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# The Cherokee Scout

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The Official Organ of Murphy and Cherokee County, and the Leading Newspaper in this Section of Western North Carolina

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## COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM 1924-25 IS ANNOUNCED

Rev. Rauschenberg, of Biltmore, is Scheduled To Preach Commencement Sermon

A tentative program of commencement exercises and pre-commencement entertainments, marking the close of one of the most successful years in the history of the local schools, was announced this week by Prof. D. W. Kanoy.

The annual senior class play, entitled "The Country Minister," is to be given on May 1st, although commencement proper does not begin until May 24th. The purpose of giving the play so early is to relieve the crowded calendar of the school during commencement week. Rev. Fritz Rauschenberg, of Biltmore, is scheduled to deliver the commencement sermon on Sunday, May 24th, and graduating exercise completing commencement will take place on Tuesday evening, May 26th.

In announcing the program, Prof. Kanoy said: "It is hoped that these dates will be remembered by all those interested in the school and that as much publicity as possible be given to the entertainments and exercises. The teachers and pupils are attempting to make every exercise highly worth while."

The program as announced follows:

- May 1, "The Country Minister, by Senior Class.
- May 21, "Under the Sugar Plum Tree," by Primary Department.
- May 22, Play by the Seventh Grade Sunday morning, May 24th, Commencement Sermon, by Rev. Fritz Rauschenberg, of Biltmore, N. C.
- Monday morning, May 25, Recitation and Declamation Contests, and Seventh Grade Graduation Exercises.
- Monday evening, May 25th, Musical Entertainment by the Music Department.
- Tuesday evening, May 26th, Address and Graduating Exercises.

## CHEROKEE ROAD BONDS BRING \$1100 PREMIUM

Representatives of 29 different bonding companies here to buy bonds. The Cherokee County road bonds which were sold here Wednesday, April 8th, brought a premium of \$1100.00 four and three fourths per cent at par. There were eight sealed bids submitted by bonding companies who did not have representatives on the ground, and twenty-nine representatives of different bonding companies were present. Mr. P. B. Ferrebee, of Andrews acted as agent for the county commissioners, and had charge of the advertising.

On motion, the county commissioners, after opening the eight sealed bids, put the bonds up at auction, and for some little bit bidding was lively. Stratham, Harris & Otis, of New York were the best bidders, the final bid being four and three fourths per cent interest at par with a premium of \$1100.00. The best sealed bid submitted was for five per cent interest at par with a premium of \$3,133.33. The auction bid of one-quarter percent lower means a saving of something like six thousand dollars to the county during the thirty-year period of maturity of the bonds.

The night before the sale of the bonds, the local hotels were crowded to overflowing with bond buyers and others who were drawn here for the occasion, and the fact that it was so well advertised is attributed as the reason for so many buyers being on the ground, together with the fact that Cherokee County bonds are recognized by bonding companies as a safe investment.

## County Agent Opens Office in the Court House

County agent R. W. Gray was busy the first of the week moving and opening up his office in the grand jury room of the court house. Mr. Gray announces that he can be found there on Saturdays and first Mondays. During the other time he will be doing field work over the county and aiding the farmers.

## Sprouting



## MR. AND MRS. POWELSON GIVE LIBRARY BOOKS

Mr. W. H. Woodbury and Others Have Recently Given Number Volumes Also

The Carnegie Library last Friday received quite an elaborate selection of books, some 127 volumes, coming as a gift from Mr. and Mrs. W. V. N. Powelson, of New York City. This is one of the most elaborate gifts received by the local library, and officials expressed grateful appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Powelson for their splendid gift.

The gift comprised 127 volumes of fiction collected within the last two years, including books for children, boys and girls, and old and young, by such authors as Tomilson, Rhinehart, Fletcher, Gray, Curwood, Sabatini, Burgess and others. The books for children include volumes on animals, nature study, handicraft, etc. The gift was received last Friday and the Librarian has been busy this week listing and classifying. The complete list will be published next week.

