

Haywood History

By W. C. MEDFORD

Chapter 13 —
County Poor Tax began here in the Minutes of the 1849 session of the Court, given just as it was spelled, capitals and all: Court proceeded to Lay the Poor Tax 1849 Collect- x x x to what it was Eighty cents on Every white, Poll and Eighty Cents Three Hundred Dollars Land and Town Proper- x x x After Deducting Tax Twenty five Cents white & Black Poll and Every Three Hundred Worth of Land and Town Balance is apaid as tax for Contingent Ex- cents on Every White 13 cents on Every Dollars Worth of Land & Property for Billing (build- ing)."

Some of "Their Worshipfuls" Some of the Justices who presided over our old County Court at this time and earlier were: J. R. Love, Joseph Keener, William Dover, David Russell, W. G. B. Garrett, David Platt, C. C. Rogers, Joseph Welch, Jas. B. Love, Hiram McCracken, W. P. Gillett, Nanan Edmonston, William Hooper, Isaac Clark, Allen Figler, A. C. Hartgrove, A. M. Russell, John Killian, D. V. McCracken, H. P. Haynes, Hiram Rogers, Banister Turner, Enos McCracken, Peter King, J. M. Shook, C. Nelson, J. B. Sherrill, Z. B. Allen, D. B. Ford, J. F. Fincher, William McClure, Judson Osborne, Jas. Potrat, W. L. Davis, J. L. Stephenson, Jonas Phillips and F. P. Allison.

It was considered quite an honor for a Justice of the Peace to be elevated to the County Court Bench. Yet this court, with its multitudinous duties and great power, was by this time coming in for more criticism.

It was charged with having become more lax and negligent in its duties, more political minded and partial and also more corrupt. It was more or less the same all over the state. Lefler says in his Antislavery North Carolina that it was not unusual to see a Justice leave the bench and not return, or get another to take his place during a session.

Also they were, it is said, often under the influence of strong drink. Another job aspired to, it seems, was that of road overseer. Many such appointments were made by the court, some times for just a short piece of road or for a short while—then changed again to some one else.

"New Dollars"

Abraham Enloe died in 1840, but his estate was not finally settled until some ten years later. He lived in the Oconalufty precinct where he reared a family of fourteen children — some say sixteen, Wesley being the eldest. It was Wesley, you remember, in Cathey's story of Abraham Lincoln, who was so much the likeness of Lincoln; and Wesley, if Cathey's version be true, would be a half-brother of the Civil War president.

Here is the Commissioners Report on the Enloe Estate in September, 1849: "Inventory Sale made 4th December 1846 x x x Enloe's note \$140, Int. \$55.25. Sale of negro Woman & Child and Girl \$599.50. Cattle collected & also sheep" was \$300, and hogs \$2.75. (It was quite a job to round up cattle, sheep

PRO AND CON AT SHEPPARD TRIAL



ASSISTANT PROSECUTOR Tom Parrino (left) is shown checking notes before questioning Dr. Stephen Sheppard at the wife-slaying trial of Dr. Samuel Sheppard in Cleveland. Dr. Steve testified he gave police the names of possibly a half dozen persons he thought were involved in the bludgeoned murder. He insisted his brother suffered a broken neck even though his own hospital X-ray specialist could not find a fracture in the films. At right, Dr. Steve's wife waits to be called to the witness chair. She accompanied her husband to the murder scene the night Marilyn Sheppard was slain. (International)

and hogs out on the range in those days.) We note that the Commissioners received \$81.64 and the Auctioneer who cried off the sale, \$1.00. The closing paragraph says, "We find in the hands of Wesley M. Enloe and H. P. King, Adm. x x x one thousand one hundred Fifty new Dollars & Eighty new Cents."

Signed by R. G. A. Love, S. Fitzgerald.

Merchants ("Dealers in Gen'l Mdse.") here in those days (that part of Jackson County included) were: The Loves here at Waynesville and Love S. Dillard at Webster settlement, John Smathers, Wm. H. Thomas, Allen Fisher, Eli B. Herren, Daniel Bryson, P. L. Dais, J. F. Parks, J. B. Fitzgerald & Co., William Johnston, Joseph Cathey and W. C. Hill. They, it seems, were the principal dealers.

