

22 Workmen Rescued From Tunnel Cave-In

Utah Employees are Trapped 11 Hours At Nantahala Dam

A large crew of workmen labored frantically for 11 hours Sunday night clearing away earth and stone from the Beachertown tunnel to rescue 22 men who were trapped while working on the construction of the Nantahala dam.

The men, employes of the Utah Construction company building the project for Nantahala Power and Light company, were rescued at 4 o'clock Monday morning after being sealed in by the cave-in about 40 feet from the entrance of the tunnel.

The trapped workmen remained calm during the ordeal, although they faced a real danger in the backing up of water in the tunnel. Ray Dickson, foreman of the afternoon tunnel crew, said the water would have drowned the men in a few hours had they not been rescued.

Finding the cold, damp air very uncomfortable, the men tried building a fire. However, the smoke made breathing so difficult the fire was soon extinguished. Attempts at sleep were made despite the discomforts caused by the cold, dampness and smoke.

The telephone connection with the outside was broken and the air shaft was damaged but partially functioning the time the men were entrapped. The electric power connection from the outside was in perfect working order and because of this the workmen had lights while the large crew of men outside worked frantically clearing away stone and earth for their rescue.

Mr. Dickson, the foreman of the trapped men, returned to work Monday afternoon after a few hours of rest.

Those trapped were: Ray Dixon, foreman, Larry Bittely, Frank Brooks, Wilburne Moore, Paul Padgett, John Bradshaw, Dugan West, Roy Garrett, B. Smiley Eckell Rowland, Troy Crothers, Red Ramsey, Gar West, Bunny Howland, Carl Flouquist, Latham Pulliam, Willard Hanney, Sam Crisp, Jake Cabe, Sonny Moore, E. B. Russell and Neville Wiggins.

The Nantahala Power and Light company is a subsidiary of the Aluminum Company of America.

A thief who took J. H. LeBeck's corn planter in Chico, Cal., overlooked certain attachments, and LeBeck advertised in a newspaper, inviting the thief to return for the remainder of the equipment.

Jackson Day Dinners To Hear T. L. Caudle

T. L. Caudle, United States district attorney has accepted an invitation to be the principal speaker at the annual Jackson Day dinner which will be held in Murphy at the Regal hotel Saturday night, March 22, at 7 o'clock.

Chairman Maitox has announced that plans are complete for a good program for the evening with several local speakers in addition to Mr. Caudle.

An invitation has been extended to all democrats of the county to attend this dinner which is staged annually to supplement party funds to offset campaign obligations and prepare for future campaigns.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Mr. Editor: Will you kindly publish the following?

MURPHY'S FUTURE To The Citizens Of Murphy:

I do not know whether or not the citizens of Murphy realize that the geographical location of Murphy with its natural resources and what different enterprises have done for it, is one of the most advantageous locations in Western North Carolina for making it one of the leading cities in the Western part of the State.

I list a few of its principal advantages:

We have superior climate. This is a natural gift.

Our scenery is not surpassed anywhere in the United States. This is a natural advantage.

We have the only town in the State west of Charlotte that has competitive railroad services, except possibly Winston-Salem.

We have cheap electric power. We have one of the most beautiful inland lakes in the United States.

Murphy's business growth and up build for the past fifteen years has been phenomenal.

With the railroad facilities and the cheap electric power together with our natural resources, climate and scenery and citizenship, we should make Murphy a center for those seeking health, pleasure and business. It strikes me that if we can by some means advertise Murphy's superior advantages we will see a great growth in the next few years. It has been reliably stated to me that the TVA contemplates building another large dam near Murphy, and it is a question of only a short time until work will be started, either by the TVA or Aluminum Company of America of the Fontana Dam.

The Chamber of Commerce, Lions and all citizens should contact leading hotels and business houses in South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Florida and Eastern North Carolina and seek to get the tourists and business men to come to Murphy. Let all citizens get together and cooperate throughout this entire territory.

