

ALVIN W. HARRIS TO PAY PENALTY

Murderer of Thos. S. Meredith, J. P., Will Be Electrocuted Next Tuesday.

Alvin W. Harris, having been declared sane by the commission appointed to inquire into his sanity, will be electrocuted on Tuesday, February 6. Governor Trinkle has refused to grant further reprieve.

It will be recalled that on July 19, Harris shot to death Thomas S. Meredith, a justice of the peace, in the public road near Gainesville. Giving himself up, a week later, after the whole county had been aroused and had joined in his search, he was taken to Richmond.

He was sentenced to death at the October term of the circuit court here and his electrocution was to have taken place on December 5, but he was granted a reprieve of two months, there being some doubt of his sanity.

WILLIAM BETTIS DIES TUESDAY

Victim of Paralysis Succumbs on Twenty-Second Wedding Anniversary.

Mr. William T. Bettis died at his home on Maple street on Tuesday morning, in the sixty-seventh year of his age, after an illness of ten days, following a stroke of paralysis.

He was the son of Thomas and Sara Bettis, of Stafford county, where he was born February 23, 1856, afterwards moving to Culpeper.

The deceased died on the anniversary of his wedding, having married Miss Annetta Payne, of Culpeper, January 30, 1901, by whom he is survived. He also leaves three sisters and six brothers.

Funeral services were held at the Manassas Baptist Church yesterday morning, at 10:30 a. m., after which the body was taken to Culpeper on the 12:10 train, and laid to rest in the family burying ground at that place.

Mr. Bettis made many friends here during the eighteen years of his residence in the town, by whom he will be greatly missed.

F. R. HYNSON WINS CUP

Highest Honor Ever Won By Individual Salesman.

Mr. Fred R. Hynson, of Occoquan, a former Manassas boy, has recently won a silver cup, as a reward of merit from the Delco Light Company. He being the leading dealer in a recent sales contest, which ended December 31, in which over one hundred contestants took part.

These were representatives from the Delco Light Company in different counties of the states of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina.

This is the highest honor ever awarded any individual dealer in a sales contest.

RUNAWAY CAR CREATES HAVOC

Three Box Cars Broken and Many Yards of Track Torn Up.

Three cars were broken and over one hundred yards of track torn up by a runaway box car yesterday afternoon.

The car, which was standing on a side track near the freight depot, was jarred into action by a freight train entering the tracks further down.

Gaining momentum from the down grade, it side swiped the freight, with the above result.

One of the cars contained a consignment of International news print, and another sugar.

The loss, we understand, is estimated at about \$3,000.

MARRIAGE ANNOUNCED

Cards have been received by Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Murphy, announcing the marriage of their niece, Miss Hylda Marie Lynn, to Mr. Otto J. Woolf, of Rapid City, S. D. The home of the bride's parents, at Bartow, Florida, was the scene of the wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Woolf will reside in Rapid City.

HON. T. H. CARAWAY TO SPEAK

Address on Agriculture to Be Delivered Here February 10.

Hon. Thaddeus H. Caraway of Arkansas is to be in Manassas on Saturday, February 10, and under the auspices of the County Farmers Union will deliver an address on agriculture at the courthouse at eleven o'clock.

Mr. Caraway is one of the leading members of the committee on agriculture in the Senate and, in fact, is one of the "big guns" of the so called farm bloc in Congress. He is an entertaining and forceful speaker and his address will undoubtedly be one of the greatest treats that the county has had in a long time. Every one is most earnestly urged to hear his.

CITIZENS OPPOSE PLAN FOR BEACH

Virginians Protest Against Establishing Colored Bathing Beach at Rosslyn.

Senator Swanson and Representative Moore of Virginia and three residents of Arlington county made a formal protest to Secretary Weeks at the War Department today against the proposed establishment of a bathing beach for the colored of the District of Columbia at the riverside of the federal reservation at Rosslyn.

They pointed out that the site in question is near the southern approach to the new Georgetown bridge, on the direct line of travel between the District and Virginia, already badly congested on account of the narrowness of the entrance to the bridge and heavy traffic on three important highways centering at that point.

The establishment of a public bathing beach there, and the fact that three railroads are to have terminals on the Virginia approach, they argued, would lead to further congestion and interfere seriously with the proper handling of general traffic.

Secretary Weeks told the delegation that he would take their representations under advisement and see what could be done to meet the wishes of the various interests involved. He has been informed, he said, that many of the colored residents of the District also object to the establishment of the beach at Rosslyn.

