

## Success Story: Thousands of Polio Victims Try Comeback

Blonde little Wanda Bradley, now going on six, has a wonderful success story to tell her playmates these days in her home town of Alexandria, La. It's the kind of success story Americans everywhere can be proud of, for it was made possible by their donations to the March of Dimes.

On June 8, 1956, when Wanda was only four, she was struck down by spino-bulbar polio. Paralysis affected her limb muscles. Worse, she couldn't breathe. Her survival depended on an iron lung, which was rushed to her aid by the local chapter of the March of Dimes organization.

### Changes to Rocking Bed

Later, as her lung muscles gained strength, she was graduated to a rocking bed, another device to help her breathe. Still, this kind of survival wasn't enough—not in this day when medicine and research have devised new and advanced techniques to help the polio-disabled stage a comeback to near-normal, happier lives.

Through physical therapy in the hospital and at home, Wanda's leg muscles were re-educated to function again. At first she needed braces. Now she has tossed them aside. She walks and runs again. For Wanda and her family the future now holds great promise.

Wanda is only one of thousands of patients, children and adults, who are making partial or complete comebacks from crippling polio.

### More Still Need Help

March of Dimes volunteers, now engaged in the organization's annual fund drive, will tell you that many more remain to be helped. The recent now, with the great decline in new polio cases, is to give these patients all pos-

sible rehabilitation aid. The program is called Operation Comeback.

The March of Dimes will tell you that 300,000 living Americans have had paralytic polio and that one out of three still have disabilities that can be benefited by rehabilitation.

The techniques that have been developed only within the past five or six years could, if they were applied to "old" polio cases, bring relief to many thousands who are now helpless or despairing of ever becoming useful human beings again, the March of Dimes organization believes. Better, more efficient arm-bracing alone, for example, is needed by more than 50,000 past victims of polio. Such improvements can make "all the difference in the world" in the lives of these handicapped Americans.

However, it's not done overnight and the costs are high. Last year, for example, \$21,700,000 in March of Dimes funds were needed to give care and rehabilitation to 57,800 polio victims. Only 4,800 of these were new cases. The others had suffered polio in previous years.

This year the March of Dimes has allocated \$21,000,000 for polio care and Operation Comeback. Until the polio-disabled have been given the maximum aid possible in rehabilitation, it can't be complacently said that polio is a thing of the past.



1 June, 1956: Iron lung keeps 4-year-old Wanda alive.

2 As soon as her lung muscles improve, physical therapy is begun.



3 Therapist helps the child re-educate affected muscles at mealtime.



4 Sept. 13, 1956: Going home!—thanks to the March of Dimes.

## Minutes Are Hours Inside Iron Lung

(The annual March of Dimes Campaign is currently under way in Cherokee County to raise funds to fight polio and help polio patients make a comeback. About a year ago, this writer spent only 25 minutes in an iron lung to get some idea of the life of a polio patient. But it was only a glimpse. Only a polio victim himself can tell you the whole story.)

By GENE PARKER

I knew the nurses would let me out when I cried "uncle".

And after 25 spine-tightening minutes I had had enough, clamoring quickly from the machine.

### Deadline For New Plates Is Feb. 15

Deadline for operating motor vehicles on 1957 license plates is only 15 days away.

New plates must be on all operating vehicles on Feb. 16.

The license station at Western Auto Store here through Monday had issued 2,071 tags. W. A. Singleton, manager, said this is approximately 300 less than the number issued the same time last year.

The local station serves Cherokee, Graham and Clay counties and will register approximately 7,000 vehicles during the year. Plates issued in January and February usually total about 5,700.

Persons making application for plates must present an FS-1 Form or other proof of financial responsibility to comply with the new state vehicle financial responsibility act of 1957.

### Five New Scouts Inducted Into Troop 2

Five new scouts were inducted into Troop 2 of the Murphy Boy Scouts at the Court of Honor held Jan. 20 at the Tomotia Methodist Church.

The candle light ceremony was conducted by Mont Rogers, Scoutmaster.

The Tenderfoot awards were presented to William Harper Richard Deavers, Arvel Ledford, Larry Johnson and Donnie Wayman.

Two boys Bill O'Dell and Dickie Davis, received First Class awards presented by John (Red) Savage.

Assistant District Commissioner, Ben Ragsdale gave a very interesting talk on Scouting.

The Nantahala Round Table for Scout Masters will be held Tuesday night at 7:30 in the basement of the First Methodist Church here. This meeting will be held every first Tuesday of each month.

thankful this experiment was over. Miserable but a vital necessity is the only way I can describe the cylindrical monster that has meant the difference between life and death for thousands of polio's tragic victims.

The time I spent inside an iron lung was not long enough to get adjusted or reconciled to its discomforts. But I do know attendants were right when they told me I would experience a choking sensation.

Miss Hazel C. Williams, director of nurses at General Hospital, Spartanburg, S. C., and Mrs. Elizabeth Jack, supervisor of pediatrics, were by my side through the ordeal. They considered me a polio patient right from the start to go along with the experiment.

