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MURPHY BOASTS NEW AND UNIQUE COURTHOUSE

Ten Commandments Are Incribed On Marble Back of Bench

Staff Correspondent Asheville Citizen

MURPHY, N. C., Jan 10.—On two tablets of white marble on the wall to the rear of the Judge's bench in the Cherokee County Courthouse, at Murphy, the only edifice of its kind in North America to be built of regal blue marble, which is produced in this county, are engraved in bold black letters the Ten Commandments recorded by Moses for the guidance of his people:

I—Thou shalt have no other Gods before me.

II—Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.

III—Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.

IV—Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.

V—Honor thy father and thy mother.

VI—Thou shalt not kill.

VII—Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII—Thou shalt not steal.

IX—Thou shalt not bear false witness.

X—Thou shalt not covet.

The tablet, bearing the ninth commandment—Thou shalt not bear false witness—is directly behind the chair for use of witnesses.

Serves Dual Purpose

This courthouse, built of such beautiful materials at a cost of \$231,000, was constructed not only to house the offices as a temple of justice, but was designed by the far-seeing people of this section to serve as a lasting advertisement of the marble resources found in the valleys in the Murphy section.

Since the construction of this courthouse, which is one of three or four marble courthouses in the United States, the others being of white material, many inquiries have come in regarding the marble of this region, and investigation of this natural resource has been and is being made by a number of interested parties.

Murphy is in the center of a huge marble belt, which extends east of here some 20 miles to a point between Andrews and Topton, and west of here along the L. and N. Railroad some 15 miles to a point near Culberson, Ga. The width of the deposits varies from a few hundred yards to two miles.

Marble is found in many colors, the principal ones being white, blue, gray and flesh colored. The section is particularly famous for its regal blue marble which is said to be found no where else in the United States.

Cherokee's courthouse was completed a short time ago, following which appropriate exercises were held with many prominent people in attendance.

The exterior of the structure is of the regal blue unpolished marble, while the polished regal blue is used in the windowsills and wainscoting on the interior. Polished clouded white marble is used in the walls and on the stairways. The rotunda and hallways are floored with alternate polished white and blue marble squares. In the center of the rotunda is a large eight point star.

The first floor of the courthouse contains the office of the clerk, register of deeds, county commissioners, welfare department, board of education, county agent, sheriff, auditor, grand jury, records rooms, vaults and rest rooms.

On the second floor are the court rooms, rooms for juries, lawyers, witnesses, solicitor, judge, consultation, county highway commission, storage, and rest rooms.

The court room is of the most appropriate.

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CHEROKEE HDWE. STOCKHOLDERS IN ANNUAL MEET

Five Percent Dividend Paid—Changes Made in Retail Store—Business Good Last Year

Declaring a dividend of five percent and making a number of changes relative to the retail store management, were features of the annual stockholders meeting of the Cherokee Hardware Company, local wholesale dealers, which was held on January 12th.

The officers elected for 1928 are as follows: J. A. Richardson, president; E. A. Davidson, vice president; Ira Butt, Secretary-treasurer; Directors: C. S. Hasson, E. A. Davidson, R. C. Mattox, Fred Moore, Ira Butt, M. W. Bell, T. S. Evans, J. W. Davidson and J. A. Richardson.

Mr. R. C. Mattox and Mr. Mack Carringer, who have been in charge of the Murphy Hardware company, local retail store of the Cherokee Hardware company, tendered their resignations, effective February 1st, and Mr. G. D. Ledford was elected to fill the vacancy of Mr. Mattox. Just who will take Mr. Carringer's place, if it is decided to put in another man, has not been decided.

Mr. Roy Hampton will take charge of Mr. Ledford's store and will be assisted by one of Mr. Ledford's sons.

The officers of the company expressed themselves as being highly pleased with the business of the past year, which they stated showed an increase of about twenty-five percent. They expressed the opinion that conditions were unusually bright for an even greater business during the coming year.

FUNERAL HELD FOR MRS. NELSON ON THURSDAY

Was Seventy-five Years Old and Wife of Late P. E. Nelson

Funeral services were held for Mrs. Emma Jane Nelson, wife of the late P. E. Nelson, at her home Thursday afternoon by Rev. T. L. Sasser, her pastor, assisted by Rev. Howard P. Powell, pastor of the Methodist Church. Interment was in the cemetery of the old Baptist Churchyard beside that of her husband.

Mrs. Nelson had been in feeble health and practically an invalid for the past several years but was confined to her bed only a week before death came. She died at 7:20 o'clock Wednesday morning.

