

# Hadley E. Dickey Came To Murphy In 1910 With \$18 In His Pocket

Special To The Scout  
by W. Frank Forsyth

Hadley Dickey was born on a farm near Ranger, March 29, 1893, the son of Wilford and Cora Evans Dickey.

There are three brothers to Hadley, all living, Frank and Sheidan live in Murphy and Cliff in Copperhill, Tennessee. The four boys all started with nothing and all have become wealthy.

The farm life of that time involved much hard work and all around the county there just wasn't anything much to do except farm. While growing up, Hadley did pretty much the same as all the other boys in the county, doing his farm chores, courting the girls on Saturday night and Sunday. Occasionally there would be a square dance or protracted meeting that everyone would attend. Hadley was a shy, young fellow, but he had nice manners and everyone liked him.

The farm work consisted mostly of growing corn. Plowing was done with a plow they called the "grasshopper" or "bull tongue plow". Later on came the "twister" and "hill side turner". About 10 bushels of corn was all an acre would yield and if a young fellow got a job with someone else, top pay was 10¢ an hour.

The country schools usually lasted four months with one teacher trying to teach all grades and a country school usually had thirty to fifty students. Hadley started to school at the Collis and Friendship School, but later on moved to Ranger School. In 1910 the Dickey family moved to Murphy. Hadley had traded for a calf, grown it out and sold it. When he came to Murphy he had exactly \$18.00 in his pocket, this was a great deal of money in 1910 and so he made the move with confidence and determination, looking to the future with the one thought of making something of himself.

Murphy wasn't much of a town in those days, although it had two railroads, the L & N and the Southern. There were no paved streets and the roads leading into Murphy were practically impassable during the winter months. It looked pretty good though to Hadley Dickey, and he believed in Murphy's future.

One real bright spot in Hadley's life that he remembers was a trip to Charleston, South Carolina in 1912. The Southern Railroad Company put on an excursion to Charleston which lasted four days. Sheriff Bates, Pony Patterson, Claude C. King and Fred Christopher from Murphy and R. L. Tiger from Hayesville were among those who made the trip. For a young fellow 19 years old who had not been out of the county many times, the ocean and beach at Charleston were sights to see. The Railroad Company had arranged for a small boat to take the party out to see about 10 miles. You can just imagine how a boy from the mountains felt seeing the ocean for the first time. About the bathing beaches and the beautiful city of Charleston, Well, Hadley says, "It was just out of this world". I guess perhaps he winked an eye at a pretty girl or looked some of the bathing beauties over, too. Hadley didn't say so. That's just my guess.

Hadley Dickey liked people and he seemed to get along well with everyone so, George Candler hired him as a clerk in the Candler Department Store in Murphy. His salary was \$20.00 a month and that wasn't too bad for a young fellow with ambition in 1913. Things were mighty cheap in those days and goods and could be bought for a whole lot less than they can today. Hadley enjoyed his work there for he was getting to meet more people and was learning something about business methods.

A vacancy occurred in the Post Office in Murphy and Hadley applied for the job and got it. This paid more than the Department Store and Hadley worked in the Post Office for sometime, however, he had always wanted to work with the Railroad and he was able to get a job as a Clerk with the Southern Railroad in the depot at Murphy. His Clerical duties consisted of being and all around handy man, loading chickens, eggs, produce, making out bills of lading and reports of all kinds that the railroad required. He worked long and hard, but Hadley didn't mind long hours.

He had been dating a pretty young lady, Miss Roberta Elliott. They had been going together for about four years and so he finally talked her into saying yes. They were married on July 31, 1917 and moved into the old Wilson Elliott homeplace which was just behind the First Baptist Church and has recently been torn down. The first and only child, John Edward Dickey, was born on July 8, 1923.

America was in World War I and Hadley went into the U. S. Army on July 24, 1917. He went into service along with Claude King, Tom Meuney from Murphy Bruce Bristol from Andrews and other men from Cherokee County. He remembers sitting around the camp one night and Claude King said "If I ever get back to Cherokee County I'd be perfectly satisfied to plow a hill." Army life wasn't so bad and he remembers many funny things that happened at Camp. He was discharged on December 24, 1918.