The Peddler With His Pack Peddlers also went with great packs on their backs, and sometimes by cart, through the communities. They were invariably called "Jew Peddlers"; and they carried such things as, table covers, towels and napkins handkerchiefs, needles and pins, thimbles and thread, a little cutlery and tinware and maybe a few toys for the children. It was a wonderful sight for the boys and girls—and many adults, to see these packs opened up!

The local merchants were jealous of the peddlers, and always saw that they obtained a license.

Classical Schools Or Academies

These schools were started up in this county even before public school education was begun in 1840. We have heretofore mentioned Green Hill Academy at Waynesville (1809).

It seems that the next such school to be opened up was that by James H. Norwood in Waynesville in 1850. Norwood was engaged in the practice of law in Waynesville about that time and prior thereto, and during some of this time he also taught some of the classics.

The Reverend William Hicks and Jas. R. Long opened up their school, The Tuscola Academy in 1855, running for several years. Then there was the Locust Field Academy at (now) Canton, which, it is said, was also in operation before the Civil War. Leoridas F. Siler was one of the early teachers at Franklin, but that belongs more

Patient's Report

CHARLOTTE (AP)—A woman, stout and easy-going, called at the City Health Department for information. Directed to the Charity Hospitalization Division, she was subjected to intensive quizzing. From there she was directed to the maternity section and more questioning. Yes, she could pay some of the expense herself. Then to the department clinics for X-ray examinations and routine tests. Came the final stage, and she was placed on a table for pelvic examination. As a physician started probing, the woman pushed aside the white sheet and announced: "I didn't know you had to go through with all this to get your little boy's teeth fixed."

to the history of Macon County.

As regards the courts and practice of law, this was the day of the "Saddle-Bag Courts". They were so called because both judges and lawyers followed the courts, carrying their saddle-bags; and in these bags would be a law book or two, a change of underwear, shirt and socks—and probably a "little snip". They reached the courts of the different counties sometimes by stage but mostly on horse-back.

Representatives 1840-1850

Senate: Joseph Cathey, 1842, one term; Michael Francis, 1844-46, two terms; Wm. H. Thomas, 1848-'50, two terms. House: Joseph Keener, 1840; Michael Francis, 1842; Joseph Keener, 1844; Andrew Ferguson, 1846; R. G. A. Love, 1848-'50 (two terms).

First assessment for damage in public road construction, we notice, was allowed by the County Court in 1849.

The County Court began drawing the jury "by a boy under 12 years of age" in September 1851—first mention we notice of this proceeding.

The first use of degrees—from the cardinal points, in making land surveys was begun about 1850 in this county.

The last entries concerning bound boys and girls were made in the 1850-'58 docket. A few years later this practice practically passed out along with the abolition of slavery.

11,539 State Motorists Have Lost Licenses

Acting under the legal provisions of the Safety Responsibility Law the Motor Vehicles Department has withdrawn the driving privileges of 11,539 Tar Heel motorists so far this year.

The law specifies that motorists involved in accidents resulting in death, injury or property damage in excess of \$100 must show proof of financial responsibility. Vehicles commissioner Edward Scheidt said approximately a third of the drivers involved in accidents through November did not have adequate liability insurance.

Several options are offered motorists involved in mishaps Scheidt said in an effort to make clearer the provisions of the law.

If he is not protected by adequate liability insurance he may make a cash deposit up to a maximum of \$11,000, secure a release from liability, or, if within one year no court action is pending the case is dropped.

Scheidt said that approximately 5,000 drivers a month file accident reports, and that about 63 per cent furnish adequate proof of financial responsibility. The other third are notified their license is subject to suspension unless a satisfactory settlement is made.

Approximately 800 drivers a month do not comply and their license is suspended.

There has been some confusion as to what type insurance is adequate to comply with the safety responsibility law.

Scheidt explained it by saying that automobile liability insurance protects the other driver and his property and collision insurance protects only the owners vehicle.

The Safety Responsibility Law was enacted January 1, 1954. It is designed to afford greater protection for motorists innocently involved in accidents caused by negligent driving.

