

LOCAL MEN SEEK ROAD PAVING AT BLUE RIDGE MEET

Confer with Highway Commissioners and Fannin County Men

A delegation from Cherokee county composed of Mayor J. B. Gray of Murphy, Joe E. Ray, president of Murphy Chamber of Commerce, and E. A. Wood, county commissioner, met with two members of the Georgia highway commission and a large gathering of Fannin county citizens in Blue Ridge Wednesday in an effort to find a means for paving the stretch of dirt road between the North Carolina state line and Blue Ridge.

Representatives of Fannin were state representatives Cecil Hartness, the mayor of Blue Ridge, George Curtis, district commissioner of Revenue and roads and a large number of prominent civic and business leaders of the county.

The conference was to have been with Governor Talmadge, scheduled Jackson Day speaker at Morganton, but he was unable to attend. Instead Mr. Vandiver and Mr. Tyson, state highway commissioners represented him.

Although no definite steps were taken toward actual paving of the dirt stretch, a positive indication of a project to improve the road with paving to be later project was evidenced.

Commissioners Vandiver and Tyson indicated that they, in accordance with the desires of citizens of Fannin county and of this county, favored the repair of this road but at the present time the state of Georgia was not in a position to undertake the project. They did show a great willingness to sponsor a WPA project, however, to give the road a regrading and a good gravel surface until arrangements could be made for paving.

Pointing out that the Blue Ridge road was as badly in need of repair as any road in state of Georgia the two commissioners showed an eagerness to see it finished. They expressed the opinion, however, that coming paving of the road could not be undertaken until it became a federal project in cooperation with the State. This they would seek, they said, in hopes that such an arrangement could be made within the near future.

With the state applying for a WPA project for repairing and surfacing the road as the sponsor, a new grade could be worked on the stretch and a gravel surface placed. This, then, could be a base for later paving the entire link under a federal project.

224 CHEROKEE MEN GET EMPLOYMENT IN DEFENSE WORK

The Murphy employment office registered 224 applicants for work who were placed in construction jobs at one of the three national defense projects at Fort Bragg, Camp Davis at Holly Ridge and Douglas Airport, near Charlotte in the five months beginning with October, 1940, and through February, 1941. Chairman Charles G. Powell, of the State Unemployment Compensation Commission report.

Through the State clearance system, operated by the Employment Service Division, workers were sent from the local employment office during this five months period as follows: October, 74; November, 27; December, 6; January, 15; and February, 102.

The many friends of Dr. S. C. Heighway will be glad to learn he is improved after an illness.

Volunteers Complete Sixth Draft Quota of County; Leave April 8

A contingent of 13 volunteers will leave Murphy at 7:30 o'clock Tuesday morning, April 8, for Fort Jackson, S. C., as Cherokee county's quota in the sixth draft call, the local board has announced.

The men making up this list of selectees are as follows:

- Kenneth E. Rose, Murphy, Rt. 3.
- Kenneth Hardin Ledford, Marble, Rt. 1.
- James Edgar Ledford, Marble Rt. 1.
- William Howard Cloer, Marble, Rt. 1.
- Horace Quinton Hickey, Hiwassee Dam.
- Robert Lee Huskins, Marble, Rt. 1.
- Robert Allen, Jr., Murphy, Rt. 2.
- John Kenneth Allen, Murphy, Rt. 2.
- Utie Sherill Revis, Marble, Rt. 1.
- John Benjamin Foster, Ranger.
- Charlie Bascomb Davenport, Culberson, Rt. 1.
- Rugh Wilson Rogers, Murphy, Rt. 3.

The quota for the next call, which is scheduled for April 14, will be made up of 12 men from this county who will probably also be sent to Fort Jackson.

So far every draftee taken from Cherokee county has been a volunteer but, since the list of volunteers has dwindled to so low a figure, it is highly probably that the local board will exercise the right of compulsory training to a certain extent in the next quota.

Many Entries Submitted In Lake Naming Contest; April 15 Closing Date

A large number of entries have been received so far in the contest to find a name for the new lake being built on Persimmon creek by the forestry department, W. M. Palmer, district ranger, reported this week.

Palmer called attention to the fact that the closing date for submitting entries is April 15, however, and urged all persons who plan to enter to do so before the deadline.

