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GRAY GIVES UP COUNTY AGENT WORK

Commissioners To Meet Next Week With District Representative To Elect A New One

L. R. Harrill, acting district farm demonstration agent, will meet with the Board Commissioners of Cherokee county on Tuesday, March 13, for the purpose of appointing or securing the services of a county agent, according to telegraphic communication received by E. C. Moore, chairman of the board, Wednesday.

R. W. Gray, present county agent, relinquished his duties as farm demonstration agent, after the commissioners had passed a resolution discontinuing the work the first of March. Mr. Gray, who has been engaged in this work in Cherokee for the past nine years, also holds positions as county chairman of the Red Cross, head of the county relief office, and administrator of the CWA.

It was understood that Mr. Gray would be given his choice of relinquishing his duties as county administrator of relief or the county agent work at the meeting of the commissioners this week.

After considering the matter, Mr. Gray told the commissioners that he thought it best that he give up the county agent work and expressed the desire and wish that it be continued.

The order of the board at the February meeting discontinuing the county agent work reads as follows:

"It was ordered by the board and endorsed by Fred O. Scroggs and T. T. Johnson, commissioners, that the services of R. W. Gray, county farm demonstration agent for Cherokee county be discontinued March 1, 1934. Mr. Moore did not agree to the order and stated he was in favor of continuing the work and the present county agent, too.

A canvass of the situation disclosed the fact that there was no fight on the county agent nor the demonstration work, but on a multiplicity of jobs. The various emergency relief duties were wished upon the county agent from time to time, as they arose. The duties have been so heavy and required so much of his time, Mr. Gray has not been able to give much attention to the county agent work.

Mr. Scroggs and Mr. Johnson both indicated that they were in favor of continuing the county agent work. However, a large number of people had been complaining to the commissioners that the county agent had too many jobs, and was so engrossed in the relief work that the farm demonstration work was not receiving the attention it required or should get. And these complaints fell upon attentive ears of two of the commissioners.

Mr. Scroggs said he was in favor of continuing the county agent work and was in favor of Mr. Gray continuing in that capacity. However, he wanted the county agent work and office separated from the relief office. He said the county had been paying Mr. Gray a salary as county agent, and he had been engaged almost exclusively in administering the relief work and he thought it would be better to just call it relief work.

Mr. Scroggs said he realized the state of affairs which existed prior to March 1, was detrimental to the county agent work. He also realized that the duties the present county agent was called upon to do as relief director were too heavy for him to do much county agent work. He pointed out many farm projects which have needed attention have been neglected and in some instances it is now too late for much to be done about them this year. Other farm projects needed attention, he said, and because the agent's time was so taken up with the administration of relief in the county it was impossible for him to give these farm projects the proper attention.

Mr. Scroggs endeavored to have John W. Goodman meet with the county commissioners this week so that the difficulties could be ironed out. Mr. Goodman was reported to be sick and could not be here. Mr. Gray's decision has greatly facilitated the task of the commissioners, and Mr. Harrill, assistant district agent, will meet with the commissioners next Tuesday to aid in the selection of a new county agent.

In his decision to give up county agent work, Mr. Gray said he would continue on as relief administrator temporarily. He plans to see the present CWA projects through, and indicated that after that he would take much needed rest and vacation. He is convalescing from a recent illness at his home. He said he had a number of things in mind he wanted to do but as yet had not definitely decided upon anything.

LAST RITES ARE HELD FOR CLINTON CROFTS

Funeral services were held last Saturday afternoon for Clinton Crofts, 9 year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Crofts, of Culberson, who died Friday morning about 5 o'clock. Measles and pneumonia were given as the cause of his death. The funeral services were held at Shady Grove near Culberson, the Rev. W. T. Truett officiating.

He is survived by his father and mother, two brothers, Thomas and Paul Crofts, and one sister, Janie, all of Culberson.

TENN. MAN IS RETURNED BY OFFICERS

Taken On Lunacy Warrant, A. C. Mills Was Not Wanted By Either N. C. Or Tenn.

