

The Cherokee Scout

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REV. SASSER ACCEPTS CALL TO REIDSVILLE

Was Pastor Of Murphy Baptist Church For More Than Five Years

Rev. T. L. Sasser, who has been pastor of the First Baptist church here since April 25, 1923, preached his last sermon to his congregation at union services conducted at the Baptist church Sunday night. The Rev. Mr. Powell, pastor of the Methodist church and Dr. J. P. Anderson, pastor of the Presbyterian church, officiated at the services.

Mr. Sasser came to Murphy from Candler, near Asheville, five years and seven months ago, and his ministry here has been unusually successful from many standpoints.

At the time he entered the pulpit of the local church, the Home Mission Board was paying part of the pastor's salary, and the Baptist church was considered as the weakest numerically and financially of the churches of Murphy. A census was taken a short time after Mr. Sasser began his work here and revealed that there were more Baptists living within the scope of the local church than there were all other denominations combined. This census also revealed that the church financially was well able to take care of itself, and it was not long afterward until the Home Mission Board's assistance was dispensed with, and the pastor's salary supplemented and raised.

During his more than five years leadership, the Baptists of Murphy, raised more than seven thousand dollars a year and built a modern building capable of taking care of the expansion of the church for a good many years. The amount named does not include pastor's salary, local church expenses, nor the Baptist co-operative program. This within itself, is considered by some as almost a miracle.

The Sunday school was also placed upon the standard of excellence prescribed by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, and the school was the first Baptist school to attain this standard in North Carolina west of Asheville.

Numerically, the church membership has more than doubled under his leadership. In April, 1923, when Mr. Sasser assumed his duties as pastor, the church had a membership of 162. During his ministry, 121 new members have been received by baptism, and 185 by letters, making a total of 468, or an increase of 306 members. During that time, the membership losses were: by death, 8; by letter 96; leaving the present membership of the church at 372.

The First Baptist church, of Reidsville, one of the largest churches of the denomination in the State, recently called Mr. Sasser to come to their church as pastor, and next Sunday morning he preaches his first sermon in his new field. He, Mrs. Sasser and little son, Tom, left Tuesday morning for their new home.

During the services Sunday night, the Rev. Mr. Powell presented Rev. Sasser with a beautiful new Bible as a parting gift from the church choir.

It is with great regret that the community bid Mr. Sasser good bye, for no one has ever been a resident of Murphy who is more universally esteemed and loved than Mr. Sasser, and the good wishes of members of all the denominations go with him to his new field.

The church has not decided as yet whom to call to fill the ministry left vacant by Mr. Sasser.

The Murphy Methodist Bulletin carried the following on last Sunday

We will worship at the Baptist church this evening for the union service, which will be the last ser-

Will Santa Turn a Deaf Ear To This?

Warne, N. C., Dec. 5, 1923.

Dear Santa Claus:—

I will drop you a few lines to-night. Christmas is drawing near. I would be glad to shake hands with Santa Claus one time. I would enjoy coming to Murphy to shake hands with him. I am an orphan girl and orphan children hardly ever get anything for Christmas. There are five of us, two boys and three girls. Our father is dead and mother crippled, can't walk a step. We would be pleased with most anything. We haven't enjoyed a Christmas since our father died and our mother hasn't been able to work and buy us anything. Dear Santa Claus when you get to Warne postoffice you can inquire for McKeechan's. I sure wish you would come so I will close hoping you will come to see us Christmas.

Yours truly,
Ruby McKeechan,
Warne, N. C.

GREETINGS

This issue of the Scout is putting in its appearance rather late in the week, but we hope our readers enjoy it so that any disappointment in its late appearance will be offset.

The force has had an exceptionally "heavy" week. We published one paper—The Enotah Echoes—in eight pages, which was four extra pages; The Clay County News in twelve pages, which was four extra pages; and The Scout in eighteen pages which is ten extra—or a total of eighteen extra pages—besides doing the regular job work—and all this week—with two men and a general roustabout.

