

Active
And
Attractive
That's—
MURPHY

The Cherokee Scout

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

Largest
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Any Paper
Ever Pub-
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MURPHY TO BE DECORATED FOR XMAS HOLIDAYS

Charity League Raises Money for Lighting Effect on Square

Murphy will be decorated like the king's palace after all. And when St. Nick comes tearing over in his sleigh Christmas he won't have to look twice to spot the town.

Through the enterprise of the Charity League and the merchants and the citizens of the town, a beautiful canopy of lights will be strung up from each of the eight points of the public square to a Christmas tree in the center of the Bull Moose pen.

Realizing that other towns in this section had provided Christmas lights and decorations for the holidays season, the drive on the part of the girls was begun Wednesday morning.

More than \$60 was subscribed in the direct canvass of the town and assurances were given that the remainder would be donated.

Immediately H. G. Elkins, of the Southern States Power company, ordered the fixin's from Asheville, and preparations were made to raise the decorations today (Thursday).

They will consist of 240 varicolored bulbs on green-trimmed wire. From the top of the huge tree in the pen, the rope will be swung out to each of the eight points of the square; and the resulting effect will be quite different from any other in Western North Carolina.

Meantime business in town was taking a great upswing as real Christmas buying was getting under full way.

Federation Has Meeting On Saturday

Plans for opening a Farmers Federation warehouse in Murphy moved a step nearer fulfillment Saturday when a number of persons attending a federation meeting in the courthouse made cash payments for stock to which they had previously subscribed.

Despite cold weather, which made it difficult for persons living at a distance to attend, 75 were present for the meeting.

The farm cooperative's aims, its past record and its plan of organization were discussed by James G. K. McClure, president; Guy M. Sales, general manager, R. Church Crowell, vice president, and Vance Browning, educational director.

More than 270 persons, Mr. Crowell said, have subscribed to stock shares in connection with the proposed new federation unit, which will serve Cherokee, Clay and Graham counties, North Carolina, and Towns, Union and Fannin counties, Georgia.

Another meeting of those interested in the Cherokee unit of the federation is to be held early in January.

At Saturday's meeting a resolution was unanimously adopted directing that requests be made to both North Carolina senators to sponsor an amendment to crop control legislation now before congress to exempt from any restrictions the production of burley tobacco by individual farmers up to 5,000 pounds.

Prior to adoption of this amendment Mr. McClure had pointed out the necessity for Western North Carolina farmers to have at least one cash crop. At present very little tobacco is grown in this section of the state, except in Graham county; but many farmers in Cherokee and Clay counties are becoming interested in burley production.

"Every farmer in Western North Carolina," Mr. McClure said, "should grow at least an acre or two of tobacco."

Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Slaughter, of Robbinsville, were visitors in Murphy Monday.

Church Basement Is Flooded—Meal Off

Tough luck seems to dog the steps of the Methodist ladies who furnish the Lions club with their meals.

Tuesday night the ladies, with tender chickens and home-cured hams dangling from their arms, entered the church to perform their semi-monthly task.

But once inside they found that the water pipes in the church had been frozen, had thawed, and that there was about eight inches of water all over the basement. The meeting was called off.

Not a year ago, it is recalled a dog jumped in the window and stole all their meat.

Henn Is Named Chairman Of Roosevelt Ball

P. J. Henn, Murphy Theater owner has been appointed general chairman of the fifth annual Cherokee County Roosevelt ball to be held on Friday night, Jan. 28, it has been announced here.

Although Mr. Henn said Wednesday that no definite plans had been made so far, he is expected to appoint a county wide committee to help him with the arrangements within the next few days.

Mr. Henn has already made preparations to contact a number of good orchestras and stated that he "hoped to have the best music here ever heard in Murphy".

On four previous occasions dances have been held in Cherokee county with all towns and communities cooperating. Last year the affair, which is held annually on President Franklin D. Roosevelt's birthday for the benefit of infantile paralysis victims and research, was held in Andrews and was sponsored by the Konaheeta club with Miss Josephine Bradley in charge of arrangements. W. M. Mauney, Murphy druggist was the general chairman.

This year Western North Carolina's newest village—the Hiwassee Dam—is expected to add materially in making the ball in this county a great success.

TOY MATINEE IS GIVEN WEDNESDAY AT HENN THEATER

Good folks always see to it that Santa Claus doesn't miss the children on Christmas night—no matter how poor or rich they may be.

A fine lot of used toys were obtained for children of this community Wednesday when a toy matinee was given at the Henn Theater.

