

# Events of Tragic Drowning Reviewed by Eye Witness

## "A Friend" Tells of The Relentless Search For Bodies Of Two Men Who Lost Lives In The Wateree River. Many Relatives and

atives, faithful workers and hundreds of spectators during the day. Everyone who could help, seemed anxious to do their part in rescuing the body. The motor which Mr. Jeffcoat and Mr. Dean had used was found near the bank by Mr. Pike Collins. It was dragged out about twenty-five or thirty feet from where Mr. Jeffcoat's body had been found. Later in the day, using a throw line and heavy hooks, Mr. Richard Wilson pulled up a rain coat used on this fishing trip by Mr. Dean. At the end of the day, the sad news was, that the body was still hidden in the waters of the river.

On Sunday, using more boats and heavier drags, work was resumed by the untiring and faithful men. After the fruitless day on Saturday the Columbia Fire department had been called. Their representatives responded willingly but in all their efforts they failed to recover the body. They explained the equipment already in use was as efficient as that used by the department. Motor boats hummed, strong men tugged at heavy drags but at last another day was completed, another fruitless day of honest, hard work which had been witnessed by a throng of friends, of relatives with anxious hearts, yet, night, and darkness claimed another victory.

Nevertheless, on Monday morning the work was resumed as eagerly and earnestly as on the day after the tragedy. Far to the right of where Mr. Jeffcoat's body was recovered, another raincoat, a hat and a glove were dragged from the muddy bottom. This, to a certain extent, revived hopes that Mr. Dean would be found in that portion of the river. After careful and thorough dragging the rest of the day, the searchers worked diligently, fearing nothing, only hoping to bring the body to the surface. Again darkness and sorrow prevailed because the waters of the river still held their secret and kept the body of the missing man.

It seemed all that willing workers could do had been done so then a marine diver was called from Charleston. Arriving Tuesday morning, the diver, Mr. John W. Tanner, began his search. He worked

This boat belonged to Curtis Wilson, motored by him and occupied by two colored men, Nighton and Pummey Cunningham. During the lunch hour there came a cry of victory from this boat out on the water, "We've got him, we've got him." This victorious cry came from the workmen and spectators

12:30 p. m. Each man forgot his lunch, forgot every thing except to get to the boat and render help. Within a few minutes time the body was brought near the shore and with careful supervision kept beneath the water, awaiting the arrival of the undertaker. As soon as the body was found, Sheriff Rabb went to call Thompson for a funeral home. Shortly he had returned to report that he had never ready been to Winnsboro to let the finding of the body. Mr. Dean's brother, Deck, was taken in Winnsboro by Mr. R. W. F. event to tell their mother and by will, of the late Mr. Dean. Soon the rich balance arrived and upon those equipped for this occasion, the body from beneath

## Funeral Services For J. A. Jeffcoat

Funeral services for John A. Jeffcoat were conducted Monday afternoon at four o'clock from the Stephen Greene Memorial Baptist church by the pastor, the Rev. M. C. Padgett. Interment followed in Winnsboro Mills Cemetery.

Mr. Jeffcoat was drowned when the boat in which he and a companion were fishing, over turned. Mr. Jeffcoat is survived by his widow, Mrs. Hattie Peak Jeffcoat, and five children. He leaves many friends who regret his passing.

A large party of men from Winnsboro Mills and vicinity are still searching for the body of Doll Dean, who was in the boat with Jeffcoat.

Searchers have dragged the river where they found the boat, motor, and some clothing, but so far all efforts have failed to locate the body.

## BOYD DALE JOHNS AGED EIGHT MONTHS DIES HERE

Boyd Dale Johns, aged eight months, died Sunday night, December 4th. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Johns, and beside his parents, he is survived by two brothers, Hugh and Vernon and one sister, Phyllis Belle. Funeral services were conducted from the home in the Mill Village on Monday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock by Rev. W. I. Craven and Rev. M. C. Padgett. Interment was in the Winnsboro Mills cemetery. 1938

## Cecil Taylor Johnson

Funeral services for Mr. Cecil Taylor Johnson, 29, were held on Easter Sunday at the Graniteville Baptist church, where he was a member.

