

# The Cherokee Scout

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## PRIZE FIGHT LAW OF N. C. TO BE TESTED

Case Against Lail To Be Heard In Superior Court In April

The letter of the law of North Carolina covering "engaging in and betting on prize fights" is to be tested at the coming term of Cherokee Superior Court, and G. E. Lail, known as the Tex Rickard of Andrews is to bear the brunt of the law, according to a case which has been made against him by Laura Nelson, wife of Jack Nelson, of Valleytown Township.

A warrant for the arrest of Lail was sworn out by Laura Nelson, charging him with "aiding, abetting and promoting boxing contests and prize fights," following the death of young Nelson, her husband, which resulted from injuries received in a personal encounter with another spectator over a referee's decision at a boxing match staged in Andrews some two weeks ago.

Lail was given a preliminary hearing last Monday afternoon before Mayor D. S. Russell, of Andrews, and bound over to Cherokee County Superior Court, the next term of which will begin the first Monday in April, under bond of \$300.00. Moody & Moody have been retained by Lail to make his defense.

The law in question was passed in 1895, and so far as anyone knows, has never been tested in court or any part of it been brought before the State Supreme Court for an interpretation. The law in full follows:

"4112. Engaging in an betting on prize fights. If any two or more persons engaged in a prize fight, sparring match or glove or fist contest for money or other valuable prize or stake; or if any person bet or lay a wager on the result thereof, or advise, aid or abet in any way whatever in promoting the same, he shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars, or imprisoned in the state's prison or jail for not less than one year nor more than five years, or both, in the discretion of the court.

"Rev. s 3707; 1895, c 28, ss 1-1."  
The case is expected to attract state-wide attention and will be watched by other promoters of the resin stage in Asheville, Charlotte, Greensboro, Raleigh, and other North Carolina cities when it comes up for trial.

## MAN, WOMAN AND 3 GALLONS TAKEN IN TOW LAST WEEK

Flossy Gibson, who lives in the hospital section of town, and Oscar Sudderth who lives in East Murphy, were taken into custody on a charge of violating the prohibition law last week when officers searched their residence and found about three gallons of contraband spirits last week. The search and arrests were made by Chief Cooper and Neil Sneed, of the City Police Department, and Olin Davis, Jailer and Deputy Sheriff.

The two were arraigned before A. A. Fain, justice of the peace, and were bound over to superior court under bonds of \$200.00 each.

## Disorderly Conduct Charged to Women

Esther Holloway and Molly Rich were bound over to Superior court last week by Mayor Protem C. B. Hill when they were arraigned before him on a charge of disorderly conduct. Their bonds were fixed at \$500.00 each, in default of which they were remanded to jail to await the next term of court, which begins the first Monday in April.

## OFFICERS GET FOUR MEN AND QUART BOOZE

Willard Murphy, Julius Coleman, Cecil Roberts and Johnny Gibson were taken into custody last week by Neil Sneed, of the Murphy police force, assisted by D. M. Birchfield, tax collector and formerly sheriff of the county, on a charge of violating the prohibition law.

The boys were in a truck in the factory town section when arrested, and one of them is said to have been "tanked-up" properly. The officers seized a little over a quart of booze, which was in a fruit jar.

A preliminary hearing was held before C. B. Hill, mayor pro tem, and all four were bound to Superior court under bond of \$200.00 each.

## KIRBY IN AUTO WRECK SUNDAY

Forced From Highway Over Steep Embankment—Car Lands Upside In River

O. K. Kirby, manager of the Murphy branch of the Singer Sewing Machine company, was in an automobile accident Sunday afternoon, and is suffering from a cut across the head, a broken rib and other minor injuries as a result.

The accident occurred near Maple Springs Camp, between Sylva and Balsam. Mr. Kirby had been to Asheville and was returning. While rounding a curve, he met another car going in the opposite direction. The car was speeding and on the wrong side of the road, Mr. Kirby stated, and in trying to negotiate the curve and get back on the other side of the road, it's rear skidded into his front wheel, smashing it and throwing him directly across the road and before he could get his car stopped, it went over the embankment and down into the river. The impact of the collision had a tendency to break the skid of the other car and it kept going. However, officers at Sylva were notified and a man driving a damaged car like the one which hit Mr. Kirby was later arrested.

The damage done to Mr. Kirby's car is estimated to be about \$200.00.

