

The Cherokee Scout

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Murphy, North Carolina, Thursday, January 7, 1937.

A SERIOUS SITUATION

When Lum n' Apner took their inventory the other night and found themselves \$3000 short, they weren't much worried over it. They just tore the pages out of the books and wrote "Balanced" across the front of them.

But, alas those things are not so easily contended with, or expediated so easily in the life of a whole community. Few people can be so free of care as are our Pine Ridge comedians.

The fact is Murphy is getting in a tough spot financially. It shouldn't cause any hysteria or frantic gestures on the part of the people. It is a situation that must be coped with and met fairly and squarely with the cooperation of everyone. It is a problem that can be disposed of without any undue harm being done.

In a nutshell the situation is this: With a maximum tax rate of \$1.75 now prevailing in the town, the town expenses have practically doubled in the 1934-1936 period while the tax evaluation has not increased. More than that it is estimated that the property to be purchased by the TVA in the building of the Hiwassee dam will lop off somewhere in the vicinity of one twentieth or more of the taxable property. Then, too, the recently enacted tax exemption amendment will have a great deal of effect on the homes in Murphy.

It was inevitable during the past two years that one regular and several extra duty policeman be added to the force and their salaries increased. Where heretofore one truck and two men could care for garbage hauling and other town needs, it is now necessary that two trucks and four men be used.

During the year 1934 the water plant was used less than 48 hours and then only to test it. Last April the water plant began operation and has run day and night since requiring the full time of two men to operate it.

Streets have had to be repaired, additional water mains laid and a number of other small items too numerous to mention have added extra expense to the town.

The tax evaluation of Murphy is \$1,240,000 which brings in the annual revenue of \$21,730. Water rates add \$6,500 to this sum and special licenses issued by the town account for \$700 more.

The debt service to be paid off this year is \$20,000 and the town board has set its budget at \$19,000. Altogether the obligations to be met by the town will roughly outweigh the town's revenue by \$10,000 PROVIDING ALL THE TAXES ARE PAID.

It is estimated that next year revenue lost through lands in the city limits being taken over by the TVA and a moderate home tax exemption of \$200, Murphy's income stands to take a loss of approximately \$1500 in its present revenue value. Of course the sum will be greater if the tax exemption figure is set higher than \$200. To suggest that the town tax rate be increased any appreciable amount is almost out of reason with such a high rate now prevailing. Construction and industry are the only apparent solutions.

Newspapers, generally, hate to present such depressing facts as these, but it becomes an apparent duty in this case.

As we stated before the situation should not cause any panicky reaction, but be worked out on level-headed, business-like methods.

The mayor and the town councilmen have discussed the problem time and again, but still there is no apparent solution at hand.

The Scout urges every citizen of Murphy to think this situation over clearly and suggest any possible solution to the board of aldermen.

THE BIG NEWS OF 1936

All the world still loves a lover—and especially if a good old American Baltimore divorcee can make a king desert his kingdom for her.

Of all the news stories in 1936, the King Edward Mrs. Simpson romance outstripped anything else for lineage in the world's newspapers according to the Associated Press, world's largest news gathering agency. But there is more to it than the romance most people were concerned with, as we shall see.

The other big nine news stories according to their importance and the reason for their decision as taken from "Newsdom", trade publication is as follows:

United States political campaign, 1936. The Spanish civil war. Italy's conquest of Ethiopia. Civil war in labor's ranks. United States Business recovery. Remilitarization of Rhineland. United States droughts—floods. Hauptmann's execution. Development of Dr. Charles Greeley Abbot's solar steam engine.

This list as can any, may be turned up side down without losing effect. A hundred other stories may have been more important. A thousand others may be added by a thousand different editors. It is an arbitrary list, made up from a consensus of 20 working Associated Press editors, and it represents in the main the news which they remembered and which was displayed in greater volume than others by the American Press.

Briefly, the reason for inclusion of these stories are: Empire crisis — Because it threw into bold relief the trend of thought about the monarchy which has been in ascendancy in recent years; because it was a modern fairy tale com to life; because it portended so much for an empire which had been held together by such a traditionally slender thread; because it cost a king his throne.

The political Campaign — Because, culminating in the re-election of President Roosevelt and the Democratic sweep of Congress and state tickets, it held those elements of suspense, struggle and surprise which always intrigue. It was important to the world because many believe it gave effectiveness to a far reaching social program, inaugurating a new era in American democracy, and gave point to the President's peace efforts in the Americas.

The Spanish Civil War — Because it sharply delineated the broad mass movements of Fascism and Socialism in Europe and was revealed as the possible forerunner of another great world war, demonstrating the cruelties of modern war and what modern war means.

Italy's Conquest — Because it was the first outright seizure of one nation by another for keeps in this century and marked the final defeat of League of Nations sanctions and other non-military efforts to stop Italy and it was, in Prime Minister Baldwin's own words, "the humiliation" of great Britain. A formidable rival to her was set up in that part of the world for the first time since Napoleon was driven from Egypt.

The Labor Dispute — Because after decades of adherence to the craft principle of organization, the issue of industrial unionism came out in opposition to the AFOL, with a powerful leader, the final outcome affecting millions of workers in the United States—evidence of labors, new grip on the American way of living.

United States Business Recovery — Because the wage increases and dividend declarations apparently marked the beginning of an end of the depression and the start of what some called a "boom" which would test the mettle of government and big business leaders to prevent a repetition of 1929.

Remilitarization of Rhineland—Because it marked the definite end of the Versailles attempt at a peace structure and ushered in another phase of post war diplomacy centering in efforts to maintain peace by armed strength and alliances.

