

Welcome, Legionnaires and Visitors, on July Fourth!

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THOUSANDS TO CELEBRATE 4th AT MURPHY

FRANCIS KILLED WHILE WORKING ON PHONE POLE

Last Rites Held Sunday For Young Haywood County Man—Married Murphy Girl.

J. P. Francis, Jr., 24, of Waynesville, employe of the Southern Bell Telephone company, was almost instantly killed last Thursday afternoon about 4 o'clock when he came in contact with wires on a telephone pole on which he was working in the Spring Creek section of Haywood county, near the Madison county line, about 20 miles from Waynesville.

The wires, it is believed, had suddenly become charged as a result of an electrical storm at some distant point or as a result of being hit by lightning. Electrical experts, who have been investigating the death, were unable to determine just how the wires became charged.

Francis and George Ware, also of Waynesville had been working on a pole in the Spring Creek section when they discovered the wires had become slightly charged. Upon learning this, they decided to quit working on the pole and had started to descend when the wires became heavily charged and Francis was electrocuted when he came in contact with them. Ware escaped uninjured.

Ware, who was experienced in first aid treatment, and a former soldier, who happened to be in the vicinity, administered first aid to Francis. They worked over Francis' body for an hour before giving up hope of reviving him.

Mr. Francis was the son of J. P. Francis, a prominent contractor and business man of Waynesville. He had been employed by the telephone company for five or six years.

Funeral services were held Sunday morning at the First Baptist church at Waynesville. The Rev. H. W. Baucum officiated at the services and interment was in Green Hill cemetery.

Mr. Francis was one of the most valued employes of the telephone company and was well and favorably known here having at one time been service manager of the Murphy section of the Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph company. He married Miss Ruby McCombs, daughter of the late Dr. and Mrs. W. S. McCombs, of Murphy, about a month ago.

Besides his parents he is survived by his wife, two brothers, Henry, of Waynesville, and Morgan, of Newport News Va., and four sisters, Mrs. Robert Miller and Miss Ola Francis, of New York City; and Mrs. Patton, of Hollywood, Fla., and Mrs. Louise Lupton, of New Bern.

MURPHY LIONS CLUB HONORED

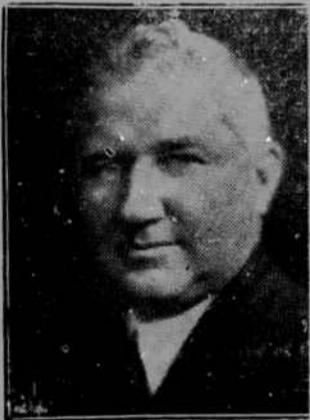
At the recent convention of 31st district of Lions International (North Carolina Lions Clubs) held at Wrightsville Beach, the Murphy Club was again honored by having one of its members placed on the official board. Hugh G. Mitchel of Statesville was elected District Governor, Fred Morris of Kernersville was elected Lieutenant Governor for the western district of the state and W. M. Fain of Murphy was appointed Deputy District Governor Representing Clubs in extreme western North Carolina.

Reports read at the convention show Lions clubs throughout the state in a very healthy condition and that much good work is being done by each individual club, as a whole Lions Clubs are showing more progress than many of the service clubs which have been established for a much longer period.

The Murphy Club had an exceptionally fine report and was a close second for the achievement cup. Two years ago the local club tied with the Durham club, last year they won and this year they lost to Charlotte. In each instance they were competing with the strongest clubs in the state and all Murphy should be proud that they can boast of a service club with such a splendid record. The local boys are living up to their motto: "We roar for Murphy."



CELEBRATION SPEAKER



RALPH T. O'NEIL
National Commander of the American Legion

Ralph Thomas O'Neil of Topeka, Kansas, was elected National Commander of The American Legion at the closing session of the twelfth national convention in Boston.

The National Commander is an attorney in Topeka and has been active in national affairs of the Legion for several years, having served as national vice-commander in 1927. He was commander of the Kansas department of the Legion in 1926 and was chairman of the department's legislative committee from 1919 to 1926. He was chairman of the Legion's national C. M. T. C. committee in 1929, and was a member of the National Defense Committee for 1930.

Commander O'Neil entered World War military service in August, 1917. He attended the Reserve Officers Training Camp at Ft. Sheridan, Ill., where he was commissioned First Lieutenant of Infantry, November, 1917, and was assigned to the 11th Infantry 5th Division. He went to France in (Continued on page 8)

PROGRAM OF EVENTS FOR THE FOURTH

- 10:00 A. M.—Arrival of Special Excursion over the Southern from Asheville.
- 11:15—Speaking by National Commander O'Neil, State Commander Johnson and Col. Don Witherspoon in the Public Square.
- 12:00 Noon—Luncheon at the Dickey Hotel for the official guests, and which all Legionnaires may attend.
- 1:30 P. M.—Parade, led by Asheville's High School Band and Waynesville's Legion Drum and Bugle Corps.
- 2:30—Ball game at the Fair Grounds, Murphy vs. Canton, N. C.
- 8:15 P. M.—Legion Ball at the Regal Hotel, music by splendid orchestra from Asheville.