Mr. Johnson died after a short illness at a Columbia infirmary, and leaves many friends who regret his passing. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Minnie Johnson, four sisters, Mrs. Mary Carten, both of Graniteville, and Mrs. Maggie Buice, Mrs. H. D. Yonn and Mrs. Bessie Owens of Winnsboro; four brothers, W. E. Johnson, of Graniteville, W. R. and A. A. Johnson of Johnston, S. C. and G. M. Johnson of Hendersonville, N. C. 4/28/1938

## MRS. THAYER JOHNSON DIES AT AIKEN

Mrs. Lillie Morgan Johnson died at the Aiken county hospital Tuesday morning at 6 o'clock following an illness of six months.

Funeral services were held from Clearwater Baptist church of which she was a faithful member, and a leader in all of its activities Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock conducted by the Rev. A. T. Howell. Interment was in the church cemetery.

Mrs. Johnson is survived by her husband, Thayer Johnson; five sisters, Mrs. James Macfie, Jr., Winnsboro; Mrs. James H. Walters, Waynesboro, Ga.; Mrs. Herbert Wells, Wilmington, N. C.; Mrs. Clara M. Chamberlain, Edgefield; two brothers, Dr. D. E. Morgan, Columbia, and S. O. Morgan, Edgefield.

Mrs. Johnson was 43 years of age and had been a patient sufferer during her illness.

## Johnson Infant 3/24/1938

Funeral services for little Tommie Johnson, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Johnson of this place were conducted Sunday afternoon from Stephen Greene Memorial Baptist church by the pastor, Rev. M. C. Padgett, assisted by the Rev. J. H. Ellenburg.

The child is survived by his mother and father, grandparents, and several aunts and uncles.

## Rudolph Johnstone Is Victim Of Crash

7/14/1938  
Young Spartanburg Mill Official, Former Resident Of Winnsboro, Dies Friday As Result Of Auto Accident.

Winnsboro residents were saddened to learn Saturday morning of the untimely passing of Rudolph G. Johnstone, Spartanburg mill official. Mr. Johnstone resided in Winnsboro from 1917 to 1927, when his father, Gordon A. Johnstone, was head of the Winnsboro Mills. The following account is taken from the Spartanburg Journal:

Funeral services for Rudolph G. Johnstone, 36, local textile executive who died Friday night at a Gaffney hospital of injuries sustained in an automobile wreck, were conducted Sunday afternoon at 5 o'clock at Floyd's mortuary by the Rev. C. E. Rozzell of Gastonia, N. C. Burial was in Oakwood cemetery.

Active pallbearers were T. I. DeShields, Alex Gee, George Cornelison, Henry Calvert, Harold Sullivan, R. N. Westmoreland, Wilton Holcombe and C. A. Holland.

The honorary escort was composed of the following men: Walter S. Montgomery, Luther K. Brice, Clarence Jolly, J. L. Campbell, Robert Carson, Richard Carr, Oscar Sullivan, Ed Coleman, S. A. Roane, E. M. Matthews, B. F. Timmerman, L. E. Bullington, W. R. McGraw, J. W. Kennett, J. W. Godfrey, W. C. Chandler, G. C. Meredith, G. S. Melton, C. G. White and Theodore de Loach.

Also: Andrew Calhoun, W. T. Boiter, W. A. Dunlap, T. G. Roach, E. P. Floyd, J. E. Younce, J. L. Woodward, B. F. Mason, W. A. Ballenger, J. E. West, H. T. Smith, E. E. McMillan, Donald Russell, Dr. J. R. Sparkman, Dr. H. E. Heinitish, Judge C. C. Wyche, Wallace E. Moore, and L. T. Cothran.

Mr. Johnstone was taken to the Cherokee county hospital at Gaffney Thursday night after he was seriously injured in an accident near Blacksburg.

Friday morning his attending physician reported that he had shown some improvement over Thursday night. His temperature began to climb later in the morning and his condition grew steadily worse.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Mary Lee Johnstone; a son, Gordon Johnstone; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Johnstone of Gastonia, N. C.; two brothers, William Johnstone and Amos Johnstone, both of Gastonia; and a sister, Mrs. Hester J. Sawyer, also of Gastonia.

