



Hospital Survey Contract Signed

The Murphy Hospital Authority signed a contract last Friday for a hospital survey to determine the medical needs of the Murphy area.

The survey, which is expected to begin in about two weeks, will be done by Jack Norman Hospital Consultant Associates of Greenville, S.C. It is to be completed within six months, Mayor Cloe Moore said.

Over \$5,200 to finance the survey was raised in slightly over a week.

"This is just wonderful,"

Hobart McKeever said as he revealed the amount raised. McKeever began organizing the fund raising drive minutes after a special meeting on January 26.

Jack Norman discussed the survey services his firm offers at that meeting.

The survey will provide the Hospital Authority with specific answers on what is needed in medical facilities to serve the Murphy area. It is expected to be the basis on which to seek Federal funds and foundation grants to help finance new hospital facilities.

Republicans Plan Lincoln Day Dinner

Cherokee County Republicans are making plans for their Lincoln Day Dinner at 7 p.m. on February 24, at O'Dell's.

Congressional candidate W. Scott Harvey and State Representative Charles Taylor of Brevard are expected to be guest speakers at the dinner. Kellis Radford of Andrews was elected county chairman at a convention held at the courthouse on January 27. He succeeds Virgil O'Dell.

Charles White, vice chairman; Mrs. Ruby Stiles, secretary and H.E. Dickey, treasurer.

The executive committee members elected were Casteel Floyd, Mrs. John Dickey, Herman West, Miss Imogene Matheson, Fred Haney, Frank Plemmons, Claude Bryant, Leonard Ramsey, Carroll Wilson and Dr. W.A. Hoover.

Delegates were also elected to attend the district convention at Asheville next Wednesday and the state convention in Raleigh on March 1.

Taylor Seeks New Term In Congress

Congressman Roy A. Taylor of Black Mountain Wednesday announced his candidacy for reelection as 11th District Representative in Congress. He has forwarded his filing fee to the State Board of Elections.

He will seek nomination in the May Democratic primary.

Taylor, 58, has represented

the 11th District in Congress since 1960. "During my eight years in Congress a record has been established and I hope that the people will judge me by that record," Taylor said.

A former state legislator and attorney for Buncombe County, Rep. Taylor now seeks his sixth term in Congress. He is a member of the House Interior Committee and chairman of the Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation.

Taylor is the sponsor of legislation recently passed by the House and now pending before the Senate to authorize a 180-mile extension of the Blue Ridge Parkway. He actively sought the new Veterans Administration Hospital at Oteen and opposed the fight against closing of Building E, which furnishes a home for chronically disabled veterans. He has supported new federal roads, buildings and post offices throughout the area.

He has introduced legislation in behalf of the Cradle of Forestry project in Pisgah National Forest and has given strong support to the Appalachian Program.

While supporting permanent improvements as listed above, Taylor said he has voted consistently against increased spending for domestic social programs, and has introduced and supported legislation calling for stiffer penalties for rioters and other law violators.

Rep. Taylor is a graduate of Candler High School, Asheville.

Enters Race For Congress

Robert W. Daughtridge of Asheville announced Friday he will seek the Republican nomination for the 11th District Congressional seat.

He will be opposed by W. Scott Harvey of Arden in the primary on May 4.

The 42-year-old Daughtridge resigned Friday from his position with the Agency for International Development.

He said he considers effective representation at the federal level "to be vital to the future growth and development of Western North Carolina."

"Most people of this district know that we have been woefully short of representation in the past," he added.

Daughtridge said he "will make a concerted effort to provide our people with the kind of representation we deserve in Washington."

The winner of the Daughtridge-Harvey race is expected to face Rep. Roy A. Taylor in the November General Election.



Reaching The Century Mark

Mrs. Susie Anderson Barber of Culberson celebrated her 100th birthday yesterday. She is shown receiving birthday greetings from the Social Security Administration. The presentation was made by field representative, Jack Britt of Asheville. (Photo by Weaver Carringer)

Culberson Resident Observes 100th Birthday Anniversary

Mrs. Susie Anderson Barber of Culberson observed her 100th birthday anniversary Wednesday.

