

# THE CHEROKEE SCOUT

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## Wagon Train Put Murphy On Map

(Editor's Note: This is the second in a series of guest editorials written for publication in the Scout by leading citizens from Western North Carolina and Eastern Tennessee. The theme of the editorials is "The Real Meaning of Wagon Train." The second article is written by Mayor L. L. Mason, Murphy, N. C.)

### THE VALUE OF THE WAGON TRAIN

By L. L. Mason

"Wagons, Ho!" has become a familiar sound in the mountains between Tellico-Plains, Tennessee, and Murphy, North Carolina, in the last three years.

A small group of people of Tellico-Plains conceived an idea that has become one of the greatest spectacles since the days of settling the West. Men, women, and children have endured the discomforts of the old West to break down the barriers of the mountains in a tireless effort to obtain an all-weather highway which would shorten the distance on a North-South route and create a "Wonderland" of incomparable beauty.

The Wagon Train, widely advertised by all means of communication, has put Murphy on the lips of numerous persons who otherwise would never have been attracted to the mountains, of which Murphy may be said to be the capital. The economic value of this advertisement is immeasurable but may well be estimated to run into hundreds of thousands of dollars. This is particularly true in view of the fact that an estimated 35,000 persons were in Murphy this year to view a Wagon Train which year by year has increased in size.

This Wagon Train route is a wonderful country with sunny skies, verdant valleys and high hills, majestic mountains and sky-piercing peaks, beautiful waterfalls, racing rivers and meandering streams.

Each year the Wagon Train rolls into Murphy for the Fourth of July Celebration and has nationally placed our town on the map. It has made old Murphy burst at the seams and blossom like a rose.

It is our hope that these Celebrations may continue to grow and we will increase our efforts to obtain a modern highway to open this scenic beauty to the whole world.

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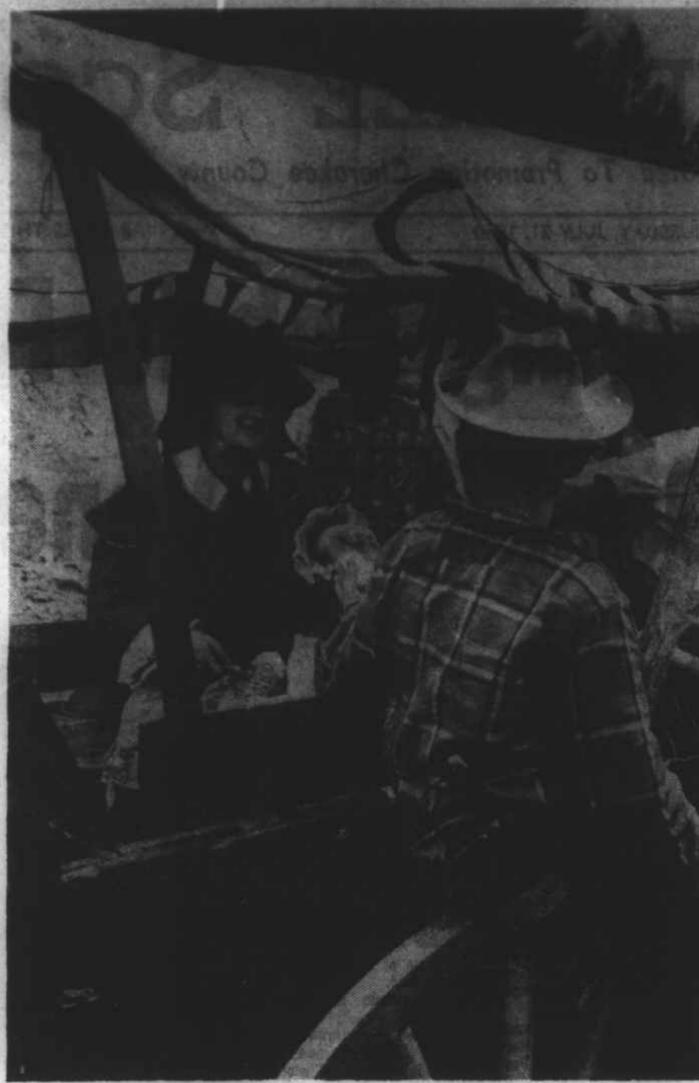
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## Kidd Brewer's Raleigh Roundup

**BOREDOM** . . . If this be treason, make the most of it—but just a lot of the recent National Democratic Convention bored me to bed.

