

Plans For Annual Cherokee County Dinner Discussed By Lions At Regular Meet Here

Subscription Drive For Building Loan Funds Is Begun

Extensive plans for the greatest Cherokee county dinner ever sponsored by the local Lions club were discussed by the group at its meeting in the high school Tuesday night. Vice-president George Ellis presided in the place of President H. Bueck, who had gone to the ball game at Almond, and he postponed committee appointments until the return of the regular president.

W. M. Fain is chairman of the general committee in charge of the affair and he reported having made initial preparations for the event.

The exact date of the dinner has not yet been set and it will depend on the committee's plans, and the arrangement of a suitable date to have F. G. Heath, district commander, to be here as principal speaker for the occasion.

A special meeting will be called to make the committee appointments within several days, it was decided.

The Cherokee county dinner, sponsored every February by the Lions club of Murphy, is an endeavor that has become renowned throughout the state.

It features the preparation of every product raised or grown in Cherokee county, and last year the list exceeded 150 varieties of food.

Plans were also made at the meeting to have the proposed building and loan association here referred to its committee composed of W. W. Hyde, J. B. Gray and K. C. Wright for immediate action.

Subscriptions to the local amount of capital set at \$2500 will begin at once and it is hoped to have the amount tentatively raised by the time a special speaker from Washington appears here to further explain the plan.

Under this program the federal government, if it finds substantial credentials locally, will treble the amount and offer this county a medium through which local citizens will be able to borrow under the Home Owners Loan corporation set-up.

Lion K. C. Wright reported that arrangements had been made to have Edward Abner Thompson, Boston dramatic artists, appear here for a reading in the school auditorium next Thursday night.

His appearance is being sponsored by the Lions club and the Womans club and the proceeds will be devoted to the undernourished school children's fund now being raised here to feed hot lunches to a number of Murphy school children at a minimum cost.

The Rev. W. A. Barber, new Methodist minister, was elected to membership by the club.

The Lions also went on record as willing to cooperate and support a public subscription fund for the survivors of the Johnson family whose home was demolished here last week when Midway lake dam burst.

No Ruling On TVA Yet By High Court

The Supreme Court had still failed to rule on the TVA's constitutionality to sell surplus power to municipalities Wednesday morning thus creating something of a record in the time it takes for that group to hand down a decision.

Those closely connected with the question believed the ruling would be made Monday but a packed gallery at Washington found nothing but disappointment, the Court's only decision being invalidation of a law made by the late Huey P. Long taxing newspapers and advertising.

While the Supreme Court usually hands down its ruling, within three weeks they have pondered the "yardstick" measurement for more than two months.

Expressed public opinion expects a split decision.

Midway Lake Gives Up Record Catch Of Fish

Glorious Midway lake, once a shimmering haven for bathers and fishermen, was nothing but a muddy, burnt-out stream this week following the bursting of its dam and literally thousands of fish—big bass and bream—flopped for life in puddles that wouldn't fill a teacup half full and died.

Many people who had gone there to view the wreckage found the fish by the basketful—the same fish that they might have spent an entire day without getting a few days before.

More than one frying pan was graced with the aquatic delicacy here during the past week.

After looking at the sea of fish Walt Mauney still claims he caught the granddaddy last summer.

SENIOR CLASS EXERCISES TO BE HELD TODAY

By Winifred Townson

The Senior class day exercises will be held Thursday morning at 10 o'clock in the auditorium. It will be conducted in the form of a class meeting with Anne Hill the president presiding. Other officers are: vice-president, Winifred Townson; Secretary and treasurer, Moselle Moore.

Elected to appear on the program are: The class poetess—Katherine Coleman; the historian, Ellen Cooper Axley; the last Will and Testament, Winifred Townson; the statistician, Moselle Moore and the prophesy, Blanche Grant.

The class song, to the tune of "Red Sails In the Sunset," was composed by Katherine Coleman, Ellen Cooper Axley and Moselle Moore.

The class yell was selected by Blanche Young and Winifred Townson.

It is not customary to have class day so early, but due to other arrangements for commencement this year we are having it sooner than usual.

Everyone is cordially invited.

FOUR IN AFFRAY ARE BOUND OVER TO HIGHER COURT

Clifford Allen, Walter Allen, Willard Clark and Bill Wall were bound over to the April term of Superior court Monday for allegedly engaging in an affray at the Davis Creek school house in Cherokee County. Each made bond in the amount of \$200 for his appearance at court.