She was born in Cherokee County on February 7, 1868 and has always lived in the Culberson area.

Mrs. Barber remained active until recently. She made quilts and sewed until about five months ago.

She is a member of Shady Grove Baptist Church and attended services there as long as she was able to walk. She recalled attending a reunion there last year at which there were between 300 and 400

people.

Everyone in her family "lived to be a ripe old age," she said.

There were seven girls and four boys in the family. All of them lived until their eighties or nineties.

Mrs. Barber was a twin with Mrs. Betty Cline, who died at 91.

A brother, Milt Anderson, is 91 now. He also lives near Culberson.

All four of Mrs. Barber's children living. They are Mrs. Ivy Clontz, 73; Ira Barber, 74; Mrs. Eva Rice 75; and Mrs. A. D. Wallace, 78.

Mrs. Clontz makes her home with Mrs. Barber now and cares for her.

There are 15 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren. Jack Britt, Social Security representative from Asheville presented Mrs. Barber with birthday greetings from the Social Security Administration Wednesday.

He was accompanied by Scout Studio Manager, Weaver Carringer who took the picture of her receiving the greetings from Britt.

She laughed and told Carringer she "needed to be in the paper."

Appalachian Contracts OK'd

The State Highway Commission approved contracts Friday for construction of the first two links of Appalachian Development Highway in Cherokee County.

Clement Brothers of Hickory won the \$2.4 million contract for the first 5.9 miles section beginning at the Tennessee line.

Asheville Contracting Co. was the low bidder on the next 5.8 miles section with a bid of \$1.5 million.

The final section to complete the 18 mile stretch to Murphy is expected to be under contract soon.

Local Draft Board Seeks Delinquent

Local Board Number 20 of the Selective Service System has declared Idaho Jr. Bryson delinquent.

The Board requests that anyone knowing Bryson's present address contact the office in Murphy or have Bryson do so immediately.

A delinquent registrant is subject to being ordered for immediate induction ahead of all other registrants unless he clears his delinquency.

FBI Charges Two Men In Stolen Carpet Case

Two Georgia men were charged with transporting stolen carpets across state lines following their arrest in Murphy last Wednesday morning.

Lenwood Ridley of Dalton and Hoyt Nance of Ringold were held under \$10,000 bond following a hearing before U. S. Commissioner Henry J. Truett of Bryson City. They were transferred to the Buncombe County Jail.

FBI Agents Thomas Mac Gibbs and Andrew J. Pelczar made the arrests.

Truett said the men were

driving a rental truck containing 10 rolls of carpet stolen from a plant in Dalton, the previous day, Jan. 30.

A spokesman at the Dalton firm estimated the value of the carpeting at not less than \$8,500.

Local officers assisting in the case included Highway Patrolmen Patt Miller and Zeb Phillips, Murphy Police- man Blain Stalcup, Cherokee County Sheriff Claude Anderson and Deputy Sheriff Glenn Holloway.

National Electric Week To Be Observed

National Electrical Week, February 11-17, again has as its theme "Electricity Powers Progress," according to John D. Marlin, manager of Blue Ridge Mountain EMC in Young Harris, Ga.

This special week, celebrated throughout the nation, honors Thomas A. Edison and his contributions to the electrical industry. February 11 marks the 121st anniversary of Edison's birth.

The theme of National Electrical Week is particularly fitting in the area served by the Cooperative, Marlin said. "Electricity is indispensable to our future progress, and Blue Ridge Mountain EMC intends to keep its area well supplied with the electricity it needs for this future."

average of 5,434 kw. Average residential cost here was 1.4¢ a kilowatt-hour, compared with the national average of 2.18¢ (cents).