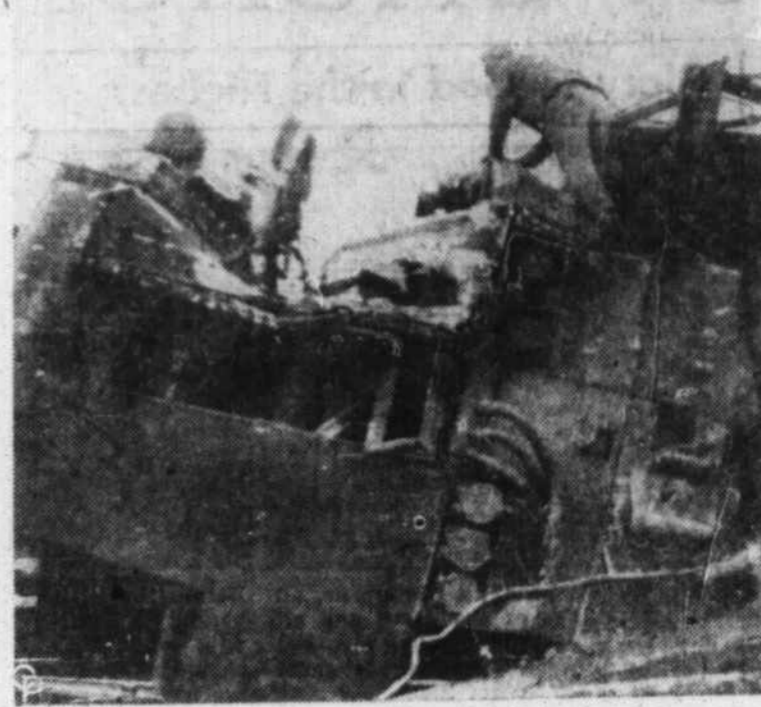
Some Books

Have Everything

EVANSTON, Ill. (AP)—When his wife lost the car keys after a shopping trip, Orwin Benson made a mighty search.

Deciding it was hopeless, he sat down to read. He selected a book from a shelf and noticed part of a key ring protruding from its leaves. There were the keys his wife had dropped on an open book while on a table and later placed on the shelf.

FREIGHT TRAINS MEET HEAD-ON



A RAILROAD investigator climbs over the wreckage of one of the locomotives involved in the collision of two freight trains near Paoli, Pa. The cars met head-on while traveling the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Two men were trapped in one of the engine cabs. One was seriously injured. (International Soundphoto)

Christmas Trees Abundant This Year, Experts Say

By JANE EADS

WASHINGTON — Evergreen experts of the U. S. Forest Service say we should have plenty of Christmas trees at reasonable prices this year. More trees of different varieties are growing on plantations in this country and Canada than ever before, they add. Last year some 31 million trees were sold.

Forestry officials say the balsam fir is one of the most satisfactory for Christmas decoration since it holds its spicy scent and its needles better than the other varieties.

The best way to keep a Christmas tree fresh is to cut about an inch off the butt end and stand it in water until ready to set up inside the house. If you can keep it in the water after decorating, that will help to keep it longer too.

Because of their content of pitch and resin, Christmas trees with their flammable decorations provide one of the greatest seasonal hazards in homes, schools, and public buildings. Other hazards include lighted candles, defective electric lights and flammable costumes in holiday pageants.

In two minutes an average tree

can start a roaring fire," say officials of the National Board of

The Good Word

GAFFNEY, S. C. (AP)—A 25-year-old McKowens Mountain man must attend church each Sunday for the next six months or serve 30 days on the chain gang.

Magistrate Claude M. Mullinax imposed the sentence on a defendant charged with public drunkenness. The defendant promised to comply.

Fire Underwriters. Here are some precautions the board recommends:

Use a small tree. Do not set it up until a few days before Christmas eve. Keep it outdoors until then. Set it up in the coolest part of the house and turn off the radiator if it is standing near one.

Keep electric trees away from it. Use only electric lights that are in good condition, and be sure there are no frayed wires. Provide a switch some distance away and do not have a plug or coupling beneath the tree. Don't leave lights burning when no one is at home.

If needles near the lights turn brown, change the location of the bulbs. When the needles start falling, take the tree down. Do not keep lighted more than one-half hour at a time.

Other recommended precautions for a safe and happy holiday include:

Keep ash trays away from flammable objects. Never use candles in windows. Use nonflammable decorations where possible, and fireproof "snow." Dispose of Christmas wrappings and boxes as soon as possible.

THE BEST OF ALL!



