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THE SCOUT
IT'S BECAUSE WE DIDN'T
KNOW IT

The Cherokee Scout

ADVERTISE IN
THE SCOUT
"IT WILL MAKE
YOU RICH"

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HENRY DENIES CAUSING COURT HOUSE FIRE

Scores Jordan in Statement To Scout
For Intimating That He was
Was To Blame

Denying the allegation of Insurance Commissioner Jordan that he accidentally set the fire that destroyed the courthouse several weeks ago, W. A. Henry, janitor, in a statement to The Scout this week, protests his innocence and states that there were others in the building the morning of the fire besides himself. He also declares that the lights burned in some of the offices till midnight on the night before the fire, and that card playing had not been an unusual thing on nights and Sundays for sometime.

Mr. Henry declares that he carried no matches and had made it a rule not to carry any matches during the seven years he has held the job of janitor, but carried a flashlight instead.

The text of his letter to The Scout follows in full:

Murphy, N. C.
February 3rd, 1926.

Editor Scout:

I desire to reply to an article in your issue of January 22nd. It appears that Mr. Jordan attempted to single me out and place the blame for the Courthouse fire on my shoulders. I did not even carry matches, the seven years I had been janitor, I made it a rule to carry no matches, as several of the officials will testify, who had asked me for matches. I had a five dollar flash light which I used. The mop Jordan talks about had never been used to mop floors, but was a window mop. The sprinkler he mentioned as having blown up, did not have a thing in it. Others had been in Courthouse on the morning of the fire. Why should Jordan single me out? The Accountant, who recently audited county books, commented on card playing in the courthouse, said he would just as soon play in a churchhouse. Lights were on in some of offices until midnight on the night before fire. I have been treated mighty nice by the County Commissioners and most of the officials, but I did not approve of card playing in courthouse. I do not pretend to say how courthouse fire originated, but I do know, I did not set it in any way, and it is a mighty lowdown trick in a State official to single me out as responsible for the origin of the fire. I had been there seven years, and County Commissioners had assured me that I could stay right on, and I took better care of County's property than I would have of my own. I tried to keep the courthouse locked on Sundays and nights, but with offices in it, it was an utter impossibility. If it becomes necessary, I will tell who played cards there Sundays and nights.

Yours truly,
W. A. HENRY

FOLK SCHOOL AT BRASSTOWN GETS UNDER WAY

The work at the John C. Campbell Folk school at Brasstown, is well under way, though held up somewhat by the inclemency of the weather. The farm house has been re-ceiled and floored downstairs, and half the new roof put on, waiting only for a few fair days to complete the job. The garage is up and half the roof shingled, but the cement floor cannot be put down until milder weather comes and stays for long enough to insure that it will not freeze.

The most interesting thing that is going on, however, is the hauling of the old hand-hewn logs, from two houses of pioneer times, given by Mr. Jim Zimmerman and Mr. Cliff Wallgroup. These old logs, ready for many more years' service, are being set up again in an oak grove on the school's property, on a site apparently made for such a building, and the house will be used as a Folk Museum, perpetuating in concrete from the early history of this section.

For days now, a group of from eight to ten men have been carrying on these undertakings, giving their

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Dawning



SIX PRISONERS ESCAPE JAIL ON FRIDAY NIGHT

One Caught and Returned and Reward of \$25.00 Each Offered For Others

A daring wholesale jail breaking was effected by six prisoners from the county jail here last Friday night shortly after or during the supper hour. The prisoners who escaped are:

Rich Picklesimer, charged with violation of the prohibition law.
George Bryant, charged with breaking into J. W. Odom's store at Ogeeta some two months ago.
Grover Taylor, charged with violating the prohibition law.
Cliff Taylor, charged with stealing an automobile.
Dock Groves, charged with barn burning in Clay County and brought here for safe keeping.
George Standridge, charged with white slavery. Standridge was apprehended Tuesday down in Georgia and was brought back.
Much conjecture is prevalent as to how the prisoners made their escape. Standridge, who has been apprehended, has refused to talk other than to say that he and another prisoner found themselves alone and the door open, and just walked out. Sheriff Morrow was away at the time and P. C. Gentry, a deputy, was in charge.

The front of the jail has had to be left open since the burning of the court house to accommodate the public entering and passing out of the clerk of the court's, the register of deeds and the county school superintendent's offices which are located on the third floor of the building, necessitating that the cage be closed.

Sheriff Morrow states that a key to the cage of the old jail, which was in the possession of W. A. Henry, the janitor, would fit and unlock the cage in the new jail, and it was his opinion that it was used by the prisoners to make their escape. He says that the hallway in front of the cages being open to the public, a friend of some of the prisoners could easily have secured the key and unlocked the door for them. He also states that the key in question was missing and could not be found.

Mr. Henry says that if any of the keys to the cages of the old jail would open one in the new jail, he did not know it, as he had never tried it. He also says that he moved away last Tuesday two weeks ago, and had not been back but once. That was Monday when he went for his monthly pay check.