BURGLARS ROB POSTOFFICE

Door of Safe Blown Off—Money and Stamps to Value of \$93 Taken.

Burglars entered the postoffice at Fairfax C. H., recently, and after blowing the door of the safe off, made their get-away, with about \$30.00 in cash and \$63.00 in stamps, as well as with several registered letters.

So quietly was the safe blown open that the report was not even heard by those living in the immediate vicinity of the office.

The theft was not discovered until the next morning, when the postmaster found upon his arrival at the office that the door of the building was open, and upon further investigation, that the safe door had been blown from its hinges and money and stamps taken.

To judge from the shattered appearance of the safe, a heavy charge of nitro-glycerine must have been used.

HOUSEKEEPERS' CLUB MEETS

Members Delightfully Entertained at the Rectory.

(Chloe E. Lay Hodge, Secretary)
The Bethlehem Good Housekeepers' Club was delightfully entertained at the rectory last Saturday by Mrs. A. Stuart Gibson and Mrs. T. J. Broadbent.

The unpleasant weather did not damp the ardor of the goodly number of members who were present, and who responded to the roll call with beautiful New Year quotations.

The business was transacted in order of importance, and new objects of interest were introduced.

The hostess served a delicious luncheon during the social hour at which time we were joined by Rev. Stuart A. Gibson, who added much to the enjoyment.

WE CAN'T HELP IT

Our list of subscribers is still growing, two new ones having been added today.

REGULAR SESSION OF TOWN COUNCIL

Grade Crossings Still Under Discussion—Citizens Do Not Desire Gates.

At the regular monthly meeting of the town council held on Monday evening, a petition signed by a number of prominent citizens of the town, was read.

This petition concerned the construction of over head, or under ground crossings on Grant avenue, and West street instead of gates.

After much discussion, the mayor was authorized to write to Superintendent Buddin, of the Southern Railway, stating that the people of the town were not in favor of gates for the above mentioned crossings.

It was deemed advisable to ask Mr. Buddin, together with other railroad officials, to meet with the citizens of the town, in order to learn their views in the matter.

On motion of Councilman Arrington, a committee was appointed, consisting of Councilmen B. C. Cornwall and J. M. Bell, to investigate the killing of a number of turkeys, belonging to the Portner estate said destruction being accomplished by a dog supposed to belong in the town.

It was also ordered that the mayor should engage some suitable person to keep the books and look after the business of the town.

Sergeant Miller reported having returned all dog tags in his possession to the Commissioner of Game and Inland Fisheries, in Richmond; also having notified the county treasurer that the town no longer collected said tax.

ILLEGAL TO SEND LIQUOR BY MAIL

So Declares Postmaster at Winchester, Who Refuses to Handle Same.

Winchester, Va., January 30.—Refusal of Postmaster J. W. Sibert to accept samples of moonshine liquor for transmission through the mails to the state chemist at Richmond for official analysis as to alcoholic content, has resulted in Sheriff Pannett appealing to Postmaster General in Washington for ruling on the question. The sheriff's office said today similar shipments had been made before, but Postmaster Sibert held that while that may have been true it was nevertheless a violation of postal regulations and this specific instance was the first to come under his notice.

Blow to Enforcement.
A serious blow to enforcement of the state prohibition law has been struck, according to local officials, if the post office refuses to accept samples of confiscated liquor for mailing to Richmond. If the local case is taken as a precedent, and the Winchester postmaster is upheld by the department in Washington, it would apply, it was said, with equal force to the whole country, with a result that before violations of prohibition laws could be punished, radical changes in postal regulations would have to be effected, or the criminals set loose on account of lack of evidence of violation.

The Virginia law, it was said, requires all confiscated liquor to be analyzed and the statement of the state chemist sworn to before a conviction can be had in the prosecution of bootleggers and moonshiners. The sample that was offered for mailing at the local postoffice consisted of a two-ounce bottle of the liquid. The postmaster held it was unlawful to ship liquor, or a liquid offered as liquor, in any quantity, and declined to receive the package.

Trial Interfered With.
Sheriff Pannett said the evidence of the state chemist was to be used by the commonwealth in a pending court case, but with the inability of the state to prove that the seized liquid is, in fact, of alcoholic content, a conviction hardly could be expected. It was held to be a physical impossibility to have the state chemist, the official designated by law to make the analysis, come in person to the trial, as this would necessitate his attendance at virtually every court held in the state.—Washington Star.

