

The Cherokee Scout

The Leading Weekly Newspaper in Western North Carolina, Covering a Large and Potentially Rich Territory in This State

Vol. XLII.—No. 36.

Murphy, N. C., Friday, April 10th, 1931.

\$1.50 YEAR—5c COPY

HORACE KEPHART AND FISWOODE TARLETON DIE IN BRYSON WRECK

FUNERAL FOR NOTED AUTHORS HELD SUNDAY

No Witnesses To Highway Tragedy—Driver of Car in Hospital With Fractured Skull

BRYSON CITY, April 7.—Horace Kephart, 68, and Fiswoode Tarleton, nationally known authors, were instantly killed last Thursday night about 11 o'clock when the automobile in which they were riding plunged from the highway near Ela and turned over three times.

The accident, which occurred at a point on Highway No. 10 about a mile and a half this side of the Cherokee highway intersection, was at the same spot where three men were killed about three years ago.

Instantly Killed

There were no witnesses to the crash. A Mr. Elliott, who is connected with the Nantahala Light and Power company was the first to reach the scene after the crash. Mr. Kephart had been thrown clear of the car about 40 feet and had apparently been instantly killed. Mr. Tarleton had remained in the machine and was crushed beneath it. The driver was thrown clear, striking his head in such a manner that his skull was fractured.

Mr. Elliott went to the nearest telephone and called Bryson City for doctors and an ambulance.

For a quarter century Mr. Kephart was foremost in the knowledge of the mountains of the vast Western North Carolina timberlands. No man alive knew them better. He was a botanist of the first water, a lover of the great outdoors in the Southern Appalachian highlands, and, with it all, a simple, plain man.

Born in Pennsylvania

Kephart was born at East Salem, Pa., on September 8, 1862, and in 1887 he married Miss Laura White Mack, of Ithaca, N. Y. They had seven children. Among them were Leonard, Washington botanist, and George, a chief forester of Maine.

After being graduated at Lebanon Colley College, Annville, Pa., in 1879 Kephart did graduate work at Cornell university and later studied in Europe.

He was president of the North Carolina Literary and Historical association, an author of wide repute and a speaker of wide renown, but in it all he was a man who knew the gay notes of every bird, a specialist in the habits of the animals that populate the gigantic mountains and valley and a writer whose soul entered into every word that he wrote of the mountains he so dearly loved.

Fifteen years his "Our Southern Highlanders" provoked nation-wide praise in presenting one of the first true pictures of the mountain folk, their history, their habits, their viewpoints about "blockading" their fiefs, their hospitality, their unselfishness and a thousand and one other facts. He was an authority on wood craft, on camping, on firearms, on adventure and on literature and the great outdoors.

Was Librarian

Behind Mr. Kephart was a wide experience. He was graduated from a small Pennsylvania college, but later entered Cornell university at Ithaca, N. Y., where he became interested in forestry. Then he went to Boston university and later to Yale. He passed four years in the Yale university library and for the following 12 years was librarian in the St. Louis Mercantile library.

After long service in library work, Mr. Kephart suffered a nervous breakdown and began casting about for an isolated section in which to cast his lot. He studied the situation intently and ultimately hit upon the vast, undeveloped slopes and ridges of picturesque Western North Carolina.

Twenty-seven years ago Mr. Kephart arrived in Western North Carolina. He located a log cabin on Hazel Creek, where he did his own cooking, washing, etc. Then no axe had sullied the virgin forests that hemmed in every part of the state. To the residents of that sparsely settled community in 1904 Horace Kephart was a "furriner" who partook of the hospitality, rude as it was, that was heartily offered. If Mr. Kephart ever learned of any illegal transactions of the folk of that area he kept it a secret until his dying day last Thursday. Some took him for a "revenoor" but his friendship and help soon abolished any such thoughts from the citizenry.

Finally, Mr. Kephart settled in Bryson City, then a small settlement (Continued on page 8)

SINGER



Herman L. Cochran, of Sherman, Texas, singer, who will be heard during the evangelistic services beginning at the Methodist church Sunday morning. Rufus S. Perkins, of Old Orchard, Maine, will play the piano.