A. C. Mills, of Tellico Plains, Tenn., who has been held in the Cherokee county jail on a lunacy warrant since February 21, was returned to Tennessee Wednesday and turned over to officers of Monroe county at Madisonville. Sheriff L. L. Mason and Deputy Sheriff Frank Crawford made the trip to Madisonville with Mills.

The case of Mills is an interesting one. For a time he was a man unwanted, a man without a state or country, so to speak.

While visiting his daughter on Bell Creek, Beaverdam township, last February, a lunacy warrant was sworn out for him. He exhibited signs of being mentally deranged when he welded an axe and tried to chop off the heads of some of his daughter's family. He threatened to kill some of them, and a lunacy warrant was sworn out for him. He was taken into custody by officers of Cherokee county and lodged in jail.

An examination by Dr. J. N. Hill, county physician, disclosed that Mills was really insane. Application was made for a berth for him at the State Insane Hospital at Morganton. However, Morganton, officials refused to accept him because he was a citizen of Tennessee. He had been in this state only three weeks, whereas the law required that he be a resident of this State for one year before he could be accepted by the state institution.

Officers of Monroe county, Tennessee, were notified that the Cherokee county officials held one of their citizens on a charge of being crazy and he was not eligible for treatment or admittance to the State institution in North Carolina. The Tennessee officials refused to come for Mills. Cherokee county officials offered to take him back to Tennessee free of charge, but still his home state officials refused to accept him.

The situation became complicated when the Cherokee county commissioners ordered the sheriff's department to take Mills back to Tennessee and turn him over to the officials. Still the Tennessee officials refused to accept him.

Clerk of Superior Court J. E. Keener, at the instance of J. D. Malone, county attorney, telegraphed the situation to the Governor of Tennessee. Only then was Mills accepted by his home officials. He was delivered into the custody of Monroe county officials at Madisonville Wednesday without further ado.

A Correction

An error crept into the grade reports of Miss Grace Bell and Miss Margaret Witherspoon, Students from Murphey at the Women's College of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, reported in these columns last week.

The reports stand corrected: Miss Witherspoon: Biology, 1, B; English, 1, B; History, 1, B; History, 5, A; Hygiene, 1, B; Physical Ed., 1, C.

Miss Bell: Biology, 1, A; English, 1, A; History, 1, A; History, 5, A; Hygiene, 1, A; Music, Piano C; Spanish, 1, A; Physical Ed., 1, B.

EMERGENCY CROP LOAN

(By R. M. Soule, Information Agent 408 Central Union Bldg., Columbia, S. C.)

Regulations for making emergency crop loans from the \$40,000,000 fund recently made available by Congress indicate that a farmer may obtain such a loan if he cannot qualify for credit elsewhere, if he has a justified need for credit and if he is cooperating with the production control program of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, according to a statement made today by S. M. Garwood, Production Credit Commissioner of the Farm Credit Administration.

The maximum amount which will be made available to any one farmer this year is \$250 and the minimum is \$25 according to the regulations. The interest rate will be 5 1/2 per cent per annum. Provisions for taking crop loans have been worked out under Mr. Garwood's direction and detailed regulations will be placed in the hands of local emergency crop loan committees within the near future. The time and place where these committees will receive applications will be made known locally within a short time.

Before any farmer may secure a loan, however, he must first obtain a statement from the County Production Council where one exists, that he does not intend to increase his acreage or production in opposition to the Agricultural Adjustment Administration program. Where a county production council has not been set up, the applicant will have to give satisfactory evidence that he is cooperating with the production control program of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration before his application for a loan will be considered.

Applications for loans from \$25 to \$150 may be made directly to the emergency crop loan offices provided the applicants do not have sufficient security to obtain loans elsewhere.

A farmer applying for a loan of \$150 or more must first make application for a loan to the Production Credit Association serving his county. Rejection of his application by the Production Credit Association will be considered sufficient evidence that other credit is not available and the farmer may then make application to the emergency crop loan office.

The emergency crop loans are entirely separate from, and are not to be confused with production credit association loans. The Emergency Crop Loan Fund is an emergency relief measure for this year only, to make available funds to those who cannot qualify for credit through the regular channels of a production credit association.

