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Murphy, North Carolina

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10 Pages This Week

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID

FIRE DESTROYS TWO BUILDINGS,

Credit Association Gathers Information

The Merchants Credit Association of Murphy, Inc., is now compiling information to begin operation as a local credit bureau. It will assemble information for its

Gray Cleared In Knife Death

DUCKTOWN--After deliberating three and one-half hours Monday night, an allmale jury returned a verdict of not guilty in the case of Tom Gray, 45, who was charged with murder in the slaying of Winston Hyde last September.

Gray plead self-defense and said he cut Hyde with a knife after finding Hyde and Gray's wife in a parked car. The defendant said Hyde got out of the car and hit him as he (Gray) approached the veh-

Gray said he "didn't know how many times" he cut Hyde. He testified that he was afraid of Hyde because "he was a bigger man than me."

Hyde died at the Copper Basin Hospital from 17 knife wo-

Rimco Honors Employees

Rimco Manufacturing Corp. paid tribute to its employees who have been with the firm five or more years with a dinner last Saturday at the Milton Inn in Blairsville.

Two officials from Rimco's New York Office, Bob Connors and Marcel Noe, attended the dinner and paid tribute to the employees who were ho-The two toured the Murphy plant Sunday morning and expressed pleasure with the operation here.

W.D. Townson, Merle Davis and Herman Edwards were among the local guests att-ending the affair. These three men are credited with playing important roles in the locating of the Rimco plant here. Edwards, in his remarks to the group, said "Rimco was the turning point in our economy in Cherokee County." He said the quality of work turned out by local employees of Rimco made it evident to other industries that the local labor force could adapt to training.

Employees with five years of Student Withdrawn service are E.L. Stiles, Charles Dale, Ernest Davis, Richard Mashburn, Edna Rose, Charles Bates, Carl Green, Billy Millsaps, June Kephart, Frank Pace, Lura Moore, Manervy Crowe, Frances Mason, Hazel Craig, Tommie Dietz, Mary Birchfield, Reathel Sneed, Robert Coffey, Charles Wells, Jimmie Wilson, Boyd Pullium, Horace Hembree, James Allison, Bruce Zimmerman, Howard Johnson, Wayne Palmer, Franklin Barnett, and Doris Rogers.

Plant manager Peter J. Mc-Keon told the group he was looking forward to holding a dinner for ten-year employees in the near future. The local plant began operation in November, 1959. He presented pins and gifts to those who had not received them before.

members and will exchange or sell credit information to other credit associations.

The Association was formed by the Murphy Chamber of Commerce. Its expenses, through July 1, are being paid by the Chamber and all members of the Chamber are automatically members of the Association until that time. Business firms that are not members of the Chamber can join the Association upon payment of a \$12.50 fee.

The immediate goal of the Association is to compile credit information from Cherokee and Clay Counties. There is a long range goal to gather information from Towns, Union and Fannin Counties in Georgia, Polk County in Tennessee and Swain County.

Further information on the Association is available by contacting Max Blakemore, president of the Chamber of Commerce.

Murphy Native

Pilot Averts Plane Tragedy

Capt. Richard W. McIver, a native of Murphy, was the pilot of a United Air Lines Viscount that rammed into a heavy snowplow while making an instrument landing on a snow-covered runway last Thursday at Norfolk, Va. Municipal Airport.

McIver was not injured. Seven of the 46 passengers aboard the Washington to Norfolk flight were treated for minor injuries. The snowplow driver was seriously injured.

The pilot saw the snowplow as he touched-down on the runway and tried to take off again to avoid hitting it but was not successful in this effort. The belly of the four engine ter boprop aircraft was ripped open almost two-thirds of the distance from the nose to the

Investigators said McIver prevented a potential disaster by attempting to take off again. They credited his skill and experience with the saving of many lives.

McIver joined United shortly after World War II and has been with the air line since then except for another tour of military duty in the Korean War. He now lives in the suburban area of New York City.

From H.D.School

Mrs. Helen Hancock has withdrawn her 16-year-old daughter, Gwendolyn, from Hiwassee Dam High School and enrolled her at a Fannin County, Ga. high school,

The action was taken Monbecause, according to Mrs. Hancock, Gwendolyn was "upset" over what she ter-"continued harrafrom school

A controversy has continued for several weeks over the clothes Miss Hancock wears to school. Her mother wrote to Gov. Dan K. Moore asking "protection" for students at the school.



before flames spread to the adjoining Murphy Hardware Co. building.



THE TOP FLOOR of the Murphy Hardware Co. building became engulfed in flames which leaped into the pre-dawn sky. At this point the blaze had not reached the lower floors.

"Pea Patch Jim" Phillips Dies In Andrews At 96

(Editor's note: The Scout expresses its thanks to Bob Barker of Andrews for the historical information in the following story.)

James Wiley Phillips, be-tter known as "Pea Patch of Cherokee County.

Jim", died last Friday after a brief illness in District Memorial Hospital. The 96-year-old "Pea Patch" was either the second or third oldest resident years.

