

FRANK NORTON FUNERAL HELD

Mack Bingham Charged With Murder as Result Of Auto Crash.

Mack Bingham, 20, arrested in connection with the death of Frank Norton from injuries received in an automobile collision about midnight Monday at the intersection of the old Georgia road and highway No. 23, was released from jail today under \$1,500 bond. He waived preliminary hearing on charges of murder and transporting and possessing whisky.

Funeral services for Norton, one of the best known men in Macon county, were held at Asbury Methodist church, near Otto, Wednesday morning. More than 300 persons attended the rites despite inclement weather. The Rev. J. B. Tabor, Jr., pastor of the Macon county Methodist circuit, was in charge of the services. Burial was in the church grave yard.

2 Cars Collide

Just before the accident occurred Norton had come to town to bring two friends whose automobile had gotten out of commission near Norton's home below Otto. He was traveling eastward on highway 23, after he had taken the two stranded motorists to their homes, when a car occupied by three young men, started to cross the road. Norton's car hurtled through the air, turning over three times, and landed in the yard of J. E. Potts' woodworking shop. Norton was thrown through the top of his automobile and was found about 20 feet from the wrecked machine.

Taken to Angel hospital by people living in the vicinity who were aroused by the crash of the two automobiles, Norton was found to be in a dying condition, his chest crushed, skull fractured and suffering from internal injuries. He died at 7:45 a. m. Tuesday.

Whisky Jar Found

Mack Bingham was alleged to have been the driver of the other automobile. Charlie Jones, of Franklin, and Davis Y. Layden, of Elizabeth City, a member of CCC Camp NC F-9, were also in the car, in which officers reported finding a broken whisky jar. Jones was arrested and placed under \$200 bond on a charge of possessing and transporting whisky. No charges were placed against Layden.

2 Arrested

Bingham and Jones were arrested in a drunken condition, officers reported, about 2 o'clock Tuesday morning. The identity of the third occupant of the car was not learned until later in the day. Bingham told officers he was drunk and that someone else was driving the car, but Jones and Layden, officers stated, told them that Bingham was driving at the time of the collision.

All of the boys, it was stated, fled from the scene of the accident without attempting to give assistance to Mr. Norton.

Bingham suffered minor cuts and bruises, but no serious injuries.

Surviving Mr. Norton, whose wife died about two years ago, are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Norton, of Smith's Bridge township; three brothers, Ed, Jess and Earl Norton, and five children, Norvel, Coy and the Misses Ruth, Dean, and Betty Lou Norton. All of the children are minors.

Pallbearers at the funeral were John Norton, Roy Carpenter, Claude Bradley, Arthur Kinsland, Harley Cabe and W. T. Moore.

Mr. Norton for a number of years was deputy sheriff of Macon county. For the past two years he was employed in the offices of the Nantahala National Forest, which closed out of respect for his memory Wednesday morning. He was a member of the Junior order.