ANDREWS PLANS BIG FOURTH CELEBRATION

Final preparations are being rushed to completion for a day of big events in Andrews on July 4th. Committees in charge of the various phases of the day's program have been at work diligently for some time to give the local people and visitors a day full of interest to all.

The festivities will open at 9:30 with a big parade in which the many organizations of the town and community as well as individuals will participate. After the parade Andrews and Hayesville will play ball, an event which is expected to draw a full gallery on account of the long standing friendly rivalry between these two teams. When the game is over the crowd will be at leisure for lunch until 2:30.

The afternoon program will open with a series of amusements at the ball park. Catching the greasy pig, tug of war, bull frog race, and other similar contests will give abundant

opportunity for both amateurs and professionals to exhibit their skill for the entertainment of the spectators. At 3:30 another ball game between Andrews and Hayesville will be played.

Prizes for the winners in the various contests will be awarded at 7:00 following which there will be a program of old time string music and a special picture at the Carolina theatre.

W. D. Whitaker is general chairman of the celebration committee and cooperating with him are the following special committees: automobiles, Mrs. W. W. Ashe, Mrs. L. M. Ellis, Mrs. R. H. Montony; baseball: L. M. Ellis, John M. Archer; other amusements: L. B. Nichols, C. W. E. Pittman; refreshments: Z. L. Whitaker, L. O. Caldwell; advertising: R. A. Dewar, W. D. Whitaker; parade: Boy Scouts.

Advertising matter has been placed in all nearby communities and towns and special invitations have been issued to all former residents of Andrews to attend the celebration. A record crowd is expected.

GALA EVENT TO FEATURE O'NEIL VISIT

National and State Commanders of American Legion to Be Honor Guests

One of the biggest celebrations in the history of Murphy is expected to take place here on July Fourth, when several thousand ex-service men, Legionnaires, and visitors from North and South Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee, will converge on Murphy that day to help celebrate the occasion of the first visit of National and State officials of the American Legion, who will be guests of the city on that day.

National Commander Ralph T. O'Neil, and State Commander Con. C. Johnson will be guests of the occasion, together with prominent Legion officials of other sections.

Murphy is preparing to dress up and give its visitors one of the most royal welcomes in the history of the town. Stores and residences are being decorated, and the appearance of the town is expected to be beautiful on the morning of the Fourth, with flags flying and red, white, and blue hunting streamers.

Prizes are being offered by the local Post of the American Legion for the best decorated store, residence, and best decorated car in the parade. The prizes are: \$10, for the best decorated store; \$5 for the best decorated residence, and 10 for the best decorated car. The judges of this feature are Mrs. M. W. Bell, Mrs. W. M. Axley, Mrs. E. B. Norvell, Mrs. Bessie DeWesse and Miss Josephine Heighway.

A speakers platform has been erected in the center of the public square, which is surrounded by captured German machine guns. The platform will be covered, and decorated with hunting and American flags. One large flag has been placed on top of the fountain, and one placed on each light post surrounding the square.

An effort is being made to have the speaking program broadcast over Station WWNC, Asheville, and owing to negotiations being incomplete Wednesday evening, definite announcement as to this feature of the program will be announced later.

The speaking program is scheduled to begin promptly at 11:14 central standard time, in the morning instead of 1:30 as advertised. This change in the time of speaking had to be made on account of the fact that Commander O'Neil had to be in Washington, D. C., early Sunday morning to attend an important committee meeting.

This feature of the day's program will be presided over by Col. Harry P. Cooper, master of ceremonies. Col. Don Witherspoon will deliver the address of welcome, and the re-Johnson, State commander of the American Legion. Hon. Ralph T. O'Neil, National Commander, will then make the principal address of the occasion.

Because of the change in the speaking schedule the parade will begin promptly at 1:30.

Capt. Frank Swan and Lieut. J. W. S. Davis, of Andrews, will be marshals of the parade, both having served in cavalry units during the war, and everybody who takes part in the parade is requested to cooperate in every way possible so that no delay will be experienced in getting started and traffic jams eliminated or reduced to a minimum.

The parade schedule follows: Form at intersection of Tennessee street and the street running down to the Southern on toward Payne's store, across the river, depot at 1:00 o'clock.

Order of Parade: Asheville High School Band heading the column, followed by the marching units, composed of all ex-service men of the county, and visiting Legionnaires and units and civic bodies. Waynesville's Legion Post Drum and Bugle Corps will bring up the rear of the marching units in the parade. It will be followed by the automobiles and floats, headed by the Murphy fire truck.

Line of Parade: From the point of assembly, the parade will pass up Tennessee street to the Public square, turn right down Hiwassee street to the L. & (Continued on page 8)