## SILVER LINING TITLE OF PLAY BY T. T. CLASS

Three Act Comedy Drama Tonight At School Auditorium Promise Lot of Laughs

The Teacher Training class of the Murphy school will present a three act drama, entitled "The Silver Lining," at the school auditorium tonight at 7:30 o'clock.

The cast will be mostly girl teachers from the training class and of course some of them will portray the part of men. The part of a dignified minister, Rev. Hartley, is played by Nora Lovingood, while Car-

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## COOPER WINS FIRST CASE IN J. P. COURT

Harry P. Cooper, who recently passed the state bar examination and has been licensed to practice law, won the first case in which he appeared as attorney. The case was a civil action, that of J. C. Gibson vs. Mrs. L. W. Brittain, suing on a \$50.00 note, and was heard before Justice of the Peace T. N. Bates this week. Appearing for Mr. Gibson was Howard Mody, who was admitted to the bar about two years ago, and who was the last young man to be admitted to the bar in his county besides Mr. Cooper.

## 75 CARLOADS OF SHUTTLE BLOCKS CUT LAST YEAR

Hawkins Brothers Business Is To Make Little Blocks In a Big Way

More than seventy-five carloads of shuttle blocks were cut and shipped to all parts of the country and to England last year by the Hawkins Brothers, shuttle block manufacturers, according to information obtained last week from Joe Hawkins, manager of the Murphy plant.

The Hawkins Brothers own and operate three shuttle block mills, one of which is located at Murphy, one at Shoal Creek, this county, and one at Greenback, Tenn.

E. P. Hawkins, more familiarly known as Ernest, and who is now in Raleigh attending the sessions of the North Carolina Legislature as Representative from Cherokee county, is general manager of the business. Joe Hawkins is manager of the Murphy plant, Castile Hawkins is manager of the Shoal Creek plant, and Gay Hawkins is manager of the plant at Greenback, Tenn.

These boys have an unusual business which really consists of making little wooden blocks in a big way. The blocks are cut from dogwood timber while it is green. The blocks are three or four inches square by about eighteen inches long, and it takes quite a number of these to make a carload. Yet last year, so Joe stated, they shipped over 75 carloads of these little blocks.

The plant at Murphy is now operating full time, working five to six men a day. The capacity of the plant here is about two carloads a month. The other plants have about the same capacity and work the same number of men.

## HOSIERY MILL ELECTS OFFICERS, ADOPTS BY-LAWS

Machinery Shipped and Expected to Arrive First of Next Week For Installation

The Nu-Fashion Hosiery mills, a new hundred thousand dollar corporation for Murphy, completed organization at a meeting the latter part of last week when it named officers, adopted by-laws, and worked out details of the plan of operation.

W. M. Fain, president of the W. M. Fain Grocery Company, wholesale merchants, was named president of the new corporation; B. W. Sipe, superintendent of the Murphy Graded Schools, was named vice president; P. C. Hyatt, secretary-treasurer of the Wofford-Terrell Company, another local firm of wholesale merchants, was named treasurer; and G. B. Whitlock, of Hendersonville, hosiery manufacturing expert, was named secretary and general manager, to have charge of operations.

The new corporation is capitalized at \$102,000.00, sixty thousand dollars of this being represented by machinery, thirty thousand by the building, and twelve thousand subscribed by local people to stock representing the operating capital.

The building to be occupied by the Nu-Fashion Hosiery Mills is the one belonging to the Murphy Real Estate Company, a local corporation, and known as the Fain knitting mill building. This corporation voted to turn the property to the Nu-Fashion Hosiery Mill, the price of which becomes absorbed in stock in the new company. The Murphy Real Estate Company was organized several years ago and erected this building for a knitting company, and the building is ideally adapted

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## CHEROKEE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY HOLDS MEETING 25

The Cherokee County Medical Society held its annual meeting in Andrews, Monday, February 25th. Of the ten members of the society, seven answered present.

At this meeting, Dr. L. B. Newman, of Andrews, was elected to membership in the society. The officers of last year were re-elected for this year, as follows: President, Dr. S. C. Heighway, of Murphy; Vice President, Dr. W. C. Morrow, of Andrews; and Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Edw. E. Adams, of Murphy. A very enthusiastic meeting was had and plans were made to carry out some much needed constructive work during the year.