This picture was made in the showroom of Dickey Chevrolet-Oldsmobile Co. in 1935. Shown left to right are Tom Palmer, Carl Dobbs, Jim Franklin, unidentified parts and serviceman from Atlanta, Hadley Dickey, another unidentified parts and serviceman, and young John Dickey.

When Hadley returned to Murphy he started working again with the Southern Railway as a clerk in the depot at Murphy but he didn't work long before he was able to get a job with the Post Office Department which carried a salary of approximately \$160.00 a month. This was a real good job in 1919.

For about one year he carried the mail on R. F. D. 2 in Murphy, which route covered 33 miles. Hadley rode a horse, going to Brasstown beginning at the Cunningham farm where Furman Anderson now lives and then doubling back to Bellview. Thirty-three miles on horseback, putting up, and delivering mail was a hard job with long hours so Hadley was able to get a transfer to the Post Office on the morning shift which he held until his retirement in 1947.

The Dickey Motor Company was started on March 21, 1921 with Hadley Dickey and Fred Dickey being partners. They

interested in real estate and the first property he bought in Murphy was the B. B. Meroney Store building where the People's Cafe is now located. His chief interest is in farm property and he is a beef cattle farmer. You can see him most every afternoon in a pick-up truck going to one of his farms to look at his cattle. This is a hobby with Hadley as well as a business.

Over the years Hadley Dickey estimates he has sold over 6,000 cars and trucks. He has received most every award given by the Chevrolet Motor Company. One of the first ones was a silver cup awarded to Dickey Motor Company in 1927 for highest quota October 24-October 31.

In talking of some of the funny things that happened to him in the automobile business he recalled that in 1921 the Chevrolet had what is known as a "cone clutch". It seems that you would let out the clutch and the car would jump 10 or 15 feet, depending on how

Work has always been delightful for Hadley Dickey and he just couldn't find time to get off and travel. In 1956, however, he and Mrs. Dickey made a trip to Puerto Rico by plane from Atlanta, Ga. This was the first time that Hadley had ever flown in an airplane and he enjoyed the trip immensely.

Hadley Dickey is a Mason and belongs to the Baptist Church. He has served as a Deacon in that Church, is now a Director of Cherokee County Development Corporation, Director of Murphy Chamber of Commerce and an active member of Murphy Lions Club.

Over 40 years in business in Murphy, a successful businessman, one who has acquired wealth, has many friends and enjoys fellowship and friendship. He will probably die in the harness, for I don't believe he will ever quit work, for work is a way of life with him. Hadley Dickey believes in the future of



Hadley E. Dickey, right is shown receive a 25 year continuous service award from Ralph Smith zone manager of the Chevrolet Motor Division of General Motors. The award was made in 1954 in Atlanta.

were able to get the Agency for Chevrolet automobiles which Hadley has held since that time. He is now one of the oldest dealers in the district. In 1957 he was awarded an achievement plaque from Chevrolet for the 3rd oldest dealer in the Southern District. The first year they sold ten automobiles, but their business prospered. Hadley would work in the Post Office until about one o'clock P. M. and then stay with his automobile business until nine or ten at night. He was always a tireless worker, strictly business, but he still had time for a handshake or a friendly hello. Everyone all around the county liked him and came to him for their Chevrolet automobiles.

In 1931 Hadley bought Fred Dickey's interest in the business for \$10,000.00 cash and what is known as the Browning building. This was really a large sum of money in 1931 for cash was short all over the country, but the business had prospered and was worth a great deal of money.

Hadley changed the name to Dickey Chevrolet Company, Inc. which name the business operated under until 1947 at which time they took over the Oldsmobile dealership and changed the name of the Company to Dickey Chevrolet Oldsmobile Company.

