

Sawmill Worker Admits He Killed Georgia Sunbather

ROME, Ga. (UP)—A sawmill worker confessed today he kidnapped and strangled 16-year-old Patricia Ann Cook and tossed her body, bound in a quilt with bathing wire, into the Etowah River.

Police reported Willie Grady Cochran, 37, picked up as a suspect two days ago, confessed at the spot where he said he tossed the body of the blond, blue-eyed child from an isolated bridge.

Deputy Sheriff Allan White of Floyd County said Cochran "admitted having sex 'affair' with the young girl."

Police Chief Smith Horton immediately ordered the fire department rescue squad to bring bodies to the spot five miles south of Cartersville, Ga., for dragging operations.

The child was lured from her home Monday afternoon, apparently while clad only in a bathing suit, by an intruder who interrupted her sunbath in her backyard, where she was visible from the street.

Secret Jail

Her mother and stepfather were with her at the time.

The confession, climaxing a night of questioning during which Cochran was driven to numerous such lonely spots, followed an intensive search for the child by scores of law enforcement officers and National Guardsmen.

Cochran was turned over to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation in a speedy transfer to an undisclosed jail because of high feeling in Rome over the kidnapping.

Col. Buford Ingle held his battalion of National Guardsmen in the area, presumably to resume a house-to-house search and dragging of lakes and ponds if Cochran's confession proved erroneous.

Confess on Bridge

Horton and Floyd County Sheriff Joe Adams said they had driven Cochran on a wide tour of several counties before they reached the bridge on the Cartersville-to-Trianglesville road in northern Georgia.

As they reached the bridge Cochran suddenly said, "stop," and at the spot confessed the kidnap slaying, they said.

He said he took the girl first to a lonely road near Dallas, Ga., and strangled her with his hands and placed her body in a clump of bushes. Then he obtained from his nearby home the quilt, bathing wire and a three-pound monkey wrench he used for a weight, Horton said.

Horton, present at the confession, said Cochran at first claimed he killed the girl "with a stick," but later said he "choked" her, because "I just had to improve."

Cochran was quoted as saying he happened to drive past the home, saw the girl applying suntan lotion to her body, and returned and knocked on the front door.

Charged with Force

When she appeared, still wearing the bathing suit, he said he asked her for directions for finding a house and then offered to take her to a swimming pool.

Horton said that although Cochran claimed she went willingly he will be charged with taking her by force.



Bolivar Farm Bureau Host To Delta Sales Folk In Cleveland

By PERLE PEARMAN
CLEVELAND—Cotton's versatility was developed through 3 interesting talks by outstanding promoters of the fiber at the Delta Cotton Sales Clinic here Tuesday night. Featured speakers were members of the Bolivar Farm Bureau, which is sponsoring the clinic at the Cleveland First Methodist Church, were Hugh M. Comer, Sylvania, Ala., Miss. Sue Hyde and Donald Drinkard, both of Memphis.

Felton Johnson, manager of the local Chamber of Commerce, was master of ceremonies; M. S. Gray, president of Bolivar Farm Bureau, presided over the large number of sales people from the Delta area. The Rev. Roy A. Grisham, pastor of the church, gave the invocation.

Comer, immediate past president of the chamber, gave the invocation from a vast fund of personal experience on the subject, "Why We Choose Cotton." Dating back to five years when cotton brought seven to nine cents a pound, he reviewed the market progress and pointed out the revolutionary changes which have taken place in the former creeping machinery in the mills, and in the fields, during recent years.

Miles Reid, advertising manager of Julius Lewis Department Store, discussed "Cotton Sales Promotion and Identification Techniques," in a most comprehensive and informative manner. Drinkard spoke on "Year-Round Sales Promotion."

The President of Wm. B. Moore Dry Goods Co., further emphasized the varied uses of this area's chief money crop and brought to the group's attention the fact that cotton items on sale at retail prices are not labeled as cotton.

Eupora Incident Brings Wrath Of Solon On Esso

WASHINGTON (UP)—Rep. Charles C. Diggs Jr., Negro Democrat of Michigan, asked Negro newspapers today to help him impose a boycott on Standard Oil Service stations in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky and Mississippi.