In announcing the regulations Mr. Garwood said he could not emphasize too strongly that the emergency crop loans are to provide a means of temporary relief for this year only, and that this year's loans probably will be the last of their kind.

Farmers who have a source of income other than farming are not eligible for emergency crop loans.

The fund will be used to make loans not exceeding the cash cost of growing crops during the year 1934, for summer fallowing, and for winter wheat to be planted in 1934 and harvested in 1935. An amount from the fund, not to exceed \$1,000,000, may be used to make loans to purchase feed for livestock in areas designated by the Governor of the Farm Credit Administration as drought and storm-stricken. The fund may not be used to make loans to replace work-stocks.

Loans from the fund may not be used for the payment of existing debts, rent, taxes or past-due accounts. The Emergency Crop Loan Fund Act is an emergency relief measure and not a refinancing measure. Loans are to be made only to farmers who need relief to help carry on the basic farming operations necessary in making a living. The money was appropriated for the specific purpose of producing, planting, fallowing and cultivating crops, and for feed for farm livestock in drought and storm-stricken areas. The act imposes a very severe penalty for using loans from the fund for any other purposes.

Although the maximum amount of an emergency crop loan to any one farmer is \$250, as authorized by the regulations, no farmer will be loaned any more than the cash cost of producing the crops. The regulations restrict the amount that may be loaned to the amount to the tenants of any one landlord in any one county to \$500 and also restrict the amount that may be loaned per acre, depending on the kind of crop being grown.

All funds will be advanced to the (Continued on page 8)

FUNERAL FOR HORACE ADAMS HELD TUESDAY

Horace Ivan Adams, 42, brother of Dr. N. B. Adams, of Murphey, died Sunday morning at 5 o'clock at the Mountain View Sanitarium, Nashville, Tenn., following an illness of even months.

Born July 21, 1891, at the old Adams home place, Grandview Cherokee county, Mr. Adams went to Tennessee when a boy. For the past twenty years he was assistant superintendent of the Tennessee Copper Company's railroad, Copperhill, Tenn., which was operated in connection with the development of the copper industry in the Ducktown basin. Following a breakdown of his health, he moved his family to Murphey about a month ago.

Funeral services were held Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock at the Hangingdog Baptist church by the Rev. Clinton Cutts, pastor of the Copperhill Baptist church, and the Rev. I. F. Higgins, pastor of the Murphey Methodist church. Interment was in the churchyard, Copperhill Undertaking Co., of Copperhill, Tenn. in charge of funeral arrangements.

Surviving are his wife and four children, Junior, Betty, Bobby and Jean; his mother, Mrs. S. J. Adams, of Grandview; five brothers, Dr. N. B. Adams and W. O. of Murphey; W. A., of Grandview; J. E., Copperhill, and Julian, Etowah; two sisters, Mrs. W. B. Mulkey, Marole, and Mrs. J. L. Mulkey of Grandview.

PUNCH AND JUDY LEAVE FOLK SCHOOL

Sixth Annual Winter Term Closed At Brasstown Institution February 28

Mr. Frank H. Smith, dramatic and recreation leader in the Southern Appalachian Mountain region, who has been spending a month at the John C. Campbell Folk School at Brasstown, left March 6th for Knoxville. Mr. Smith, under the auspices of the Conference of Southern Mountain Workers and the American Association for Adult Education, has in recent months visited a number of mountain communities and schools in Kentucky, Virginia and North Carolina. The Folk School has cooperated with other schools and agencies in making the project possible.

During his stay at the Folk School, Mr. Smith has given readings or stories and a "Punch and Judy Show" at a number of nearby schools, including Murphey, Peachtree, Hayesville, and Ogden. He has also met with local groups at Belleview, Brasstown, Martin's Creek, Peachtree, and gave "Punch and Judy" at the George Washington Party at the Murphey Baptist Church.

The Folk School closed its sixth winter term on Wednesday, February 28th. The parents of the students were guests of the school for the day.