The movement was sponsored by the Charity League and was promoted through the courtesy of P. J. Henn, the theater owner.

Children were admitted free to the show for merely giving a toy for his admission. The toys will now be rented by the club members and distributed among the needy children during Christmas.

MINERAL BLUFF PEACHTREE WILL PLAY IN FINALS

Mineral Bluff and Peachtree will engage tonight (Thursday) in the finals of the eight-team basketball tournament which has been conducted here Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights.

Mineral Bluff went to the finals last night by virtue of a one-point victory over the Rayesville quintette, and Peachtree had a three point margin over the Varsity club. The scores were Mineral Bluff 22 vs. Hayesville 21 and Peachtree 34 vs. Varsity club 31.

The first nights scores were as follows: Varsity Club 50 vs. Unaka 30, Hayesville 43 vs. Murphy 26, and Mineral Bluff 17 vs. Elf 15.

Miss Sara Ruth Posey spent the week-end with her grandparents in Andrews.

CIRCUIT PASTOR KILLED IN FALL ON ICE AT HOME

Rev. J. J. Edwards, 70, Had Been in County During Past Month

Funeral services for the Rev. J. J. Edwards, 70-year-old Methodist minister of the Murphy circuit, who was killed almost instantly last Thursday morning when he slipped on ice at his home near Murphy, were conducted at Troutman, N. C., near Winston-Salem, Friday.

Mr. Edwards came to Cherokee county three weeks ago from Franklin where he had served in the same capacity for the past year. His appointment was made following the annual conference at Asheville recently.

The minister, who became extremely popular with his congregation in this section, is said to have left his house for his well about 8 o'clock Thursday morning to draw a bucket of water. Near the well curb he slipped and fell, striking his head on a projecting rock. Death was almost instantaneous.

Mr. Edwards took the place of the Rev. J. C. Staring, who was transferred a month ago, and had been living in the circuit parsonage on the Copperhill road four miles south of here. The attractive home was built by the Rev. Johnnie Carper who served the same circuit two years ago.

Rites were held in the Methodist church at Troutman with the Rev. W. A. Rollins, presiding elder of Waynesville, officiating, assisted by the Rev. W. A. Newell, of Morganton, the Rev. John Hoyle, Jr., of Statesville, and the Rev. J. W. Moore, of Marion. Funeral arrangements were in charge of W. D. Townson, of Murphy.

Although born and reared in Virginia, Mr. Edwards moved to Haywood county in his youth and had spent most of his life there. He became affiliated with the Methodist conference in 1901 and was considered one of its leading ministers.

No successor to his leadership in the circuit had been named this week.

Surviving are: his wife; two daughters, Mrs. Ivor Vance, of Plumtree, N. C., and Mrs. B. L. Hayes, of Franklin; a son, Tevis, of Mars Hill, and two sisters, Mrs. T. P. Evans, of Wilmington, Va., and Mrs. Lloyd McGee, of Enoree, S. C.

Ralph Moody Accepts Position In Raleigh

Mr. Ralph Moody, prominent Murphy attorney, left Saturday for Raleigh where he recently received an appointment as assistant council in the North Carolina Unemployment compensation department.

For the past number of years Mr. Moody has practiced law in this section of Western North Carolina with his father, Col. J. N. Moody. He was a member of the firm Moody and Moody.

He is president of the Western North Carolina Bar association.

Robbinsville Lions Club Is Sponsored

A group of Murphy Lions went to Robbinsville Wednesday night to establish a new club in that community.

The final outcome of the trip and the personnel of the newest Lionsism organization could not be ascertained at press time.

Those going from Murphy were: H. G. Elkins, Dr. Edd Adams, Peyton G. Ivie, and W. A. Sherrill.

This makes the third new club sponsored by the Murphy club in the past year—those being at Sylva, Blainsville and Robbinsville.

Jerry Davidson, Jr., who is connected with the Public Safety division of TVA, at Guntersville, Ala., will arrive Thursday to spend Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Davidson.

Phone Rate Increase To Be Required If Improved System Is Installed Here

Raymond Nix, Of Copperhill, Slain Sunday

Raymond Nix, 23-year-old employee of the Tennessee Copper Co., died in a hospital at Copperhill about 2:30 p. m. Sunday from a pistol wound received two hours earlier. The shooting occurred at McCaysville, Ga., across the river from Copperhill.

Police Chief B. L. Blair of McCaysville, had arrested two suspects for questioning Sunday night and had them transferred to the Fannin county jail at Blue Ridge, Ga. He gave their names as W. P. (Bill) Nidifer and A. B. Hall.