## J. C. POINDEXTER, 71 YEARS OLD, DIED FRIDAY

John Clayburn Poindexter, 71 years 8 months and 5 days old, and one of the oldest and most highly respected citizens of the county, died at his home in Factorytown last Friday. Mr. Poindexter had enjoyed fairly good health until about a month ago, when he began to suffer from a kind of heart trouble, which was the cause of his death.

He was born in this county and spent practically all his life within its bounds, except some fifteen years spent in Oklahoma. He was a consistent member of the Baptist church for more than half a century, and was a brother-in-law of Mr. W. Christopher of this city.

Funeral services were conducted by Revs. T. L. Sasser and W. D. Hogsd last Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock from the Ranger church and interment was in the churchyard. He is survived by his wife, a daughter-in-law and several grandchildren, besides a host of relatives and friends to mourn his passing.

## Superintendent Of County Welfare Work Arrived Wednesday

Office of Welfare worker located on second floor of the Court house.

Miss Anne Ruth Medcalf arrived in the county Wednesday afternoon and immediately assumed the duties as Superintendent of the county welfare work under the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial Grant. Miss Lily E. Mitchell, Supervisor of the case work under the Rockefeller Grant for the counties of Cherokee, Orange, Chatham and Wake, arrived about a week ago and has completed preliminary preparations, secured an office and will remain here with Miss Medcalf for some time, and they will work together organizing and thoroughly familiarizing themselves in regard to the work to be done in the county. The office is located on the second floor of the court house.

The Advisory board is composed of Mrs. G. B. Walker, of Andrews; Mrs. W. B. Johnson, of Murphy, and Mr. W. J. Martin of Route 2. The administrative and financial board is composed of the County Commissioners: W. T. Holland, W. J. Martin, and T. W. Axley; The County Board of Education: T. T. Johnson, Mrs. W. B. Fisher, and Mrs. J. E. Palmer.

The advisory board met Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock for a short session, at which important matters were discussed relative to the welfare work in the county.

## Rome Scout Car Delayed Until Sat.

Mayor W. M. Fain is in receipt of a letter this week from the secretary of the Rome, Ga., Chamber of Commerce stating that the scout car, which was to have left city last Wednesday and arrived here on Thursday, was delayed on account of unforeseen circumstances, and will in all probability reach here Saturday.

This scout car is coming through here in advance of about 25 automobiles and 100 hundred people, sponsored by the Rome Chamber of Commerce, which is to leave Rome, Ga. on May 19th, and stop over here on its itinerary to Asheville in the interest of a scenic highway route from Rome, Ga. to Asheville.

Mayor Fain wrote Mr. Foster last week and invited him to have the scout car stop over here for the night instead of Blairsville, but Mr. Foster explained that it was their desire to have the scout car stopped at Blairsville or Blue Ridge in the interest of the proposed route. He intimated that he expected the regular touring party would stop over here when it comes through in May.

The text of Mr. Foster's letter follows:  
Rome, Ga., April 14, 1925  
Mr. W. M. Fain,  
Murphy, N. C.

## BELOVED MURPHY WOMAN DIED ON WEDNESDAY

Mrs. Margaret P. Axley, 83 years prominent and beloved woman in this section, died at her home in East Murphy last Wednesday, April 15th. She had been practically an invalid for a number of years, but was taken seriously ill just a few days ago and the end came quietly Wednesday morning.

Mrs. Axley was a member of one of the oldest and most prominent families in this section. She was born in Chattanooga, Tenn., but spent most of her life in Cherokee County and Murphy. She was married in Chattanooga on Dec. 24th, 1859 to Felix P. Axley. To this union were born ten children, two of whom and her husband preceded her to the better land. She lived to see her sons and daughters active and prominent in the social, professional and business life of the state and nation.

