

## NIGHT TRAINS CONSIDERED FOR MURPHY

### MIRACLE SAVES BOY IN CONTACT WITH LIVE WIRE

#### Son Of Gay Johnson Is But Slightly Burned By Touch Of Death

The young son of Gay Johnson, of the Brass town section, came in contact with a deadly live wire carrying enough voltage to mean instant death, and escaped with only slight injuries last Wednesday afternoon. His miraculous escape from death occurred near his home, on the Murphy-Hayesville road.

The boy was knocked senseless, and it was with but little hope that the ambulance of Peyton G. Ivie was summoned. Before the ambulance arrived, however, the boy recovered consciousness, and save for a slight burn, was apparently none the worse. An electrician said the wire he had contacted carried as high voltage as that used to execute a man in the electric chair.

The deadly wire had touched the boy's forehead—a spot close to the brain, and almost invariably fatal; yet his burns were so slight that it was not even found necessary to take him to a hospital. First aid treatment was sufficient, and the boy was taken home, where, today, he apparently is playing about the house, as usual.

According to witnesses the boy was riding his tricycle across a lawn and ducked to pass beneath a wire. This wire was resting on a power-line, and hence was charged with high voltage. The boy did not duck quite low enough, and the wire brushed his head.

He was knocked from his tricycle and fell motionless, but a moment later he sat up, wondering just what had happened to him.

### Final Tributes Paid To Mrs. Pink Cochran

Mrs. Pink Cochran died in her home in Wolf Creek Tuesday morning following a heart attack from which she never regained consciousness. She leaves a husband and two children.

The Cochrans have been residents of the Wolf Creek community for several years.

Funeral services were held in the Macedonia Baptist Church.

### Girls, Beer And Champagne Taken As Two Battalions "Capture" Murphy

The army was here Tuesday night at least a part of it. Olive drab was decidedly the style of the moment, as more than 1200 khaki-clad Nomads flooded local cafes, barber-shops, pool-rooms and the movies.

Nomadic is the proper description too, for the 75th is a new type mobile outfit, specializing in rapid maneuvering. Most of the men are from Camp Leonard Wood, Missouri, although some are from even more remote spots. They recently have been maneuvering in Texas, Louisiana, and South Carolina. The two battalions are composed of both army regulars and draftees.

All they desired, at least nearly all, was to be treated like homefolks. Money is their chief worry, girls their principal avocation. One of the things they decidedly don't like is to be cornered by some old army man and have the "Spirit of '76" pumped into them in time with congenial thumps on the back.

The soldiers liberally "took" the town. Male Murphysites saw their best girls whisked away on the arms of the army. Those who dropped in at local cafes for a cold bottle of

### Priority Ratings Kill Highway Construction; Minor Repairs Are O. K.

The long-hoped for road improvements in Western North Carolina seem doomed for the duration of the war, State Highway Commissioner P. L. Ferebee said yesterday.

Because of the effect of priority ratings on equipment and materials necessary for road construction, Ferebee said, the Commission must abandon most construction projects.

Ferebee attended the Commission meeting in Raleigh last week, with County Commissioner E. A. Wood. He said that, although defense priorities definitely eliminate any thought of construction work in the near future, minor repairs and alterations will continue as usual.

### '42 License Plates Are Black On Gold; Ready Since Dec. 1

North Carolina's 1942 license plates, which went on sale December 1st, feature bold black numerals on a gold background, long considered one of the most striking and visible color combinations of the section.

The new tags are in sharp contrast with the 1941 color combination of gold figures on a black background, which were more conservative than the reverse color scheme of the 1942 plates, and did not stand out as boldly as the new ones.

In other states and sections of North America, 1942 licenses will have a wide color range, according to a list compiled by officials of the Carolina Motor Club. Only Texas shares North Carolina's combination of black-on-gold.

Nineteen other states will reverse their colors in the new issue of plates. Two states will keep their old colors.

### Infant William Hartness Dies; Buried Thursday

William Eugene Hartness, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. William C. Hartness, Murphy, died Wednesday.

Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. C. B. Newton Thursday afternoon in the Chapel of the Ivie Funeral Home and were followed by burial in Sunset Cemetery.

### BLAZE DESTROYS HOSIERY MILLS; CAUSE UNKNOWN

#### Loss Is Placed At \$8,000 By Owner Lee Shields; Property Insured

Fire of an undetermined origin Thursday morning completely destroyed the City Hosiery Mills just across the Hiwassee River in Beal Town.

The blaze was discovered shortly after seven o'clock by Ora Ellis, occupant of one of the cabins at Shields' Tourist Camp.

Miss Ellis hurried to the cafe and awakened L. M. Shields, owner of the mill, who called the fire department. By the time fire-fighters arrived, the building had been demolished, although the charred ruins continued to smolder until late Thursday afternoon.

Mr. Shields estimated damage at \$8,000. The building was insured.

Investigation revealed that the conflagration evidently broke out in the "boarding room." Shields said the last mill worker left the room at ten p. m. Wednesday and that none was known to have been in the building from that time until the blaze was discovered.

### State Repairs Close Three Main Highways

Three links of the State's highway system affecting traffic in this immediate section are closed for repairs, according to word from Raleigh. They are:

U. S. 1 between Henderson and Franklinton and between Raleigh and Wake Forest, with a detour over N. C. 39 and N. C. 59 via Lenoir.

Through truck traffic should detour over U. S. 301 from Petersburg or Payetteville.

U. S. 25 between Hendersonville and Asheville, with a detour for through truck traffic over N. C. 191 and N. C. 280 via Mills River and Avery Creek, 17 miles hard surfaced. Other traffic is maintained over project, with short local detours.

