



# The Cherokee Scout

YOU ARE THE RED CROSS!

Consolidated with GRAHAM COUNTY NEWS

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MURPHY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 1946.

TWELVE PAGES THIS WEEK

## Mayor W. M. Fain Asks For Re-Election

W. M. Fain, present mayor and business man of Murphy, is asking for re-election in the May 7 election for town officials.

Mr. Fain has been mayor of the town for the past two years, and also served as mayor in 1923-24 and 25. He has been identified with the town government in various ways at intervals for the past 25 years.

This incumbent is a merchant and dealer in surplus commodities. He holds offices in several civic organizations and in the First Methodist church.

Mr. Fain is the second candidate to announce for mayor, Neil Sneed having announced last week. No one has as yet announced for member of the town council.

## Girl Scouts Are Meeting Weekly On Wednesdays

The second meeting of the Girl Scout troop was held Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the music room at the school building, with Carolyn Alexander and Shirley Bates serving as hostesses.

The first meeting of the troop was held Wednesday afternoon, March 13, at 3 o'clock at the home of Mrs. C. E. Woody, with Jane Brendle, Sara Jeanne Weir, Ann Shields and Emma Lou Woody acting as joint hostesses.

The troop was divided into patrols, according to age, the older girls forming Patrol 1, which includes:

Peggy Savage, leader; Phyllis Monteith, assistant leader; Jane Brendle, Mary Helen Hatchett, Barbara Reid, Sara Jeanne Weir, and Emma Lou Woody.

Patrol No. 2: Betty Sue Swaim, leader; Sallie Morris, assistant leader; Carolyn Alexander, Mary Bolan Brumby, Roslyn Stalcup, Ann Shields, Shirley Bates.

Ann Taylor was elected scribe, and Emma Lou Woody treasurer.

The hostesses served refreshments and a social hour was held.

## Prizes Offered In Essay Contest

Members of the eleven organized 4-H clubs in Cherokee county have the privilege of participating in an essay contest sponsored by Farmers Federation again this year. A new feature is a preliminary contest to be held in the county, prior to the district contest, and Roger Ammons, local manager of Farmers Federation, is offering prizes for the county winners.

Four prizes will be awarded in the county: 30 baby chicks to both the boy and girl winner of first place, and 20 baby chicks each to the boy and girl winner of second place.

The preliminary contest will be held on April 15, and the district contest in Asheville on May 18. The subject is: "How the Farmers Federation Benefits the Farmer Most." The essay must not be over 350 words long and must be in the hands of Roger Ammons by April 15.

## Collection Of Canned Food Is Continued

Mrs. Frank Ellis, chairman of the overseas food collection which is being sponsored by Wesleyan Guild, announces that the drive will continue through March 30, and urges all who want to have a part in this cause to make their contributions early. Only a few cases of food have been donated thus far, she states.

The Rev. J. Alton Morris announced last Sunday from the pulpit at the First Baptist church that he is designating next Sunday as "canned food" Sunday at that church and requests all members to bring cans of food to the church when they attend services.

## Dairy Specialist Is To Speak At Series Of Meetings

F. R. Farnham, Extension Dairy Specialist, N. C. State College, will be here on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, March 26, 27, and 28, to conduct a series of meetings on the "Production of Clean and Wholesome Milk" on farms. These meetings are especially planned for 4-H Club boys and girls but will be of interest to farm men and women. Meetings will be held as follows:

Peachtree school 10 o'clock, Tuesday, March 26; Martin's Creek school 1:30 o'clock, Tuesday, March 26; Murphy high school 9:15 o'clock, Wednesday, March 27; Marble school 11:45 o'clock, Wednesday, March 27; Andrews school 1 o'clock, Wednesday, March 27; Hiwassee Dam school 9:30 o'clock, Thursday, March 28; Ranger school 11 o'clock, Thursday, March 28.

## Bueck Is Speaker At NCEA Meeting

The regular meeting of the Murphy unit of the North Carolina Education association was held Tuesday evening at the home economics building.

H. Bueck had charge of the program. He discussed the "Merit System", and the "Legislative Program," and a discussion followed.

Miss Jane Hill and her classes served refreshments at the conclusion of the meeting.

## James J. Mintz Is Promoted

Aboard the USS Los Angeles, Hong Kong, China (Delayed) — James J. Mintz, USNR, has been advanced to the rate of seaman, first class, aboard the Los Angeles flag ship for Rear Admiral Charles Turner Joy, USN, who is commander of Task Force 73, a unit of the Seventh Fleet.

Mintz is the son of Benjamin H. Mintz, Marble, N. C.

## Herbert Building Cleaning Plant

Jack Herbert of Andrews has begun construction of two business buildings on Main street, each 25 feet by 80 feet, of cement and cinder blocks.

