

## FIRE WARDENS WAGE CAMPAIGN AGAINST BLAZES

### Birchfield Appoints Deputies; Discourages Burning Practices

D. M. Birchfield, newly appointed chief fire warden of Cherokee county Tuesday announced the appointment of five deputies and stated that a county wide campaign against forest fires had been started.

Wardens appointed were: Smoke-chasers, S. S. Birchfield, who will be located in the Murphy courthouse, and J. C. Crow, of Unaka, and wardens, John R. Jones, of Andrews, O. P. Taylor, of Suit, and Earl Payne, of Culberson, route 2.

Following appropriations of funds by the county commissioners a month ago to cooperate with the state forestry department in fighting and preventing fires in Cherokee county, Mr. Birchfield received his appointment.

He announced Tuesday that his organization had been perfected, and that any fire reported to his wardens or to the forestry department at Andrews, would quickly receive organized attention.

At present there is one fire tower in the county situated on top of Johanna bald near the Tatham gap section of Valleytown township. Another Mr. Birchfield said, is being contemplated in the lower end of the county.

Practices of burning off fields and woodland were branded as "injurious procedures" by Mr. Birchfield who claims they cause many costly forest fires here and injure young trees and fertile soil.

The new warden stated that anyone caught setting government property or public lands on fire would be punished to the full extent of the law.

In any case of fire, he announced, his wardens or himself will draw as many deputies as they need to combat the flames. A salary of 15 cents per hour is allowed for fire fighters, Mr. Birchfield said, but anyone suspected of starting fire can be deputized and made to fight the flame for nothing.

Cherokee county annually loses thousands of dollars through needless and careless forest fires, it is estimated. The old custom of burning off pasture lands is known to have started many of them.

"The practice of burning land is foolish. It certainly is not beneficial to the land as it burns up all the small trees and kills the big ones. It is very injurious to both farm and woodlands. If any fire through carelessness or not gets into government or public lands, the responsible parties will be held liable," Mr. Birchfield said.

### Miss Pauline Thompson Buried On Wednesday

Funeral services for Miss Pauline Thompson, 19, were conducted from the Marble Springs Baptist church Wednesday with the Rev. Algje West, pastor of the church, officiating. Interment was in the Marble cemetery.

Miss Thompson died Monday at the home of her foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Marion Crisp, of near Asheville, after a short illness of pneumonia.

Surviving besides Mr. and Mrs. Crisp are one sister, Mrs. Anita Cagle, and two brothers, Talmadge Thompson, of Gastonia, and Dewey Thompson, of Marble.

### Grey Fox Found Dead Near Ranger Home

If anyone lost a large grey fox with a collar around its neck they can call at the home of Mr. C. M. Dickey, at Ranger, and have him him back—or what is left of him.

Mr. Dickey reported Tuesday of having found the fox "dead only a few hours but badly mangled" about a quarter of a mile from his home (near the house of W. G. Coleman) early Saturday morning. He said there was a leather strap around the foxes neck but it bore no identification marks.

### Sees Adjournment On March 13 Or March 20

Adjournment on or before March 20, probably on March 13, is the prediction of Senator Johnson, who is president pro-tem of the senate and close to the administration and its plans.

"It is passable for us to adjourn Saturday a week," he said Monday "but some last minute work may hold both houses in session until the following week."

## Elf School Is Destroyed By Fire Thursday

The Elf high school building was destroyed by fire early Thursday morning and a falling wall, later in the morning, caused serious injuries to Burgess Patton, 11, a student, son of Hoke Patton, of the Elf community of Clay county.

The baby, a spectator of the smouldering ruins, was standing close to the brick wall when it crashed, some of the debris striking him on the head. He was rushed to Dr. Whitfield's hospital in Murphy where attendants said he was suffering from shock, concussion of the brain, and possible internal injuries. Although serious, his condition is not believed to be critical.

The loss, caused by the fire, is estimated at \$30,000, with no insurance carried. The Clay county board of education is to meet Friday morning at Hayesville to discuss plans for providing facilities for the continuance of school work.

Four hundred students attended classes at the Elf school of which J. Walter Moore is principal. The building was erected in 1928. It was a one-story brick structure and had nine class rooms and an auditorium. It was located six miles east of Hayesville on Highway No. 64.

Cause of the blaze has not been determined. The fire was discovered at 2 a. m. by Hardy Cassady, janitor of the school, who resides nearby. He turned in an alarm, but facilities were lacking for effective fire fighting.

The Patton boy was injured about 11 a. m. He is in the sixth grade.

## Sex Hygiene Conference Held Monday

Twenty-six members of the school personnels of Cherokee and Clay counties Monday heard an illustrated lecture on sex hygiene by Dr. G. M. Leiby, of the State Board of Health, at Andrews. Following an open forum discussion at the end of the meeting they agreed a state legislative program designed to acquaint the people of the alarming status of venereal diseases was the only feasible means of bringing the alarming facts of this heretofore publically undiscussed subject in the open.

It was brought out at the meeting that "parents were not ready to discuss these serious problems with their children", but that something had to be done to curb the diseases that are running rampant in the schools as well as in private lives.

Dr. Leiby, who is conducting a series of such meetings in cooperation with the State Board of Health, stated that it was best that the teachers first become acquainted with the facts and impart the knowledge to the pupils.