## RIDGEWAY "HIKER" IS IDENTIFIED

7/21/1938  
Finger Prints Show Man Who Died In Fairfield Last Friday To Be Frank Kartotski, Violator of Immigration Laws.

(The Columbia State)  
The federal bureau of investigation has solved another mystery.

According to a wire received Sunday by the state highway patrol from J. E. Hoover, head of the FBI, in Washington, the previously unidentified hitch-hiker who died late Friday afternoon at a lumber mill at Ridgeway was revealed to be Franktisek Kartotski. Identification was made through finger-prints.

Kartotski, who was 55 or 60 years old, had spoken to several men at the mill a few minutes before he died. He told the men that he was a Russian and that his home was "on the road." He spoke in broken English and had been seen around Smallwood for several days.

After having passed a few minutes in conversation with Kartotski at the mill they left him. Several minutes later they heard communicate with Sheriff Rabb's office in Winnsboro.

## EARLE P. JONES DIES AT BETHEL

2/3/1938  
Earle P. Jones, 49, of Bethel community, died Thursday afternoon, at three o'clock at his home.

Mr. Jones was a native of the community and spent most of his life in the home in which he was born. He was the son of the late T. William P. and Mattie Busbee Jones. He was a well known farmer of this community and an active member of the Bethel Methodist church.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Estelle Roberts Jones; five daughters, Mrs. Earle Isehnor, Mrs. Frank Sparks, Winnsboro; Miss Gerty and Miss Jones, Bethel community; one brother, J. M. Jones.

Funeral services were held at Bethel church at 3:30 o'clock Friday conducted by the Rev. T. F. Reid, assisted by the Rev. C. A. Inabinet and the Rev. A. B. Kennedy. Interment was in the church cemetery.

Active pallbearers were: Leo Han, W. P. Ruff, Joe Turket, Harold Brooks, Ray Brooks and Hugh Mann. Honorary pallbearers: Alex Robinson, W. J. Leitner, C. H. Leitner, E. K. Rabb, Mel Feaster, Dr. J. L. Bryson, Dr. C. Estes, R. B. Keistler and A. L. Parrish.

## Death Comes To W. B. Kennedy

Ridgeway Man Passes In Columbia Hospital After Illness Of Three Weeks. Funeral Services Today (Thursday). 1/19/38

William Boulware Kennedy, 66-year-old farmer and petroleum dealer of Ridgeway, who was found by Columbia police in an unconscious state on the rear seat of his automobile November 17 at 2 a. m., 36 hours after he disappeared from Ridgeway, died Wednesday at 5:45 a. m. at the Columbia hospital.

Mr. Kennedy, who was discovered by Officer L. S. Shorter on the rear seat of his 1938 sedan parked at the corner of Assembly and Taylor streets, never fully regained consciousness. His physician said that he had apparently suffered a cerebral hemorrhage and that his left side was paralyzed.

In his pockets there was \$266 at the time he was found, and no evidence of his having been beaten or struck was found.

Mr. Kennedy is survived by his widow, the former Miss Viola Harrison of Ridgeway, one daughter, Mrs. Kenneth Baldwin of Columbia, and a grandson, Kenneth Baldwin, Jr., also of Columbia.

He was the son of the late W. R. Kennedy and Eliza Boulware Kennedy, both of Fairfield county. He was a Mason and a member of the Aimwell Presbyterian church.

Funeral services will be conducted from the residence in Ridgeway Thursday morning by the Rev. Mr. Peyton, the Rev. A. L. Willis and the Rev. B. H. Franklin. Interment will be in the Aimwell cemetery.

Active pallbearers will be R. E. Hinnant, W. R. Goodson, Joe Palmer, James Edmunds, Prioleau Scott and R. L. Kelly.

Honorary pallbearers will be Charlton Thomas, Arthur Owens, J. W. Condor, Sr., P. H. Leonard, W. G. Taylor, Elton J. Wilson, Dr. J. F. Dobson, Dr. O. B. Mayer, Dr. D. E. Wheeler, William Spencer, N. W. Palmer, Rufus Jones, W. H. Melton, R. M. Bolick, R. B. Sessions, J. M. LeMaster, R. H. Lemmon, D. R. Coleman.