

The Cherokee Scout

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CHRISTMAS TREE HELD AT MURPHY

Community Affair Is Success In Cherokee; Kids Made Happy

(Special to the Citizen)
MURPHY, Dec. 29.—A community Christmas tree was held here on Christmas day for the benefit of all children in Murphy and Cherokee County under the age of 12 years.

The huge tree was placed in the middle of the square, and hundreds of children from all sections of the county were made happy by gifts presented them. Many children, whose parents were unable to provide gifts for them, were taken care of through the community tree.

When the merchants of Murphy in co-operation with members of the Woman's Club and other civic organizations began preparation for the event, a register was provided at the court house, and all children in the city and county under the age of 12 were asked to register their names.

The list of names was then taken and a gift prepared for each one, and their names called out during the distribution of gifts at the tree Christmas Day.

This was the first time the community Christmas tree idea was ever carried out here, and the success of the initial attempt was such that organizations now plan to make it an annual event.

UNCLE BENT MASON PASSES A WAY

After nearly three months of weakness and suffering Uncle Bent, as everybody knew him and called him, came down to the last hour of his life here on earth. He had lived to a ripe age, and was admired by every one who knew him. If some one could have told Uncle Bent he would die on the last day of the year in 1928, he would probably have thought as we might think, that isn't for other people to know. This kind of telling belongs to one who knows and understands human nature.

Mr. Mason lived to be eighty years old, and has always been a hard working man. He has exposed himself to many cold and damp days to work in order to gain a livelihood for his family. He is known by all as an honest, upright citizen of the land. Dr. Meroney says he has known Uncle Bent Mason for sixty or more years, and that he has always been an honest, law-abiding citizen. Mr. Mason always preferred Dr. Meroney to Dr. Patton if he happened to be sick. His death was probably due to heart trouble and T. B., it is learned.

Mr. Mason married Elizabeth Flemming, a sister to Uncle Ben Flemming. To them were born four children: Mr. Will Mason, living; Mr. Jim Mason, dead; Mrs. Ada Zimmerman, living; and Mrs. Ida Teems, living.

The writer was privileged to visit Mr. Mason and talk with him for a good while some few days ago. He talked a great deal of the untold future, but was not as sure of his chances for heaven as he would like to be but he admitted that one should fix all these things up with the Almighty before he got ready to depart for the other world.

Mr. Mason was not a veteran of the Civil War, but would have had to gone if the war had continued. He has perhaps had as many struggles and trials as some who fought in that war, but they are over now, and he has gone to his rest and abode to await his rewards.

"Our fathers to their graves have gone,

Their trials have passed, their triumphs are won;

But greater tasks await the race

Which come to take their honored place—

A moral warfare with the crime.

And folly of an evil time.

But let that be in God's sight,

We gird for us the coming fight;

And strong in Him whose cause is ours,

In conflict with unholy powers—

We grasp the weapons He has given

The truth and light and love of Heaven."

Miss Blanche Clements, of Asheville.

JAMES E. GRAHAM PASSES AT LETITIA

James E. Graham, 80 years old, veteran of the Federal Army in the War Between the States, died at his home at Letitia, on December 27th, and funeral was held at the Ranger Baptist church on Saturday, December 29th. Rev. Fred Stiles conducting the funeral service, assisted by Rev. N. O. Kilpatrick.

Mr. Graham had been sick for about two weeks with influenza. He was a member of the Baptist church for many years, and had served his community as a Justice of the Peace for several years. He was also a member of the Montgomery Lodge of the Masonic Order, at Ranger, and was at one time an officer of the lodge, and was buried with full Masonic honors. He was greatly loved and respected by his friends and neighbors.

He is survived by four sons and two daughters.

FOLKS WORTH WHILE IN W. N. C.

Colonel G. H. Haigler has the reputation in Clay County of being, the friend of the man who is trying, but who needs money to make his efforts bear fruit. Colonel Haigler is the cashier of the Clay County Bank at Hayesville.

He has always had a very deep interest in all things looking to the development of his community, and especially the uplifting of his fellow man. His friends say of him that it is his nature to help others to climb upward.

Twenty years ago Mr. Haigler organized and put into operation the Clay County Bank; at that time he was made cashier and has continued in this office ever since. The bank has had a steady growth under his leadership.

Mr. Haigler recognizes any one that is trying to do for himself, especially the farmer of Clay County; he has been instrumental in bringing many of the pure-bred jersey cows into the county. If a farmer wishes to go into the dairy business he can usually get help from Colonel Haigler.

For 49 years Mr. Haigler has served as a steward and Sunday school superintendent of the Hayesville Methodist church. He is always at church and his class starts on time.

Mr. Haigler was born on Peachtree creek, in Cherokee County, in the year 1855, the son of R. I. and Elizabeth Haigler. He attended public school in Murphy, having attained an education about equal to the high school of this time, being farther advanced in some lines and not so far in others.