Mrs. John C. Campbell, the director, spoke briefly of the purpose of the school in guiding the group to the knowledge and spirit which would enable them to live better the life which they have to live. She referred further to the third play of the afternoon, "The Way of Attainment," which would portray to them the unknown possibilities for growth from youthful wishes for Power, Riches, Peace, Love, to the full development of Power as that for healing by the physician, Riches as that of the love of a child, Peace as the sympathy of the nurse, Love as the understanding heart of the teacher. Miss Margaret Butler, the Associate Director, spoke of the relationships of the School to the Community at large, reporting on the very encouraging growth of the Creamery and Farmers' Associations.

A brief exhibition of Singing Games was given in the morning. The girls had entire charge of the food preparations for the dinner. In the afternoon, three plays, "The Old Game," "Haste to the Wedding," and "The Way of Attainment," were given under the direction of Mr. Smith. The second play, "Haste to the Wedding," was written by Mr. Smith this winter during his work in the mountain communities.

The student exhibit of handicraft work at the School included bookends, animals, boxes, paperweights, breadboards, picture frames in wood-carving, towels, runners, rugs, and mats in weaving; dresses, aprons, gymnasium suits in sewing. Sketches of water-system layouts for some of (Continued on page 8)

LAST LINK OF UNAKA ROUTE IS FINISHED

Advocates Of Joe Brown Highway See Dream Come True—CCC Is Responsible

After almost ten years of tireless effort and "watchful waiting", advocates and sponsors of the Joe Brown highway, between Murphey and Tellico Plains, Tenn., by way of Unaka, have seen their dream of a shorter route to Knoxville through the Cherokee National Forest come true.

The 12 miles of road in the Cherokee National Forest, the unfinished link connecting the two states on this route, has at last been graded. It is now being surfaced with gravel to provide an all-weather route the year round, and it is expected to receive a macadam binding in the near future. And the CCC camps located on the National Forest in that section are responsible for the realization of this dream.

Back in 1925, when everybody was talking and building roads, the late Joe Brown, one time highway commissioner of Cherokee county and for whom the road was named, Don Witherspoon, prominent Murphey attorney, and others, visioned this route, and a movement was started to consummate its construction. Cherokee county voted bonds and built the road in North Carolina up to the borders of the National Forest. Here the highway abruptly broke into a rough mountain trail, with the probability and possibility of negotiating it depending entirely upon the weather.

In Tennessee, the same sort of situation existed. Time and again officials and road enthusiasts on both sides of the line sought to get the Federal government to appropriate funds with which to build the road through the Cherokee National Forest but sought in vain. The Forest Service received funds to build roads, but never any to construct the particular link of the Joe Brown highway between Unaka and Tellico Plains, Tenn.

This unfinished link was literally a "thorn in the flesh" of Congressman Zubelan Weaver for many years. He was placated from both sides for government money and government action, and he spent considerable time and effort to get this money and this action.

However, years went by and nothing availed—until the Citizens Conservation Corps camps moved into the section. Then action was needed and action was taken—the government putting up the money in the end. Supplies and necessities for the physical comfort and well being of several hundred men required a road capable of meeting the transportation problem. And the CCC's built it.

The road has been graded 16 feet wide, and an excellent grade maintained over the entire distance. A 12 foot gravel surface is being put down, and all but six miles—between Unaka and Shuler's creek—has been completed. Work is progressing rapidly on this six mile link and it will be completed within another thirty days. U. S. G. Phillips, Unaka Merchant, said in Murphey this week.

"You can tell the world we've got our road at last," Mr. Phillips said with much enthusiasm.

The route shortens the distance between Murphey and Knoxville to 78 miles. Besides traversing the Cherokee National Forest for 12 miles it goes through one of the richest farming sections of Cherokee county, and is destined to become an important artery of traffic between the two states.

Measles Cause Her To Miss School For First Time

Little Miss Jane Ricks, 9 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Ricks, had never been absent nor tardy a day in school until the epidemic of measles swept the Murphey school and caused it to close for three weeks.

Three weeks is long enough for anybody to have the measles and get rid of them. However, Jane did not take them until a few days before school opened, which was responsible for her being absent from school for the first time in her life. She is in the fourth grade, and her name appears regularly on the honor roll.

Jane is wondering why it was she had to wait until school opened before taking the measles. But there are some things us grown-ups can't even understand.