He brought out the fact that about 45,000 people in the state are affected by the disease and that 20 per cent of them are in the public schools. Venereal disease, he said, affect 28 times as many people in North Carolina as all other diseases put together.

Attending were 12 delegates from Murphy, 12 from Andrews and four from Clay county.

### Mr. William E. Crye Buried At Knoxville

Mr. William E. Crye, Knoxville business executive and church leader, who was widely known here, died in a stalled taxi cab in front of his home in Knoxville Saturday night.

Funeral services were held Monday for Mr. Crye, a son-in-law of the late W. A. Bryson, of Murphy, and a nephew to Mrs. Grace Cooper by marriage.

Mr. Crye, 49, had ridden in the cab from Myres-Whately Co., machinery manufacturers of which he was secretary and office manager.

The car stalled in the snow in front of the Crye home and Yellow Cab Driver Nelson went to telephone for aid. He returned a few minutes later to find his passenger lifeless.

Mr. Crye had been in uncertain health for two years. He was chairman of trustees of Magnolia Avenue Methodist Church and a member of the board of stewards, active in Masonic and Marine organizations and much interested in politics. He usually served as an officer at Chilhowee School polls and was once a candidate for the county court clerkship. Mr. Crye was associated with Myres

Whaley Co. for 17 years. Previously he was with the Lenoir Car Works at Lenoir City.

He leaves the wife, Mrs. Lillian Crye; one son, William E. Jr., and one daughter, Miss Frances Crye, of Hendersonville, N. C.

### "NUMBER SIX" . . .

(Continued from front page) Meantime parties had discovered that cache in its hiding place and, Mr. Norvell said the legend continues, the thieving parties stole and scattered the precious nuggets from Cherokee county to north Georgia where they attempt to capitalize on their efforts rather than keep their lucrative possession.

Whether this dishonest art of "salting", as it is known, ever brought any fortune to its perpetrators has never been learned.

The land transferred, it was again mined and several men managed to make "wages" off the land. There was no other means of regular income here then.

The land, Mr. Norvell says, contains iron ore and white and blue marble. It was found one time that the iron ore analyzes 58.80 per cent metallic iron. The talc vein lies between a marble vein on the southeast and a sandstone on the northeast.

The plot of ground is so named because it sold in the land sales of 1838 as section number six of tract number six. A creek in that area that defines the town limits of Murphy has been named after the lot.

### LANDOWNERS . . .

(Continued From Front Page) are as follows:

All landowners contracted with will not be required to surrender possession until Dec. 31, 1937.

Landowners are permitted to remove all buildings and fences, unless otherwise notified by the Authority

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at the time of signing the contract, provided the removal is made by Dec. 31, 1937.

After the landowners enter into a contract with the Authority, no timber, except for firewood purposes or personal use, may be removed by them; and for that purpose, only the timber below the 1526 contour line shall be used. If, however, timber has been cut prior to the date of contract, but after the cruise has been made, a deduction will be made for same.

It is through this system of acquisition that land is easiest and less expensively transferred, officials said and anyone who has clear titles to their property will be paid within 30 days after transaction is made.

TVA rates are higher than prevailing rates as a result of the system of acquisition practiced by the TVA, and the lower appraisal and purchasing expenses are kept at a minimum thus providing more money for the seller.

Since payment for land with clear titles can be made within 30 days and the TVA is actively buying their land here at present, the man who sells his land has a chance to purchase new property before he is forced to move, officials pointed out.

### COUNTY LIQUOR . . .

(Continued From Front Page) liquor law, at least 45 days must elapse from the time the election is called by the board of elections until the voters have a chance to express their views at the polls. The act provides for a 20-day notice of election and usual 15-day registration period. Another ten days would have to elapse before election day.

#### Sale To Be Controlled

If the county would vote to have liquor stores the county board of commissioners, county board of education and the county board of health, at a joint meeting, would elect a county board of alcoholic control consisting of a chairman, named for three years; one member

for two years, and a third member, for one year. Their successors would be appointed for three-year terms.

Upon its appointment, the county board would be empowered to borrow money to purchase initial supplies and equipment, to establish stores, to name store managers and regulations for operation of the ABC stores, and to fix the opening and closing hours somewhere between 9 a. m. and 9 p. m.

It would cooperate with the state control board in the establishment of uniform regulations and prices. All the profits would go to the county, except a sum of between five and ten per cent of the net profits must be spent on enforcement of the liquor laws.

The liquor control act does not fix any tax, but the revenue bill contemplates a seven per cent state tax on gross sales.

#### May Possess One Gallon

The liquor law as recently adopted by the General Assembly permits the transportation and possession of not more than one gallon of government whiskey providing it is legal whiskey and the seal is not broken during transportation.

Under section 14, the law is stated as follows:

"Sec. 14. It shall not be unlawful for any person to transport a quantity of alcoholic beverages not in excess of one gallon from a county in North Carolina coming under the provisions of this act to or through another county in North Carolina not coming under the provisions of this act: Provided, said alcoholic beverages are not being transported for the purpose of sale, and provided further that the cap or seal on the container or containers of said alcoholic beverages has not been opened or broken. Nothing contained in this act shall be construed to prevent the transportation through any county not coming under the provisions of this act, of alcoholic beverages in actual course of delivery to any Alcoholic Beverage coming under the provisions of this act."

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