We should advertise our hotels, tourist camps, and homes that will accommodate tourists. Real Estate is not getting any cheaper in and around Murphy for the reason there is a steady substantial growth. Now is the time to work to get people to buy sites for business houses and homes.

These are my views.

A subscriber

W. L. Sumpter of Memphis, Tenn., is still wearing the pair of shoes in which he married 22 years ago.

Six Vital City and County Bills Passed by State Legislature

Twelve Volunteers To Leave Mar. 25 To Fill Draft Quota

Twelve men are scheduled to leave Murphy on Tuesday, March 25, for Fort Bragg for the current draft call from this county. This group, as in previous calls, is made up entirely of volunteers.

The men to leave Tuesday are: Paul Burnette of Andrews Rte. 1, Clarence Bruce Carver of Andrews, Warren Fred Taylor of Murphy Rte. 2, Woodrow Wilson Clayton of Murphy, Arthur Enocia Postell of Andrews Rte. 1, Ernest Hughes of Murphy Rte. 2, Clarence John Hampton of Ranger, Lewis Brendle of Murphy, Hubert Ledford of Marble Rte. 1, Ray Pickelsimer of Patrick, Finlay Carter Nelson of Vests, and Charles Walter Stuart of Murphy.

Another call for 13 men from this county is expected around April 8, the secretary of the draft board reports. Eight men have volunteered for this detail but five more are needed.

To date all men sent from this county under the selective draft have been volunteers, the last detail making a total of 36 men.

Counting volunteers, a total of 475 questionnaires have been mailed to draftees in this county, which number is expected to take care of the county quota through the month of June.

Land Use Committees Meet With Officials In Planning Of Procedure

Meetings were held on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of last week in various sections of Cherokee county in connection with the land use program now underway all over the state.

John W. Crawford and J. W. Green of the land use staff in Raleigh, were present at these meetings and at a special meeting in the Martins creek area where efforts are being concentrated as an example of development of this program. These men will make the first report of progress in this county.

The meeting at Martins creek was held for the purpose of working out a procedure to follow in the carrying out of the program, including the development of such problems as are confronted in pastures, low farm incomes live-at-home program, soil erosion control and community spirit.

The Martins creek meeting and all other meetings of the week were attended by committeemen engaged in the work of this program.

Agents Will Organize 3 Watershed Areas

Three meetings for organization of watershed areas in the agricultural extension program of North Carolina are being held in communities of this county during this week.

The first meeting was held in the Hangingdog area Thursday, March 20, at the Grandview school at 1:30 o'clock. Two other meetings will be held today (Friday), one at Unaka school at 10 a. m., and the other at Hopewell church at 1:30 p. m. for the organization of Upper Persimmon creek area.

In the recorder's court at Kannapolis, N. C., a man was convicted of driving a tractor while in an intoxicated condition.

New Measure Provides for Refunding Tax Money Lost in TVA Acquisition

BAKER BEING HELD AT BRYSON CITY FOR THEFT OF CAR

Ralph Baker was taken to Bryson City by a member of the FBI Sunday to stand trial in federal court for the theft of an automobile allegedly taken one night last week in Murphy. The car belonged to Richard Howell of Murphy.

Baker was arrested in Towns county, Georgia, by Sheriff Townson, Patrolman Smith and Sheriff Smith of Hayesville.

Only damages to the car reported were a missing radio and heater, and a few hinges off trunk which he said he threw in a Georgia lake.

JIMMY LIVINGSTON WILL PLAY DANCE HERE THURSDAY

Local dance enthusiasts will have an opportunity to swing and sway to the rhythmic strains of the music of Jimmy Livingston's orchestra in the Murphy Gymnasium Thursday night, March 27.

The dance which will last from 9 until 1 o'clock, is being sponsored by the Murphy Womans club, the proceeds to be given to the library fund.

Livingston, who is nationally known from radio and recordings, has played for Murphy dances several times before and he and many of his band have friends in the town. It is an exceptional opportunity for local dancers to have this prominent band here. Admission charge will be \$1.00 per couple.

