



Large Local Delegation Attends Phone Hearing

Man Remains Unconscious, Form Of Assault Unknown

Melvin Rogers, 40, of Murphy remains unconscious in a Murphy hospital following an incident about 1:30 a.m. Saturday in which conflicting reports say he was either involved in a fight or run over with a car.

Dr. B.W. Whitfield told The Scout Rogers suffered severe head injuries including a broken jaw and a concussion. X-rays taken before press time indicated no skull fracture but the doctor said it is difficult to X-ray the patient in his present condition.

The incident happened in the vicinity of the intersection of SR 1556 (Martins Creek Road) and US 19-129 about one mile north of the Georgia line.

Rogers was accompanied by a female companion, Velda Johnson of Murphy.

Highway Patrolman Don Reavis said Miss Johnson told him Rogers was struck by a vehicle operated by Gene Allen

Hatchett, 22, of Rt. 2, Murphy. Witnesses in the car told Reavis that the car did not strike Rogers. They said he was intoxicated and he fell into the ditch before the car reached the spot where he was. They said the road was foggy and the car did skid when they saw Rogers. Reavis said skid marks on the road indicated the car slid about 144 feet.

Ray Chastain, owner of the car and a passenger at the time, told Reavis he brought Rogers to Rogers' home. An ambulance was called later to take him to the hospital.

Rogers' mother charged Hatchett with failure to report an accident.

Reavis said there is "no evidence of any kind on the car that it struck a person."

He said he hopes to determine exactly what happened when Rogers is able to be questioned.



THE PAINTINGS OF MRS. H.E. DAVIS' ART CLASS were on exhibit Tuesday night at Citizens Bank and Trust Co. in Andrews. About 175 paintings done by the class of 36 students were shown. Mrs. Davis said all of her students were amateurs. The class met in Andrews from February through June. The exhibit was sponsored by the Tri-County Industrial Education Center. Other pictures are printed on the inside pages of The Scout.

Phone Official Concedes Complaints Are Justified

About one hundred persons from the Murphy-Andrews-Hayesville area attended the State Utilities Commission hearing in Asheville last Thursday to register complaints about the service offered by Westco Telephone Co. and Western Carolina Telephone Co.

Robert E. Finch, vice-president of the parent Continental Telephone Corp., told the hearing there was "much justification in most all the complaints" against the telephone companies.

He said the companies were willing to work with the commission and community leaders to solve the problems.

Tom Day of Hayesville said

he was "pleased with the wonderful representation from our area. I appreciate the support we got from industry, in particular."

Day helped organize the caravan of local people who went to the hearing and has been trying to get better telephone service in the area for several years.

"I feel good about it," Day said. He said he believed the testimony at the hearing would bring positive results but said "it's going to take some time."

He said the Commission will review the testimony and it would probably be six to eight weeks before a ruling is issued.

The complaints made centered around an inadequate number of trunk lines, interference and static, high rates, slow repair and installation service and a scarcity of private lines.

There are indications that additional hearings will take place, probably in August.

The Commission took "under advisement" a 12-part motion made by the attorneys for the Commission and assistant attorney general George A. Goodwyn.

Provisions included in the motion would:

Require converting at least 90% of the subscribers in exchanges covered by Rural Electrification Administration loan contracts from eight-to-ten party lines to a maximum of four and five parties. The work would have to be completed by December 31.

Require the companies to submit plans to increase their maintenance force and begin a crash program to clear up difficulties. The plans would have to be submitted within 30 days.

Require the companies to start immediately to install telephones for all would-be customers who were promised service but have not received delivery.

Require the companies to report within 30 days what it has done to correct each specific complaint made at the hearing.

"The trouble with these people (the telephone companies) is they've been told for six years" about complaints without taking any action, said R.R. Williams, Jr., an Asheville attorney who was retained by the Attorney General's office to represent the people at the hearing.

Eleven western North Carolina counties were represented at the hearings.