Miss Williams pointed out at the start that the iron lung is used only as a last resort. A patient must be desperate for breath before the lung is used.

"Get rid of the coat, hat, tie and shoes and climb on this stretcher," was the first command. At this point it was explained to me that being placed in an iron lung is a frightening experience for polio patients.

A patient in advance is prepared psychologically for being in the lung and seldom are there any difficulties in adjustment.

Once on the stretcher, the attendants told me to remember I was paralyzed and unable to help them in any way. Cary S. Brown, storeroom manager at the hospital, along with Miss Williams, Mrs. Jack and an orderly lifted me onto the lung bed.

The nurses were continually giving me encouraging remarks and reminding me that I would never be left alone for one minute of the day or night. The next task was sliding my body so my head would go through the sponge rubber collar.

Then I was pushed into the machine. I wanted to do my own breathing but that is not the way the machine works. It breathes for you.

A polio patient placed in the lung would not encounter this difficulty because the patient would not have the breath of a normal person. In my case, I had to synchronize my breathing with that of the machine.

Pressure of the machine was adjusted where it was the most comfortable. It was first set at 20 pounds but lowered to 16 pounds when I was forced to breath too fast. The age of a patient is a big factor in setting the lung for correct pressure.

The lung is complete master of the situation and there is no use arguing with it. You breathe as it dictates, speak when it permits and swallow according to its whim.

The lung and I had a small point of controversy almost immediately. I was politely trying to synchronize by breathing to its whomph-whoomph, but that didn't work at all. After a few uncomfortable moments of this, it became obvious that it would be wise to break a lifetime habit and stop breathing.

As soon as I did, things improved. I kept on breathing, of course, but not under my own power. Not since the days of World War 2 when I was undergoing tests in pilot training had I had such an experience.

The feeling in the lung reminded me of the sensation sensed when an airplane is pulled from a steep dive. Except in this, there is the choking feeling. This is caused from the rubber collar being around the neck securely to prevent air leakage.

A disagreement with the lung also arose when I attempted to speak. The lung won this battle also. I could only talk during exhalation. Several times I forgot the inhale-exhale rule of speech, and sure enough, I felt myself breathing in and my voice faded into nothing.

It's a settled fact that the lung never heard of freedom of speech. You just have to get used to talking. (Continued on back page)

## MOTHERS TO MARCH ON POLIO IN MURPHY AREA FRIDAY NIGHT

The Mothers' March on Polio, headed here by Mrs. Bess Alverson, will be conducted Friday night.

Mrs. Alverson has asked that porch lights be left burning so the more than 40 workers can make their house-to-house canvass.

Mrs. L. L. Mason and Mrs. Rosaline Burgess are co-chairmen of the Mothers' March.

Frank Forsyth, county chairman,

said Girl Scouts will sell Blue Crutches on the streets here Saturday. School officials are also conducting campaigns in the classrooms to aid the annual drive.

Those who will conduct the Mothers' March, mostly mothers, are Mary Jordan, Frances Johnson, Cathlene Haggard, Toots C. Dickey, Dot Marshall, Johnnie Savage, Sue Stiles, Lois Davis, Clara Mae Adams, Gladys Hinton, Sue Dickey, Bertha Roberts, Ollie McSwain and Louise Schuyler.

Also: Geraldine Hyatt, Vera Hill, Margaret Warner, Dotsie Carringer, Betsy Bourne, Ester Buchanan, Mary Ressel, Mrs. Glen Morris, Ruth Cheney, Emily Miller, Jean Smith, Maureen Dunn, Margaret Rhodes, Mirlam Moore, Helen Moody, Jean White, Edna Whitley, Reba Woods, Virginia Craig.

Also: Jean Singleton, Lynn Brown, Emily Costello, Edith Fuller, Ann Wilkins, Louise King, Gwendolyn King, Maude Duncan, Wanda McDonald, Mabel Massey, Virginia Siz, Margie Kimbrough.

Mrs. Alverson said all these workers have not been personally contacted but it is hoped all will serve.

## Farmers Over 65 Must File Tax Returns

"Many Cherokee county farmers over 65 years of age who are receiving social security checks have been asking if they must continue to file tax returns and pay social security taxes", Grady Grubbs, field representative of the Asheville Social Security Administration said recently.

"Farmers are like other self-employed people and workers in industry—they are not exempt from paying social security taxes because they are over 65 or are already receiving benefits. Self-employment tax returns are required of all farmers who had gross self-employment income of at least \$600 and a net of at least \$400 in 1957".

Grubbs reported that many farmers already receiving benefits are asking if additional tax payments will increase the amount of the benefits payable. He stated that this would be true in some cases but that a review of the tax return would be necessary before any change could be put into effect. In no case would benefits be stopped or reduced by lower earnings or by reason of no earnings

## Alfred Hitchcock Makes Brief Stop In Murphy Sunday

Alfred Hitchcock, producer of movies and TV thrillers, made a brief stop in Murphy Sunday morning.

Mr. Hitchcock was en route by bus from Norfolk, Va., to Chattanooga, Tenn., for a personal appearance.