Nix was shot as he walked toward the home of his parents in Hawkins Town, suburb of Copperhill. He walked home, stumbled into the house and told relatives someone fired at him from the window of a house. His condition at first was not thought to be serious, but he was transferred to the hospital. The wound was in his right shoulder.

Nix is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Nix; his widow, two small children and several brothers and sisters.

Real Opportunity For Santa Claus In Letters

Old Santa Claus is receiving a lot of letters but very few like the one that follows. We would all do well to read this one and then stop to consider what Christmas really means.

Murphy, N. C., Rte. 1

Dear Santa,
I am a little boy 10 years old, don't get to go to school much, am sick most of the time. I live with my Grandpa and Ma. they are old and not able to work. Grandma is sick all the time. If Santa don't come I will get nothing for Xmas. would like a gun, a harp, a pair of gloves some candy and nuts some clothes or anything. I would be thankful for anything.

With love,
Howard Henson.
In care of T. C. Edwards, Rte. 1.

Mars Hill Students To Return For Christmas

Miss Edith Breedlove, Miss Kate Robinson and Robert Rodgers, all of Murphy and Miss Glenn Franklin, Miss June Almond and Miss Mary Lou Almond, all of Andrews, will return from Mars Hill college on Friday, December 17, for the Christmas holidays.

They will be back at college in time for the reopening of the session on January 3.

Miss Latham Writes, Appears In Comedies

By presenting a one-act folk play of her own origination, and taking a lead part in a similar production all in the same night Miss Lois Latham, of Rainbow Springs and Murphy, became even more conspicuous in Playmaker circles at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Thursday night.

Miss Latham's play was entitled, "Hello Hanging Dawg", a comedy of the mountains of North Carolina, and the production she appeared in was "Washed in De Blood", a symphonic play of Negro life.

Through this dramatic feat, Miss Latham becomes the only student at the University of North Carolina who has had two plays produced in one quarter. Of the eight plays produced in three months, she has written two of them. She is taking a course of special playwriting study under Paul Green.

Utilities Commissioner Passes Information to Local Citizens

WANTS REACTION

Slight Increase Over Present Rates Would Bring New Outfit

An improved telephone system will be installed in Murphy if the subscribers are "willing to a slight increase in monthly rental charges".

This, in substance, was the information received here this week from Stanley Winborne, utilities commissioner of North Carolina. The information came in the form of a letter addressed to Mayor J. B. Gray and to Dr. J. N. Hill, chairman, and Dr. Edward E. Adams, secretary, of the Cherokee County Medical society.

In event new equipment were installed the new rates for independent lines would be: business phones, \$3.50 per month, and Residence phones, \$2.25 per month. At present the business phone rental charge is \$3.25 and the residential phone is \$2. Four-party line rates are \$2.25 for the business phone and \$1.50 for the residence phone. Two-party line rates are \$2.75 for the business phone and \$1.75 for the residence phone.

The letter also stated that "in order to convert the present magneto system to a common battery system would require a total expenditure of \$10,500" and that the new rates would be "in line with rates this Commission has fixed for other exchanges of comparable size, and where in some cases the annual revenue which the Company receives is greater than in Murphy". Over the past ten-year period, the communication pointed out, the annual profit of the Murphy exchange has been 3.11 per cent.

The entire letter is as follows: This is in further reference to change in the telephone exchange in your town, which has been the subject of our recent communications.

As a result of conferences with Mr. W. E. Duncan, Carolinas Manager of the Southern Bell system, in which the matter has been thoroughly gone into, Mr. Duncan has written me a letter confirming what was said in the conferences.

As examination of the accounts of the Company for the last ten years, reveals that the annual profit made at the Murphy exchange for said period of time has been only 3.11 per cent. The survey by the Engineering Department shows that in order to convert the present magneto system to a common battery system would require a total expenditure of \$10,500.

In consideration of the smallness of the profit, as above stated, and the

(Continued on page seven)

FREEZING RAINS CAUSE ACCIDENTS ON LOCAL ROADS

Rain at freezing temperatures made local highways a menace during the past week and a number of minor automobile wrecks were reported. No one is known to have suffered serious injuries.

Included in the list of accidents was the turning over of the car of L. A. Lee, publisher of the Scout, three miles south of here on the Copperhill highway early Monday morning. It was reported that five similar accidents took place on the same highway that morning and preceding night.

TEMPERATURES				
	1937		1936	
Date	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.
3	32	22	60	22
9	34	9	60	23
10	35	3	62	49
11	38	0	55	45
12	39	15	46	31
13	40	32	53	19
14	59	39	53	21