Mr. Herbert expects to operate a modern cleaning plant in one building, as he owned and operated a plant for a number of years before going into the Army. The other building will be for rent.

## Play To Be Given April 11

Mark Twain's play, "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer", will be presented at the Murphy school auditorium on April 11, at 3 o'clock P. M. sponsored by the Beta club.

Fred Brendle, Jr., and Sam Stalcup have been chosen for the parts of Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn.

One of the funniest scenes in this play is in the second act. Tom has persuaded Huck and Joe Harper to run away with him to Jackson Island to play pirate. The townspeople search for them, even dragging the river, and give them up for dead. Weary, hungry and homesick, the three youths return for their own funeral services.

## SERMON SUBJECTS

The Rev. T. G. Tate has announced his sermon subjects for Sunday as follows: At 11 o'clock in the morning, "Contact With Christ"; and at the 5 o'clock vesper service, "The Strait Gate."

The young people will meet at 5:45.

Mr. Tate will preach at the Presbyterian church in Hayesville at 7:30 o'clock Sunday evening.

## FROM RAGS TO WARM GARMENTS VIA RED CROSS



MAIMED, CRIPPLED AND ORPHANED by the war, then caught hungry and cold in its aftermath, children in the city of Linz, Austria, line up to replace their tattered garments with warm clothes made by Red Cross volunteers and shown being distributed by Miss Helen Nixon, Red Cross worker, of Holyoke, Mass. (International)

## Need For Property Revaluation And Decreased Tax Rate Cited

The need for a revaluation of property in Cherokee county and Murphy, with a resulting decreased tax rate for the same amount of income; the present indebtedness of the town; and the reasons for citizens to have little hope for large improvements until the percentage of indebtedness is decreased was discussed by Dr. Bryan W. Whitfield in an interview this week. Dr. Whitfield is a former town councilman and during his terms of office did much for the progress of the town.

He commented on the town's affairs as follows:

"Now is the time to do our post-war planning for improvements and new projects for our town and county. Some plans for much needed and past due improvements in Murphy have been made. However, the realization of the projects is dependent upon federal and state aid, if and when it is available, and upon raising locally the necessary funds to match these funds.

"Recently many of the unimproved streets and sidewalks in Murphy were surveyed and estimates made for their improvement. We like to visualize a bit and think of our little town with these and many other almost necessary improvements. We want a park with a swimming pool in it. Many have spent their opinions on the need of a recreation building for the younger citizens — some place where they can find wholesome entertainment and not spend their time on the streets or elsewhere. There are others which seem all the more important. BUT under present conditions we can't expect aid from any source. Federal and state funds will not be available unless we raise our share of the necessary funds to match the federal and state aid. The Planning Commission WILL NOT recommend aid to towns where the outstanding indebtedness exceeds 15% of taxable assets. Our town owes more than

\$180,000. The declared taxable assets are only a little more than \$1,600,000. This means our indebtedness is about 13% of our assets, or 3% above the ratio on which the Planning Commission will recommend loans for improvements.

"If all the taxable property in Murphy is assessed at only \$1,600,000 and assuming this is a correct estimate, then we can't afford improved streets and sidewalks which will cost about \$800,000 or about one half of the assessed value of all of the property in town. (I understand this value includes railroad and all other property within the city limits of Murphy.) The planning Commission would probably think other proposed improvements even more impossible.

"We have a city tax rate of \$1.70. Eighty-five cents, or one half of this must be applied to existing outstanding indebtedness. This must be paid even if we haven't money for salaries, improvements, library, fire and police departments, or any other of the highly important needs of the town. One dollar and seventy cents is a high tax rate, but not as high as the county tax rate. Both rates are too high to hope to induce many manufacturers or other industries to locate here to enjoy our abundance of labor (and they can't be induced to locate here by telling them not to list their taxes at full value.)

"If now is the time to start making our adjustments for the prosperity we hope is just around the corner, it seems reasonable to believe it is time to make some changes in our town and county finances, certainly to make changes which would enable us to raise money to match federal and state aid.

"If we had a new value on ALL of the property (real, personal, and otherwise), in the county assessed by a qualified and non-partisan

board our assets would be increased and our tax rate reduced. No tax payer would have to pay any more tax in dollars and cents than he is now paying, as the total amount of taxes paid would be the same. Another way of stating such a proposition would be to get a new valuation on all taxable property, then take the annual budget plus a small additional amount for error in under-estimating the budget, plus the annual payments on outstanding indebtedness, and compute the tax rate on the estimated new valuation of all property. The budget in this proposal would be the same as it is now and the tax rate on a higher tax value. Very probably the average tax payer would pay less taxes than he is now paying because it is very likely that a new survey and assessment would reveal more new tax payers.