CONVICT IS HELD ON DEATH COUNT

Ralph Davis Is Charged With Slaying Cherokee County Man

Raleigh, April 2nd.—Ralph Davis, Forsyth County convict, charged with killing Thurman Luther, convict from Cherokee county, was bound over without bond on a charge of murder following a preliminary hearing today.

Davis is alleged to have struck Luther on the head with a mattock on February 27, fatally injuring him. The two men were engaged in prison work at Cary Prison Farm.—Asheville Citizen.

Library Rent Shelf Adds New Books

Twelve new books have been placed on the rent shelf. We are planning to pay for these books by renting them for three cents per day.

After they have paid for themselves they are to be placed on the open shelf. This is our only means of obtaining new books at present, so we are trying this plan, and hope you will help us by renting them.

Eberhard—Mystery of Hunting End.

Strange—The Strangler Fig.

LeMay—One of us is a Murderer.

Norris—Love of Julie Bored.

Haycoth—Whispering Range.

Grey—Sunset Pass.

Breesh—Young Man of Manhattan

Bromfield—Twenty-four Hours.

Seitzner—Lonesome Ranch.

Porter—Freckles Comes Home.

Matthews—Boy Scouts Book of Campfire Stories.

O'Henry—Ransom of Red Chief.

Poultry Meetings Are Scheduled For County

Mr. C. F. Parrish, our State Poultry Specialist, will be with us at the following places on the following dates, and I am trusting that you will be able to meet us at some of these places.

This is the time that we should do more to make our poultry work more effectively than ever before and we should have all the information that it is possible to get.

We will meet you at the following places:

10:00 A. M.—Wm. P. Payne, Murphy, N. C., April 13, 1931.

2:00 P. M.—Mrs. J. H. Ellis, Murphy, April 13.

10:00 A. M.—Bruce West, Marble April 14

3:00 P. M.—Mrs. C. B. Wood, Andrews, April 14.

10:00 A. M.—Mrs. F. J. Watkins, Murphy, N. C., Route 2, April 15.

2:30 P. M.—Folk School, Brass-town, April 15.

Trusting that I will be able to see you at one of these places, I am, your very truly,

R. W. GRAY, County Agent.

Reputation Hung on a Hair

A phenologist claims to delineate a character from a single hair. Many a wife has done this from such a clew found on her husband's lapel.—London Opinion.

EVANGELISTIC SERVICES TO BEGIN SUNDAY

Mr. Cochran and Mr. Perkins To Have Charge Music And Young People's Work

A series of evangelistic services will begin at the Methodist church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, with the pastor, the Rev. Howard P. Powell, doing the preaching, while Mr. Rufus S. Perkins, of Old Orchard, Maine, and Mr. Herman L. Cochran, of Sherman, Texas, will have charge of the music and work among the young people.

The pastor will preach a series of thirty-two sermons from the gospel of St. John. About a thousand copies of this gospel have been distributed in small pamphlet form. The services will continue for three weeks. There will be no morning services during the first week, but services each evening at seven o'clock, except Saturday. There will be morning services at nine o'clock each morning during the second and third weeks, except Monday and Saturday mornings.

Mr. Perkins and Mr. Cochran need no introduction to the people of Murphy, as both of them were workers in the revival last year, and Mr. Perkins filled the local Methodist pulpit for several months last year in the absence of the pastor while he was on a trip to the Holy land.

The following is taken from the Church bulletin of last Sunday.

The service at sunrise this morning was the first of a series of prayer services in preparation for our evangelistic services to begin next Sunday morning. Prayer services will be held during the week as follows: Monday afternoon at three o'clock with Mrs. T. W. Axley, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings at seven o'clock in the church; and Friday afternoon at 2:30 with Mrs. D. V. Carringer.

We will begin next Sunday morning at eleven o'clock our "Gospel of St. John Campaign." All those who accept them will receive a copy of the Gospel of St. John. During the services, which will continue through Sunday, May 3, the sermons will be preached from this Gospel.