The affray took place the night of December 19, 1935, but was only tried at this time because, in the excitement, one of the men allegedly stabbed S. T. Cook with a knife and he has been under treatment at the Petrie hospital. He is just now able to be out again. He attended the preliminary hearing which was held before Justice of the Peace D. M. Reese.

Swollen Rivers Keep TVA Men Busy Here

The recent storm and raging rivers have had their purpose after all—they provided the TVA with a lot of data they have been anxious to get for a long time.

Especially have the hydrological engineers been interested in a good flood-but none came. They scanned old newspapers for records—but there were none. Then they scratched their heads.

But when the rain beat the snow into the creeks and the rivers jumped their banks the engineers had plenty to do, and, no doubt, they learned a lot.

MRS. FRED DICKEY INJURED

Mrs. Fred Dickey was confined to the Petrie hospital here this week suffering from a broken leg sustained in a fall at her home Saturday night.

REV. M. O. ALEXANDER



SPECIAL SERVICES AT BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. M. O. Alexander, a worker of the N. C. Baptist State convention comes Monday to begin a series of services in our church. He will speak each evening at 7 o'clock. The purpose of these services is the deepening of the spiritual lives of the Christians.

Brother Alexander was for several years the pastor of the First Baptist church of Thomasville, N. C. In this connection he was pastor to our orphans boys and girls. He is a charming personality of deep consecration.

While this is a Baptist meeting, it is by no means confined to Baptists. Those of the other denominations are welcomed to join with us in these services.

Brother Alexander will be with us through Sunday night, February 23, and will bring his message, beginning next Monday, each evening at 7 o'clock. To get the greatest benefit from these services, make your plans to attend every service. However, if you miss one, do not let it keep you away from the others.

CANNERY PLANS TO OPERATE ON LARGER SCALE

\$28,000 Budget For Local Organization Is Set By Barr

Plan for a "considerably larger operation program" at the local cannery were laid out by officials at a meeting in the county agent's office in Murphy Saturday.

A budget of \$28,000, the same as last year's, has been approved by John E. Barr, general manager of the Land O' The Sky Mutual Canning association, of Waynesville, but E. R. Thompson, local cannery manager, said that much of last year's budget which was used up in buying machinery and organization can be put directly into the canning business here during 1936 and a larger profit will be noted.

The contracts, which will be handed out to farmers soon, are practically the same as that for 1935 except the profits from the Mountain Valley Mutual Canning association here will not be pooled this year as plans call for direct buying of vegetables.

Mr. Barr said the products were being sold "real well" on the market and that there should be no fear of a failure to market any amount of produce contracted for and brought in locally.

While the price of tomatoes, beans and berries—the three principal products bought here can not be anticipated at this time, they are expected to be even better than last season.

The contracts will soon be ready for distribution, Thompson said, and farmers that are interested in signing them are asked to get in touch either with him or A. Q. Ketner, the county agent.

Last year the local cannery furnished its growers with tomatoe plants but this practice will be abandoned this year, Thompson said, and contractors will have to grow their own plants from seed.

Included among the officials that attended the meeting were L. D. Staples, assistant to Mr. Barr, and Fred Sloan, extension horticulturist.

Section's Worst Storm Ends Leaving Bodies Of 6 In Its Wake; Details Are Recounted

Left Ill-Fated House Doesn't Know Why

Dennis Hampton, a son of Fred Hampton and a nephew of Mrs. Blaylock Johnson, recalled rather frightfully that he had had a very narrow escape when the Johnson home was washed away after Midway lake dam burst last week.

Dennis, it seems, was a visitor, as he quite often was, of the family Monday night. 'It was raining a torrent and he was invited to spend the night, as he quite often did. But for some reason, and he still can't understand why, he preferred to walk a half mile home through the storm—and, luckily, to safety.

"I usually stayed when I visited there at night. I had taken off my shoes to go to bed when I just decided to walk home. Why? I don't know", he said, his eyes dimmed with tears.

NOTED DRAMATIC ARTIST WILL BE PRESENTED HERE

The people of Murphy and vicinity next week will have an opportunity to hear one of the country's foremost dramatic artists, Mr. Edward Abner Thompson, of Boston, Mass., who comes here under the auspices of the Woman's Club and the Murphy Lions Club.