Here is your Christmas Shopping Edition. Look it over, and thank with our advertisers. Let them and their suggestions offered in this issue help you solve your Christmas shopping problems. And don't forget to read the message of this paper printed on the back of the colored cover, and we hope you take that message to heart in the spirit of that good old rosy faced, big hearted, prince of good fellows—Santa Claus.

The whole Scout Force—editor, operator, pressman, and devil—wish each of you and all our friends and customers A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

HALL BUYS OUT MURPHY LAUND'Y

Raymond Hall, of Durham, an expert laundryman of wide experience, has purchased the Murphy Steam Laundry and assumed charge of the operation this week. Mr. and Mrs. Hall have moved to Murphy and are occupying the Fred Johnson residence in East Murphy.

Mr. Hall comes to Murphy highly recommended as a laundryman. He has been in charge of the Durham County Home for several years, and operated a laundry in connection with the home. Previous to this, he was connected with some of the largest and leading laundries in this part of the country, and his wide experience well benefits him to give Murphy and this section first class service in the laundry business.

He brought with him to Murphy several experienced employees, which is also an assurance of expert workmanship. Mr. Hall plans, as soon as he gets familiar with the laundry here and the business well in hand, to install new machinery in order to increase the efficiency of the plant and to put it on a par with the best small laundries in the country.

vice during the pastorate of Reverend T. L. Sasser.

Rev. T. L. Sasser, who for the past five years has been the pastor of the Baptist church of Murphy, will go next week to become pastor of the First Baptist church of Reidsville, N. C. Rev. Mr. Sasser is to be congratulated upon this call to one of the leading churches of his denomination. The members of the Baptist church of Murphy should feel equally proud of the progress which they have made during his pastorate here. To have encouraged him in developing the baility meriting such a promotion in his field of service, should encourage continued enthusiasm on the part of the membership of the church from which he goes.

MURPHY TO HAVE COMMUNITY TREE

Plans Yuletide Event For Cherokee County

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE WILL BE ERECTED ON SQUARE FOR CELEBRATION ON DEC. 24

A community Christmas celebration, featured by a huge, decorated Christmas tree and in charge of Santa Claus himself, will be staged here in Murphy on Christmas Eve through the cooperation of the Sunday schools of the several churches in Murphy and civic organizations. The suggestion for a community Christmas tree was first raised by the Murphy Welfare Board at its regular monthly meeting on December 6. Tentative plans were made and Mrs. Cathleen W. Warren, Superintendent of Public Welfare, is now making the necessary arrangements in anticipation of the event.

A suitable tree, decorated with strings of colored lights and a variety of Christmas ornaments, will be placed in the center of the "Moose Pen" on the town square, according to the plans. Mayor Cooper is enthusiastic over the celebration and he thinks the town will furnish the lights and city police aid in directing the traffic about the square on the day of the celebration. The Murphy Music Club will sponsor the musical program arranged for the occasion. The choirs of the various churches and children from the Murphy public schools will be massed together for the singing of Christmas carols and recitations at the tree.

Mrs. C. W. Savage, president of the Music Club, will have charge of the music and she is now organizing groups of voices to participate in the program. It is planned to have printed a selection of popular Christmas carols for distribution among the Sunday schools and the public, in order that all may join in the singing at the tree.

The churches of Murphy are ex-

VALLEY RIVER GOLD MINING AREA TO BE ACTIVE IN EARLY SPRING

Leaves Murphy



Rev. T. L. Sasser, pastor of the Murphy Baptist church for the past five years, who was called to the First Baptist church at Reidsville.

FREAK FOWLS SAVED FROM XMAS ROASTER

Cross Between Chicken and Turkey Purchased By Ira Butt For Breeding Purposes

Two freak fowls, the offsprings of a turkey gopher and a Rhode Island hen, were perhaps saved from the Christmas roasting pan this week when they were purchased by V. I. Butt, of the Cherokee Hardware Company, for breeding purposes.

