

YOUTH IS KILLED BY "VET" UNCLE PLAYING AT WAR

Grover Keasler Fatally Shot When Kinsmen Loses His Footing

The war claimed its first victim in this section last Friday when 21 year old Grover Keasler was fatally shot by his uncle, Jeff Martin, as the latter showed the nephew and a small group of friends "how he shot the Germans" in the First World War.

The tragedy occurred in a store near the victim's home in the Ranger section. Young Keasler was shot through the neck, and died Saturday, Jan. 18.

The victim, his uncle, and several friends were standing about the store, discussing the war. Martin is a World War veteran, and his nephew asked him to "show us how you used to shoot 'em." Picking up a gun, Martin dropped to one knee and pretended to draw a bead on an imaginary enemy.

Martin took it for granted that the gun was not loaded, and put on finger on the trigger. Then, suddenly, one of his feet slipped, and caused the trigger hand to tighten, involuntarily. As he struggled to regain his balance, the barrel of the gun came in direct line with his nephew, and then came a discharge which sent a bullet directly into the throat of the victim.

Young Keasler was rushed to a Murphy hospital, where Herculean efforts to save him proved vain. The uncle is all but prostrated with grief.

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at Maggie's Chapel, with the Rev. Will Hedden officiating. Townson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements, and the following were pallbearers:

Messrs. W. Hagan, Don Hughes, Ham Stalcup, Francis Crisp, Calvin Hughes and James Stalcup.

The deceased is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Verlin Keasler, two brothers and one sister. The latter is Miss Eva Nell Keasler, of Murphy. The brothers are J. B. Keasler, of Murphy and Mav Keasler, a member of the U. S. Navy now stationed at Norfolk.

C. W. Savage Improves; To Return Home Soon

The many friends of Mr. C. W. Savage, who recently underwent a serious operation in an Atlanta hospital, will be glad to learn that he came through with flying colors and is convalescing rapidly.

It will be necessary for Mr. Savage to remain in the hospital for a few weeks, after which he probably will return to Murphy and resume residence at the Regal hotel. Mr. Savage and his brother, Will, owned the hotel and sold it only a few days before "Lum" went to the hospital.

Mrs. C. W. Savage has been at her husband's bedside every possible minute since he entered the hospital.

Boy Scouts Plan Trip With Overnight Camp

Sixteen Boy Scouts, including four new members, held a meeting at the Murphy school auditorium Monday evening and planned a camping trip from Friday afternoon until Saturday night.

Five of the Scouts were out with a truck Tuesday afternoon, collecting paper from homes. A regular day for collection will be set, and all having waste paper are asked to leave their names and addresses with the Chamber of Commerce office, on the Murphy square.

Scout membership has increased so much that a third patrol may be formed. In addition to the Fox and Panther groups already organized.

Coleman Orders Ban Against All Visitors to County Jail Inmates

Every prisoner held in the County jail will suffer as a result of the break last Sunday morning. Patton Coleman has put a ban on all social calls until after the April term of the Circuit Court.

Heretofore friends have been allowed to take cigarettes and other gifts to those incarcerated. From now on, all such gifts will have to be left with Jailor Coleman, who probably will open all wrapped packages and examine the contents to see that no files, pieces of metal which might be made into keys, or other contraband is being smuggled in.

"Members of the immediate families of prisoners will be admitted on regular days only," said Coleman, and there will be no more private visiting at any time. I will be right there, watching what goes on."

Coleman declares he is certain that a file was smuggled into the two prisoners who escaped. He says he also believes a taxi-cab was waiting for them, to speed them out of town.

Man, Wife, Friend Plunge to Deaths Near Turtletown

Missing from their home since Jan. 2; the bodies of Seth Whittle, 28, and his pretty young wife, Dorothy, were found last week at the bottom of a 400 foot ravine near Turtletown. With them was the body of John Butler, 48, Whittle's employer, with whom they lived in the mountains.

The three had plunged to their death from a twisting mountain road, leading off the Kimsey Highway.

The Whittles and Butler had been seen by a guard on the road about three o'clock the afternoon of January 2. It is thought likely they were on their way to Turtletown, where they bought their groceries and where Mrs. Whittle had an aunt. It was raining that afternoon and fog had settled over the mountains.

About 10:30 Saturday morning the wreckage of a car was seen at the foot of a deep ravine. Part way down the steep slope lay the body of Mrs. Whittle, and at the foot, some 400 feet below, were the bodies of Butler and Seth Whittle.