State FHA Officials Make Inspection Tour

Melvin Hearn, North Carolina Director of the Farmers Home Administration, headed a delegation of State FHA officials on an inspection tour of Graham and Cherokee Counties last Wednesday.

County FHA Supervisor R.D. Bruce, Assistant County Supervisor John C. Wood, and Rural Renewal Program leader Mack B. Ray accompanied the group.

Other members of the delegation were Paul Laughrun of Asheville, District Supervisor for FHA in 15 western North Carolina counties; Dr. Lem Stokes, chairman of the State FHA committee and president of Phifer College at Misenheimer; and Mrs. Gilbert R. English of Trinity, Bruce Eaker of Wooddale and J.L. Parker of Coleman, members of the State FHA committee.

Bruce told the group the local FHA unit approved 111 loans in the two counties in the fiscal year that ended June 30. The loans were for \$1,636,500.

Cherokee County received the bulk of the funds, \$1,284,490. The figures include three Rural Renewal loans for \$750,000 and 53 Rural Housing loans for \$457,620.

The inspection tour covered visits to FHA borrowers who received loans for homes and business places.

They also inspected the Rural Renewal Homesite at Maltby, the Texanna Community where a community water system will be developed, and the site of the Cherokee County Recreation complex.

Mintz Wounded In Vietnam

Corporal Myron Dean Mintz, son of Mr. and Mrs. E.A. Mintz of Rt. 1, Marble was wounded in Vietnam on July 6. He is reported in satisfactory condition at the Naval Hospital in Portsmouth, Va.

Reports indicated he was wounded in the left hand by rifle fire while in an operation against hostile forces.

Mintz, who has been with the Marines in Vietnam since July 1966, was wounded before on May 2.

He was flown to Andrews Air Force Base in Washington on July 9 and transferred to Portsmouth. His family visited him there over the weekend.

Leave For Camp Sunday

Fifteen boys from Cherokee and Clay County will leave the Scout office Sunday morning for two weeks encampment at Camp Ney-A-Ti near Guntersville, Ala.

All boys making the trip should be prepared to leave at 8 a.m. The trip is sponsored by the Cherokee Scout and Clay County Progress. They will return to Murphy Saturday August 5.

FHA Loan For Marble OKd

Giles F. Bryson, president of the Marble Community Water System, was notified last Friday that a Farmers Home Administration loan of \$97,000 has been approved to develop a water system in the Marble area.

Bryson received the information in telegrams from Rep. Roy A. Taylor and Sen. B. Everett Jordan.

Watershed Group Hears Mat Report, Asks TVA Help On Golf Course

YOUNG HARRIS, Ga. -- A combined meeting of the Tourism and Recreation Work group and the officers and trustees of the Upper Hiwassee Watershed Development Association was held last Thursday night at the Blue Ridge Mountain EMC Office.

Chairman Dave Bruce presided over the tourism portion of the meeting.

Secretary Ed Swartz reported that about 41,000 of the first 100,000 placemats promoting the five-county area had been sold.

Bruce complimented Swartz for his efforts at promoting the placemat sales and said "we need to pitch in and get rid of the rest of these placemats so we can order our next

100,000."

Several promotional ideas were discussed and Bruce told the group he would like to see more sales of individual small lots for use in homes.

He expressed a desire to begin work on a promotional brochure for the area and said he would call a meeting in the near future "to lay the groundwork for this project. We need to decide in which direction we're heading on this (the brochure) and get the ball rolling," Bruce said.

President Bobby Jones of Blairsville presided during the officers and trustees portion of the meeting.

Jones suggested that UHWDA pass a resolution requesting TVA to provide survey assistance for the

Cherokee County Recreation Complex and the proposed Chatuge Shores Recreation Project in Clay County.

Bruce made a motion to pass the resolution. After it was seconded by John Gill, the resolution passed unanimously.

Gill made a motion to write a letter of appreciation to TVA's Tributary Area Development Division for assistance rendered on the Cherokee and Clay County Rural Renewal Homesites and the Andrews-Murphy Airport. Phillip J. Howell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mrs. Lena Green gave a report on the activities of Four-Square Community, Action, Inc.