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BOLD ATTEMPT AT BURGLARY

Robber Enters Home of R. A. Nalls While Family Are at Supper—No Clue.

A bold attempt at robbery occurred recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Nalls, near town, just at the supper hour.

Leaving the rest of the family still seated at the table, Mrs. Nalls, a daughter-in-law, had just gone to an upper room to light a fire. Hearing a noise in an adjoining room, she called, thinking it was some member of the family.

Upon receiving no response, Mrs. Nalls became alarmed and called to her husband, but being a woman of action as well as of nerve, she immediately armed herself with a revolver, and opened the door into the hall, only to discover the robber half way down the stairs.

Her first impulse was to fire, but fearing that her husband might have heard her cries, and that he would come into the hall, she refrained.

According to Mrs. Nalls, the burglar had not reached the foot of the stair before the front door swung open, proving that there was a confederate on the outside.

The robber was described as being an elderly man, with a long white beard, dressed in a dark suit, wearing a cap. No doubt the beard was a disguise.

By the time Mr. Nalls, aroused by the noise, had reached the door, the intruder was out of sight, lost in the darkness.

No clue has been discovered as to the identity of the man.

ESTIMABLE LADY PASSES AWAY

Deceased a Sister of Mr. B. F. Adams of Manassas—Interment at Middleburg.

Lucy Barker Turner, wife of Mr. Littleton A. Turner, of Aldie, passed quietly away at her home, on Tuesday, January 23, after an illness of several weeks.

The deceased was a daughter of the late Frances and Martha Rousseau Adams, and had spent all of her life in the home in which she died.

She was a woman of lovely character and will be greatly missed in a community, where her kindness of heart and sweetness of disposition had endeared her to all with whom she came in contact.

Besides her husband she is survived by three children, Mrs. Fitz Reuter, of Washington; Mr. Frances Turner and Miss Georganna Turner, of Aldie, two sisters, Misses Hattie and Fannie Adams, of Aldie, and one brother, Mr. B. F. Adams, of Manassas.

In spite of the extremely bad weather, many attended the funeral. The pallbearers were all young cousins of the deceased, namely: Messrs. Ludwell, Drurah, Thomas and Jack Hutchison, and Paul and Douglas Adams.

Funeral services were held at the house, by Rev. C. Wirt Trainham, of the Baptist Church, of which the deceased had been almost a life long member, assisted by Rev. Mr. Mayers, rector of the Episcopal Church at Middleburg, and interment was in the cemetery at Middleburg.

The lovely floral tributes were an esteem in which the deceased was held by her friends and relatives.

Those from a distance who attended the funeral were Dr. and Mrs. Fitz Reuter, of Washington; Dr. Reuter's mother, Mrs. Reuter; Miss Maggie Turner, of New York, and Mr. B. F. Adams, of Manassas.

BENEFIT ENTERTAINMENT

To Be Held Under Auspices of High School Community League.

A benefit entertainment will be given under the auspices of the Manassas High School Community League on Monday night, February 12, at the Episcopal Parish Hall.

A play, "The Last Day at Centre Ridge School," will be presented by the high school students, followed by a Spanish Tamborine Drill.

After the stage program, refreshments will be sold by the ladies of the league.

TO FEED HUNGRY BIRDS

Rural Mail Carriers Will Distribute Grain Along Route.

Straying country birds soon may be watching as vigilantly for the mail man as letter-hungry humans do. Postmaster General Weeks has issued orders to rural route mail carriers to distribute grains along their routes for starving birds, when supplies of such bird feed are furnished to them.

The order resulted from a request of a state game warden, who asked that the carriers be permitted to participate in the benevolent work of furnishing food to birds when the ground is covered with snow. Rural route carriers were asked to render all possible assistance in the good cause.

OLD AQUEDUCT TO BE RAZED

Piers and Abutments to Be Dynamited, According to U. S. Engineers' Plan.

The southern abutment of the old aqueduct bridge and all the river piers of that structure except the north abutment at Georgetown, will be destroyed by the use of dynamite in the summer or fall, in the event that the War Department approves plans prepared in the office of Maj. Tyler, the United States engineer in charge. Removal of the old bridge was provided for by Congress, when it authorized the construction of the new Georgetown bridge.

The old bridge already has been closed to traffic, except by the cars of the Old Dominion railway, in order to expedite the work of widening and improving the Virginia approach to the new Georgetown bridge. The additional space is required for the installation of the loop of the Capitol Traction Company and the new railroad terminal stations.