In Asheville, Father William Pearson of St. Joseph's Hospital, Asheville, boarded the bus and became acquainted with Mr. Hitchcock on the way to Murphy. Father Pearson came to Murphy for a visit with his sister, Sister Mary Williams.

Mr. Hitchcock and Father Pearson made a brief stop at Regal Hotel and later had breakfast at Tracy's Restaurant here.

## Hampton Hdwe. Opens New Retail Store Saturday

Hampton Hardware & Supply Co. will open its new retail store here Saturday morning.

The new business is located on Peachtree Street next to Ivie Furniture Co.

A number of valuable prizes will be given away in addition to souvenirs. Door prizes will include an electric clock, three sets of dishes, six canister sets and an electric mixer.

A fork, ladle or spatula will be given to all daily visitors, balloons or chewing gum will be given to children and men folk will receive a sharpening stone or some other useful gift.

Hampton Hardware has been serving Cherokee and surrounding counties for more than 14 years. The business was established in Murphy by W. E. Hampton.

The new store will be managed by Mr. Hampton's son, Marvin Hampton. Bobby Thompson will be a clerk.

Many opening specials are being offered the first day and good buys will be found in most all departments.

The store will carry a complete line of household items, hardware, paints, plumbing supplies and fixtures, electrical equipment and building supplies.

at all. Grubbs is at the Courthouse in Murphy on the first and third Monday, and the immediately following Tuesday of each month, to provide Social Security information and assistance in filing claims.

## Murphy's Basketball Teams Defeat Nantahala And Stecoah Schools

Tuesday night the Murphy quintet downed Nantahala 68-65 in what was undoubtedly the season's most exciting game yet. The girls won by a comfortable margin of 50-34, in the double-header played at Nantahala.

## "Our Flag" Booklet Distributed By Marine Recruiter

Civic and patriotic groups, merchants, and others interested in the proper respect and display of the American Flag are advised to get in touch with the Marine recruiter Tech. Sgt. Bill Oliver.

Sgt. Oliver carries with him on his bi-monthly trips to Murphy, a supply of "Our Flag" booklets. These booklets give a short, authentic history of Old Glory plus all the rules for respect and display.

Sgt. Oliver will be in the Cherokee County Courthouse every Thursday from 8 a. m. to 1 p. m. Additional information about the Marines and the Marine Corps programs may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Sue Helton at the Register of Deeds Office.

As the five Murphy boys stepped onto the court, Nantahala seemed doomed to defeat. But they scored first and ran up seven points before Murphy scored. The Murphy five were unable to bridge the gap, and the first quarter ended with Nantahala leading 24-15. Everyone remained confident of another Murphy victory but faith was shaken when halftime showed Nantahala ahead 40-36. Throughout the third quarter Nantahala's lead wavered from 3 to 7 points. Third quarter ended with a 48-45 margin for Nantahala. In the latter part of the fourth quarter Murphy's mighty men bounced back to lead momentarily, drop back, then tie the score 63-63 as the final buzzer sounded. The fans went wild. The two minutes of the overtime period were probably the longest in history. It was touch-and-go as Emanuel McDonald scored, then Nantahala's Bateman scored. Nantahala became over-anxious and fouled. John Morris made both free throws good. Roy Dockery sunk another free throw. The ball changed hands at a rapid pace but Nantahala was unable to score again. Thus, Murphy emerged victorious from a game that left the fans hoarse and weak. The players and their score follows:

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## Townson Re-Named Head Local Chamber of Commerce

### Board Calls On Commissioners To Take Action On Tax Rate

W. D. Townson without opposition Monday night was reelected president of the Murphy Chamber of Commerce.

J. H. Duncan was named vice-president, N. H. Barnes, executive secretary, and Kenneth Davis, treasurer.

Four new directors were installed and the Board unanimously passed a resolution asking County Commissioners "to make a thorough study of our county values and tax rate and with all possible haste".

The resolution pointed out that Cherokee County's tax rate and evaluation is "so much out of line" it is preventing the location of new industries here.

In other business, the Board unanimously approved a \$10,000

Chamber budget for this year. The budget was submitted by Mr. Townson. Mr. Townson said it will take the combined efforts of all business concerns along with individual efforts to achieve this goal.

Mr. Duncan will head a concentrated drive for new members and renewals of old memberships in the Chamber. The Board will split into teams to make calls on the various businesses.

Mr. Townson is also president of the Southwestern North Carolina Hereford Breeders Association, vice-president of the Cherokee County Fair Association, owner of W. D. Townson Lumber Co. in Murphy and Edenton and owner of Townson Funeral Home in Murphy and Robbinsville.

## Rock Hound Members To Discuss Building

Plans for its new building will be discussed by the Rock Hound Club at a meeting Saturday night at 7:30 in the basement of the Methodist Church here.

The organization recently purchased a building in Brasstown.

## Legion Auxiliary To Meet With Mrs. Jimmy Hilton

The American Legion Auxiliary will meet Thursday night (tonight) at 7:30 at the home of Mrs. Jimmy Hilton.

Mrs. Ben Warner Jr. will be co-hostess.