The car apparently had turned over and over, bouncing over the rocks, until but little was left of it. The occupants had been thrown near the car, which as it finally came to rest had passed over Whittle's body.

Due to the cold weather the past two weeks, the bodies were in a fair state of preservation.

The slope down which the car plunged is treeless, with nothing to stop a falling object.

Agricultural Leader Visitor at Folk School

Dr. H. C. Taylor, Director of the National Farm Foundation with headquarters in Chicago and Mrs. Taylor were the week-end guests of Mrs. Olive Campbell, at the Folk School in Brasstown.

Dr. Taylor has held Agriculture professorships in Wisconsin University, Northwestern U and the University of Vermont. He also served eight years as a U. S. Government official having headed the office of Farm Management, and the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates.

Louis Shields Attains Dean's List at U. of N. C.

Louis Shields, son of Lee M. Shields, and a junior at the University of North Carolina, where he is studying pharmacy has won the signal honor of being named on the "Dean's list" for the past quarter.

The "Dean's list" comprises students selected for unusual scholastic standing.

BABY IS SCALDED TO DEATH ON HIS THIRD BIRTHDAY

Tiny Willard West Falls into Boiling Water in Kitchen of Home

Three year old Willard West plunged to a horrible death at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank West, of Andrews, last Thursday morning. The tragedy seemed more terrible, if possible because it came on the baby's birthday.

Little Willard stumbled and fell into a basin of boiling water and received third degree burns which caused his death after two days of suffering.

Funeral services were held Saturday, January 17, and the baby was buried in the Red Marble Cemetery, with Townson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements. Besides his parents, the child is survived by three brothers and one sister.

The tragedy occurred early in the morning, with both his parents only a few feet distant yet powerless to save him. His mother, rising early, had placed a big basin of water on the stove to heat, and it had gotten boiling hot when Mr. West came into the kitchen to get his breakfast before going to his job with the TVA. To make more room on the stove, Mrs. West removed the basin on water and placed it on the floor.

Little Willard, playing about the kitchen toddled over near the spot, stumbled, and, before his parents to catch him, had plunged into the water.

He was immersed only an instant, but that was enough. His tender baby flesh was terribly burned, and though he was rushed to a hospital in Murphy, he died January 16.

War Relief Quota Here to be Trebled In Red Cross Drive

With money still coming in, Joe Ray, chairman of the Red Cross War Relief drive reported Thursday morning that a little more than \$1,800 had been collected. The Murphy chapter's quota was only \$1,000.

Ray pointed out that this \$1,800 represents collections made from "locals", and does not include donations made by TVA workers. The latter are expected to total several thousand dollars.

TVA donations will come direct to Chairman Ray, but will be allotted by him to the various counties in which the contributors reside. A large portion of these funds will thus go to Clay County and to nearby counties in Georgia and Tennessee. Nevertheless, Ray expects Murphy's share to bring the local total to nearly three times the amount of the quota.

Notable among the contributions was one from a soldier who read of the drive in The Scout. Gilbert J. Amos, member of the Quartermaster Corps and stationed at Fort Bragg, sent Ray a money order for \$10. "That donation" said Ray, proves that Amos is not only 100 per cent patriot, but also 100 per cent lover of his home section. Incidentally, it is a striking compliment to the influence of The Scout."

Following is a new list of contributors who had turned in their donations by the time the Scout went to press. Other contributors, whose donations are coming in steadily, will be announced next week. Those donating during the past two weeks, and listed below, are business concerns whose employees contributed 100%.

They are: Appalachian Veneer plant, Johnson's Market, Western Auto, Murphy Laundry, Gulf Oil Co., Murphy

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Best Tourist Season In Years is Predicted Due to Car Shortage

Shortage of autos and tires should give Western North Carolina the best tourist season in years, according to Chamber of Commerce heads from the entire section who met at a banquet in Asheville Tuesday night.

It was pointed out that visitors will no longer find it advisable to stop over-night and then drive on. Instead, they probably will pick out a locality and stay there.

Joe Ray, President of the Murphy Chamber addressed the gathering and assured Asheville that Murphy is NOT in Georgia. "From the co-operation we have been getting" he explained, "it seems as if some of you folks think we are 'furriners'."

Ray told of the advantages Murphy now offers tourists. "We have progressed a lot, and we have just started" he said. "Make no mistake about it, Gentlemen, Murphy is the coming town of North Carolina."