Annual Stockholders Meeting Of Federation

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Farmers Federation will be held Saturday, March 29, in the Asheville court-house at 10:30 a. m.

Reports will be heard from Prof. Clapp, Guy Sales, Jack Gattis, Darnont Clarke and the chairman of the county committees. Amendments to By Laws will be considered and directors elected.

Music will be furnished by the federation string band. Coffee and sandwiches will be served after the meeting.

FOLK SCHOOL VISITOR

Mrs. Theodora Ward of Alstead, New Hampshire, was a visitor at the John C. Campbell Folk school several days last week. Mrs. Ward came to study the experiment the school is making in rural education and to consider the possibilities of applying its principles in starting a folk school on her New Hampshire farm.

OBSERVES ANNIVERSARY

A. Q. Ketner, county farm agent, observed his seventh anniversary in that office on March 17.

Ketner, a native of this county, has served in his present capacity since the resignation of Weaver Gray, former agent. A great deal of progress has been made since Mr. Ketner took over this office and the farmers and business people of Cherokee county extend felicitations upon his completion of the 7th year.

Duties And Salaries Of Town Employes Regulated By Bill

Six important bills concerning Murphy and Cherokee county, introduced by Representative J. D. Maloney Jr., were passed in the last session of the state legislature which adjourned Saturday night.

An act to regulate distribution of funds to replace taxes lost to the county when the TVA came into control of large tracts of land in the Hiwassee basin is of primary importance to local citizens.

Other measures passed included one to regulate the duties and salaries of employes in the town of Murphy; an act to do away with taxes against outside rural electrification service; another measure to cut out penalties against delinquent taxes in the county and its municipalities; an act validating the refunding of outstanding bonds and a note of the town of Murphy.

Upon the acquisition of lands in the Hiwassee basin by the TVA Cherokee county lost approximately \$10,000 in tax collections, and the state of North Carolina lost approximately \$3700. An act passed by congress relating to all lands acquired by the TVA allowed about \$33,000 to replace these lost taxes to the state but only allowed the county about \$3400.

The new measure provides for equitable distribution of this refund so that this county will receive a just amount for taxes lost. The measure, in actuality, provides that the state board make an accurate evaluation of the lands involved, determine a fair tax as if it were owned by a private corporation, and make a right division of the tax funds. This bill will, in fact, return to the county its just income from this area. This bill is now in effect.

A bill which probably received the greatest attention of the citizens of Murphy was that which reorganized and regulated the offices and duties of certain city employes.

This measure provides that the term of office of the mayor and the board of town commissioners shall be reduced from two years to one year. It also provides that the collection of water rents, light rents, etc., be made by the town clerk who shall make bond in the amount of taxes to be collected, likewise for the new duty of collecting light rents. The clerk's salary is set at a maximum of \$100 per month. In connection with this act the office of the electric department will be combined (Continued on Back Page)

The Weather Vane

Listed below are maximum and minimum temperatures and precipitation for the past week compared with similar data for last year:

	1940		1941	
	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.
March 12	54	45	56	23
13	55	45	53	29
14	55	34	47	25
15	50	25	50	20
16	65	23	57	32
17	75	24	52	24
18	70	34	43	16
Precipitation				
	1940		1941	
Total for week	1.85		0.72	
Total for month to date	2.48		3.17	
Total for year to date	10.76		7.49	

The LAMP IN THE VALLEY

A Novel of Alaska
By Arthur Stringer

Carol Coburn, a "bushrat's" daughter, while returning to her native Alaska to teach and establish an unproved claim, is rescued from annoyance by Sidney Lander. Lander is an engineer for the Trumbull Company, which is fighting the Coburn claim. He breaks with Trumbull, but remains engaged to Trumbull's daughter, Barbara.

There is still another woman in the case—and then there's Sockeye Schlupp, the rip-roaring old timer—all woven into this thrilling story of the Federal Colony on the latest American frontier. It's great reading!

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