The Murphy Chamber of Commerce is offering a cash prize of \$15.00 to the person who submits the winning name.

LIONS ARE HOSTS TO CROWD OF 100 AT ANNUAL DINNER

A crowd of approximately 100 persons of Murphy and neighboring towns gathered in the Methodist church Friday for the annual Cherokee county dinner sponsored by the Murphy Lions Club.

W. M. Fain, originator of the annual dinner and one of the oldest members of the club extended a welcome to the visitors as first speaker of the evening.

Other speakers introduced by club president P. G. Ivie were Jack Lance, president of Young Harris college, Mayor J. B. Gray, Mrs. E. G. White and C. L. McCaslan.

An elaborate program of classical and semi-classical music, given by Mrs. Virginia Gustafson Fisher and George Tracy of the faculty of Western Carolina Teachers college, was warmly received by the gathering. Another special feature of the program was the showing of a special sports picture, sponsored by T. W. Kindley local Coca Cola distributor.

The entire menu for the dinner consisted of foods produced in Cherokee county, which was the original purpose of the dinner when begun ten years ago.

Three Plead Guilty in Slaying of Dam Worker at Andrews

DRUNK DRIVERS FLOOD DOCKET OF APRIL COURT

Fifty-Eight Cases Heard by Alley in First Three Days

Fifty eight cases of drunken driving were before Judge Felix Alley during the April term of the Superior Court which convened Monday, and probably will be in session through most of next week. A large proportion of these cases were from this section, most of the offenders being employed at The Utah Construction Company's Dam project.

In every instance the defendant pleaded guilty and in every case the sentence was the same. Judge Alley fined each of the drunken drivers fifty dollars and costs, making a total of about eighty dollars, and added a sentence of 90 days on the roads. The jail sentence was suspended, however, and the defendants put on probation for periods of five years each. Most of the fines were paid at once. In other instances time was granted in order that the penalties might be met on the "installment plan." Automatically of course, the drivers license of every offender was confiscated, and will eventually be formally revoked by the State authorities in Raleigh.

Pleading through Mayor J. B. Gray, of Murphy, one project worker begged the Judge not to take his license away for a month. Mayor Gray pointed out that his client, unable to find living quarters close to his work had been forced to take up residence several miles distant, and would not be able to get to his job without a car. An extension of time was asked in order that the defendant might make a new effort to find a home from which he would be able to walk to work, or make arrangements for transportation by a neighbor. Judge Alley expressed sympathy but declared that fairness prevented him from making any exceptions.

Bueck Announces Skeleton Schedule For Commencement

Dr. E. W. Daniels, of the English department of Clemson college, will deliver the commencement address, and Rev. W. L. Hutchins, superintendent of Waynesville district of the Methodist church, will deliver the baccalaureate sermon in the closing exercises of the Murphy schools this year, H. Bueck, superintendent, has announced.

Details and schedule of commencement exercises were not available this week as the program has not been completed. An elaborate program is being prepared for the seventh grade graduating exercises, however which will include all the exercises of the elementary grades.

The Senior class graduating exercises and commencement address will be given on Friday night.

The seventh grade exercises will take place Friday night, April 25; the baccalaureate sermon will be delivered Sunday morning, April 27; and the senior graduating exercises and commencement address will be given Monday night, April 28. Eighty-nine seniors will be graduated by the Murphy school this year.

Grand Jury Brings 54 True Bills, 1 Not True

The Cherokee county grand jury sitting in session during the April term of criminal court completed the docket of new cases Wednesday afternoon bringing in 54 true bills as against 1 not true bill.

Practically all these cases have been heard by Judge Felix Alley and the remainder of old cases will probably carry this term into next week.

New Welfare Board For County Named; Ray Is Appointed

Joe E. Ray, of Murphy, was appointed a member of the Cherokee county welfare board this week by the state board of charities and public welfare.

Ray and Harve M. Whitaker, who was selected by the county board of commissioners to the welfare board, will select a third member to serve with them. It is expected that Mrs. J. F. Wood, member of the old board will be chosen again. R. C. Mattox is the past chairman of the board for this county.