Hadley's son, John Edward was in the service during World War II and upon his discharge in 1946 he came with the company as secretary and treasurer. John is still in the business and takes much of the hard work off Hadley. He is a competent, hard working, young man and fits nicely into the business. In talking with Hadley about some of the bad years of the automobile business, he recalled 1935 and 1936 were difficult years, but he said perhaps the most trying years of the automobile business was 1959, 1960 and 1961. He thinks his business will get out of the doldrums and the automobile business will get some better all over the country, very soon. Hadley has always been in-

fast you had your motor running. Every time he saw one of these cars pull in the garage he knew some one was going to give him the devil. For years he shuttered to hear anyone mention "Cone clutch."

In 1950 the Dickey Chevrolet - Oldsmobile Company established a branch in Andrews, North Carolina. In the latter part of 1961 he sold this business to A. B. Chandler, Jr. of Andrews.

Murphy and Cherokee County. He thinks we need more industry to create permanent employment for our young folks. He says they are our finest asset and we must keep our young people in this Western North Carolina area.

For a young man who came to Murphy in 1910 with \$18.00 in his pockets, he has achieved much. I am glad I came along and had the opportunity to know him.



Roberta and Hadley Dickey in 1916 at Camp Hancock, GA.

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## SENATOR SAM ERVIN SAYS



Washington -- Congress has returned to the Nation's Capital to face some of the most difficult problems that have confronted any session since World War II. Opinion among the lawmakers is apparently closely divided at this stage about a number of measures that are scheduled for hearings. Senate Majority Leader Mansfield is quoted as having said the other day that "We passed most of the easy ones (laws) last session." Out of the mass of bills which will be introduced and the great number of bills that were carried over from the last session, momentous issues will develop over space, trade, aid to education and the aged, postal rates, taxes, and national defense. In my opinion, these will be the focal points of two overriding concerns on the part of the Congress which a number of its members have gained from talking with their constituents back home. These concerns are: first, a desire for an effective foreign policy to cope with the menace of world Communism; and second, a belief that Federal government spending should be kept in line with the revenues coming into the Treasury to pay appropriations. Thus, foreign policy as it is carried out by the executive branch of the government and balancing the budget will likely carry the greatest weight as Congress considers legislative proposals. Congress will look at foreign policy too as it affects space, foreign aid and defense appropriations. All programs except possibly some phases of national defense may be viewed in the light of what will bring a balanced budget.

### Presbyterian Evening Circle Holds Meeting

The Evening Circle of the Presbyterian met at the home of Mrs. Holland McSwain on Monday evening with Mrs. Morris Newton as co-hostess. The meeting opened with prayer, Mrs. Marcella Smith, chairman presided over the business session and Mrs. Robert A. Potter gave the Bible Study from the Book of James. "Faith and Works" The meeting closed with prayer.

### Need Printing Done?

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### Blue Ridge Electric Refunds Inactive Memberships

The Blue Ridge Electric Association, Inc. is refunding inactive memberships. Any one knowing the whereabouts of any person listed, please make this information available either to them or at the BREA Office in Young Harris, Ga.

Opposite each name and address, whether membership certificate number is shown or the amount of refund due that person. This weeks list of membership refunds due. Please make request for your refund.

- Blue Ridge Electric
- Membership Refunds due as listed below; Please make request for your refund.
- Guy Thomas, Blairsville, Ga. \$0.58; Ira Thomas, Lewner, Ga. \$2.39; J. N. Thomas, Lewner, Ga. \$3.38; Elgin Thomas, Hemp, Ga. \$8319; G. L. Thomas, Culberson,

will come in the House Ways and Means Committee. During the first part of the session the Senate may be in the position of marking time until the House acts on some of the revenue and tariff measures. All in all, a number of Senate leaders feel that Congressional waters will be rough during most of the session.

### Baptist Church Circle Meets

The Frankie Martin Circle of the First Baptist Church held a pot luck supper on Monday evening at the home of Mrs. L. R. Harding. After dinner, Mrs. Harding held a short business session, after which Mrs. W. T. Brown gave the program on "What Do Roman Catholics Believe" The meeting closed with prayer.

