

The Cherokee Scout

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GAME OF FRAUD IS PERPETRATED ON MURPHY FOLK

Matthews Claimed He Was Representative of Lumber Company Sent Here to Operate Plant

A man parading under the name of C. L. Matthews, accompanied by a small boy whom he claimed to be his twelve year old son, Lewis Matthews, and posing as a representative of the Gennett Lumber Company, of Asheville, in the opinion of a number of Murphy citizens and business houses, has perpetrated a game of fraud upon them, it was learned here this week.

On January 10th, the Cherokee Company, a large lumber concern with extensive holdings at Murphy and Shulls Mills, N. C., was sold at a public sale by trustees in Wilmington, Delaware. Much interest was manifested in the sale of these properties by the people of Murphy and this section, and a ray of hope is held out that the plant will soon begin operation.

Shortly after the sale, at a time when everybody was asking such questions as "Who bought it?" "When is it going to start?" etc., Matthews and his son came to Murphy. He registered at one of the hotels, claiming to be a representative of the Gennett Lumber Company, of Asheville, which company had bought the Cherokee Company, and he had been sent to begin operation of the plant here.

With his knowledge of the company, its holdings here and at Shulls Mills, which is said to have been thorough, this was the only recommendation or introduction Matthews needed. His demeanor was that of a lumberman and polished gentlemen, and he dressed the part of the lumberman.

As a consequence, plans for beginning the operation of the plant was made, work to begin on a certain Monday morning. The services of men and trucks were secured. The first work to be undertaken would be the renovating and repairing the dilapidated condition of the buildings and plant. Every detail of arrangements was made with a precision that gave every assurance of the plant going into operation.

In the meantime, Matthews made numerous purchases at different business houses, and on the strength of his activity, was advanced credit by a number of them. The purchases were all small, none of them amounting to more than two or three dollars.

He left the hotel at which he was stopping on Friday morning, taking his small son with him, saying that he was going to Asheville but would return Sunday night.

When Monday morning rolled around, the much abused dinner pail was again in evidence at the big plant as workmen, trucks and drivers appeared ready to begin work, but Matthews was not there. A policy of watchful waiting was adopted. Noon came and still he had not shown up. The day passed, night came on, and Mr. Matthews was getting to be more conspicuous by his absence.

Some thought he had missed his train. Others believed him to be sick, an accident occurred, etc. Surely a man with his knowledge of the bankrupt company's affairs, his precision, business like tactics, genial disposition, would have returned unless some unforeseen disaster had not befallen him.

After several days, someone addressed a letter to the Gennett Lumber Company. They replied:

"Beg to advise that we do not know Mr. C. L. Matthews nor his son, Lewis Matthews. Furthermore, we have not bought the Cherokee Lumber Mills, and have nobody in that territory representing us."

Bing! went the bubble. And a number of citizens here are complimenting their stars that it did not assume larger proportions before the bing came.

600 GALLONS OF BEER AND 2 STILL ARE DESTROYED

Moonshiners and Bootleggers Given Set-Back by Sheriff Birchfield and Deputies

Operators participating in the gentle and profitable past time of manufacturing and selling moonshine liquor were given a sudden and serious set-back this week by Sheriff D. M. Birchfield and Deputies J. L. Rose and Avery Pullum, when they destroyed two forty gallon stills, 600 gallons of beer and 15 gallons of liquor.

Tuesday Sheriff Birchfield and Deputy Rose destroyed six hundred gallons of beer in the mountains on Hiwassee river about ten miles below Murphy. The officers arrived upon the scene about noon only to find that the blockaders had gotten away with the still shortly before. A boat was used to transport the still across the river. Deputy Rose continued the search for the missing outfit and Sheriff Birchfield returned to Murphy.

Picking up the trail where they crossed the river, Deputy Rose found the still and 15 gallons of whiskey in a clump of bushes on the river bank some distance from the site of operation. The still and whiskey were brought to Murphy, the still locked in the "relic" room of the jail and the whiskey poured out.

Wednesday morning, Deputy Avery Pullum found a forty gallon capacity outfit hid in some bushes about two miles northwest of Andrews. Further search of the vicinity revealed that a number of empty beer and mash barrels were hid about 100 yards from the still. The officer who was accompanied by Reuben Rector, searched the premises of a dwelling some two yards from where the find was made. A mash stick and a number of containers were found in the barn. Sam Burchfield is said to be living in the house, but no one was there at the time of the raid. Arrests are expected to be made in this case.

Sheriff Birchfield and his deputies have been aggressive in their campaign against manufacturers and retailers of this contraband product since their inception into office last December. A short time ago they captured and destroyed two stills and 1800 gallons of beer in the Unaka section of the county, these two being located within a half mile of each other.