A reward of \$25.00 each is being offered for the capture of the prisoners, Mr. Morrow stated, and he hoped to have them back in jail before many more days.

DAVIS BUYS WOFFORD HOME ON PEACHTREE

Murphy Real Estate Market Beginning to Flourish, As Recent Activity Indicates

The real estate market in Murphy is beginning to flourish, to the extent that outside capital is becoming interested and seeking investment here. Local realtors state that not a week passes but that some inquiries are received from Florida, Georgia, Tennessee and other sections.

The property of C. M. Wofford on Peachtree Street, comprising a lot 157 by 200 feet and the magnificent Wofford home, was purchased recently by E. E. Davis, clerk of the superior court, for the consideration of \$10,000. The deal was handled by John H. Hall, local realtor.

Mr. Wofford's reason for selling was that the house was too large, having some 14 rooms. He will continue to occupy it until about the first of July. In the meantime, he contemplates erecting a bungalow, the location of which has not yet been definitely decided.

Crye and Kollock, of Hendersonville, purchased the Rector home in East Murphy last week, and contemplate making a number of improvements. Mr. Kollock already has a valuable building lot in Murphy at the corner of Valley River Avenue and Campbell Street, which he purchased last summer. The consideration for the Rector property is understood to be \$2,500.

W. W. Hyde, local banker, recently purchased the B. B. Meroney property on Tennessee Street, adjoining the old Axley home place. The lot is 200 by 216 feet.

Famous Picture Soon Coming To Murphy

"Scaramouche", a Rex Ingram production based on Sabatini's historical novel by the same name will be shown at the Bonita Theatre, Friday February 12th under the auspices of the young ladies Sunday school class of the Methodist Church, according to announcement made this week. This picture is historical in character, being based on the French Revolution of 1789, one of the most colorful and stirring times in all history.

"Scaramouche", according to advance reports from the larger cities, is acclaimed one of the greatest motion picture productions yet produced. More than 11,000 persons were used in producing the picture. It is given a place in screen history along with "The Birth of a Nation" and "The four Horsemen of the Apocalypse".

YOUNG HARRIS GIRLS WIN FROM ANDREWS

Playing the first half by girls' rules and the second half by boys' rules the Young Harris Girls Basketball team won from the Andrews, N. C. girls on the Andrews court. Soon after the game got under way they opened up a passing attack that the North Carolinians could not solve and which landed them on the short end of a 17 to 4 score. Due to their teamwork and accurate passing they kept the ball a greater part of the time. Dot Adams led the attack, scoring 12 points. The fact that both Fincher and N. Baker were unable to cage the ball in their usual manner kept the score much lower than was expected.

For the losers Oliver played the best game. She had to be watched all the time, and but for the fact that she was so closely guarded she would have made a better showing in the scoring.

Andrews Young Harris
Eawood R. F. Fincher (2)
Oliver (3) L. F. Adams (12)
Swan (1) C. E. Baker (2)
Bradley R. G. Bell
Montroy L. G. N. Baker (1)
Reagan Spence

BOYS TAKE SECOND GAME FROM ANDREWS

In a hard game on the Andrews court Young Harris scored a 24 to 16 win over the Andrews team. The shooting of McCollum, the floor work of Shirah, and the guarding of Davis were features of the game. Mediocre team work and the reduction of the playing time to 32 minutes kept the score down, most of the points being made during two short spurts of real playing. For the Andrews team Chandler showed up best. He gives promise of making a great player.

Andrews Young Harris
Chandler (4) F. McCollum (12)
Wyke (8) F. Shirah (9)
Matherson (1) C. Wells (2)
Ring (3) G. Davis (2)
Wakefield G. McCollum
Substitution: Andrews, Tatham for Ring, Walker for Wakefield, Wakefield for Walker—Enota Echoes

Lyceum Number Coming February 16

The fourth number of the Lyceum course will appear here on Tuesday, February 16th, according to announcement made this week by members of the guarantors committee. The title of this number is "Lockhart's Scotch Lassies." This is a musical number and advanced reports speak very highly of it.

BARNETT GETS JOB WRECKING COURT HOUSE

Seventeen Bids Received Ranging
From \$3445.00 to
\$6,400.00

H. D. Barnett, local contractor, with a bid of \$3,485.00, was awarded the contract for wrecking the old walls of the Cherokee County courthouse, which burned several weeks ago. It was a condition of the bid that the wrecker received the brick, and the work of removing the debris from the grounds was begun Wednesday morning. The contract calls for the walls and debris to be removed in 60 days. All the walls with the exception of the outside marble foundations will be removed.