I got awfully tired—and I'll bet you did, too—with all those long-winded, pompous, big-bellied, bog-calling speeches.

And, mostly, the demonstrations seemed childish, useless, and used entirely too much time for nothing . . . particularly on those favorite son things.

I would say the most boring speech of the whole she-bang was the Bowles speech, delivered from the side of his mouth, and given with wry grins on rugged planks in the platform.

To me, Terry Sanford made a nice little, interesting, and I thought effective seconding speech for John Kennedy. Gov. Hodges wasn't bad at all—and the senator from Minnesota who nominated Adlai Stevenson made an excellent speech. If that is a sample of his usual talk, he is the best around in our book.

**WHY?** . . . Frankly, we thought Sen. Sam Ervin, whom we admire very much, was not at his best. His jokes, like those of Convention Chairman Leroy Collins and others, fell completely flat.

Much of the trouble Brother Collins had with keeping those aisles cleared and getting attention was due to the fact that the delegates couldn't hear a word . . . because of the terrible acoustics of the hall.

Most of the speeches we heard seemed to lack sincerity. There was too much bellowing and not enough sense. To keep the confidence of the millions of people

looking in, future political conventions must be more streamlined, factual, with more serious approach and less tommyrot.

The Republican National Convention coming up next week in Chicago will be no better—and in many respects will be worse.

**BACK TO '23?** . . . A lot of those people who professedly "fear" that North Carolina will go Republican this fall privately hope it will go Republican. They still carry heavy loads of grief and bitterness at recent events.

But most Democrats think we will win in November—and are determined we shall win. But this can't be done with our usual rather casual, weak-kneed approach. North Carolina Democrats need more of the Kennedy fire, zeal, excitement, and sense of challenge. Perhaps our young leaders will make us more effective.

In 1928, Herbert Hoover beat Al Smith in North Carolina 348,023 to 286,227. But in our opinion Al Smith was not even in the same league with John Kennedy as a vote-getter and a personality. Also, Herbert Hoover in 1928 was almost as much of a Democrat as he was a Republican. He had been a close associate of Wilson and other good Democrats—and was not known primarily as a party man. Compare that with Nixon today.

**CAME FDR** . . . In 1932, Franklin D. Roosevelt took Herbert Hoover in this State by 148,643 votes. In 1936, he defeated Al Landon by 392,858!

Then came on the scene W. Willkie, whose son is now running for State Superintendent of Schools on the Republican ticket in Missouri. The Republicans said they had found their Man and, besides, FDR was running

for an unprecedented third term and had fifth columnists in his own ranks known as Liberty Leaguers. When the votes were counted, it was found Roosevelt had beaten Willkie in N.C. by nearly 400,000 votes—actually, 395,382. That was in 1940.

Tom Dewey has been to the Republican Party what Adlai Stevenson has to the Democratic Party. Both are fine men, each has a lot of power in his party, each is an intellectual, both have been nominated twice by their parties, and both have been defeated twice.

Roosevelt faced the nation for a fourth time in 1944 against Tom Dewey. In North Carolina, he downed Tom Dewey by 264,244 votes. This was FDR's smallest margin of victory in Tarbellia since 1932.

**TURNIPS** . . . On the scene came Harry Truman. He seemed to have few fighting friends as he sat almost alone long hours in Philadelphia awaiting his party's nomination. It was a lonely vigil in the Philadelphia railroad station. We could not keep our mind off the scene last week as we watched the relative ease with which Kennedy won the nomination. We liked that Kennedy speech—loved it, in fact—but thought it could not compare in fight with Truman's turnip-seed-sowing-time-in-Missouri address 12 years ago. In their heart, few Democrats thought Harry Truman could win.

He beat Dewey in North Carolina by 200,498 votes—despite the fact that Henry Wallace got 3,915 votes in this State and Strom Thurmond, 69,652. I just can't think the Democratic Party is in as bad shape this year as it was in 1948 with the splinter parties.