Use of electricity in business and industry rose to 18,037,427 kilowatt-hours last year. Electricity helps provide better working conditions as well as creates more jobs and income, Marlin pointed out. Growth in use of electricity in business and industry indicates an expanding economy and a better community. "Electricity," Marlin said, "is indispensable to our future progress, and Blue Ridge Mountain EMC intends to keep its area well supplied with the electricity it needs for this future."

Chamber Appoints Committee Chairmen

The Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce met Monday night and appointed chairmen of standing committees for 1968.

They are: Traffic and Highways - Don Hughes, Tourism and Recreation - H. W. (Bud) Alexander, Merchants Committee - Gene Farmer, Membership and Finance - Jimmy Howe,

Relations - Jack Owens, Industrial Relations - Horace Cannon, Agriculture - H. E. Dickey, Housing - John Gill, Education and Safety - Aldeh Coward, Health and Welfare - Ed Schultz, City Beautification - Miriam Moore, Industry - Merle Davis. Any chamber member desiring to work on any of these committees may do so by notifying the chamber office.

Commissioners Reduce County Ambulance Fees

The Cherokee County Board of Commissioners voted Monday to lower the fees charged by the Cherokee County Ambulance Service.

The fee for a call within the city limits of either Murphy or Andrews was reduced from \$15 to \$10.

Calls outside the city limits were reduced from \$15 plus 50 cents per mile to \$10 plus 50 cents per mile.

Trips out of the county will be charged at the rate of 50 cents per mile.

The County established the ambulance service on January 1 when the local funeral homes discontinued their service.

The Commissioners also passed an ordinance requiring anyone operating an ambulance service in the county to secure a permit from them. There will be no charge for the permit.

The ordinance was passed at the suggestion of W. D. Townson.

Jack Simonds expressed concern that this might curtail service in the part of

the county next to the Tennessee line. He pointed out that residents there can receive faster service from funeral homes in Copperhill and McCaysville, than from the county service.

The Commissioners agreed that they would issue a permit to these funeral homes upon request and Simonds withdrew his objection to the ordinance. Their permits will specify that they are authorized to operate in that portion of the county which is adjacent to the Copper Basin.

Mrs. Joy Frauson submitted her resignation as Home Economics Agent effective March 31.

She said she regretted having to resign, but was doing so because her husband is now employed by the North Carolina Recreation Commission in Asheville.

She added that she has completed the Home Economics Program for 1968.

The Commissioners named Jack Early as chairman of a group to form a mental

retardation planning council for Cherokee County.

L.D. Schuyler, County Electrical Inspector, and James H. Potts of the Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors requested the Commissioners to adopt the State Electrical Code for the county.

Schuyler said the code would "give the electrical inspector a little more confidence in his work and would help me carry out my duties better."

The Board deferred action on the code for further study.

Mrs. Lee Garner asked the Commissioners for help in getting a bridge repaired. The bridge leads to her home in Shoal Creek Township. The Board agreed to request repairs from the State Highway Commission.

The SHC will also be requested to: Extend the Almond Creek Road near Marble one-fourth of a mile.

Pave .4 mile of Pine Grove Road in Valleytown Township. Make general repairs on Old School Road in the Texanna section.

Westco Plans \$856,000 Improvements In Area

A customer service improvement program involving an expenditure of \$856,000 has been planned for Murphy, Hayesville and Suit by the Westco Telephone Company according to James Armstrong, president of the company.

Direct distance dialing (DDD) for all offices, improved long distance facilities, additional free calling circuits, additional outside plant and central office facilities to provide service for new customers and to improve service to our present subscribers have been scheduled for Cherokee and Clay Counties. The three year construction program will be culminated in the fourth quarter 1970, Armstrong said.

The Cherokee and Clay County improvements are included in an \$11,714,600 three year program announced today by the Western Carolina and Westco Telephone Companies to provide direct distance dialing to all of its customers, to provide service to additional customers, and to improve service in the 29 exchanges in Western North Carolina and Georgia.

Separate projects, Armstrong said, have been set up for Murphy, Hayesville and Suit. In Murphy \$89,749 has already been spent in the fourth quarter of 1967, most of which went toward the re-building of outside plant and customer station installations.