The fowls were brought to Murphy by B. M. Payne, of Birch, who sold them to the W. M. Fain Grocery Company, local wholesale merchants, and of course, when this company buys fowls of any kind they are headed straight for the frying pan. Perhaps this is where these two freaks would have opened their eyes in bird heaven had not Ira Butt butted in.

The two fowls attracted much attention in the wholesale district. They have the body feathers of a chicken, and their heads are like chicken's heads, but their breast feathers and long crooked necks closely resemble necks of turkeys.

Thomas Robinson brought to this office last week a freak apple, or the Siamese Twins in Apples. They were well developed, although small and were joined together at the stem. He said he found this freak while gathering some apples from the orchard.

pected to provide Christmas bags for their children, to be distributed at the tree and the merchants and business men of Murphy will be asked to donate fruits and candies or money with which to make up bags for the rural children. Provision is being made to take care of two hundred children from the country between the ages of one and twelve. The Sunday schools will issue cards to their children and the rural children under twelve years of age are requested to register their names with Mr. R. H. Hyatt, deputy clerk of Court, in his office at the county court house. Cards will be given them by Mr. Hyatt. Parents may register for their children but the children must attend the celebration in order to receive their package. The cards are donated through the courtesy of the Cherokee Scout.

The coming Yuletide celebration will be Murphy's first attempt of this kind, and all citizens are cordially invited to participate in making it a success in every respect. Wholesome amusement and recreation is good for the soul, and it is hoped that this event will make many a heart glad this Christmas time.

CINCINNATI MEN FORM COMPANY DREDGE SECTION

Three Months Testing Of Mineral Ore Proves Worth (Special to the Citizen)

ANDREWS, N. C., Dec. 6.—Three large suction dredges will start to work in the early spring in the Valley River section of Cherokee County in the gold mining area, according to announcement today by Geo. W. Cook, of Cincinnati, who has just completed three months of prospecting with an experimental dredge.

Mr. Cook, after several visits to this section, became interested in the value of mineral deposits, and as a result formed what is known as the Valley River Holding Company. The experimental work has been carried on on the farms of John and B. B. Palmer, five miles west of Andrews.

It is not unknown to the people of Valley River that placer mining for gold has been carried on from time to time since the years before the Civil War but times have changed, methods have changed and a new day is dawning.

California Miner
Mr. Cook, a native of California, and who was educated in the mining schools of Nevada and who has seen much of the mining surface of the world has been attracted by the mineral reports of North Carolina and became interested in the placer gold mining interests of Valley River. He has made the following statement:

"Being a native of California and having received an education in the mining schools of Nevada I have watched mining and prospecting in almost every semi-civilized country in the world including South America, Peru, Nicaragua, Guatamala, Mexico, Australia, South Africa, Siberia, China and Alaska.

"Travel and education have given me a wide knowledge of the subject of mining. While in North Carolina on business I first became aware of the mineral resources of the State. On my return to Cincinnati I examined the State mineral reports back to the first copies that were published and found to my surprise that the gold content of the gravel of Valley River was rated in the State reports at \$19 a yard.

Interest Aroused
"This aroused my interest further and I made another trip to Andrews, spending considerable time and money testing gravel in various parts of the river. The information gained enabled me to interest Cincinnati capital sufficient to form the Valley River Holding company and put on an experimental unit to work on the farms of John and B. B. Palmer five miles west of Andrews.

"The results of the experiment so far is that the Valley River Holding company will start work in the spring with three large suction dredges to work the property they have leased. The results of three months of prospecting with the experimental dredge I have installed, proves that it is sufficient as a gold saver and makes me feel with all confidence that the company will realize a large profit for the money invested."

It is understood that several men from Cincinnati will be here the latter part of this week to look over the section.

DR. J. A. SHARP IN MURPHY THIS WEEK

Dr. J. A. Sharp, president of Young Harris College, who has been in an Atlanta hospital for the past several months, was shaking hands with his Murphy friends one day this week. The Doctor looks strong and healthy again and his many friends are glad to know that he is back again in harness at the college.