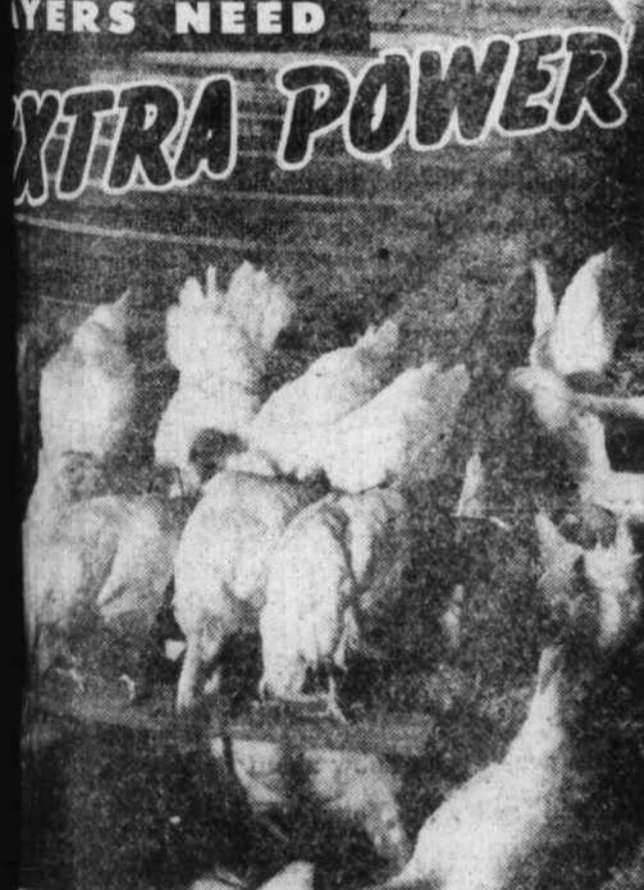
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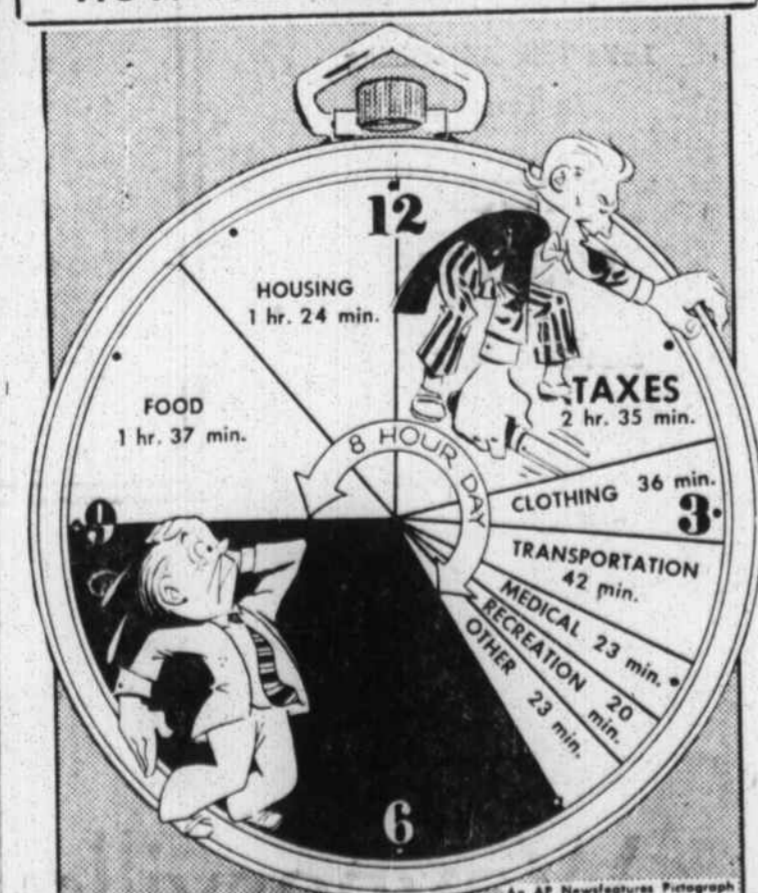
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H. M. Dulin, Mgr. Depot Street

HOW YOU SPEND YOUR TIME



The time a man with a wife and two children and a \$4,500-a-year income must work in an eight hour day to provide various items is charted from figures developed by the Tax Foundation, a private research organization.

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