

Neal Bowman Dies in Chair; 2 Local Men Are Witnesses

Condemned Murderer of Comer
Franklin Pays Extreme Penalty
Early Friday Morning.

Neal Bowman's criminal career was brought to an end Friday morning a few minutes after midnight when he paid the penalty fixed on him by the Mercer Circuit Court and affirmed by the court of appeals—death in the electric chair.

Bowman walked unaided to his death in the electric chair in the state prison at Eddyville for the murder of Comer Franklin, his youthful partner in a series of crimes staged in this state. He refused to embrace any religion. Three shocks were administered before the notorious criminal was pronounced dead. The first crashed him against the straps, at 12:07 o'clock; the second came a minute later, and the third at 12:10. He was pronounced dead at 12:16 o'clock after a prolonged examination by prison doctors.

The 33-year-old gunman persisted to the last minute that he was innocent of the murder of Franklin, although he had previously admitted that he threw the body into Herrington lake where it was found by expert divers Thursday, April 12, 1934. Bowman was accused of the murder by Stanley Mercer who is now serving a life term, commuted by Gov. Laffoon from death because of his "tender age" for the murder of one of the Kaufman brothers in a robbery at Camp Nelson. Mercer was the third member of the lawless trio which made a criminal record in Kentucky. Bowman told of the events leading up to the killing and said that the trio were riding in a stolen automobile at the time of the killing.

To the request of Warden Ben Wilson as to what he wanted for his last meal, Bowman replied, "Anything you want to fix for me, Warden." He added that he did not like fried chicken when Warden Wilson suggested it as a part of his final meal.

Bowman spent his last afternoon sending "farewell" messages to relatives, Warden Wilson said. The warden did not disclose their contents.

Bowman, fled the Ohio Hospital for the Criminally Insane in December, 1933, after commitment following a bank robbery conviction.

Department of Justice records show that Bowman was first arrested in March, 1925, in Columbus, O., for defrauding an innkeeper at Zanewille. On June 30 of the same year he was arrested for burglary and larceny at Canton, Ohio. On September 9, 1925, he was received at the Ohio state prison to serve one to fifteen years for burglary and larceny. He was paroled September 22, 1926, but returned in October of the following year as a parole violator. On May 2, 1930, he was paroled again. June 15, 1931, he was arrested at Cincinnati and convicted on a bank robbery charge.

SCULPTOR BUILD MAKES BUST OF DR. McDOWELL

A. D. H. Build, Lexington sculptor, attracted much attention and interest at the Gilcher Hotel, Danville, Saturday, when he gave a demonstration of his work by making a bust of Dr. Ephraim McDowell in the lobby of the hotel. The lobby was full of people watching Mr. Build work and the bust of the noted surgeon, when finally completed, will show the skillful work of a great artist. Manager Tom Parks will keep the bust in the hotel and later place it in the old McDowell house on Second street along with instruments and relics of Dr. McDowell.—Danville Messenger.

NEGRO PLACED IN JAIL ON COLD CHECK CHARGE

Robert Williams, 35, Negro, of Harrodsburg, was arrested at 5:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon in Lexington by Deets. Sgts. G. W. Maupin and Claude Embury on a fugitive charge and held for Harrodsburg officers. Williams was returned to Harrodsburg where he was placed in jail to await a hearing before County Judge Charles T. Corn on a charge of having cashed a \$50 cold check at a local firm. The date for the hearing had not been set yesterday.

Police Judge Alpha Patterson And Hall Willis Witness Execution of Condemned Man.

Police Judge Alpha Patterson and Hall Willis, both of Harrodsburg, drove to Eddyville Thursday afternoon of last week where they, with 14 other persons, witnessed the execution of Neal Bowman in the death chamber of the state prison shortly after midnight. Judge Patterson and Mr. Willis were guests of Warden Wilson while there and declared that they were shown every possible courtesy.

Friday afternoon Judge Patterson gave this paper a vivid account of the execution as he saw it. The warden, followed by six guards and the 16 witnesses, most of whom were newspapermen, filed into the chamber and the witnesses were given their seats. When everything was in readiness the warden asked that the prisoner be sent in.

Bowman entered alone, dressed in khaki trousers and blue shirt, taking long hurried steps, and flopped down in the chair in an impatient manner. He did not speak after entering the death chamber but sat nervously in the chair, glaring at first the warden and then the spectators with a furtive, wild-eyed expression while the attendants hastily fastened the straps which were to hold him in the chair.