He said he appealed to Negro editors in those states after he was "snubbed" in an attempt to confer with W. G. Violette, president of the Standard Oil company of Kentucky, about the case of a Mississippi school teacher "who was beaten when she attempted to use the restroom in a Standard Oil station."

The Negro House member said he initiated the boycott after advising company officials he planned to do so "unless the company directed its stations to place restrooms at the convenience of all citizens, regardless of race, color or creed."

Diggs said he had asked revocation of the franchise of the Eppurona service station in Eupora, Miss., where he said the incident involving Mrs. Dolis A. Walker of Indiana took place.

He said he intensified his efforts on learning that Mrs. Walker was removed from her teaching post "for reporting the attack" to the Mississippi Regional Council of Negro Leadership. He said he considered her firing a retaliatory move by the Mississippi Citizens Council and other groups fighting school desegregation.

Three Fined On Speeding Charges

Three persons were fined \$15 each on charges of speeding Wednesday in city court. They were: Eddie Mitchell, 1820 Railroad Ave.; Calvin Blackledge, GAFB; William Breechen, 639 N. Broadway.

One charge of negligent manslaughter brought a fine of \$30, one assault and battery \$15. Perlie McGee of Tylerwood was fined \$55 on charges of trespassing. One person was charged \$15 for intoxication and one \$30.

A total of 21 persons paid fines for meter violations; 19 paid five cents each and two \$1 each. One fine of \$5 was made for block-

NAACP Plans Legal Action To Speed School Integration

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. (UP)—Legal action is threatened against local school boards which fail to take steps toward integration this September.

Thurgood Marshall said at the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's 46th annual convention yesterday that every school board should begin integration this September and complete it by September 1956.

He also denounced plans for desegregation in some schools on a grade-by-grade basis.

"We are opposed to any piecemeal plan for desegregation," he said. "The Supreme Court decisions extend from a free kindergarten to post-graduate education. The gradual approach does more harm than good."

Edward R. Dudley, former U.S. ambassador to Liberia and the first Negro ambassador for this country, said he would file suit on a sidewalk; one \$10 for running red light; two \$12 for careless and reckless driving and one \$5 for parking in a restricted zone.

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Meridian Slaying May Soon Be Solved

MERIDIAN, Miss. (UP)—Officers hinted today there may be a break soon in the slaying and robbery of a Meridian nurse.

Highway patrolmen and local authorities said they were continuing to question Robert Samuel McMillan, an ex-convict and escaped mental patient, and said a "new and promising lead" had been uncovered.

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Today's Markets

NEW YORK (UP)—Cotton futures prices at 2 p.m. EST:

| | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Open High Low | 1 p.m. |
| July | 3157 3187 3140 3111 |
| Oct. | 3117 3121 3114 3114 |
| Dec. | 3123 3126 3119 3120 |
| Mar. | 3109 3120 3110 3111 |
| May | 3054 3120 3114 3114 |

NEW ORLEANS (UP)—Cotton futures prices at 1 p.m. CST:

| | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Open High Low | 1 p.m. |
| July | 3132 3133 3129 3109 |
| Oct. | 3119 3120 3114 3114 |
| Dec. | 3126 3125 3118 3119 |
| Mar. | 3132 3132 3122 3122 |
| May | 3128 3130 3117 3117 |

Along The Riverfront

Valley Towing Company's towboat, Valto, left late Thursday night on the return downriver trip after arriving here Thursday with a low of petroleum products for the Goyer Oil Company.

Greenville Towing Company's towboat, Betty Brent, passed Werfield Landing Thursday night and reported her position at mile 450, about 20 miles north of Vicksburg, early Friday.

The Ruth Brent, of the Greenville Towing Company, also passed here Thursday night. The Ruth Brent is at mile 559 on the lower Mississippi.

Reports to Greenville Towing Company placed location of the towboat Lady Reo at Decatur, Pa., and Karen at Winona, Minnesota, early Friday.

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