When 20 years old a team ran away with him, and badly mangled his left thigh and has been afflicted to some extent since.

At the age of about 23 years he married Miss Molly Pass, daughter of Richard S. Pass, of Clay County, this couple has reared nine children, all of whom are grown, and hold responsible positions.

Mr. Haigler was teacher in the Hayesville High school for two years after leaving here, then county superintendent of education for three terms. The most striking point about this office was that it paid only \$60.00 per year at that time, and it now pays \$1,800.00 per year. He served as county commissioner for two terms, was then appointed postmaster at Hayesville during Garfield's administration and served for 13 years; he was also United States commissioner much of the time.

Mr. Haigler is an omnivorous reader, he possesses of the of the best libraries in this section of the country.

He loves his fox race just as well as any younger man and goes out regular on the chases.

CHASTAIN BALLEW

Mr. John Chastain, of Murphy Route 2, and Miss Vesta Ballew, of Martin's Creek, were happily married on Christmas Day by Rev. Fred Stiles. The wedding ceremony took place a few hundred yards across the N. C. Ga. states line, since he had secured his license in Georgia, in the presence of a few close friends. They are making their home for the present with the groom's father.

WILL DISPLAY 1929 PONTIAC AT N. Y. SHOW

PONTIAC, Mich., Jan. 4.—First public showing of the new Pontiac Six for 1929 is scheduled to take place at the opening of the New York Automobile Show on Saturday, January 5, the Oakland Motor Company announced here today.

Following the New York Show this newest General Motors car, widely heralded as offering "big car features within the price range of the small six," will be placed on exhibition at dealer showrooms throughout the country as fast as dealers can be supplied with display models, it was stated.

The new Pontiac will share fourth place at the New York show with its companion car, the new Oakland All-American Six, thus indicating the rapid rise of the Oakland Motor Car company to the volume field.

Exhibitors at the Show are allotted display space in the order of their rating based upon the dollar value of their car sales as compiled by the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce for a twelve-month period.

From twelfth place in 1927 and eighth place last year, the Oakland Motor Car company has passed eight competitors in only two years to take fourth place at the 1929 show, its aggregate sales for the year ending last June having been exceeded by only three other manufacturers.

While its comparative standing in the industry was rapidly climbing, the annual output of the Oakland-Pontiac plant wash showing a corresponding gain. In 1926 the total volume was 134,000 cars; in 1927, 193,000, and this year it is estimated at 260,000 Oakland and Pontiac Sixes.

That 1929 will show further increase by the warm public reception of the new Oakland line, and the many refinements promised in the new Pontiac, which Oakland officials are confident will make it more than ever a public favorite.

The first of the new Pontiac models rolled off the end of the assembly line here the latter part of December, with others following in quick succession so that all of the 5,000 dealers in the domestic organization of the company may be able to exhibit the new line in their territories within the next few weeks.

NEW MILL FOR MURPHY

E. E. Stiles and A. J. Ramsay have purchased the lot from Carl Townson near the ice plant formerly occupied by J. H. McClure and Luther Gentry which burned down some time ago and are putting up a new building and are putting in a modern electric corn mill and crusher which they intend to open near January 15 which will be operated under the firm name of Stiles & Ramsey. They will also put in some groceries and feedstuff.

The following is an extract of a letter from Rev. T. L. Sasser:

We have been most hospitably received here, and have had special attention by the people during the last three days during which Tom has developed pneumonia and is seriously ill. The doctor says his symptoms are less alarming today than yesterday, and he seems to be responding favorably and to the treatment. There is an epidemic of flu and pneumonia here as in other places.

A card later stated that Little Tom was recovering rapidly.

The following item was clipped from the Lakeland (Florida) Evening Ledger:

Dr. and Mrs. H. N. Wells of Murphy, N. C., have returned to spend the season and are located at 407 North Kentucky avenue. Dr. Wells is a retired physician and has been here five or six times, while this is Mrs. Wells' second session here.

Mr. and Mrs. William A. Taylor of Reidville, N. C.

Murphy Scouts To Edit Cherokee Scout

The Murphy Boy Scout troop, under the leadership of Rev. Howard P. Powell, Scout Master, will edit The Cherokee Scout during the week of January 20-26. They will receive a share of the proceeds of the paper during that week for their services, and have planned for a special edition featuring Boy Scout Work and advertising the advantages of Murphy and this section.

During this particular week, the editor plans to attend the annual North Carolina Newspaper Institute at Chapel Hill, and The Scouts will have complete charge of The Scout, and we sincerely hope the people, merchants, business and professional men of the county and community will co-operate with them in making this particular paper one that will not only be helpful to The Boy Scouts but to the section as well.

We feel sure that they will give to the community something that is worth while, and do it in a big way.

Herd Of Elk Bought To Stock Refugees In Mountain Areas

One of the last herds of elk in the Southern mountains is to be taken over by the State Department of Conservation and Development for stocking game refugees in North Carolina.