Appointment of a member of the board of the county board by the state organization was made necessary through a new law enacted in the 1941 General Assembly. The two members appointed by the state and county will serve terms of two years, while the third member, selected by the first two, will serve a term of one year. Members are not allowed to serve more than three terms or six consecutive years.

The new welfare board will have the duty of selecting the superintendent of welfare who will take office July 1, for an indefinite term under the new merit system.

Duties of the superintendent are to act as executive officer of the county board and appoint office personnel, administer old age assistance and aid to dependent children, supervise indigent persons and administer county poor funds, act as agent for the state board, issue employment certificates, submit cases of sterilization to the Eugenics board, investigate juvenile court.

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S. S. CONFERENCE MEETS SUNDAY AT HOPEWELL CHURCH

The Tri-Township Sunday School conference will meet at the Hopewell Baptist church Sunday afternoon, April 6, at 2 o'clock. The general theme of the meeting will be "Going on in Enlargement and Bible Study for Evangelism."

The program for the meeting is as follows: 2:00—Song and worship; 2:15—Devotional, Hopewell Sunday school; 2:25—Platform of Progress, N. O. Kilpatrick; 2:30—When a Sunday School Teacher Teaches, Everette R. White; 2:45—How May We Have a Better Bible Study Year, J. V. Hall; 2:55—Roll call of Sunday schools and awarding of attendance recognition; 3:05—Business; 3:10—Adjournment.

All officers and teachers of Sunday schools in the conference are urged to attend the meeting and bring as large delegations as possible by the chairman of the conference, N. O. Kilpatrick.

Wiggins, Thrasher and Stewart Submit To Manslaughter Charge

Fred Wiggins, Claude Stewart, and Hesia Thrasher, defendants on trial for the murder of James Workman last November at his home in Andrews, entered pleas of guilty to manslaughter Thursday morning in Cherokee county superior court.

Wiggins was the only one actually charged with the murder, while Stewart and Thrasher were charged with being accessories to the slaying.

Judge Felix Alley stated that sentence would be passed Friday morning. Manslaughter carries a penalty of from four months to twenty years in prison.

The hearing of the Workman slaying trial opened Wednesday and one witness, O. B. Sutton an eye-witness to the affray from which the tragedy resulted, testified. When court opened again Thursday morning, attorneys for the defense entered guilty pleas for all three defendants. Testimony of other principle witnesses, including Dora Ray, supposed wife of the dead man, L. J. McCarty and L. D. Schooley, eye-witness, and Sheriff Townson were heard after the pleas were entered.

Signed confessions of Stewart and Wiggins, both of which stated that Wiggins was the slayer, were read and offered in evidence.

Workman was slain on the night of November 21, in front of his home near Andrews, following a bitter quarrel involving all three defendants, Dora Ray, and L. D. Schooley. During the quarrel, guns were displayed by Thrasher and Stewart, and threats were made against Schooley. Workman intervened, and became involved in the argument.

After several minutes of arguing heatedly, the quarrel was apparently made up and Thrasher and Workman shook hands. A moment later, however, Thrasher stepped from the crowd and Wiggins snatched his gun away, in an effort, Wiggins said, to stop hostilities.

The gun was cocked when he grabbed it, Wiggins stated, and went off in his hands, the charge striking Workman on the neck, killing him, and several shots hitting the face of Mrs. Workman (Dora Ray.)

At the beginning of the trial the solicitor indicated that he would seek a conviction against Wiggins for second-degree murder, and full convictions against Stewart and Thrasher on the charges against them; assault with a deadly weapon.

MARKET SALES INCREASE

Sales in the Roadside Market, sponsored by the county home demonstration clubs, have shown an increase from \$19.00 in January to \$77.73 in March, it was reported this week.

The Weather Vane

Listed below are maximum and minimum temperatures and precipitation for the past week compared with similar data for last year:

	1940		1941	
	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.
March 26	59	15	65	28
27	63	24	60	40
28	64	50	55	29
29	74	45	52	35
30	72	50	62	24
31	74	32	61	29
April 1	72	35	58	44
2	84	42	62	30
Precipitation	1940		1941	
Total for this week	1.08		1.18	
Total for March	4.29		4.67	
Total for year to date	12.57		8.99	