She was born of Presbyterian parents and reared in the precepts of that church, but later identified herself with the Methodist Episcopal church, South, of which she was a consistent member for many years.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday afternoon at 2:30 by Rev. D. H. Rhinehart from the Methodist Church and interment was in the old Methodist churchyard. The many friends who gathered to pay their last respects and the many beautiful floral offerings attested to the love and esteem in which she was held by the community.

She is survived by five sons and three daughters, Mrs. Margaret A. Bell, Mrs. B. B. Merson, and Miss Kate Axley, of Murphy; Felix J. Axley and Carl C. Axley, of Statesville, N. C.; J. K. Axley, J. W. Axley, and W. M. Axley, of Murphy; one sister, Mrs. Ida Axley, of Knoxville, Tenn., besides a host of relatives and friends to mourn their loss.

Dear Mr. Fain: We are in receipt of your letter of April 11th, and are delighted that you are so much interested in the highway from Asheville to Rome.

On account of unforeseen circumstances it will be necessary for us to delay our scout trip, which was to leave here tomorrow, until Friday of this week.

We note what you say relative to Making Murphy a night stop and will take that into consideration in our main tour. We expect, however, to have our scout car spend the night at Blue Ridge or Blairsville on account of our desire to talk with citizens there and stimulate interest in the route.

According to our present plans we expect to be in Murphy about nine o'clock on Saturday morning.  
Yours very truly,  
W. H. FOSTER  
Secretary

## Two Arrests Made as Officers Raid as Many Moonshine Plants

Early Sunday morning Chief D. M. Birchfield, and Deputy Sheriff J. F. Dewesse, of Murphy, and Chief D. T. Posey, of Andrews, and Chief Jonathan Parker, and Deputy Sheriff Luther Hyde, of Marble, raided a still to the left of Vengeance Creek about four miles southeast of Marble. When they arrived at the place where the still was located, the parties had just left, having taken the outfit with them or hidden it out. The officers followed a beaten trail leading from the still to the house of Oscar Lunsford, and Lunsford was placed under arrest charged with illicit distilling, and after a diligent search officers found a ten gallon keg nearly full of evidence and some in a fruit jar.

Lunsford was brought to Murphy and placed in jail. He later made bond in the sum of \$1,000 for his appearance in Federal court, and \$500 for his appearance here before a justice of the peace Saturday.

On Tuesday morning, Revenue Agent Josh Crisp, of Asheville, and Chief of Police D. M. Birchfield and Deputy Sheriff J. F. Dewesse, of Murphy, and Chief of Police D. T. Posey, of Andrews, acting upon information received by Mr. Crisp, went to the home of John Cantrell about two miles to the northwest of Andrews and succeeded in raiding one of the most unique distilling outfits ever found in the county.

When they arrived, it is said the Cantrell family were up above the house planting corn. The odor of mash was exceedingly strong in the atmosphere. Cantrell was immediately placed under arrest to prevent his escape, and officers began a diligent search of the premises, and for an hour or so it seemed as if all efforts would be futile.

After so long a time the officers were walking some distance above the house and almost by accident stepped upon some boards covered with leaves and rubbish, and investigation showed that they covered a pit.

The pit was about the depth of an ordinary man's height, and it was here that the beer, which odorized the atmosphere, was located. Further search disclosed the fact that a hose was used to transmit water from a nearby stream down to the house and up through a hole in the floor into the kitchen. An underground ditch was also found leading from the house into a branch some distance below, through which the mash was emptied into the flowing stream. It was supposed that the outfit was hidden out somewhere, since none could be found, and that the stove was used on which to manufacture the illicit product.

Cantrell was brought to Murphy and placed in jail, and about six gallons of beer poured out. More than two gallons of whiskey were also found and brought to Murphy as evidence.

## Another Carload Poultry Shipped

Another carload of poultry was shipped out of Murphy this week by the Farmers Federation of Asheville, the local wholesale house of W. M. Fain Grocery Company, co-operating. Mr. Claud R. Smith, better known perhaps as "Chicken" Smith, representative of the Farmers Federation was here and personally supervised the loading.