"Now, if the declared taxable assets were increased the percentage of our indebtedness to assets would go below the 15% maximum allowed by the Planning Commission and we could at least hope to avail ourselves of some of the improvements our town and county need.

"Fellow taxpayers, what say you?"

## Joe Miller Elkins Home From Overseas

Joe Miller Elkins, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Elkins, has arrived home from overseas, and has received his discharge. He served in the army three years and three months, 15 months of which was in the European theatre. He was with the First Army and the 69th division.

H. G. Elkins, Jr., of Asheville spent the week-end with his parents here.

## Hotel To Be Built On Hospital Hill; Forty People Must Move

A picture that is familiar these days is to see people walking the streets in Murphy looking for places to live, and they are not being rewarded for all their walking.

On March 25 nine families are supposed to vacate the houses on Old Hospital Hill, property formerly owned by Mrs. J. N. Hill and children which was purchased recently by V. M. Johnson. While these families were told by Mrs. Hill several months ago that she

planned to sell the property, they had not found any place, and when definitely told on the 15th of this month that Mr. Johnson would want possession on March 25 they really started searching every "nook and corner" in town.

Mr. Johnson was out of town and could not be reached, but it is understood that he plans to remodel the old hospital and use it for a hotel, and to build tourist cabins where the houses now stand.

The families who have to move: Mr. and Mrs. William Fain and four children, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Christopher and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Barton and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Will Lance and one child, Mrs. Edna Flemming and one child, Mrs. Paul Scroggs, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Brand and four children, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hembree and two children, and Mr. and Mrs. Wes Garrett and several children.

## Case Is President Of Business Men' Club

T. A. Case was elected president of Murphy Business Men's club at a meeting held Tuesday evening at Henry House. E. H. Erumby was elected first vice-president and C. I. Freed, second vice-president. H. G. Elkins, C. L. Alverson, Dr. J. R. Bell and R. S. Bault were elected new directors, to serve three years.

J. B. Gray, retiring first vice-president, presided over the meeting in the absence of Dr. W. A. Hoover who had been called to Cherryville on account of the death of his father. The club voted that resolutions of respect be sent the family.

A. W. McIver stated plans for securing employment for returned veterans and requested the club's aid in this project.

The proposed golf course for Murphy, sponsored by the club, was discussed by various members. It was announced that more than \$1,500 has been pledged on the golf course.



SUNDAY SPEAKER — Dr. Patrick D. Miller, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of San Antonio, Texas, who will be the speaker on The Presbyterian Hour next Sunday morning March 24, at 8:30, E. S. T., over an independent network of southern radio stations.

A native of Georgia, Dr. Miller studied for a time at the University of Georgia and was graduated from Davidson College in 1922. After completing his theological training in Union Theological Seminary in Virginia, he was for a time in home mission work in his native state and later became Educational Secretary of Home Missions for the Southern Presbyterian Church. He became pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, and after being there for six years was called to the present pastorate in 1941.

Dr. Miller for some time was an editor of the "Presbyterian Survey" and is the author of "The Imperative of Home Missions", Davidson College conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1933.

The subject of Dr. Miller's address next Sunday morning will be, "A Good Man."

The program can be heard in this section over: WWNC, Asheville; WPTF, Raleigh; WSJS, Winston-Salem; WSB, Atlanta; WNOX, Knoxville; and WRVA, Richmond, at 8:30 a. m.

## Republicans To Hold Meeting

A precinct meeting of Republicans of Murphy will be held at Crisp's studio on Monday evening, March 25, at 7 o'clock. All Republicans in both precincts in Murphy are invited to attend.

Miss Elizabeth Gray visited Miss Myrt Padgett at Hayesville over the week-end.

## Air Traveler at 87

FIFTY YEARS AGO, Mrs. Emilie Weaver, 87, of Brooklyn, N. Y., crossed the Atlantic on a sailing ship to the United States from her native Denmark. The voyage took 21 days. Here she is pictured before she left LaGuardia Field in New York for a 3,518-mile flight to Copenhagen, which will take about 21 hours. Mrs. Weaver, great-grandmother of 15 children, is on her way to visit two daughters, four granddaughters, and six great-grandchildren. (International)



## Many Enlist In Regular Army

The following Cherokee county men have recently enlisted in the regular army, according to Major Girard Haven: Alfred Lee Raxter, son of James P. Raxter of General Delivery, Andrews; Major Lee Adams, son of Mrs. Elizabeth Adams of Andrews; Randall J. Carter, son of Mrs. Edna Carter of Culberson; Charles L. Crawford, son of Mrs. Mattie M. Crawford of Andrews; Walter G. Hogged, brother of Miss Lillian Hogged of Andrews; Max D. Raxter, son of Mrs. D. G. Raxter of Andrews; Mickey W. West, son of Mrs. E. H. West of Andrews.