KNOXVILLE MAN KILLED WHILE AT WORK

Funeral of Joe E. Bates Will Be Held Today

Joe E. Bates, 49, 1213 Forest avenue, Knoxville, track foreman for the Coal Good Coal Co., Coal Good, Ky., was instantly killed while at his post Tuesday at 2 p. m.

The body arrived in Knoxville Wednesday afternoon at 3:55 o'clock over the Southern Railway and was taken to the Weaver funeral home.

Surviving are the widow, formerly Miss Ora McClure; two sons, Clifton and Algie also two daughters, Thethel and Edna Bates; his father, S. W. Bates, Murphy, I. C.; one brother, Roland Bates, Fonde, Ky.; one sister, Mrs. Lou Rogers, Murphy, N. C. Mr. Bates was converted earlier in life.

He was a member of the Masonic fraternity and Masons will have charge of the funeral exercises at the grave.

Funeral services will be conducted from the Second M. E. church this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, with Rev. George J. Creswell, pastor officiating. Burial will be in Woodlawn cemetery.

FIRE DESTROYS PLANT CHEROKEE ROLLER MILLS

Damage Estimated At \$8,000—Fire Department Keeps Flames From Spreading

Fire of unknown origin early Wednesday morning destroyed the Cherokee Roller Mills, manufacturers of flour, meal, etc., in the ice plant section, doing damage estimated at around \$8,000.

The conflagration was noticed about 1:30 in the morning, and had then enveloped the building. The fire department was roused out of bed and was soon on the scene, but little could be done to save the building, or fixtures, which were completely destroyed. However, the fire department was instrumental in keeping the flames from spreading to several buildings close by. The garage of J. C. Townson was partly burned.

It is understood that the building was covered by insurance. It was owned by Julius McClure and Luther Gentry.

Mr. Townson said he was grateful to the fire department and neighbors for the help and assistance in saving his home and other building close by, as he did not have any insurance.

L. E. MAUNEY'S LEG BROKEN BY SPEEDING AUTO

Prof. L. E. Mauney was carried to a Knoxville Hospital Tuesday morning with a broken leg, sustained when he was struck by a speeding automobile Sunday night shortly after six o'clock.

Prof. Mauney, who is 79 years old, was walking along to one side of the road when struck by the car, which did not slow up or stop. H. H. Hickman, in front of whose house the accident occurred, heard a crash and remarked to his wife that two cars had collided. When he came upon the scene a car was seen speeding north toward Andrews. He found Mr. Mauney lying by the side of the road in the rain and secured the aid of other neighbors and carried Mr. Mauney to his home which was a short distance away, where he was given medical attention. His left leg was badly crushed just above the ankle, both bones being broken and the skin lacerated.

The police were notified and immediately gave chase. Chief Cearley and Deputy Sneed arrested two men in a car answering the description given by Mr. Mauney, at Regal. The men had broken down and were being towed to Andrews by another car. Eleven quarts of whiskey were found on the car, three quarts having been broken as they attempted to throw it from the car to the side of the road. It is believed that this car was the one which struck Mr. Mauney, as it had a bent radiator and front light. A man by the name of Dillard and one Ulus Brown were occupants of the whiskey car. Brown is said to have been in an intoxicated condition.

Prof. Mauney's condition is said to be serious, although he is resting nicely. He is one of the most prominent citizens of the county, and it is feared, because of his age, that the bones will not knit well. Mr. Mauney did not take any anaesthetic while his leg was being set, but gave directions and said he wanted it set right regardless of the pain.

It was decided to carry him to Knoxville Tuesday morning where he could receive treatment under the direction of his son, who owns and operates two of the leading hospitals there.

SUPERIOR COURT CLOSES 2 WEEKS CIVIL TERM

Adjournment Tuesday Follows Completion of Calendar; Several Motions Carried Over

Cherokee County Superior Court adjourned Tuesday after having completed the calendar, with the exception of a number of motions. This was a two weeks term of civil court and was presided over by Judge A. M. Stack.

Mrs. Missie Picklesimer was awarded a judgment of \$1,000.00 against the L. & N. Railway Company for failure to comply with schedules. Mrs. Picklesimer was coming to Murphy to attend the funeral of her mother, but on account of the train being several hours late, she claimed her mother's body was buried before she could arrive. The case was appealed by the railway company.

Harve Rose was given \$164.84 by the court as a laborer's lien judgment against the Hiwassee Lumber Company.

W. H. Ledford, by his next best friend W. E. Ledford, was given a judgment of \$3,000.00 for personal injuries against the Tallassee Power Company. The case was appealed.