Mr. Smith announced that this poultry car would leave here weekly on Wednesdays in the future. It is being put on as a stimulus to the poultry growers of this section, and should be the means of greatly encouraging the poultry industry. Cash is being paid for all poultry at the highest market price, announced Mr. Smith, and although a car would be loaded weekly, through the co-operation of the W. M. Fain Grocery Company, poultry will be received for shipment on all days of the week, except Sundays.

The Farmers Federation is an organization of farmers of Buncombe and adjoining counties which has as its object the marketing of farm products at highest market prices. It has warehouses at Weaverville, Hendersonville, Fairview, Cragy, and Fletcher, with one at Asheville as headquarters of the marketing department.

## 24-FT. CONCRETE ROAD THROUGH THE CITY

A twenty four foot concrete surface is to be laid through the city on state highway No. 19, from the bridge at the L. & N. depot to the city limits in East Murphy, according to a movement now under way and sponsored by the citizens and the town council. The State is putting down a concrete surface 16 feet wide from the bridge at the L. & N. station to Andrews, and citizens of the town and town council were of the opinion that 16 feet through the city would be considerably too narrow and a meeting was called for Tuesday night to discuss the proposition of widening the street, the town to pay for the extra width.

At a meeting of more than a hundred of the citizens and tax payers of the town, held at the Library Wednesday night at the call of the mayor and council, it was the consensus of opinion that the street should be wider to accommodate the heavy traffic through the town and take care of any increase in the future. The meeting went on record as favoring this extra width and instructed the council to proceed and issue bonds not exceeding twenty thousand dollars for this purpose.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Fain, who presided. He explained that the object of the meeting was to find out if the people wanted the road any wider than state specifications through the town, and asked for opinions from the citizens and tax payers that the town council might be informed as to the desires of the people so they could act accordingly. Contractor Wardrop was also present and an estimation of cost was about \$15,000 or better. Mr. Wardrop assured the town that he would put down the extra eight feet of concrete at the same rate of his contract with the state, which is understood \$2.55 per yard, and is said to be the lowest rate ever received in Cherokee County.

Considerable discussion of the proposition brought out the fact that those present, numbering more than a hundred, and representative of the tax payers of the town favored the extra width through the city. It was also brought out that the town would not likely have another opportunity you get the concrete laid for so low a rate, and that concrete poured alongside of dry and settled concrete had been demonstrated as being unsatisfactory, as cracks would appear where the connections were made which made it difficult to repair and keep in good condition.

Those speaking their opinions were Col. Don Witherspoon, Mr. G. W. Candler, Mr. C. M. Wofford, Mr. W. A. Savage, Mr. A. L. Martin, Mr. S. W. Lovingood and others. The meeting went on record as favoring this increased width and instructed the town council to issue bonds not to exceed \$20,000 for this purpose.

After adjournment of the citizens meeting, the council went into adjourned session and proceeded as instructed. Bonds covering this amount will be issued shortly, and sealed bids for the construction of this extra width are being advertised for according to law, although it is expected that the contract will be awarded to Mr. Wardrop, as he will have the equipment and necessary materials on the ground, and his rates are so low that it is not likely that they will be beaten.

A letter is being sent to the property owners along this route through town notifying them of the proposed concrete surface to be laid, and suggesting that property owners along this route who have not already done so might like to tap the water lines before the concrete is put down as it will be difficult to tap afterwards.

## Three Car Loads Cattle And Sheep Shipped Tuesday

Three carloads of cattle and sheep were loaded here this week by Messrs. E. L. Hively and C. E. Atkins, of Blacksburg, Va., to be shipped to the blue grass region of Virginia for grazing purposes. Messrs. Hively have been in this section for about two weeks buying up cattle and sheep in Towns and Rabun Counties of Georgia, and Clay County, N. C.