Nineteen bids were received as follows:

H. D. Barnett	\$3,485.00
Thomas Gilbert	4,200.00
E. L. Townson	4,900.00
J. E. Price	5,400.00
Holder Brothers	3,750.00
M. L. Gentry	5,900.00
J. C. Allen	4,500.00
H. Noland Wells	4,500.00
J. H. Baker	4,350.00
Noah Gibson	3,900.00
B. L. Williams	3,500.00
Ed King	5,100.00
W. T. Moore	3,980.00
Pat Cearley	4,774.00
Sid Fendley	6,450.00
A. G. Morrow	6,000.00
J. A. Lance	6,000.00

90-YEAR-OLD PIONEER CITIZEN DIED JAN. 27

Wolf Creek, Feb. 1.—There passed from our midst on the 28th. Ult., in the death of Mrs. Bachel M. Ricks, one of the oldest citizens in this part of the county. Mrs. Ricks had been in feeble health for several months. The end came quietly about 8 o'clock last Thursday morning. Her only living sister, Mrs. Harriet Fortner, with one daughter, Mrs. Sarah Garren, with other relatives and friends were at her bedside when she died.

Mrs. Ricks was born in Buncombe County January 11, 1836, being 90 years and 17 days old at the time of her death. When she was about 6 years old, her father, Andrew Jackson Bell, emigrated, with his family, to Cherokee County and settled below Murphy on the Hiwassee river. They lived there until Mrs. Ricks—at that time Miss Bell—was grown, when they moved to Wolf Creek, where her parents lived and died and where she spent the major portion of her life.

Mrs. Ricks was the mother of six children, four daughters and two sons. The two sons and two daughters having preceded her in death. She has one daughter, Mrs. Johnson-Glass who lives at Calers, Ala. The other, Mrs. Sarah Garren, lives here, with whom she made her home for the last 30 or more years.

For several years Mrs. Ricks stood at the head of a family line of five generations, there being, to the writers knowledge at least 10 Great great grand children. Her children Grand children and great grand children being scattered over quite a section of this country.

Mrs. Ricks was next to the oldest child in a family of 22 children and only two of them survive her, one Brother, A. J. Bell of Mineral Bluff, Ga., and the sister, mentioned above.

Mrs. Ricks was a Member of the Macedonian Baptist church for perhaps 30 years. She was always attentive to all the meetings of the church as long as she could get there. She had a great number of relatives and friends, perhaps, as any other person in this county.

She was laid to rest in the cemetery at Macedonia, on Friday afternoon, to await the life Giver. The Rev. A. F. Burns of Panterville, Ga. conducted the funeral services.

ONE HURT AND 4 BADLY SHAKEN IN COLLISION

Truck Belonging to Murphy Service Station Completely Demolished

Loren Davis was badly hurt and Frank Ellis and James Axley, of Murphy, and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Cover, of Andrews, received a general shake-up as the car driven by Cover collided with a service truck driven by Ellis of the Murphy Service Station on the Murphy-Andrews highway about one mile this side of Andrews in an unconscious condition dark.

Davis received a severe gash wound on the head, two arteries being severed. He was taken to Andrews in an unconscious condition and given medical attention. His condition was weakened on account of the loss of blood. He regained consciousness the next morning about four o'clock. Davis' condition was at first thought serious, but he returned to school this week apparently much improved.

Other occupants of the truck and car escaped without any serious injury.

The truck in which Davis, Ellis and Axley were riding was completely demolished. It turned over several times and tore down a number of mail boxes which stood beside the road. The Cover car switched to the left, ran upon the embankment and turned over. The damage is estimated at several hundred dollars.

POULTRY BUSINESS IN CLAY COUNTY

Willard R. Anderson County Agent

Hayesville, Feb. 1.—The outstanding thing in Clay County is two flocks, of a little over 100 hens each, producing a crate of eggs a week. These flocks belong to Bob Crawford, of Elf Community, and Will Winchester, of Hayesville. I dropped into see Mr. Crawford this week, to see how his flock was coming on, and found that out of 114 Leghorn hens he was getting as high as 67 eggs a day, and averaging over 52 a day, being a crate a week. He was disturbed at the price paid him at the store for his eggs. He was paid only 24c per dozen for 40 doz. the week before. So I advised that he ship directly to Asheville, as he would have a crate each week and that they would go as fresh yard eggs.

I dropped into see Mr. Winchester one night this week, to see how his flock was laying. His flock of 105 white Leghorn are laying as high as 65 eggs a day and averaging 55 eggs, or a crate a week. He, too, was not satisfied with the local price, so I suggested that he try crate shipment to Asheville. The time is near at hand for an egg shipping association in Clay County.

Mr. Winchester received his baby chicks, from which this flock was developed, May 25, 1925, when Clay County was purchasing 12000 baby chicks. He began to get eggs about the 15th of November (5 1/2 months) and in November he produced 15 doz. eggs, in December he got 100 doz. eggs, in January 130 doz.

Nothing like this has ever happened in Clay County before, as the greatest interest ever in being manifested in poultry. It looks as if Clay County will go forward in the poultry business, in the next year considerably.

A BUSY TIME

The Senior boys have been a busy bunch this week. The roadway being constructed by them is under way and the only thing to be seen on the campus is teams, a tractor, and a bunch of working seniors.

Nearly all the roadway has been scraped and soon the rock foundation will be laid. Before we knew it the road will be surfaced and one of the greatest monuments of any class will be completed. It will not only be a great monument to the present senior class but a great help to the future. —Enota Echoes