## MURPHY POSTAL CLERK RESTORED

Washington Officials Of Department Dismiss All Charges Against Richard Meroney

Attorney Harry P. Cooper, mayor of Murphy, Dr. B. B. Meroney, and his son Richard Meroney, returned to Murphy last Saturday from Washington, D. C., where they went in the interest of young Meroney, who was recently discharged from his position as a clerk in the Murphy post-office.

A conference was held with post-office officials in Washington and all charges against Mr. Meroney were dismissed and orders were issued that he assume his position at the postoffice here upon his return to Murphy. The nature of the charges were not made public. A news dispatch from the Washington staff correspondent of The Asheville Citizen last week stated that a row over the program to oust young Meroney from the Murphy postoffice had been going on for some time, and that Congressman Weaver joined Messrs. Meroney and Cooper in their protest.

While away Mr. Cooper visited his daughter, Miss Rosemond Cooper, who is a student at the North Carolina College for Women at Greensboro. On his way to Washington, he also stopped over in Raleigh and had a conference with W. T. Lee, State corporation commissioner, and was advised that the discontinuance of one train on the Southern Railway between Murphy and Bryson City had been made permanent, and will run no more.

## POULTRY ASS'N. FOR CHEROKEE IS ORGANIZED

Organization Perfected To Promote Poultry Industry In County and Section

The Cherokee County Poultry Association was organized here this week with Mrs. F. J. Watkins, of Peachtree, as president. Mr. F. J. Watkins, vice president; and Wm. P. Payne, secretary and treasurer.

A large number of poultry raisers and buyers of the county were present. The purpose of the association is to promote and create closer interest and co-operation of the poultry industry in the county and section. An effort will be made to enlist the aid and support of all those interested in poultry and poultry raising, and an invitation is extended to all interested to join.

Mr. Parrish, extension poultry specialist of the State Agricultural College and department of Agriculture, will be in the county during the week of March 11th, to hold meetings and discuss poultry problems with raisers. A schedule of the meeting will be found in another column of this issue.

## SEE FAVORABLE REPORT SOON IN BOB GRAVES CASE

Long Fight of Cherokee World War Veteran Brought to Final Chapter

A favorable report is daily expected from the Veterans Bureau in Washington on the case of Robert E. Graves, of Cherokee county, disabled veteran of the World War, who has received no compensation from the government, according to a statement made this week by Attorney Harry P. Cooper, who with Dr. B. B. Meroney, of Murphy, appeared before the final board of appeal in Graves' behalf while in Washington, D. C., last week.

Mr. Cooper appeared as attorney, mayor of Murphy, Commander of the Joe Miller Elkins Post of the American Legion, a veteran of the World War, and as a commissioned officer in the reserve corps of the United States Army, while Dr. Meroney appeared as physician and medical examiner for the local draft board when Graves was inducted into service.

They appeared before the rehabilitation department of the American Legion and before the final board of appeal, and now the case is before General Frank Hines, director of the Veterans Bureau, where it is expected that a favorable report will be made during the next few weeks. Mr. Cooper stated that the testimony and information he and Dr. Meroney furnished the board was most favorably received, and officers stated that this was the missing link in the red tape that is always thrown around the functioning of government agencies. They were assured that a favorable report was certain.

This brings the case of Robert Graves up to the final chapter, a case that has been hard fought through government red tape over a period of several years in which the county physician, the superintendent of Public Welfare, the local and state posts of the American Legion, lawyers, individuals, and civic organizations have had a part.

Shortly after Graves was discharged, he was seized with a malady traceable to his service in the war, and since that time has been practically an invalid. He is now bed ridden, and has been for several years. He has been carried to several hospitals, but all treatment has been to no avail, and his disability apparently is permanent. The greatest obstacle his friends have had to overcome lies in the fact that his case and condition was not brought before the Veterans Bureau until a period of several years had elapsed.

Graves has a wife and two children, and has been in dire circumstances for many years.

## NEW OIL COMPANY ORGANIZED HERE

The Community Oil Company, a new business concern headed by C. M. Wofford and W. G. Owenby, has been organized and will handle the products of the Sinclair Refining Company, consisting of oils, gases and greases, for Cherokee county and surrounding territory.

The company is now being operated under a partnership, but it is understood that they contemplate incorporating in the future.

"I shall never see thirty again, you know," says Aunt Jane, played by Miss Bailey, and William Winkler, played by Doc. Ed. Adams, chirps in: "Not with a telescope." A bit of spicy conversation in the Lions Club play, the title of which is "The Arrival of Kitty."