Next Saturday evening at 7:30 the Glee Club of the Asheville Normal School will give a Sacred Concert in this church. This program should be well attended by those who love and appreciate the best in music. There will be no charge for admission, but we will have the opportunity to contribute to their work through the free-will that will be received. They will remain with us and sing during the morning service next Sunday. Please plan to hear them.

GORDON ROGERS DIES IN ATLANTA

Gordon Rogers, 45, died in Piedmont hospital in Atlanta, Ga., at 5 o'clock Monday morning following an operation Friday. Mr. Rogers was born in North Georgia. After the death of his parents he moved to Andrews and made his home with Stephen Porter for many years.

He married Miss Lakey Ladd, of Marble, who died a year ago. Their four children, Kenneth, Kyle, Ray and Anna Laura, survive.

Mr. Rogers served as town marshal in Bryson City until his health failed eight months ago. Four years ago he moved his family to Bryson City from Ravenford where he had been employed for some years.

The funeral services were held at Andrews Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock with burial there where his wife and son are buried.

New Garage Open Now For Business

The new garage known as the Murphy Auto Repair Company, located in the old D. & D. Motor Co. building, is now open for business. W. A. Cooker, manager, announces this week.

The front of the building is to be used as a filling station. It has been remodeled, a driveway is being built in, and the filling station is expected to be ready for business by Monday, April 13th.

The repair shop will be in charge of J. E. Cook and J. N. Watkins. They will do general automobile repairing, radiator work, welding, etc. and will handle the Sinclair line of gasoline, grease and oil.

Former Cherokee Boy Dies In Athens, Tenn.

Ernest Jones, who once lived at Unaka, N. C., died March 29, after undergoing an operation for acute appendicitis in Athens Hospital at Athens, Tennessee.

Ernest was born September 20, 1917, and in July 1930, professed faith in Christ and joined the Zion Hill Baptist Church in McMinn County, Tenn., and lived a faithful little Christian Soldier until his death.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Barnett of Englewood, Tenn., knowing that this little boy's parents were dead and he had no home, took him to raise as their own, and they loved Ernest as though he was their own child, and with tender and loving hands administered every need that Ernest could wish for. They make the following statement:

"Ernest was always happy and pleasant, and when we told him anything was wrong he would not do that any more. He was very obedient with a sweet disposition, and knowing the true Christian life he has lived, but he will be badly missed in our home, and he has left a vacant chair that no one can fill. He has filled his mission here and we sincerely pray that his death will be the means of bringing in all his brothers and sisters to Christ."

He is survived by three brothers, Walter and Wayne of Akron, Ohio, and John of Unaka, N. C., and two sisters, Estelle of Akron Ohio, and Bessie of Ogreeta, N. C., and a host of other relatives and friends.

The funeral services were held at the Ogreeta Baptist church with the Rev. J. A. Baker pastor of the Zion Hill Baptist church, officiating, who made a very impressive talk.

Since Mr. and Mrs. Barnett were also former citizens of Cherokee county there was a large and sympathetic crowd from the surrounding communities gathered for the funeral services, besides many friends and relatives from Tennessee.

ROMANCE AND TRAGEDY LINKED WITH OLD INN

Romance and tragedy are entwined about the history of the Old Walker Inn which still stands on the Aquone road one mile east of Andrews in the community known since colonial days as Valley Town.

Built in 1839 by William Walker and presided over by his young wife, Walker Inn soon became a well-known and popular hostelry, a reputation which it maintained for forty-three years.

In 1839, the year after the removal of the Cherokee nation to the West, John A. Scott came with his wife and eight children to Cherokee county and settled at Valley Town by the waters of Junaluska creek. Scott, who was a cousin of General Winfield Scott, migrated from Pennsylvania to Wilkes county, North Carolina, in 1826 and later moved to Cherokee. He had a beautiful daughter named Margaret and she was no doubt the reason why William Walker, a sturdy youth, also of Wilkes county, came to Cherokee and settled at Valley Town. At any rate Margaret Scott soon became the Mrs. Walker.

With capital supplied in part by Colonel W. P. Pugh, a wealthy trader of Wilkes, William opened up a trading post near the spot where he built the inn and which was only a stone's throw from the Scott home.

