

## Old-Timers' Gather On Many Days For Reunion Here In Sheriff's Office

By W. C. MEDFORD

**"OLD TIMERS" REUNION**  
It wasn't a planned reunion—it just happened to be a bigger than the average. You will see in the picture, a typical illustration of an old-timer's gathering. It often takes place in the sheriff's office at the Haywood Courthouse on Saturdays of a season—such as we had last year. The number in the group was augmented by six who are not customarily in gatherings. The six are: John Davis, Ennis Sentelle, Vance John Grasty, W. J. Janes, and John Walker.

time, setting and characters are changed from 100 years ago—and way back earlier than that.

### OLD BENCH NOT SHOWN

Our only regret is that a picture of the old long bench could not be reproduced. It is the bench this group of "old timers" were sitting on—when they had to be gotten up and assembled closer together for the picture. Yes, and it is also the old seat that countless numbers of other Haywood citizens have occupied during the last 60 or 70 years when at the courthouse, the present one, and also the old one (built about '86).

"Just think," remarked Jim Palmer, "if this old bench could talk—what tales it would tell!"

"Well, it wouldn't tell much bigger ones than we've been a-tellin'," replied someone.

"No," put in Sheriff Campbell, "there's been bigger corn crops, more tobacco, heavier cattle, etc. raised right here in this office than anywhere else, I believe."

"Also bigger fish caught, bigger bears and deers killed and all sitch as that," added Decatur Justice.

### NO WIVES PRESENT

Other jokes were passed: "They ort t' a had their wives present, all the wives who are living," remarked an out-sider.

"My wife wouldn't a been caught with me here," replied some wit.

"Their wives are at home working, I guess," said someone else.

"Yes, and your wife, too," came from the other side.

### THE GROUP, THEIR AGES, ETC.

Now, the ones shown in this group are not the only frequent visitors at the sheriff's office. There are others—like "Big Charlie" Medford, Jim Boyd, Harley Bryson, Dock Howell and Caesar Ferguson, and others we would like to have had—but they just didn't happen to be present.

The aggregate of the ages of the 20 shown is 1562 years. The youngest of the group is 72 years of age, and the oldest one (W. G. Burnett) is 93. The average is a fraction over 78 years.

Here is the personnel: Uncle Wash Burnett, from Bethel (93); Lawrence Walker (86), Lake Junaluska, Vance Jolly, Iron Duff, and Bob Grasty, Ratcliffe Cove (85); John Grasty (83), Allen's Creek; Decatur Justice (79), Canton, Route 2; Elmer Bryson, Ratcliffe Cove, Jim Palmer, Plott Creek, and Bob Hogan, Waynesville (78); J. I. Green, Waynesville (79); Ennis Sentelle, Bethel (77); Silas Caldwell, Hazelwood (76); J. G. Tate, Iron Duff (75); Forest Messer, Waynesville, Bob Davis, Cove Creek, and Nath Walker, Clyde (74); W. J. Janes, Jonathans Creek, Hub Caldwell, Waynesville, Harley Palmer, Howell Mill Road, and Jim Singleton, Jonathans Creek (72).

Hardly any of these men would



This picture shows 17 of the 20 men supposed to be in the group taken in the Sheriff's office Saturday. They are: sitting, left to right, Lawrence Walker, Bob Grasty, Wash Burnett, Vance Jolly, Bob Hogan, Decatur Justice and Elmer Bryson. Standing: Jeff Janes, Glen Tate, Silas Caldwell, Harley Palmer, Jim Singleton, Bob Davis, Nath Walker, Jim Green, Hub Caldwell and Forest Messer. (Mountaineer Photo).

## Canton Soldier Now On Duty In Germany

**28TH DIV., GERMANY**—Army Pvt. Lloyd O. Rathbone, son of Mrs. E. M. Rathbone, Canton, recently joined the 28th Infantry Division in Germany.

The 28th Division is undergoing intensive training as part of the NATO Army on guard in western Europe.

Private Rathbone, a truck driver, entered the Army in March and received basic training at Camp Gordon Ga.

## Cars Are Bargains

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Looking for a low priced car? The sanitation department auctioned off 73 vehicles which had been abandoned here. Prices for the relics and wrecks ranged from \$1 to \$36. The highest bid, \$47, was made on a motorcycle.

say they are actually on the retired list. Uncle Wash Burnett still does some work—he even drives his old model car to town two or three times a week. Lawrence Walker, next oldest, says he does a good deal of "piddlin' work," and Decatur Justice, though crippled up, still works. Vance Jolly and Bob Grasty (85) are also fairly active.

A Merry Christmas! to all you "Old Timers", is the wish of The Mountaineer.

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## Methodist Youths From 9 States To Hold Conference At Junaluska This Summer

Plans for a nine-state convocation of Methodist youth next summer at Lake Junaluska, have been announced by the denomination's Board of Education, Nashville, Tenn.

The Rev. Harold W. Ewing, national youth director for the board, said that 1,000 delegates will be named to represent Methodism's southeastern jurisdiction at the convocation, July 21-26.

The 800 young people and 200 adult counselors will come from Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, Florida, Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, North and South Carolina, and the Republic of Cuba.

Ewing said that the convocation theme, "Christ Above All," will be geared to the Methodist Church's current four-year youth emphasis program. Chief objectives, he said, will be to inspire greater concern for church, family, community and world relationships through Christian education and evangelism.

The Rev. W. L. Joyner, St. Petersburg, Fla., has been named convocation dean. Assisting him

will be the Rev. George Blackburn, Johnson City, Tenn., dean of men; Miss Nina Reeves, Birmingham, Ala., dean of women, and the Rev. Warren Willis, Lakeland, Fla., business manager.

The planning committee includes the Rev. James W. Sells of Atlanta, executive secretary of the jurisdictional council and program director of the Lake Junaluska Assembly; Mrs. E. U. Robinson, Gallatin, Tenn., southeastern president of the Methodist Woman's Society of Christian Service; the Rev. Walter C. Gum, Richmond, Va., southeastern president of the Board of Missions; the Rev. C. B. Cook, Nashville, representing executive secretaries of annual conference board of education, and the Rev. A. Argyle Knight, Nashville, of the general education board's youth staff.

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