United States Droughts and Floods — Because following the 1934 drought, the drought proved to be the greatest natural disaster of the year and bought about sustained in conservation. The floods unexpectedly inundated sections of such large cities as Pittsburgh, Hartford and Johnstown and caused great loss of life and property.

Hauptmann's Execution— The finale to the greatest "natural" story, together with Lindbergh's exodus to England.

Solar Steam Engine — Because it marks a step along the trail of science which some day may lead to man's harnessing the elements to provide power.

There is a wealth of human interest in a series of letters now being printed in The Progressive Farmer on the subject "Mistakes I Have Made." We quote two:

FORGOT NEEDS —My biggest mistake was failure to have my home remodeled and made pleasant for my children. If I had it fixed up and bought a radio and a few extra things we needed, I could have made a pleasant home where my boy and girl of high school age could entertain their friends and spend their evenings at home. As it is, there is nothing pleasant in our home but mother's love so they seek pleasures elsewhere. It was a serious mistake I made, but I hope now to remedy it. —Mrs. R. F. Smith, Mississippi.

OVER-WORKED WIFE—

Last summer I insisted on my wife's taking in several boarders, doing all her own cooking, washing, scrubbing, and general house work. She was not strong but undertook to shoulder the task bravely. Result: By fall I had a broken down wife in the hospital, doctor's bills to pay, and trained nurses and cooks to hire. Part of the time I had to play handy boy around the place myself and learned many things. The garden was a quarter of a mile away, there was no woodshed, or wash shed, and the only pump was located at the barn. The money I had to borrow to pay the expenses of my wife's illness would have remedied all these inconveniences and much more. —Ashame, North Carolina.

TURNING BACK HISTORY'S PAGES

10 YEARS AGO

Friday, January 7, 1927

Miss Pearl Martin is in Copperhill, the guest of Miss Marie Bass.

Mr. Fred Bates was in Atlanta the first of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mauney of Washington, Ga., motored to town and kept open house at the Imps nest during the holidays.

Mrs. Callie Hall was in Atlanta Wednesday buying spring millinery.

Miss Elizabeth Abernathy and Mrs. J. H. Phaup were shopping in Asheville last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry McBrayer and children of Anderson, S. C. spent the holidays with Mrs. McBrayer's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Candler.

Mr. G. W. Candler accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Dale Lee were in Asheville two days last week.

Miss Nan and Frances Dickson and Jane Cover were recent guests of Mrs. Walter Estes in Decatur, Ga.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Mauney and Richard Mauney spent Thursday as the guests of Mrs. Mauney's parents, in Hayesville.

23 YEARS AGO

Friday, January 2, 1914

"Bud" Allen went to Atlanta, Monday.

Porter Fain, who has been at Clemson, S. C., spent the holidays with home folks.

Don Hyatt and Winslow McIver made a business trip to Atlanta the first of last week.

Henry Harshaw who has been attending the A. & M. College at Raleigh was at home for the holidays.

Sid Pendley left Tuesday for Marble Hill, Ga.

Misses Anna and Laura Morgan, of Atlanta, and Mrs. T. B. Bead and Mrs. Rose Person, of Hickory, spent the holidays with Alfred Morgan.

Miss Bessie Mae Woods entertained with a watch party Wednesday night.

Miss Tessie Nicholson of Andrews, visited the family of W. Christopher last week.

Porter Axley is at the home for the holidays.

Efton Christopher went to Sylva Wednesday to work on the new court house at that place.

32 YEARS AGO

Tuesday, January 10, 1905

Miss Maggie Hackney has returned to Blue Ridge, but will return in the spring with millinery.

Among the visitors to our town Thursday were: B. R. Hampton, of Mineral Bluff, Ga.; M. W. Harris of Hot House, Rev. A. B. Smith of Marble, S. E. Cover of Andrews.

W. P. Brittain of Peachtree, was in town Friday.

38 YEARS AGO

Tuesday January 8, 1895

A. M. Brittain left Saturday for Richmond, Va.

Julius Iteid, who has been among us for a few years has moved back to Vest in this county.

Mrs. A. Rice of Hot House, is visiting her mother and brother, D. L. Watts, of our town.

Dr. F. C. Walker of Ranger was in town yesterday on business.

Dr. and Mrs. S. C. Heighway returned last Thursday from a pleasant visit to Cincinnati, accompanied by Mrs. Heighway's niece, Miss Carrie Parish, of Bellview, Ky.

Dr. S. B. Henry, after spending the holidays pleasantly with home folks, left for Atlanta Wednesday.

A. J. Phillips of Andrews, was in town last Tuesday accompanied by his daughter, Miss Mamie who left on the south-bound train for Mineral Bluff to enter school.

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[QUESTIONS THAT ARE ASKED ABOUT BANKING]

"Why must a stranger's check be endorsed?"

A CHECK is not money. It becomes money only when honored by the bank upon which it is drawn. Consequently a bank, cashing a check drawn upon another bank, must have some recourse in case the check comes back unpaid.

Banks require endorsement of a depositor on a stranger's check simply as a matter of protection to the bank and its depositors. Cashing a non-depositor's check is, in effect, advancing money without security. You, as an individual, would not consider it good business to give cash to a stranger in exchange for his check. The rules of good banking simply aim to make sure that the bank will carry on the financial business of its customers and its community efficiently and safely.

In accordance with our established policy, we are always glad to cash a check for any person who is properly identified and whose check is endorsed by one of our customers.

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MURPHY



ANDREWS