### Card Of Thanks

To all the good people in the Murphy area -- friends, relatives and acquaintances of my Mother, Mrs. Jessie Passons, who passed away Christmas Night -- I should like to say a heartfelt thank you for the many kind words and deeds during her sustained illness. She had been ill in Charlots for 15 months, during which time her spirit was ever sustained by her thoughts and memories of her loved ones back home in Murphy. Her thoughts and best wishes, to the end, remained with those friends, relatives and acquaintances of the Murphy area. Their cards and letters of love and encouragement, during those 15 months of her final illness, were joyfully received and surely must be eternally cherished. I should like to add my own thanks to all those messages were such a comfort to the end. They cannot know -- except through this word of thanks -- how great was their help. Cliff Passons 2718 Normandy Road Charlotte, N. C. 28211tc

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## LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice  
Cherokee County  
North Carolina  
Notice of Service of Process  
by Publication  
State of North Carolina  
Cherokee County  
In The Superior Court

Citizens Bank & Trust Company, Plaintiff, -vs- Mavis Radford and wife, Elsie Radford and Lois Radford, Defendants.

TO: Mavis Radford and Elsie Radford:  
Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled action.

The nature of the relief being sought is as follows:  
A Judgement in the amount of Three Hundred Fifty (\$350.00) Dollars, plus interest and cost due plaintiff by defendants;

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than the 28th day of February, 1962, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking relief against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 8th day of January, 1962.  
James C. Howse  
Clerk of Superior Court

LEGAL NOTICE  
NORTH CAROLINA  
CHEROKEE COUNTY  
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
NOTICE  
Cherokee County, Plaintiff, -vs- Muriel E. McLane, Defendant.

To Muriel E. McLane: Take Notice That a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled action.

The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: to foreclose a lien for unpaid taxes upon real estate located in Cherokee County, due plaintiff for the years 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962;

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than February 28, 1962, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This, the 5th day of January 1962.  
James C. Howse  
Clerk of the Superior Court 24-4tc

Baptist Church Circle Meets  
The Frankie Martin Circle of the First Baptist Church held a pot luck supper on Monday evening at the home of Mrs. L. R. Harding. After dinner, Mrs. Harding held a short business session, after which Mrs. W. T. Brown gave the program on "What Do Roman Catholics Believe" The meeting closed with prayer.

Those attending were: Mrs. R. S. Bault, Mrs. J. L. Savage, Mrs. Arden Davis, Mrs. John Carringer, Mrs. Ralph Rhodes and Mrs. W. T. Brown

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Opposite each name and address, whether membership certificate number is shown or the amount of refund due that person. This weeks list of membership refunds due. Please make request for your refund.

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N. C. #4580; Lee J. C. Thomas Blairsville, Ga. #1446; Marion Thomas, Morganton, Ga. #4625; P. L. Thomas, Jr. Young Harris, Ga. #1955; T. B. Thomas, Morganton, Ga. \$4.00; Willis Thomas, Morganton, Ga. \$0.52; Jess Thomason, Suches, Ga. \$0.14; Fred Thompson, Rt. #1, Culberson, N. C. \$3.87; Ben Thompson, Hiwassee, Ga. #5707; Docia Thompson, Hiwassee, Ga., #1526; John R. Thompson, Hayesville, N. C., \$1.20;

Arthur Tillotson, Culberson, N. C., #4891; Mrs. M. C. Titzell Blairsville, Ga. #2330; Also, Homer D. Tomlin Brookhaven, Georgia, #2230; Lawrence Totherow, Young Cane, Ga. #7648; Wayne True-love, Murphy, N. C., \$1.89; Vincent Trull, Hayesville, N. C. \$2.80; L. E. Tuckwiler, Brasstown, N. C. #425; A. F. Tuning, Hiwassee, Ga. #6567; J. W. Twigg, Blairsville, Ga. \$2.16; Mrs. Mark Turner, Blairsville, Ga. #1210.

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