

Court cases, moonshine arrests, and a tragic shooting mark 1925 news

This month, I'm excited to share news from a decade we have yet to visit – 100 years ago – 1925. While it's doubtful that anyone alive will remember the events we'll be covering this month, I hope you all will find it as interesting as I have. There are familiar names, places, businesses, and events mentioned. But on the other hand, we can see how much things have changed over the years. As I've mentioned before, I've kept the language in these articles as they were originally written, which includes some words which are no longer acceptable. Additionally, even though these events happened 100 years ago, I have initialed the names of some individuals connected to crimes out of respect for their descendants. Here's what was newsworthy in Pulaski County this week in September of 1925, from the pages of The Commonwealth.

CLARK AND SMITH CASES DISMISSED
Charges against Billie Clark, proprietor of the Broadway Shows that exhibited at the fair grounds last week, and Mr. Beecher Smith, owner of the property on which the shows were held, were dismissed in Police Court Friday morning by Judge W. Boyd Morrow. Clark was arrested on a warrant charging him with violating the city ordinance which prohibits street fairs and carnivals from exhibiting in the city limits. Mr. Smith was arrested for allowing the shows to operate on his property. In announcing his decision Judge Morrow said that the Kentucky Statute upon which the ordinance was drawn was unconstitutional



Tricia Neal
PULASKI'S PAST

and also that the city ordinance was not prohibitory in its very character. ... The warrants were drawn up by City Attorney W.O. Hays and were served by Chief of Police Silas West. ... Argument for the city was presented by Judge D.T. Wesley who maintained that the carnival or street fair was a nuisance as it was detrimental to the health, public welfare and morals of the city. ... The charge against Smith was dismissed without a trial as Judge Morrow held that city had less of a case against him that it did against Clark. The city has appealed the decision of Judge Morrow to the Circuit Court.

MEMBERS OF SHOW TROUPE ARRESTED
Daniel Naokalini and his wife, Mrs. Ethel Naokalini, and Myrtle Craft, who were members of the Hawaiian show at the fair grounds last week, were arrested by Deputy Sheriffs Geo. Calhoun, Wes Ramsey and Neal Bolton, and prohibition Agent Charles Wright, on the charge of having liquor in their possession. The officers state that they found a bottle of moonshine whiskey in their tent. They were tried in Federal Court before U.S. Commissioner E.T. Wesley Friday afternoon. Myrtle Craft ... was dismissed. Naokalini and his wife were held over to the Federal Court at Frankfort, September Term, and their bond was fixed at

\$200 each. Neither was able to furnish bond and both are in the Somerset jail awaiting trial.
CORONER'S JURY RETURNS VERDICT
Luther Camden, 28 years old, the son of Mrs. Lolla Camden, shot and killed himself in the apartment of Mrs. Parker Baugh in the Kentucky Theatre building about 9 o'clock last Thursday evening. The coroner's jury that held an inquest over the body returned a verdict that the shooting was accidental, that Camden's pistol was discharged as he attempted to place it back in the holster that hung under his left arm. The bullet went through the chest, near the heart, and ranged downward through the body. Camden had been acting as traffic officer on East Mt. Vernon Street the day of the shooting, having been appointed deputy sheriff during fair week. According to Mrs. Baugh he came to her apartment about 8:45 o'clock and berated her because she had gone to the fair with another man. With Mrs. Baugh in the apartment at the time of the shooting was her ten-year-old daughter. Camden said he was going to kill himself and asked Mrs. Baugh to get him a piece of paper and a pencil that he might write a note to his mother, said Mrs. Baugh. Mrs. Baugh and daughter started to leave the apartment to summons help. Just as they reached the hallway they heard a pistol shot and turning around saw Camden fall face downward on the floor. Dr. A.W. Cain was called and police were notified immediately. He was dead, however, when they arrived on the scene. It is thought that Camden was bluffing about taking his own life and that the shooting was

accidental. ... The funeral service was held at the High Street Baptist Church Saturday afternoon. Burial was in the City cemetery.
MEN WHO FAILED TO WORK PLACED IN JAIL
C.T., J.E. and C.F. were brought before Judge Tartar on charges of failing to work the county road. They were found guilty and a fine and cost of \$21.85 was assessed against each of them, and in default of payment they were sent to jail. Judge Tartar says that he is determined to have every road in the county worked and that he will enforce the extreme penalty



See PAST on B2
Ben D. Smith

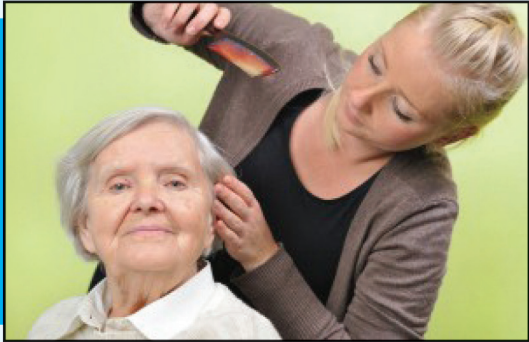
BACKSLIDDEN / REDEDICATE
For most of my life, I wasn't really aware of being spiritually lost. I was not sad or afraid.
However, after I made a profession of faith in Jesus and then turned my back on the Lord I was most miserable!
Have you backslidden/turned your back on the Lord? Let me suggest that you repent and rededicate!
Remember the Prodigal Son. God loves you so much and is very, very forgiving.
Consider the redemptive act of Jesus and attend the church of your choice this Sunday.
Paid for by Larry Colyer/Heritage Hope Men's Fellowship!

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