Mr. Thompson will give a program at the school auditorium Thursday night, February 20. One half of the proceeds from the sale of tickets will go into the Lions' fund to supply lunches to undernourished school children.

Mr. Thompson, who holds the degree of Master of Arts from Amherst College, of which the late Calvin Coolidge was an alumnus, teaches expression in the famous Curry School of Expression, Boston. Each year during the winter season he has a three months leave of absence, which time he devotes to appearances at the larger colleges and universities throughout the country.

Murphy is fortunate in being able to secure this outstanding artist for an appearance. This is possible because he will be visiting in this locality for a few days. At Murphy he will be the guest of Mrs. E. G. White.

Some of the local people, who remember Mr. Thompson from another visit to this town several years ago, recommend him highly as a man of sparkling wit, with a marvelous repertoire of dramatic readings.

Tickets will go on sale Monday through members of the Woman's club and high school students. Admission is 15 and 25 cents.

H. G. ELKINS ON THE MEND

Mr. H. G. Elkins, ill now and confined to his home and hospitals for the past several months with a hand infection as the result of a dogbite, is said to be still on the mend and it is hoped he will be out again soon.

FUND STARTED FOR JOHNSON FAMILY

His wife and son dead, his home and all his possessions washed away by a sweeping torrent of water from Midway lake when the dam burst there Tuesday morning a week ago, it is said that Mr. Blaylock Johnson is in dire straits.

It is also said that many in this section wish to give aid, financial or otherwise, to the unfortunate citizen, a respected man of the family, who has always cheerfully given all he could spare to others in time of need.

Therefore it is the aim of The Cherokee Scout to start a fund for the Johnson family. Arrangments have been made to leave all cash donations with the Citizens Bank & Trust company, or in case of produce or clothes donations to send word to this paper and they will be called for.

This drive will last two weeks and all donors will have their names and the amount published in this paper two weeks hence.

The Cherokee Scout will initiate the fund by donating \$10. It is understood that money has been collected for this purpose already and that Murphy merchants have given donations. If these who collected this money will get in touch with the Scout representative the donor's names will be published.

We urge everyone to give what they can for this worthy cause, any amount will be greatly appreciated. Just leave it at the Citizen's Bank.

Three Drown In Floods, Three More Are Frozen

As the Hiwassee river and other streams in Cherokee county lolled back in their regular beds this week, citizens here sorrowfully counted its dead numbered at six as a result of intense cold and icy floods during the most disastrous storm ever known here.

Traffic resumed once more, swollen rivers calm, residents her bowed their heads as victims were borne to their graves.

Hampton Memorial church, scene of the last rites Thursday afternoon of Mrs. Blaylock Johnson, 58, and her oldest son, Dewey, 28, who were drowned when Midway lake dam burst early Tuesday morning, was jammed with sympathizers as hundreds stood around outside, last tributes hardly audible.

All during the week persons ventured out to the scene of the disaster to view nothing but bare rocks where once the house had stood.

Others attended the Grape Creek church Thursday afternoon as another victim of the raging river, Blaine Moore, 22, was carried to his grave.

He was drowned Sunday night a week ago when he tumbled into the turbulent waters one mile below here.

At the same time fragmentary reports reached here of the death of two men at Appalachia in the very lower end of Cherokee county.

They were: Charley Holland, 40, and Charley Bowen, 17. Funeral services were held for them Monday.

Holland is said to have fallen in the river. He dragged himself out, exhausted he lay down on the shore and sub-zero weather froze him to death. The Bowen lad was found close to his home near Liberty also frozen to death.

Adding to the grief of the results of the storm were reports received here that an elderly lady of the Warne section had been found frozen to death in her bed, no fire, her woodbox empty.

Streams that were suddenly swollen to record heights by a downpour of rain all day Monday and Monday night a week ago which washed an average of four inches of snow off the mountains and lowlands into the creek, receded as quickly as they rose but not without taking its toll of life and halting traffic several times, seriously interfering with the regular transaction of business here.

As the bodies of Mrs. Johnson and her son were lifted from biers of driftwood and silt that were left when the snows had washed away and the river had receded from their cornfield, Murphy looked at its most horrible tragedy in awe and sorrow.

Scattered about were fragments of the house, torn to bits as the water and ice of Midway lake tore its way through a gorge a quarter of a mile long and swept the frame dwelling into the surging Hiwassee that had (Continued on back page)