Following a recent meeting of the Game committee of the Board of Conservation and Development, Director Wade H. Phillips announced that the purchase of 15 elk on the Hooper Bald preserve in Graham County has been authorized.

According to reports reaching the Department this herd is the remnant of a number of these animals stocked by English sportsmen in the wild mountain land before the World War, at which time various other species were placed in the area, including wild boar and other animals.

Following the outbreak of hostilities, according to the account of those from that section, the owners of the preserve went home and the preserve was left in the hands of a keeper. The old refuge is said to have consisted of about 1,2000 acres of land, surrounded by a high enclosure.

According to plans of the Department, the elk will be rounded up and transferred to State Game Refuges in an effort to revive for the future the coveted sport of hunting this magnificent animal. The elk is a native to the mountains in Western North Carolina, but like some other valuable species has almost become extinct. With the exception of a few on refuges of that section, including the Daniel Boone sanctuary, there remains no trace of elk in the section that was once so plentifully supplied.

Members of the Game Committee who attended the meeting included: Fred I. Sutton, chairman, Kinston; F. S. Worthy, Washington; J. Q. Gilkey, Marion; Director Phillips; and State Game Warden Chas. H. England.

Two employees of the postoffice personnel at Murphy are indisposed at present. Carrier J. K. Axley is in a Statesville Hospital where he underwent an operation for appendicitis, and Clerk Richard Meroney is ill with pneumonia. However, both Mr. Axley and Mr. Meroney are getting along nicely, and their many friends hope to see them back on the job soon.

A business transaction whereby Hadley Dickey and Sheridan Dickey became owners of the Meroney building on Tennessee Street just off the public square, was consummated on December 26th. This building is one of the most desirable business houses in town, and is two stories, of brick construction, and they plan to rent it. It was formerly occupied by Greene Grocery and shortly before by Christopher's Dry Goods store, which two businesses have been discontinued.

Mr. E. E. Stiles and family have moved to Murphy. He has purchased

CARS OVERTURN INTO HIAWASSEE

Two Men Escape With Only A Wetting

Pitt Carter, a machinist employed at W. B. Fisher's garage, drove to Hiawasse, Ga., on Wednesday night intending to return before morning. On the return trip, when within two miles of Murphy, the car suddenly skidded and headed for the river, landing upside down in the water. Carter broke his way through the windows of the car and crawled out uninjured.

He struck out for Murphy and met up with a Mr. Harkness of that place, who suggested that Carter go to his home for the remainder of the night and retrieve the car the next day. Before going on to Murphy, Harkness drove back to the place where Carter's car had gone into the river. At the same point on the highway his car skidded and landed in the river not fifty feet from where Carter's car rested.

In the darkness it was not possible to regain the cars, so the two men walked to Murphy in their wet clothing, chilled to the marrow. Yesterday morning a wrecking car was sent out from Fisher's and brought the cars in, when it was found that no great damage had resulted.

NO SERVICES AT CHURCHES SUNDAY

Due to the fact that the temporary emergency measure by the Town Health authorities prohibiting public meetings has not been lifted, there will be no services at any of the churches next Sunday, according to advices received just before going to press.

The Murphy Public schools will not open until January 14th for the spring term, although many of the teachers have already arrived from the Christmas holiday vacation.

The epidemic of flu, which has swept the country during the past two or three weeks, is subsiding, especially so in Murphy.

Local doctors report that no new cases have developed during the past few days, and the number of old cases is diminishing by the recovery of patients.

LIONS HAVE GOOD MEET TUES. NIGHT

One of the most interesting meetings of the Lions Club was held Tuesday night at The Maples. It was interesting from many viewpoints, one of which was the sumptuous feast spread by Mrs. Rector. This was the first meeting starting of the year 1929, and the menu included that time honored and delicious New Year's dish, hog jowl and blackeyed peas. All the Lions tried to see who could eat the most, as the story accompanying the custom is that the one who eats the most peas and hog jowl on New Year's Day will be the most prosperous during the year. Hence the big appetites.

A report by President Fain on Murphy's opportunity for securing a shoe manufacturing establishment was very encouraging, as was the report on the prospect of securing other industries during the year.

Lion Ellis brought before the Club a proposition advanced by a citizen of Bryson City for advertising Route No. 10 in North Carolina and Route 11, in Georgia, between Dillsboro and Gainesville to the traveling public. The proposition was the placing of a large sign at the intersections of this route with the shorter route between Asheville and Atlanta by Franklin, calling attention of the tourist of the scenic beauties to be held on this route. It was also brought out that most of the through traffic was being routed over the shorter link between Asheville and Atlanta and was advertised on both ends by large illustrated signs. The proposition was what part Murphy would play in helping to erect these signs. A committee composed of W. M. Fain and G. W. Ellis was appointed to represent Murphy at a meeting to be held in Bryson City this week to work out plans of procedure.

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