Mrs. Nelson was well and favorably known throughout this whole section. She had been a member of the Baptist church for 53 years, and always took an active part in the social and religious life of the town and community until her health began to fail.

She is survived by one son and four daughters, Butler Nelson, of Asheville; Mrs. Jerry Jones of Turletown, Tenn.; Mrs. E. O. Christopher, Mrs. J. H. Hensley, and Miss Ora Lee Nelson, of Murphy; 15 grand children and 4 great grand children.

A picture featuring power farming will be shown at the Bonita Theatre beginning at 1 o'clock, p. m. Tuesday, January 24th, under the auspices of the Cherokee Hardware Company, and is free to everybody. Especially should the farmers of this section witness this motion picture of power farming under actual conditions in the field. It will not only be helpful and suggestive of better methods, but entertaining as well, and it is absolutely free to all.

CHEROKEE BANK STOCKHOLDERS HAVE MEETING

The annual stock holders meeting of the Cherokee bank was held at the bank on January 10th.

The bank enjoyed a good business during 1927, and the stockholders expressed themselves as being pleased at the satisfactory manner in which the business was being conducted.

The following officers were re-elected for the coming year: E. A. Davidson, president; R. S. Parker, vice president; J. B. Stony, cashier; Chas. W. Carringer, assistant cashier; Directors: S. D. Akin, E. A. Davidson, J. W. Davidson, Thos. S. Evans, R. S. Parker, J. A. Richardson, Fred Moore, and Dr. J. N. Hill.

POSTOFFICE RECEIPTS SHOW BIG GAIN

Mr. Dickey Gives Out Figures Which Show Tremendous Business Passes Through Local Office

A gain in the receipts of the Murphy Postoffice of more than \$1300.00 for 1927 over 1926, is shown by figures made public by Postmaster A. B. Dickey this week. The figures also show the tremendous business of the postoffice department which passes through the local office.

The total receipts for 1927 amounted to \$12,694.56, as compared with \$11,385.05 for 1926. The figures for the month of December 1926 were just a few dollars over the amount of business done in 1927, however the figures for the quarter period ending December 31st, 1927, showed a gain of more than \$400.00 over the same period for 1926. The receipts for December 1927 were \$1104.78, and for the same month in 1926 they were \$1108.38. For the quarter ending December 31st, 1927, the receipts were \$3,517.46 against \$3,050.09 for the same period in 1926.

Figures were also given by Mr. Dickey which give an insight into the business, which follows:

An average of 7500 letters pass through the local post office daily.

Insured, C. O. D. and Ordinary packages handled are approximately 200 daily.

A total of 581 money orders were issued during the month of December, which amounted to \$4,007.17 and the local office paid 148 money orders amounting to \$2,038.85.

There are 54 outgoing and incoming mails weekly, with two outgoing and incoming on Sundays.

The local office employs, besides Mr. Dickey, 3 regular clerks and 1 substitute, two city carriers and one substitute, three R. F. D. carriers and one substitute.

From July 1, 1927, to January 17, 1928, the local post office had handled 1543 insured packages, 595 registered letters, and 277 C. O. D. Packages. It was stated that three ordinary packages were handled to one of the packages classified above.

The receipts of the local office, representing the figures enumerated, are represented in the sale of stamps, letters and fees only, and do not include the money passing through the mails.

Mr. Dickey stated that so far only one insured package was missing which was mailed during the holidays, and that the postcard business handled by the local office had practically doubled over that class of business last year.

Mr. Dickey expressed himself as being highly pleased with the receipts of last year and stated that he felt sure the business would show a marked gain at the end of this year.

WOFFORD-TERREL COMPANY ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

Many Changes Made in Personnel of Local Wholesale Firm

Election of new officers was featured at the annual stockholders meeting of the Wofford-Terrell Company, local wholesale firm dealing in groceries, drygoods and notions, which was held in the offices of the company on January 17th.

Mr. E. S. Miller, the former president, on account of ill health during the latter part of the past year and who is now in an Atlanta hospital, resigned and sold his interest in the company to Mr. C. A. Brown of Andrews.

Mr. Brown was elected president and will head the company during 1928. Mr. Brown is well known throughout this section of the country, having been in charge of the Tannery Store at Andrews for many years. He was also in the dry goods business in Murphy some eight years ago.