The proposed retention of the north abutment, extending over the Chesapeake and Ohio canal, from M street to the river's edge, is with a view of utilizing that section of the old structure, as a recreation pier, in accordance with the request of the Georgetown Citizens' Association.

It was said at Maj. Tyler's office, this morning that it is not settled when the demolition of the Aqueduct bridge will be started, but it is expected that the entire structure will be removed during the present year.

MRS. EDITH L. LATHAM DEAD

Passes Away After Illness of Several Months' Duration.

Mrs. Edith Latimer Latham, wife of Mr. William C. Latham, died at her home, "Waterloo," near Hickory Grove, on Tuesday evening January 23.

While Mrs. Latham had not been well for several months, still her death came as a shock to her many friends.

Mrs. Latham's brothers, the two Doctors Latimer, from Maryland, were with her at the time of her death.

Her body was laid to rest in the St. Paul's churchyard, Haymarket, on Tuesday, Rev. Mr. Mayers of Middleburg, conducting the services.

The deceased, who had made her home near Hickory Grove for a good many years, had endeared herself to the people of the community by her gentle, winning personality.

Her death has cast a gloom over the entire neighborhood.

RAPPAHANNOCK CITIZEN DIES

Aged Father of Mr. T. R. Bywaters, of Manassas, Passes Away.

Mr. Thomas R. Bywaters, father of Mr. T. R. Bywaters of Manassas, died on last Saturday, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. S. Johnson, at Olive, Rappahannock county.

The deceased, who was a son of Robert Bywaters, one of the early pioneer settlers of the Virginia Colony.

Besides his widow, he leaves two sons and six daughters, as well as a number of grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the house by Rev. Mr. Winfrey, pastor of the Culpeper Baptist Church, and the remains were laid to rest in the Citizens Cemetery at Culpeper. Peaceful be thy silent slumber, In the grave so low. Thou no more will join our number, Thou no more our sorrow know.

BOND ISSUE AND GASOLINE TAX

President of Good Roads Association Replies to Statement Senator H. F. Byrd.

(By H. C. Elliott, President Virginia Good Roads Association)
Senator Harry Byrd has at last decided to enlighten the public by offering the solution of the opposition to the road problem in Virginia. He now realizes that Virginians, thoroughly aroused, demand some action. In his recent article, Mr. Byrd says that there are two methods of financing road construction—one, a bond issue with the gasoline tax, the other a gasoline tax without a bond issue; that everyone agrees a gasoline tax is a fair tax, but on the bond issue there is a great difference of opinion. He asks for a middle road, over which a united and satisfied State can go to work on this vast undertaking. The replies to the letters sent by him recently to the members of the General Assembly for support of the gas tax could not have justified this statement, else he would have immediately insisted upon the calling of a special session instead of attempting to prevent its being held. As to the "middle road," it apparently does not exist. Mr. Byrd and his associates have never offered to travel except on their own path—calling for a complete abandonment of the bond issue and the adoption of a 3-cent gasoline tax.

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Always Seeks Delay.

In addition to his arguments against a bond issue and a covert threat against the executives of the State Highway Department, expressing his opinion as to the best plan of finance, Mr. Byrd attempts to reach those he cannot influence against the bond issue by telling them to postpone action. Delay has been one of the principal cards played by the opposition. To them now is never the accepted time. The plea of the opposition that the whole matter be decided by the people at the November election overlooks the fact that the bond question at issue cannot be segregated in that way in such an election. The members elected to both Houses will have many other questions than roads to pass on. At the November election in 1920 this sole question was propounded, and after an exhaustive campaign, divorced from personal or political consideration, the people by a majority of 62,357 votes decided in favor of the bond issue.

General Assembly Not Elected Anti-Bond.

Mr. Byrd as usual harps on the enormity of the crime of a member of the General Assembly elected on what he terms an anti-bond platform, now supporting the bond issue. In the first place, the bond advocates deny that a majority of the House of Delegates were elected on an anti-bond platform, as the question was not clear-cut with both sides represented, but in one or two instances. Delegates under the impression that they had been elected on an anti-bond platform, have returned home since the adjournment of the General Assembly to find that they were entirely wrong, and that the people of their counties did want a bond issue. Mr. Byrd thinks it's absolutely proper that certain members elected from districts practically 100 per cent in favor of a bond issue, should stand with the opposition against the wishes of their constituencies. In support of his argument for another postponement of action by the General Assembly, Mr. Byrd expressed the possibility.

(Continued on Page Two)