Andrews Post Office when the and then took Maney, tied on a route was established in 1906. horse, to the Cherokee County He held the position for two

Patch" to distinguish him

from three other Jim Phillips

who were living in Valley-

town Township. The others were "Fiddlin Jim", "Tioga Jim", and "Dancing Jim".

Phillips was the first rural

mail carrier to work out of the formed in front of the jail

Citizens Bank & Trust **Records Banner Year**

Local business conditions influenced a record year for the Citizens Bank & Trust Company with all time high in total resources, deposits and net earnings. This barner year for the Consolidated Bank of the Citizens Bank & Trust Company was reported to its stockholders by W. Frank Forsyth, President, on Friday afternoon. The meeting was held in the bank's offices in

The bank's total resources at the end of the year were \$22,779,900.80. This was an increase over 1965 totals of \$5,759, 113.02, or a 19% increase. Substantial gains were made in the deposits of the Consolidated Bank as deposits

rose to a total of \$20,331,295,91 an increase during 1966 of \$3,649,977.81.

Expenses for the year were up 29% and Net Operating Earning increased 27% over

Capital, Surplus and Undiviprofits increased ded \$175,950,45, making a total of capital tunds \$1,435,362,58 The bank had a total Reserve for losses on loans of \$577, 719.42, which is not included in the capital accounts.

During the latter part of 1966 the money market was very tight, and although it extended to Southwestern North Carolina, the bank loans and discounts were up \$2,012,298. 96, an increase of 22%, which pointed up the fact that the bank was able to meet the credit needs of its customers although adhering to sound banking practices, was able to promote the growing Southwestern North Carolina

Lee B. Nichols of Andrews was elected a new member of the Board of Directors to replace Z.B. Conley who resigned on account of ill health. All directors were re-elected. They include: Percy B. Ferebec, W. Frank Forsyth, W. D. Whitaker, Thomas C. Day James B. Ferebee, II. E. Rae Moore, Peyton G. Ivie, J. Smith Howell, Patton Phill-ips, W.A. McGlamery, Rob-ert V. Weaver, W.D. Townson, Boyd Sossamon, W. Paul Holt, Jr., Jennings A. Bryson Dan M. Allison, Sr., John T. Gill, Ted Jordan, Ted Phill-

The directors voted to increase the bank's annual dividend to 60¢ per share, payable 15¢ each quarter.

The directors also re-el-

Mrs. Ida Phillips, and several nieces and nephews; Grant and Gordon Phillips of Andrews; Quinton Phillips of Charlotte; Grant Crawford of Frankfort, Germany; Hilda P. Ensley of Andrews; Clara Bell P. Womack of Asheville; Sam, Dewey and Lewis Sharp of Robbinsville; Dee Sharp of

Williams Phillips.

ories about "Pea Patch"

concerned his hiding-out of a

confessed murderer, George

Maney. Maney admitted kill-

ing Thad Sherill on Mountain

Creek in Graham County on

June 22, 1898. The sheriff had

to disperse a lynch mob which

jail at Murphy for safekeeping. Maney soon broke out of the

jail and hid out in the mount-

ains until January, 1899, when

he gave himself up, almost

dead from galloping consump-

tion. Another Graham County

mob formed and removed him from the Murphy jail. He was hanged at the Upper Valley

River covered bridge
"Pea Patch" left Andrews

rked as a watch repairman

and gunsmith. After he return-

ed to Andrews in 1957, he

freely admitted that he had hid

Maney out after his escape

made a weekly trip to Duck-town to repair watches, clocks

and guns. After repairing a

clock for two women at Isa-

bella, he was asked to dig a few potatoes. "Pea Patch"

couldn't believe anyone could

grow potatoes in the barren

soil of the Copper Basin and

was astonished to uncover

Irish potatoes as big as a man's size 12 shoe. The wo-

men explained the patch was

fertilized with blood from a

Copperhill slaughter house. Phillips was the oldest son

of the late John Wiley and Sa-

rah Ann Smith Phillips. He was

preceeded in death by two

adows Phillips and Mrs. Cora

He is survived by a sister,

Mrs. Ruth Me-

wives,

from the Murphy jail.

Waynesville; Mrs. Winnie Sharp Hensley of Robbinsville Mrs. Norma Sharp Hooperof Long Creek, Graham

day in the chapel of Ivie Fu-eral Home with the Rev. Ted Ellis and the Rev. Wildon Gil officiating. Nephews served 5 palibearers.

Burial was in the Phillippe Family Plot in Valley Rive ected all the bank officers. Cenietary.

Two buildings on Tennessee St. were destroyed last Friday morning by a fire that threatened an entire block of the Murphy business district. mine where it was. Murphy volunteer firemen

THREATENS

were called to the scene shortly before 5 a.m. and battled for over four hours to contain the fire to the vacant Gibbs Building and the Murphy Hard-

ware Co. building.