Mr. P. C. Hyatt, who was formerly with this company, and who is now Clerk of the Superior Court of Cherokee County, was elected Secretary-treasurer, which position he formerly held. Mr. Hyatt, it is understood, has accepted, and will likely appoint his father, Mr. R. H. Hyatt, Sr., as a deputy clerk to take his place in the court house.

Mr. J. W. Walker, president of the Merchants and Manufacturer's bank, of Andrews, was elected first vice president. Mr. Walker served in this office last year and was also secretary and treasurer.

The directors elected were as follows: E. A. Davidson, J. A. Richardson, C. M. Wofford, J. W. King, C. A. Duvall, C. A. Brown, J. W. King, J. W. Walker and P. C. Hyatt.

The Wofford-Terrell Company is one of the oldest wholesale firms in this section, and enjoyed an unusually good business last year. The new officers expressed themselves as being highly enthusiastic over the prospects for even greater success during 1928.

BANK OF MURPHY PAYS DIVIDEND

The annual stockholders meeting of the Bank of Murphy was held in the directors room of the bank on Monday, January 16th.

Among the business transactions attended to were the election of officers and the declaring of a ten percent dividend.

The stockholders were highly pleased with the way the business had been handled the past year.

The following officers were re-elected: A. B. Dickey, president; John A. Corn, vice president; A. H. Brown, vice president; L. E. Bayless, cashier, and W. W. Hyde, assistant cashier; Directors: W. W. Hyde, W. M. Avey, J. E. Coburn, J. M. Vaughn, M. W. Bell, L. E. Bayless, John A. Corn, A. B. Dickey, A. J. Martin, A. H. Brown, and Mrs. E. G. White.

SUPERIOR COURT TO BEGIN HERE JANUARY 23RD

Just Who Will Preside Over Court Not Yet Known—Civil Term Only

The January civil term of Cherokee Superior Court will convene here on Monday the 23rd, according to announcement this week by court officials.

Just who will preside over this term is not yet definitely known, but

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POWER COMPANY PLANS BIG RIVER DEVELOPMENT

Surveys Take In Area Along Hiwassee and Notla Rivers

By Staff Correspondent In The Asheville Citizen

MURPHY, N. C., Jan 11.—Plans for a huge power development along the Hiwassee and Notla rivers are now being formulated by the North Carolina-Tennessee Power Company, with a strong likelihood that construction work on the first of a series of dams will be started within the near future, it was learned here today.

The power company has been showing much activity in this section. Developments in it plans to date include:

(1) Acquisition by the power company of land and the making of surveys along the Hiwassee river from the head of the river above Murphy to the Tennessee line, with the plan in view of building six or eight dams.

(2) The making of survey with the purpose in view of moving the L. and N. Railway from its present route along the Hiwassee river and to direct it down the Ocoee river from Copper Hill, Tenn., to connect with the main line of the L. and N. (3) The making on an alternative survey which would change the route of the L. and N. Railway from the south side of the Hiwassee river gorge and move it to the north side of the river.

If either of these surveys is put into execution it would mean the entire Hiwassee river would be given over to power development for a distance of 50 to 60 miles below Murphy in North Carolina and Tennessee.

The land along the river below the Tennessee line is owned by other interests who are also planning extensive power developments it is stated.

(4) The waging of a nation wide advertising campaign through magazines and other periodicals by the power company with the purpose in view of attracting industries to this section. When sufficient assurance has been received by the company that it will be able to dispose of enough power to private enterprises to warrant the expenditure work will then begin on the first of the series of power projects. Negotiations for the sale of this power have been going on for some time. Power at a low rate is being offered by the company as an inducement to attract capital to this region.

It has been estimated by engineers that to develop fully the power resources of the Hiwassee river would take 15 or 16 dams at an estimated cost of \$150,000,000. According to the plans as outlined by the company, these dams would be built over a period of years and as the demand for the power warrants. Huge storage dams would be built on the waters above Murphy. The Hiwassee river has its source in the North Georgia mountains, and courses through both Clay and Cherokee counties in North Carolina.

Murphy is in the center of the area proposed for power development along the Hiwassee river. The town is practically at the forks of three rivers, the Hiwassee, Valley and Notla.

The key to the development of Murphy, a town of 3,000 inhabitants, and the territory which it serves, lies in cheap power. Without it the resources of this section are apt to remain undeveloped for years; with it, the possibilities are unlimited.

The iron mines of this region are a striking illustration of the benefit to be derived from cheap power.

Center of Iron Field

Murphy is in the center of a large iron field, extending 25 miles east of Topton on the Southern Railway and 25 miles west to Blue Ridge,

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