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and Clay County Progress

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Letters To The Editor

Plea From Georgia

Dear Sir:

I am trying to trace my ancestors, some of whom lived in that area, and there may be some of the descendants still living in the area. As the courthouse there burned several times, destroying old records, I am having a hard time tracing them, and perhaps someone will write to me.

My ancestors lived in that area in 1840, 1850, and 1860. If there is a descendant or descendants of the following people whose names are here printed, I will appreciate it so much if someone having information concerning this will send me their name and address that I may get in touch.

Parents, Berry, William and wife, Nancy.

Children: Milton L., Elizabeth, William P., John D., Andrew C., Pulaski, Conturine or Bouturine, Alcestra; Conturine married Sally Harriett Johnson in approximately 1864.

Grandchildren of William and Nancy Berry were: John William Berry, James Pulaski Berry, George Cicero Berry, Nancy Elizabeth Berry, Octavia Berry and Odum Berry.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Newton S. Berry
1451 Conway Road
Decatur, Georgia 30030



LIGHT PLANE FROM MICHIGAN in the parking lot of Smelter Store near Copperhill after landing on Highway 58 in background.

Light Plane Crash Lands At Copperhill

COPPERHILL, TENN.-- A single engine Bonanza airplane from Michigan clipped power lines early Saturday morning in an attempt to make a forced landing in Copperhill, Tenn.

Electricity was cut off for some two hours in the Copperhill, Tenn., and McCayesville Ga. area. TVA's static line 18 inches above the 66 KV line was clipped by the plane's propeller on its descent.

After clipping the static line Pilot Larry Hanes, 20, of Gladwin, Mich., brought the plane to a safe landing on Highway 58 and taxied the craft into the Smelter Store Parking Lot.

There were no injuries to the pilot or his three passengers. The passengers, all men, refused to identify themselves.

Hanes said he had planned to refuel at the Martin-Campbell Airport near Copperhill.

He circled over the area attempting to locate the airfield but was unable due to heavy fog. He said he spotted the lights at Smelter Store and decided to attempt a landing because of low fuel.

"It was the mercy of God

that we are okay," Hanes said after the landing. The group was on their way to Miami, Fla., and had planned to stop in Atlanta.

Radio Station WLSE in Copperhill had made contact with the distressed plane and was attempting to direct the pilot to the airport by short-wave radio, and had dispatched an ambulance from Finch Funeral Home to the airport to blink lights to aid the pilot.

The plane was taken to Martin-Campbell Airport Saturday afternoon for minor repairs.

Plans are set for the area to get a series of improvements to the Martin-Campbell Airport. The Polk County Court has voted to spend \$29,000 on the project. Federal and State funds are expected to total \$300,000 for the project, and Tennessee Copper Company donated the land.

The project will include paving the runways and technical improvements to make the airport the most modern in the area. Work is expected to begin in the near future.

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