During the business partnership of Colonel Waugh and young Walker a rather voluminous correspondence was carried on. These letters of Colonel Waugh are still in possession of the Walker family and they furnish an interesting glimpse of the business, social, and political activities of a hundred years ago.

Business advice that is still good was often given. In several letters Walker was urged to be very careful in the extension of credit to his customers and to be very diligent about the collection of accounts.

Explicit directions were often given concerning the making and handling of whiskey, which was one of the common articles of trade at that time. One letter advised that the stills be kept running at full blast, giving the opinion that whiskey would be much in demand on account of the scarcity of brandy. The price was quoted at fifty cents a gallon wholesale and seventy-five cents retail if the whiskey quality was high. The suggestion was made that whiskey clarified by filtering through charcoal would bring twelve and one-half cents more a gallon (Continued on page 8)

MURPHY BOY IN NICARAGUA QUAKE IS SAFE

Frank Davis Writes His Sister Of Quake And That He Is O. K.

Frank D. Davis, Murphy boy with the United States Marines in Managua, Nicaragua, and son of E. E. Davis, is safe and did not suffer any injuries in the earthquake and fire which destroyed the capital city of Nicaragua last Tuesday, according to a letter received Saturday by his sister, Miss Polly Davis, via air mail.

When the news of the quake flashed over the world, relatives here of Frank were uneasy as to his safety. He intimated in his last letter, written about the First of February, that he would sail from Nicaragua for the States, and upon arrival would be granted a furlough. An effort was made to find out if Frank had ever sailed, and the following telegram speaks for itself:

"C. W. Bailey, Murphy, N. Car.

Marine Corps Headquarters unable to furnish information regarding F. D. Davis last entry on records shows him in Nicaragua furlough authorized but impossible to state whether or not he has sailed.

Bureau Naval Affairs, Washington, D. C."

Frank's letter was written on April 1st, and was delivered here Saturday April 4th. It follows in full:

Managua, Nic., Wed., Apr. 1. Dear Polly:

I am writing in such a hurry to let you know that I was not hurt in the earthquake here. Very few Marines were hurt, but hundreds of the natives were killed and burned to death. We have converted the Marine Post into a hospital and relief station. Hundreds of natives are receiving medical attention of doctors here at camp. All U. S. Citizens are here at the Post. The city has been placed under martial law by U. S. Marines. The earthquake occurred on the 31st (yesterday) at about 10:20 in the morning. The first quake shock tore down buildings, killing and injuring people. It is impossible to estimate how many. The Marines started relief and hospital work immediately, also enforcing martial law. Practically all buildings were damaged or totally wrecked. There has been continual tremors and shocks since the first quake occurred. I see now three planes circling to land. They are supposed to have medicine to refresh our medical stores that have been heavily used. We will soon have more doctors by planes from the U. S. and Panama. Fire broke out with the start of the quake out in the middle of Managua. The Marines fought fire until about 12:00 midnight 31st with dynamite. It traveled by a straight eastward course across the town. Many people were buried in these buildings before they burned. With the quake, all the people seemed to go crazy. The Marines' activity was carried out quickly without mishap or excitement. They were the only ones to hold cool heads during the crisis. Everything is under control, and I am O. K.

Love to all, FRANK.

YOUTH KILLED IN CAR WRECK NEAR WESSER CREEK

Dock Nelson, of Rhodo, Dies While On Way to Aid Friend

Dock Nelson, 18, of Rhodo, near Andrews, was instantly killed when the automobile he was driving failed to make a sharp curve at Wesser Creek, near the entrance to Nantahala gorge, Sunday night about 10 o'clock.

Young Nelson and Tillman Phillips were going to Bryson City from their homes. Nelson had been there during the afternoon with three men one of whom had been placed in jail on a charge of being intoxicated, according to Sheriff R. S. Patterson. Nelson had gone back home to arrange for a bond for his friend and was on his way back to Bryson City when the accident occurred.

Dr. B. C. Thomason, coroner, made an investigation and decided that the young man met his death due to his inability to hold his car in the road while driving at a rapid rate of speed. Nelson was pinned under the car.

Phillips who was riding with Nelson, was slightly injured.

Young Nelson was the son of John Nelson, of Rhodo.