Restaurants Begin General "Overhaul" To Meet New Laws

The cafes and restaurants of Murphy are being rearranged, re-outfitted and generally reorganized as a result of a visit, this week by a State inspector for the Department of Health. As a result Murphy will have eating places to rival any in North Carolina.

It is likely that some of the cafes will go out of business because of the considerable expense necessary to comply with new and stringent regulations regarding sanitation. The larger places, however, readily agreed to comply with every suggestion. Some of the changes required had already been planned before the Inspector came, and were being held up only by shortage of materials and labor.

One of the improvements to be made at once will be the sterilization of every glass, cup, and dish every time it is used. This will call for replacement of most of the dish-washing equipment. Under former rules, in effect less than a year ago, it was necessary for a restaurant to have only two big basins for dishes; one for washing, the second for rinsing. Under the new rules, three compartments are needed, the third being for sterilization.

Another new requirement is that every restaurant wash room be kept supplied with hot as well as cold water. Closed dust proof storage cabinets, required a year ago will be done away with.

Many other requirements have been made, all of which will be costly, and will require the junking of other equipment, that is almost new. However, the proprietors of the better eating places promised to co-operate 100 per cent.

Junk Depot Offered By Farmer Federation

A Red Cross pile for the collection of scrap metal and old rubber will be maintained at the Murphy warehouse of the Farmers Federation, according to manager Melvin Propst. When the accumulation is sold the proceeds will be turned over entirely to the Red Cross.

Truck of Dewey Fain Destroyed by Flames

A truck, owned and operated by Dewey Fain, colored, and loaded with furniture caught on fire and burned Sunday night, just this side of Ranger. Dewey is employed by Mr. Mercer Fain but at the time he was operating his own truck independently.

It happened about 9 o'clock Sunday night and the furniture, luckily, was unloaded before it was damaged.

TWO BREAK JAIL BY WAY OF ROOF; HAD OUTSIDE AID

Clarence Cornwell and Bert Beasley Given File by Accomplice

Facing probable life terms and possible sentences to the electric chair, two prisoners escaped from the County Jail early Sunday morning, only to be recaptured Tuesday with new crimes added to the charges already against them.

The prisoners are Bert Beasley, 21 year old escaped Georgia convict, held for midnight robbery during which he shot out the right eye of 65 year old Allen Owensby of the Liberty section; and Clarence Cornwell, 23 year old TVA worker of Beaverdam, charged with robbing Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cornwell, aunt and uncle who raised him, of \$87 at the point of a gun in their Beaverdam home. The fugitives were retaken at the head of Beaverdam, as they hid in the woods.

Before being caught, the two had broken into the school house at Suit and looted the storage room of food kept there for children's lunches. Surprised in the school house by John Johnson, a WPA worker, they knocked him down and ordered him to "lie still for ten minutes" during which they made a new get-away.

New charges of jail-breaking, destroying Government property, robbery, and assault will be lodged against them. Jailor Coleman also is considering prosecution of three other inmates of the jail on charges of being accessories before and after the fact in the escape.

The escape of Cornwell and Beasley was affected after patient effort, and with the aid of a visitor, and perhaps also of a "trustee" who was allowed free range of the lock-up. It was made possible originally, by the smuggling in of a file by some visitor.

Several wrecked stills were stored in the lock up, and Cornwell, said to be an expert locksmith, got a piece of copper pipe from one of them. He hammered and filed this into a massive key which would unlock the door to the "bull-pen" where he, Beasley, and three other prisoners were confined.

Even with the key made, however, help was needed because it is physically impossible for a man in the bull pen to reach the lock. The key had to be handed to someone outside the cell.

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Mrs. C. S. Patton Dead; Burial in Peachtree

A life long resident of Cherokee County, Mrs. C. S. Patton, 81 years old died on January 12th, and was buried from the Peachtree Baptist church. She had been ill for several months. Funeral services were conducted by The Rev. Barker and interment was in the Peachtree cemetery with Townson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Patton is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Frank Farmer and a son, Clyde, both of Murphy. She also leaves two sisters; Mrs. Inez Hughes, of Murphy and Mrs. Nina Brittain, of Maryville, Tenn., and some grandchildren.

Dickey Will Contest Settled Out of Court

The court contest started by Fred Dickey Jr. in an effort to break the will of his father, the late Fred Dickey, and which resulted in a hung jury when first heard in the Circuit Court here, has been settled by compromise.

The will left Fred Jr. \$1,000, with the remainder of the estate going to Mrs. Maude Dickey, widow of the deceased. Under the terms of settlement, young Fred receives \$5,000.