when he retired for the night, but became ill some time after midnight and rapidly grew worse until the hour of his death.

He is survived by his wife and one son, George Nelson, of Spartanburg; one sister, Mrs. Edwards, of Saluda, and one brother, Mr. Tom Nelson, of McRae, Ga.

Deceased was 77 years of age, and was a member of the McCormick Pentecostal Holiness Church and one of the town's most upright Christian gentlemen and useful citizens.

Funeral services will be held at 3 o'clock this afternoon at the home, conducted by Rev. Ray Anderson, and interment will be made in the city cemetery, with G. P. McCain, undertaker, in charge.

## Observance Of Prayer Week

The Annual Observance of Prayer Week for Home Missions will be held by leaders of the Baptist Church Sunday morning, immediately after Sunday School.

A nice program has been arranged for the occasion. All the members of W. M. S. are asked to be present and others who are interested in missions. This will be the first meeting, and others will be decided on during week.

MRS. W. W. SISK, President.

## No Extra Penalty To March 15th

Extension With The 2 Per Cent Granted Until That Time

County Treasurer T. J. Price has been advised by Comptroller General A. J. Beattie that taxes may be paid until March 15th without an extra penalty and that after that date property on which taxes have not been paid will be turned over to the sheriff for execution.

This means that the 7 per cent penalty will not be added between March 1st and March 15th, but the 2 per cent penalty which already is in force still must be paid until that time.

March 15th is the last date on which taxes can be paid at all. After that the execution.

## Items Of Interest To The Farmers

Plans are being made to run another poultry car through McCormick around March 10 to 15. All those who will have poultry for sale at this time are asked to get in touch with the county agent by letter or visit, and inform him as to the possible amount of poultry they will have to load on the car at that time. This will greatly assist the county agent in estimating the amount to promise the buyers who come for the poultry.

Prices on all classes of poultry will probably be better at the time the next car is run. Prices on broilers will certainly be better, and anyone having broilers for sale will do well to hold them for the car.

The county agent has on hand a number of copies of bulletins on "Cotton Variety Experiments," and "Cotton Fertilizers," copies of which may be had by applying to him.

Cream day at the McCormick Cream Station has been changed from Wednesday until Saturday of each week, beginning next Saturday, March 3. This will be more convenient for the patrons of the station, and also for the Elberton Creamery truck, which will collect the cream from the McCormick and Abbeville cream stations on the same trip.

McCormick County will soon be up to date on the purebred bull business. Seven purebred registered bulls have been placed with farmers of the county during the past eight months, and soon one will be within easy reach of every farmer in the county. Names of farmers owning purebred bulls at the present time are as follows: Mrs. L. M. Mason Meriwether, Jersey; B. F. Parks, Parksville, Jersey; W. R. Gilchrist, Parksville, Jersey; K. Downtin, McCormick, Jersey; Dr. R. E. Mason, McCormick, Gu'rresey; L. N. Brown, McCormick, Jersey; J. E. Strom, McCormick, Jersey; J. C. Downtin, McCormick, Jersey; S. E. Rosenswike, Troy, Jersey; S. L. Britt, McCormick, Jersey; De la Howe State School, Jersey; Ed Gibert, Mt. Carmel, Jersey.

Not all these bulls are ready for service yet, but within a few months all will be, and then there will be no excuse for any man to breed his cow to a scrub bull. Our only economical method of building up a permanent and paying dairy industry in the county is through the use of these purebred bulls.

Breed to them and watch results in better calves which will grow into higher producing cows.

THOS. W. MORGAN, County Agent.

## Mrs. Beaty Will Be Buried Today

(Anderson Independent of Sunday.)

Funeral services for Mrs. Annie Dean Beaty, 78, beloved woman of this city who died early Friday night at the local hospital after a brief illness, will be held from the home of a daughter, Mrs. A. Earle Lewis, South Main Street, at 3 o'clock this afternoon. The Rev. John McSweeney, pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church, of which the deceased was a devoted member, will conduct the services. Interment will be at Silver Brook cemetery.

Active pallbearers will include Messrs. Wayland Britt, Maurice White, Claude Huguley, Beaty Jackson, James Beaty and Tom Hill. The honorary escort will be composed of Messrs. D. S. Gray, J. H. Anderson, J. N. Pearman, J. F. Watson, M. A. Thompson, W. W. Robinson, W. A. Watson, J. L. Gray, H. H. Russell, J. J. Fretwell, and J. B. Quarles.

Mrs. Beaty is survived by two daughters, Mrs. J. O. McKelvey, of McCormick, and Mrs. A. Earle Lewis of this city. She also leaves one brother, Augustus A. Dean of Starr, and a wide family connection throughout the county.

## OYSTER SUPPER

There will be an oyster supper at Morgan School House Friday night March 2nd.

The public is invited to attend.

## Chicago Tribune Has Got Its Man After Six Months

CHICAGO, Feb. 23.—The Chicago Tribune, through the arrest of Malachi Crowe, negro ex-convict, has got its man.

For six months the newspaper has exercised its resources in a search for the man who employed Tribune want ad columns to lure Miss Ruth Simpson, a nurse, to a Winnetka suburban home where she was attacked. Thousands of dollars have been spent, the paper said today in the chase.

Crowe, arrested yesterday in Kansas City, Kan., waived extradition and was started home.

Moses Lamson, a Tribune reporter, for the past five months has devoted his entire time to the case. In assigning Lamson to the chase, the newspaper said: "It was decided that an example should be made and a precedent established in the fraudulent use of Tribune columns."

"Lamson wrote 700 long hand letters, sent out 3,800 circulars to police chiefs of the country, and wore out two automobiles. He spent more than \$5,000, the newspaper said, before getting his man.

Information as to Crowe's whereabouts came from a supposed friend of the negro's in Chicago. The information was given Chicago detectives.

The crime for which Crowe is wanted was committed in the home of M. B. Austin, Winnetka, where Crowe was employed. The want ad lured Miss Simpson there. Following the attack, she jumped from a third story window, and recovered only recently from injuries that resulted.

## To Have Revival At Plum Branch

Services begin March 5th, Monday night, 7:30 o'clock, St. Paul Methodist Church.

Preaching by Rev. R. L. Holroyd of Newberry.

Services every night; morning and night services Sunday.

"Let us go unto the house of the Lord."

E. A. WILKES.

## DAILY THOUGHTS

I. "We must obey God." The church will make great progress when she takes this as her slogan.

II. "Put on the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand against the evils of the devil." Ephesians VI II. Christians, learn to stand.

III. I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but Christ within me. Galatians II 20. Is the old Adam dead in you? Does Christ live in you?

IV. A man is not much of a Christian unless he suffers for Christ's sake.

V. Lloyd Garrison, "One with God is a majority."

VI. "The blood of the Martyrs is the seed of the Church."

Thank God for the blood of St. Stephen, of St. Paul; of the blood of Christ, of the blood of Myriads of others.

VII. A Prayer Psalms. "Create within me a clean heart, O, God, and renew a right spirit within me."

Then shall I teach transgressors thy ways, and sinners shall be converted unto thee."

E. A. WILKES.

As a rule the number of cattle that can be fed for market on a Corn Belt farm is limited by the quantity of roughage available. Shelled corn can nearly always be purchased from the other farms, but the buying of hay is usually expensive and inconvenient. Hence the silo has an especially important place on farms where more roughage is needed that can be supplied as hay. A feeder who makes a specialty of feeding cattle in large numbers throughout the year is more likely to use silage than the feeder who handles only 20 to 25 head.