Construction of bridges and approaches over the Tuskasegee River has closed N. C. 107 between Cullowhee and Sylva, and between Cullowhee and East Lenoir. Detours are maintained over a three-mile stretch of macadam road in both instances.

### County Teachers Plan Meeting December 12

The next County Teachers' meeting will be held at Martins Creek School on Friday, December 12, according to an announcement by principal of the schools at Hiwassee Dam.

The teachers will gather at 6:30 p. m. Those on the program will be Mrs. Onabee Hickey and Messrs. Clarence Hendrix, County School Superintendent, Alden Cooke, R. H. Keenum and County Health Officer Whichard.

### Carmel Hall Graduates As Army Pastry Cook

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hall, of Murphy, have just received word from Benning, Ga. that young Carmel C. Hall is now a full fledged pastry baker. He graduated from the Cooks and Bakers School at Fort Benning, Nov. 30.

Young Hall, who now has the rating of Private, First Class, will get a special rating, and a considerable increase in pay. He is stationed with the Service Detachment, Corps Area Service Command, Fort McPherson.

### Change Would Save Half Of Time Used For Business Trips

#### LACK OF GARDENS COSTS CHEROKEE \$15,000 ANNUALLY

#### State College Expert Says Each Farmer Robs Self Of \$54

Farm people of Cherokee County rob their pocketbooks, as well as their health, when they fail to grow gardens, says L. P. Watson, Extension horticulturist of N. C. State College.

The 1940 census showed that 1905 farms in this county had gardens, but 277 farms in the county had

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### Big Bond Issue Ordered To Pay County's Debts

Orders authorizing the issuance of bonds to refund principal and interest on nearly a million dollars in outstanding bonds were issued Monday by the Cherokee County Commissioners.

The new issues will cover bond deficits in six townships and the county itself.

Towns which will be effected by the order are Hot House, Notia, Valleytown, Murphy, Shoal Creek, and Beaverdam.

The new issue will be floated to pay off interest and principal on bonds issued by the County and the various towns as long ago as 1911, and is authorized under Chapter 257 of the Public Laws of North Carolina of 1933.

Of the total outstanding bond issues, more than half must be met by the County itself. Murphy accounted for nearly a fourth of the total, having issued \$228,000 in bonds from 1911 through 1924.

Hearings on the issuance of the bonds will be held in the Office of the County Commissioners during the next two weeks.

### Ex-Congressman Suggests Murphy Replace Washington As Capital Of U. S.

Greeted by gales of laughter and storms of applause at the High School Auditorium Wednesday morning, when he spoke on "Pluck, Purpose and Patriotism," former Congressman William D. Upshaw, of Georgia, so captivated several hundred students that many of them came to hear him speak a second time Thursday night, at the Court House.

The Rev. C. D. Newton, pastor of the First Methodist Church in Murphy, introduced Mr. Upshaw as "one of the nation's outstanding leaders in the cause of righteousness," and added: "while the cause of Prohibition has suffered a temporary burial, the Methodist Church and all other friends of public decency and morality believe in the sure resurrection of this prayer-born cause."

Mr. Upshaw caught his crowd by paying a glowing tribute to Murphy, noting the town's remarkable growth since he spoke at commencement exercises here some 25 years ago. He then suggested making Murphy the Capital of the Nation, declaring:

"Murphy is better qualified than Washington, D. C., for Washington spent 130 million dollars for liquor

### New Schedule Seen As Of Joint Benefit To Railroad And Public

From Otis B. Price, Assistant General Passenger Agent, the Scout has learned that the Southern Railway is seriously considering changing its schedule between Asheville and Murphy so that trains will get here early in the morning, and depart at night.

Nothing definite has been decided, but some such plan has been under study for a long time, with the joint purpose of giving better service to the public, and at the same time increasing passenger traffic. Revenue from passenger traffic has been so relatively small that the department for years has been operating at heavy loss.

It was this steady loss which caused the Southern to attempt to discontinue passenger service to Murphy several months ago. Application was made to the Interstate Commerce Commission to run passenger, and mail trains only as far as Bryson City. The request was based originally on a threatened shortage of coal. Later the plea of lack of patronage was added.

Refusal of the I. C. C. to allow discontinuance of the passenger service revived a study of the plan to change the schedule. It is probable that the sentiment of various towns along the route and other attending conditions will be carefully investigated before any action is taken.

Mr. Price, speaking unofficially, listed some of the possible advantages of a different schedule. At present, he pointed out, a trip to Asheville consumes so much time that the day is practically wasted for business purposes. The same thing applies to persons coming here.

Either way, the passenger reaches his destination in mid-afternoon—or even later. There being no facilities for meals, enroute. The new arrival's first act, usually, is to find a restaurant. Then, usually, he seeks quarters where he can "clean up".

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last year, and drank more liquor per capita than any other city

"It is North Carolina's part in America's greatest battle to so clean up her own doors, ridding this fine State of the liquor being sold against the vote of the people, that this Tar Heel Empire will startle Washington and inspire the whole nation toward national sobriety."

The speaker held a dollar bill before the audience, saying: "If I gave this dollar to Dr. Newton, the chairman of this meeting, as an expression of my friendship, and then stole a ten dollar bill out of his back pocket, I would be the same kind of thief and robber that liquor is in North Carolina; for it is probable that for every dollar put into the public treasury by liquor revenue, the people must buy \$10 worth of liquor."

"If North Carolina gets three million dollars a year from liquor, remember that the good State must spend 30 million dollars to get it—and that money ought to go for dry-goods, family groceries, furniture, homes and happiness."

"That does not count torn up cars, mutilated bodies and highways spattered with human blood."