After the buckles and straps were adjusted and the prisoner's eyes blindfolded, the guards moved to one side and the chaplain stepped in front of the condemned man and read a brief passage from the Bible. As the chaplain said "Amen" and stepped back the warden raised one hand in front of a small window opening into control room and the first charge surged thru Bowman's body, crashing it against its retaining straps and causing it to quiver violently. A moment later the second charge again stiffened the body. The body soon slumped in the chair and the doctor stepped up, made a lengthy examination, shook his head, and stepped back.

Again the warden raised his hand and a third charge, apparently more severe and of greater duration, tightened the body against the straps. A few moments later the doctor pronounced Bowman dead. The hands of the clock pointed to 12:16. "Follow me, gentlemen," said the warden and led the solemn spectators back through Death Row where eleven more prisoners are awaiting their turn to pay the extreme penalty fixed upon them by the courts for the various crimes for which they have been tried and found guilty.

MINISTER'S SON JOINS PLAY PRODUCING COMPANY

Dale Yoak, son of Rev. R. J. Yoak and Mrs. Yoak, who are well known to many in Harrodsburg, has taken a position with the John B. Rogers Producing Company, of Fostoria, O. He left Cynthia Saturday for a course of training in Fostoria. The young man was active in amateur theatricals in Somerset, where Dr. Yoak was pastor of the Methodist church, and also in Cynthia where they have lived since Dr. Yoak was transferred by the Kentucky Conference to the Methodist church there.

BROWN TEMPORARY ACTING PRINCIPAL AT SALVISA

Irmel Brown, who has been the assistant principal of the graded and high school at Salvisa, has been made temporary acting principal until a permanent principal can be named to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of Miss Gladys Seay. She resigned recently to accept the position of enrolling clerk of the Senate at Frankfort. Miss Seay was principal for several years at Salvisa.

YOUNG WOMAN'S AUXILIARY ELECTS 1936 OFFICERS

The following officers have been elected by the Y. W. A. of the Harrodsburg Baptist Church: Miss Elizabeth Jackson, president; Miss Armlida McCarty, vice president; and Miss Laura Norvell, secretary and treasurer. Mrs. Alpha Patterson is the new counselor and Miss Nelva Currens, assistant. A beautiful installation program has been planned.

DUGANSVILLE

(Mrs. Claude Davenport, Cor.)

Mr. Goodloe Robinson, driver of the school bus for Fairview School, is building a garage for his school bus on the old foundation of the store building owned by his father, the late S. P. Robinson, who was a merchant here for many years. The store building was destroyed by fire over 20 years ago.

Mrs. L. E. Wells, who has been quite sick with rheumatism, is able to be out again.

Mr. and Mrs. James Gray were callers of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Robinson near Perryville Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Nona Speake has been called to Winslow, Ind., by the illness of her sister, Mrs. Sam Pipes.

Miss Mary Alice Pulliam is spending several weeks with friends in Harrodsburg.

The remains of Mr. James Ward were brought here from Louisville Monday afternoon. Funeral services were conducted at the grave by Rev. Perry, pastor of the Lawrenceburg Baptist church. Mr. Ward formerly lived here and has many relatives in this community.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Burns, of Bohon, were recent visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Yates and family. Mrs. Sallie Woods of Mayo, is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Clint Demaree and family this week.

The Dugansville Missionary Society met January 10, at the home of Mrs. Goodloe Robinson. Plans were made to attend the Zone meeting to be held at Harrodsburg on January 16.

Mrs. Irene Williams and Mr. Marvin Leathers, of Boyle county, were callers of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stratton Sunday afternoon.

Miss Opal Long spent last week with relatives in Frankfort.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Stratton and family were Sunday visitors of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eliza Stratton, Anderson county.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pinkston and family, Cardwell were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Vernice Pinkston. In the afternoon they went to see Mrs. John Christerson who is very ill at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Thurman Cunningham near here.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis J. Sims and family, Mrs. Mildred Brown, Miss Clara Opal Brown and Mr. Arley Drury were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Darnell, Anderson co. Friends and members of the Bethel Baptist church met Sunday at the home of Mr. Thurman Cunningham where they sang and held a prayer service for Mrs. John Christerson, who is very ill.

Mrs. Janie Gritton has been moved from the home of her daughter, Mrs. Chris Ward, to the home of her son, Mr. Floyd Gritton, near Mayo. We are sorry to report that she is not as well at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Gash and son, of Anderson county, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Gritton, Harrodsburg, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Gritton Sunday.

TABLOW

(Mrs. Ezra Lay, Cor.)