Edwin "Bud" Garrison of Hayesville, a dental student at the University of North Carolina, is conducting a medical survey of the five-county area. He discussed the progress of his survey. The purpose of the survey is to pinpoint medical services needs in the region.

Harry Atwood, Air Pioneer, Dies Here

Harry Nelson Atwood, an associate of the Wright Brothers in the early days of aviation, died in Murphy Friday at the age of 83.

He set many flying records in the early part of this century and was known as the "undisputed eagle of the air."

Atwood was the first man to fly over New York City. When he did this, in 1911, he astounded New Yorkers by circling one of the skyscrapers. He won a \$10,000 prize for

a St. Louis to New York flight in 1911 and was the first man to fly between Atlantic City and Baltimore.

Atwood was believed to be the lone survivor of the first of the flyers for the Wright Brothers. He joined the inventors of the airplane in Dayton, Ohio in 1905, two years after their first successful flight at Kitty Hawk, N.C. He moved to Murphy in 1959.

In addition to the widow, Mrs. Nellie Dow Atwood, he is survived by two daughters, Mrs. R.T. Stiles of Conyers, Ga. and Mrs. Bethany Trask of Topfield, Mass., five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at 3 p.m. Saturday in the chapel of Ivie Funeral Home with the Rev. Tom Houts, Jr. and the Rev. Thornton Hawkins officiating. Burial was in Hanging Dog Cemetery.

Palbearers were Butler Carter, Clyde and Lester Dockery, Dr. Charles Van Gorder, Lloyd Black and Jim Sprung.

Chief Arrests Theft Suspects

Police Chief Pete Stalcup apprehended five Alabama youths Sunday morning about 8 a.m. in downtown Murphy. They were wanted on charges of stealing gas from the George Carroll Grocery in the Grape Creek section a short time earlier.

Stalcup said he was told three of the youths went into the store to ask directions while the others took the gas. He said two girls were sent to their home at Oonteono, Ala. and three boys were jailed

Mission Accomplished!

Howard Beavers, one of two men who escaped from the Cherokee County Jail early Saturday morning, returned to the jail later Saturday with his mission accomplished.

Sheriff Claude Anderson said Beavers told him he escaped to obtain bond for his release. He made bond and is free pending his trial.

Beavers had been jailed early Friday morning by Murphy Policeman Glen Reece. Police Chief Pete Stalcup said Reece caught Beavers in the act of trying to steal a boat from the yard of Bob White.

According to Stalcup, Beavers backed his car to the boat trailer, had hitched it, and was attempting to drive away when Reece arrived.

The other escapee, Wayne Cothorn of Young Harris, Ga. is still at large.

Anderson said the two escaped with a key fashioned out of a slat off a bed.

Surrenders In Ambush Case

James Gladson, Rt. 2, Culberson, surrendered at the County Jail Friday on a charge of assault with intent to kill. He is free on \$500 bond.

Gladson had been sought following the shooting of Tommy Allen on the night of July 9.

Allen was ambushed as he turned off US 64 into his driveway. The scene of the shooting was about 12 miles west of Murphy on Rt. 2, Culberson.

Bullets glanced off Allen's head and hands, according to Sheriff Claude Anderson. He was released after treatment of his wounds.

Anderson said five bullets were found in and around the car.

The Sheriff was assisted in the investigation by Highway Patrolmen Don Reavis and Don Moran.

In another ambush case, the Sheriff's Department is continuing its investigation. No arrests have been made.

Deputy Glen Holloway was shot at early in the morning of July 9 when he went to investigate a disturbance at the Topton drive-in.

Holloway was not struck, but bullets broke both back windows of his car and one bullet landed on the dash board.

Holloway said he had gone to the drive-in and was told one of the men said to be involved in the disturbance had gone toward the bridge at the top of the hill.