W. M. Ramsey was awarded a judgment of \$100 for personal injury against the Gulf Refining Company.

T. P. Rogers and E. M. Clayton were winners in a boundary line dispute with John Rogers.

Madge E. Cornwell and others were winners in a boundary line dispute with B. F. Jones.

The case of Mrs. L. P. Kimsey against the Woodbury Lumber Company resulted in a mistrial.

The boundary line dispute between H. T. Stiles and John Foister was settled by consent.

T. L. Blaylock, by consent judgment was given \$1500.00 by the Southern Iron Company for personal injuries.

W. M. Webb, was given a judgment for \$1,750.00 against the Howard Construction Company for assault and false imprisonment.

Lee Owenby was awarded judgment for \$1,500.00 against the Tallassee Power Company for personal injuries. The case was appealed.

A. T. Roby, by a consent judgment, was given \$100.00 by J. R. Crye.

Helen Orr was granted a divorce from C. V. Orr.

In the case of Asa Adams against the Whiting Manufacturing Company, over a tract of land, the decision was rendered in favor of Whiting.

R. H. Wright & Son, by consent, were given \$650.00 by the Regal Blue Marble Company for failure to deliver crushed stone.

The boundary line dispute between H. T. Gaddis and H. T. Cotter was settled by consent.

The case of Loudermilk against the Wofford-Terrell Company resulted in a judgment of non-suit.

The court ordered a re-sale of the land in dispute in the case of F. P. Cover & Son against Leah Hunnicutt and others.

W. P. Payne was given a judgment in his favor in the boundary dispute with W. M. Brannon.

The case of David Kidd against Andy Whitner resulted in a judgment of non-suit.

The case of the Bank of Murphy against Walker, Davis and Axley resulted in a judgment of non-suit as to Davis.

Georgian Heard By Murphy Folk At Two Services

Dr. J. R. Anderson, of LaFayette, Ga., preached at the morning and evening services at the Presbyterian church Sunday with the prospect of being called to the pastorate of this church. While the congregation has taken no official action with regard

WITT SECURES AGENCY FOR 3 W.N.C. COUNTIES

To Handle Hudson-Essex for Cherokee, Clay and Graham, With Headquarters at Murphy

Announcement was made this week that Walter C. Witt had been selected as agent for Hudson and Essex motor cars for Cherokee, Clay and Graham counties, with headquarters at Murphy. Mr. Witt expects to appoint sub agents in Clay and Graham counties, it is said.

A garage and show rooms will be located in East Murphy, and the building is now under construction. A general repair shop will be conducted in connection with the agency, and oils, gasoline, tires, tubes and accessories will be handled.

The repairing department will be in charge of a first class mechanic who will be furnished by the distributing branch for Western North Carolina, Mr. Witt stated.

Mr. Witt has been investigating the Hudson-Essex proposition for some time and is particularly enthusiastic about both makes. He looks for substantial business from the first, and his friends bespeak him success in his latest undertaking.

Marble Lodge Installs Officers

The international extension program announced recently by officers of the Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias, will, in a large measure, direct the activities of Marble K. of P. Lodge, according to Chancellor Commander W. E. Robinson who was recently installed with eight other officers of the lodge to direct the work of the Pythian fraternity in Marble during the year. The program, includes among other activities a definite plan to increase the social features, quicken interest in community service and to make a stronger appeal to worthy citizens to become members of the order. The lodge has set as a mark in the increase of its membership under the general plan announced by the Supreme Lodge to secure a twenty per cent net gain during the year.

Commenting on the outline for the new year, Chancellor Commander W. E. Robinson said: "The program is intended to make the lodge a real factor in the life of the community and to aid in the extension of the benefits of fraternal membership by performing its share in the great national movement. The movement is supported by nearly one million members in the United States and Canada. We have over 6,400 lodges and it is the purpose of the program of activity to make every one of these lodges the center of fraternal accomplishment in performing the service for which the fraternity was founded—to make better homes and better communities in which to live."

The following officers were installed January 8, 1927:

Chancellor Commander, W. E. Robinson; Vice Chancellor, E. E. Robinson; Master of Finance, J. A. Parker; Master at Arms, John Creaseman; Keeper of Records and Seal, W. J. Barton; Master of Works, Edwin Welch; Prelate, James Bryson; Outer Guard, Ernest Cook; Inner Guard, R. D. Almond.

to calling Mr. Anderson, many members expressed delight with him and his two services and he seems to be favorably impressed with the church and the town. It is, therefore, regarded likely that Dr. Anderson will be called to the pastorate of the Murphy church and that such a call would be acceptable to him. The church here has been without a pastor since December 1, when its minister, Rev. E. G. Clary accepted a call to the church at Smyrna, Ga.