**THE HERO** . . . The war had

## Soil Conservation News

By JOHN S. SMITH

The three Soil Conservation District Supervisors from Cherokee County attended a meeting of SCD Supervisors for fourteen Western North Carolina Counties in Hendersonville this past Tuesday. A very interesting program was presented. The morning meeting presided over by Lawrence McKay of Henderson County, chairman of the Western North Carolina Soil Conservation District Supervisors. A number of resolutions were passed to be presented to the State Meeting of the Soil Conservation District Supervisors.

The afternoon session consisted of a trip to the North Carolina Mountain Research Station near Fletcher. This is a new research station which was established a little more than a year ago. The manager, Bill Read, showed us over the station and told us about the experiments they are running there. The main purpose of the research station is to find new uses for familiar vegetable and fruit crops and to find better adapted varieties of these crops.

A considerable acreage of apple trees have been set on this station and will be used to run experiments on diseases, insects, insecticides, and chemical thinning of apples. A large number of grape vines have also been established to be used for the same things in grapes.

One experiment which Bill Read showed to the group was a soil fertility experiment using beets. The plots of beets were fertilized with different rates and analyzes of fertilizer ranging from none to as high as fifty-eight hundred pounds per acre. The differences which were apparent in the plots were in the plots where one or more elements were deliberately left out of the fertilizer. Even where a high rate of fertilization was used, the lack of some minor element would cause serious damage to the beets. The same tests were being run using beans for the test crop, and the results were similar.

Attending the meeting from Cherokee County were Bill Russell of Andrews; Charlie McDonald of Owl Creek, and Don Taylor of Suit, all Soil Conservation District Supervisors. M. H. Payne of Warne, Clay County Supervisor, attended with the Cherokee County group. Dr. John Heneveld of Little Brass-town also attended.

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Similarly, recent years have seen greatly increased acceptance of the "legal control" system governing the sale of beer and ale in North Carolina, in the interest of temperance and moderation.

**North Carolina Division**  
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## Reese Attends GOP Candidates' Conference

Dal M. Reese, of Murphy, Republican Candidate for State Auditor, attended a conference with the Republican Candidate for Governor at his law offices in Sanford, N.C., together with William E. Cobb, of Morganton, State Chairman, and other members of the campaign committee and Statewide candidates and congressional candidates.

Mr. Reese is also a member of the State campaign committee, and chairman of Cherokee County Republican Executive committee.

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## Letter To The Editor

Citizens of Cherokee County, I would like to bring to your attention an injustice I received in coroner's court in Murphy, N. C. on June 20, 1960.

A warrant was taken out, by Mr. R. R. Carryl charging me for maliciously killing my daughter's dog. This warrant was brought to my home by Sheriff Anderson and his deputy. My daughter and I were to appear in court the following Monday.

As this case opened, Mr. Carryl, the prosecuting witness, was not in the court room, therefore, by daughter took the witness stand first. She was asked if she had recently owned a dog. She stated she had not and later said she had not owned a dog in two or three years.

This automatically closed the case, but Mr. Carryl, in order to keep his head above the water, started a new case. He stated I had killed the dog and dumped it on his land. This was supposed to have been above Charlie Johnson's water line. The peculiar point is there was no opposition by Charlie Johnson.

When all of this was established, instead of trying me for one thing, they were trying me for two. One was with warrant and legal. The other was not. Even

if it had all been legal, there was no established proof, therefore I should have been acquitted.

After I had taken the witness stand, stating that I had owned the dog, killed it and told the reason thereof, Judge Edward said he didn't blame me for killing the dog. This was supposed to have been the end of the case placing Mr. Carryl in the situation of paying the cost of the court.

Whether Judge Edward knew the complete facts about the warrant, I do not know, but I do know I was fined unjustly fifteen dollars and cost. This I appealed to higher court, where I hope to receive justice. I was then placed under a three hundred dollar bond.

F. L. DAVIS

Sir: Having had the pleasure of being in Murphy overnight, I would like to say that both my wife and I enjoyed it very much. We were not there long enough to really see and get acquainted with your lovely little town, but do have hopes of being able to visit it again. I like these mountain towns and we both were impressed with Murphy. Sincerely, Charles B. Reynolds (Richmond, Va.)