The fire, which started in the Sibbs Building's second floor and spread to the top floor of the Murphy Hardware building, was first noticed about 4:45 a.m. by Bill Johnson Hiwassee St., Murphy as he was enroute to work. Johnson

turned in the alarm. Charles Mattox. The third floor was Hyatt saw the fire from his and drove uptown to deter-

The Andrews firemen were called to the scene to assist the Murphy fire fighters. The cause of the fire is not

known. It has been established

there was no electricity in the Gibbs Building.
The Gibbs Building was built around 1936 and was owned by Betty Grantham of Atlanta.

The Murphy Hardware Building was built around 1906 The first and second floors used by Murphy Hardware Co., owned by H.A. ming to Murphy to assist us."

Hyatt saw the fire from his owned by Cherokee Lodge 146 home at about the same time AF&AM. The Masons and Order of the Eastern Star used the floor for their meetings.

Mayor Cloe Moore issued a statement saying "I would like to take this opportunity

on behalf of the property owners of the Town of Murphy to express our appreciation and thanks to the fire chief and members of the Murphy Volunteer Fire Department for fighting the fire so vigorously. We would also like to thank the Andrews Volunteer Fire Department for co-



SCOUT PHOTOS BY JACK OWENS

FIREMEN PLAY STREAMS OF WATER on the Murphy Hardware structure, which at this point is afire on all three floors, in an effort to save Moore's Jewelery.

Citizens Ask Election Of School Board, Odd Number **Of County Commissioners**

Several hundred Cherokee County residents have signed petitions asking for popular election of school board members and a change in the present set-up of the county Commissioners. The action was started by the Cherokee County Republican Executive Committee.

Two petitions have been draround 1917 and spent 40 years awn up and are being circulated in the county. They are at Benton, Tenn. where he wo-

Town Accepts Wimpey Bid During his stay in Benton, he

The Town of Murphy has accepted the bid of Wimpey's Bulldozing and Trucking grade and gravel the new parking lot on the former Odum property on Central St.

Wimpey submitted a bid of \$2,987.50. Charles Coleman made a bid of \$3,179.00. The bids were opened at City Hall on Tuesday morning. Work on the lot must be co-

mpleted within 30 days. The town: plans to pave the lot The Town Board has not

made a final decision on how the lot will be used to raise

Wagon Train Meeting Set

A meeting has been set for Friday night at 7 at the Murphy Power Board Building to discuss the possibi-lity of a 10th anniversary wagon train coming to Murphy on the Fourth of July. It is believed that the wagon

train, which would make a three-day trip from Tellico Plains, Tenn., may be tied in with the annual Jaycee Water Festival which is held the

All persons interested in the wagon train are urged to attend Friday's meeting.

entitled "Petition for School Board Election" and "Petition for Equality". They are addressed to Sen. Mary Faye Brumby and Rep. Wiley A. McGlamery.

Mrs. Brumby and McGlamery are asked to introduce 'legislation changing the method of selecting members of the Board of Education of the Murphy City Unit and the Cherokee County Unit from the industry and progressive present method whereby the growth in the county. members are appointed by the legislature to a

system wherby the citizens of each respective unit have the right to elect" the boards.

The petition points out that the Andrews Board of Edcation is elected by the people and says "we....feel that it

Studio Manager Attends School

Scout Studio Manager Weaver Carringer is in Spartan-burg, S.C. this week to attend a portrait photographer's school under the direction of Harry White, manager of B&B

Carringer, who servedfor almost four years as The Scout's compositer, has been in charge of the studio since late last summer.

Carringer is also taking short courses in commercial, aerial and press photography. He said he spent Tuesday "up in the air" receiving training in the taking of aerial

Recreation Group To Meet Tuesday

The Cherokee County Rec-Tuesday night at 7:30 st the Andrews Community Center to elect a Director of the comm-

is highly inconsistent that the Murphy and Cherokee County Boards are appointed by the Legislature,...these Board members are always selected from one political party, often with total disregard for qualifications or ability to serve on the Board."

The petitioners note that "quality schools are the basis for the attraction of

The "Petition For Equality" asks Mrs. Brumby and McGlamery to 'institute legislation to correct the inequality in the local law dealing with the Board of County Commissioners.

The signers of this petition seeks to have the Board changed to an odd number of members to avoid the present double vote of the chairman.

The Board elected in November consists of three members of each major party and the Democrats are able to control it through the extra vote given to Chairman W. T. Moore.

A spokesman for the group circulating the petitions said they will make the papers av-ailable for citizens to sign until February 5.

Traffic Deaths

In State Down

RALEIGH -- Highway fatalities in North Carolina are running slightly behind last year's pace.

The Motor Vehicles Department released figures showing 87 traffic deaths in the state through Monday mo-

For the same date in 196, 26 deaths had been records on Tar Heel highways.



WAYNE PAL MER (left) receives a pin in recognition of five years' service at Rimco from Manager Peter J. McKeon. Looking on are Doris Rogers, Frances Mason, and Faye Radford. They also received five-year pins at a dinner Saturday night at the Milton lnn in Blairsville.