He said he drove to the county line, which is near the bridge, saw no one and turned around. As he was coming down the hill, the shots were fired.

Longest Assembly Session Considered 2,184 Bills

(Editor's Note: The following is the second of three articles prepared by Sen. Mary Faye Brumby on the recently ended session of the North Carolina General Assembly.)

By Senator Mary Faye Brumby

The 1967 General Assembly ground to a halt after the longest session in history. It met for 149 days and acted on 2,184 bills, the most since 1933.

The work was long and hard, at times grueling. Many of the bills enacted into law are impressive, progressive and far-reaching in effect on the future course of North Carolina history.

Your senator had the privilege and responsibility of helping to guide most of this legislation through the legislature to its final enactment. In some cases I was the introducer of the bill, sometimes Chairman of the Committee or sub-Committee which handled it.

This week I should like to list some of the major legislation enacted.

Next week I shall give a complete report on all bills which I as your senator sponsored, or co-sponsored and give you the final action taken on them.

I believe that everyone

is entitled to have a final report on the achievements as well as failures of their representatives, in the General Assembly.

We all worked long and hard. I believe most everyone worked at all times for what he or she believed to be in the best interest of the majority of the people.

We, like everyone else, are human and occasionally make mistakes. I do not contend that every decision I made was perfect, but I do say that it was the best decision I could make at the time with the facts at hand.

Some of the highlights of the 1967 General Assembly are as follows:

(1) Appropriation of a \$2.73 billion budget, more than 500 million more than any other budget in history.

(2) Created four new regional universities in a major departure from the State's "One University" concept.

(3) Cut State income taxes to the tune of 23 million. These cuts, gave exemptions to service men, the average taxpayer, parents of college children and those over 65.

(4) Authorized a record 20 per cent pay increase for public school teachers. This raise will surpass the long-sought goal of a \$5,000 minimum state salary for

teachers.

(5) Teachers attained a continuing contract while the school children came in for free text books. North Carolina is one of the first, if not the first, to provide free text books throughout the public school system.

(6) There was major legislation enacted in the field of mental health both at the State and local level. Help for the alcoholic was extended both at the State and local level. Help for the State and local level.

(7) A greatly needed Court of Appeals between the State Supreme Court and the superior court levels was set up.

(8) A State Board of Water and Air Resources Board was created to enforce regulations to prevent air and water pollution was created.

(9) A bill was enacted into law which will restrict jury exemptions, thereby greatly improving our jury system.

(10) Much needed prison and jail reform measures were enacted.

(11) Highway and junkyard bills known as "Beautification Measures" were enacted which will give us a more beautiful North Carolina and at the same time will keep us from losing 11 million dollars each year from Federal funds.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor:

I noticed an article in your last week's paper entitled "Senator Brumby answers on Registration Bill." The article written by Senator Brumby states that I had made certain charges against her in state news media. I do not recall making any charges against Senator Brumby although much of the state's news media did condemn her opposition to a new registration in Swain County and to the popular election of school boards in Western North Carolina. (The Raleigh Times and WLOS-TV are but two examples.)

A bill was passed to provide a loose-leaf registration system for North Carolina, but obviously Senator Brumby did not understand its weaknesses. First, the statewide bill calls only for the loose-leaf system; it does not call for a new registration. Thus, the names of deceased persons and non-residents can be copied from the old books onto the loose-leaf books with little improvement for the election system. Secondly, the bill would not take effect until 1970.

The people of Swain County recognized the weaknesses of the state-wide bill and requested a local bill which would call for a re-registration prior to the 1968 elections. I received a bipartisan petition of several hundred names and numerous letters and telegrams calling for a new registration in Swain



Otis F. Jeffries (left) retired as TVA's Reservoir Supervisor at Murphy after 30 years of service. Frank W. Smiley (right) assumed these duties Monday. He is the former Public Safety Service Lieutenant at Fontana and has been with TVA over 25 years. Smiley will be stationed at the TVA office in Murphy and will be in charge of reservoir land use activities in this area.