Mr. John Satterly was very much surprised Sunday, January 12, on returning home from church at Bethel to find his children had gathered at his home and prepared a dinner in honor of his fifty-seventh birthday. Besides the children and their families, Mr. Neal Satterly and family, Mrs. Kathryn Robinson and son were present.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Lay and Kathryn Royalty, Marvin Lay and family, Mr. and Mrs. Hanly Lay, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Lay spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Floris Lay.

Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Lay had as their guests January 5th, Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Catlett and daughter, Eveyleen, Mr. and Mrs. Floris Lay, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Lay and sons, Mr. and Mrs. Hanly Lay and son, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Lay and Kathryn Royalty.

Miss Honchel, one of the teachers at Fairview, is on the sick list and has been unable to teach this week.

A number of people in this vicinity have moved since the first of the year. Mr. Harry Turner moved Friday to Jenkinsville, Mr. Orville Sallee moved near Bohon, and Mr. Raymond Harley will move soon into the house vacated by Sallee. Mr. and Mrs. Roy Young have gone to housekeeping on Mr. Jim Dearing's place.

Rev. T. G. Shelton and family attended the associational meeting at Sand Spring Sunday.

The members of the Bethel church have been made sad by the loss of two of its members by death in the past week, Mr. George Cornish and Mrs. Dane Robinson.

Sunday School Convention will meet at Bethel Sunday afternoon. Everyone cordially invited to attend.

Mrs. Beulah Mahn, of Louisville, has returned home after spending several days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Leonard, Mr. and Mrs. Owen Davenport also were their guests Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Wash who have recently moved to Bloomfield spent Monday night with her sister, Mrs. Marvin Lay, Mr. and Mrs. Arlie Pinkston and son.

Several young folks gathered at the home of Misses Geneva and Virginia Lay Tuesday evening and made candy.

Rev. Ralph White and family, former pastor at Bethel were guests on Wednesday night of Mr. and Mrs. Floris Lay.

DUNCAN

(Mrs. Joe Stevens, Cor.)

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Jordan were visitors of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Johnson, of Williamsburg, Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hicks, of Lexington, were visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Price Pinkston Sunday.

Mrs. Harold Jordan spent the week end with her mother, Mrs. Johnson, of near Bondville.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Stevens had as

their guests Sunday, Prof. W. C. Stevens and family, Mr. Joe Dennis, and Miss Frances Haunchell.

Prof. and Mrs. W. C. Stevens entertained with four tables of Progressive Rook Saturday night in honor of the Senior class at Fairview. A salad course was served and games were enjoyed during the evening.

Those present were: Misses Zelma Demaree, Lella Drury, Irene Bowen, Loretta, Coslow, Mabelle Sanders, Kathleen Poulter and Robert A. Davenport, members of the senior class; Miss Frances Haunchell, Messrs. Joe Dennis, and Bruce Champion, High School teachers; Messrs. Carol Cole, William Cole, Grover B. Sanders, and H. C. Wells, members of the basketball team.

Mrs. Bettie Sims was called to Ludlow on account of the illness of her sister, Mrs. Kitty Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. Cleilan Satterly spent Wednesday with their uncle, Mr. Haskell Satterly and family, of Tatum.

We are pleased to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Will Bottom, of Harrodsburg, into our neighborhood. They have moved to their farm they recently purchased from Hollis Royalty.

HOPEWELL

(Miss Wilma V. Taylor, Cor.)

Mr. Emmett Teater is very sick at this time. Her little daughter, Annette, has pneumonia. We hope they will be better soon.

All of the children and grandchildren of Mr. D. H. Patterson were with him to spend his 80th birthday at Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Ransdell's, Sunday, January 12.

Miss Myrtle Kelly and Miss Wilma Taylor spent last week with relatives in Harrodsburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Lafon Cole and family spent Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Cole.

Mr. Charles Nichols spent Friday night with Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Norton.

Mrs. Fannie Parsons and Mr. and Mrs. Byford Sanders spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Lee Roberts, of near Harrodsburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Ansel Woods and family had as their guests Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Wells and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Yates and family.

Mr. R. V. Kelly is on the sick list at this time. We hope he will soon be well again.

Miss Wilma V. Taylor spent last week end with Misses Mary and Beatrice Jones.

Mr. and Mrs. Rayford Poulter and children spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Norton.

Mr. D. H. Patterson spent last week with Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Ransdell.

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WOMEN'S KERCHIEFS new sport prints. 3 for 9c
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SEWING THREAD 4 spools 9c
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Wrapped CANDY KISSES lb. 9c

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ENAMELWARE, large pieces, assorted, each 9c
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TOOLS, pliers, screwdrivers, etc. each 9c
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