An extensive re-grading program to four party multi-party service in the rural areas has also been completed in the last quarter. In 1968 the expenditures for the Murphy exchange have been estimated at \$389,500. This will include the extension of additional service into the Peachtree Community at a cost of \$55,800 and a central office addition estimated at a cost of \$38,000. The replacement of the Sylva Murphy microwave equipment at a cost of \$200,000 is scheduled to complete in the first quarter of 1968.

This project was listed as a first on the company's priority list to improve long distance service in the western end of its operating area. Routine outside plant extensions and central office additions have been programmed for 1968 at a cost of \$66,600. Included in this project are additional free calling trunks (EAS) to Hayesville. This project will also provide service for additional customers and provide improved service for our present subscribers.

The rebuilding of outside plant and customer station installations to improve customer service has been continued into the first quarter 1968 costing another \$30,000. It was reported.

In 1969 and 1970 there has been budgeted \$142,000, most of which will go to routine outside plant extensions to keep pace with customer demand for service. Direct distance dialing is also programmed for 1969 at a cost of \$25,000. Sylva has been designated as the "Primary Switching Center" to enable

the nationwide dialing network. The Sylva project is scheduled for completion mid 1969 at a cost of \$400,000.

For Hayesville \$283,500 has been budgeted for 1968, most of which will go to the rebuilding of the entire exchange. This project will provide service for additional customers, improve service to existing subscribers and provide four party multi-party service for rural subscribers.

An allocation of \$33,500 has been programmed for a central office addition which includes additional free calling trunks (EAS) to Murphy.

An additional \$89,900 has been budgeted for 1969-70, most of which will go for routine outside plant extensions to keep pace with the customer demand for new service. For direct distance dialing \$24,000 has been scheduled for 1970. Hayesville, like Murphy will "Home" on Sylva for access to the Nationwide dialing network.

In the Suit exchange \$53,700 has been budgeted for the 1968-70 period, most of which is to provide routine outside plant extensions and central office additions to provide service to additional

customers and to improve the quality of service to present subscribers. Direct distance dialing has been scheduled for 1970 and like Hayesville will "Home" on Sylva.

Today there are some 34,000 telephones in our service area—about 60 per cent more than there were five years ago and about three times as many as there were in 1957. This is indicative, Armstrong said, of the growth of the area. In 1972 he said, we fully expect to increase the number of telephones to about 48,000.

Armstrong said, "The Western Carolina Telephone Company, the Westco Telephone Company, and the Continental system has confidence in the future economic growth of the area we serve. This is evidenced by our heavy construction expenditures to meet the needs of our customers."

"The long anticipated announcement is one of the most significant developments in the history of the telephone in the counties we serve in Western North Carolina and Georgia," Armstrong concluded.

Library Offers Toll Free Reference Service

More answers more quickly is the goal. The telephone is the means. The time is now.

Inward Wide Area Telephone Service (IN-WATS) for toll-free reference assistance from the North Carolina State Library was started last week. Seventy public library systems headquarters, including the Nantahala Regional Library which serves Cherokee, Graham and Clay Counties from Murphy are direct recipients of the new service. Through them branch public libraries, independent municipal libraries, special libraries, and academic libraries of all kinds in all 100 North Carolina counties are able to share in the service.

"By making State Library resources more immediately accessible, the IN-WATS line will benefit all North Carolina libraries and especially the smaller libraries with limited reference material," State Librarian, Phillip Ogilvie said.

He also pointed out that urgent interlibrary loan transactions can be arranged via IN-WATS.

"This will reduce the time factor in interlibrary loan by at least two days," he said, "and time is of the essence in our fast paced world."

"Information must follow need almost immediately today or tomorrow may be lost," he continued.

For their patrons by calling a special number that will connect them with an IN-WATS telephone desk will be staffed by a professional librarian from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

County Red Cross Elects Officers

The Cherokee County Chapter of the American Red Cross met at the Murphy Power Board Building last Thursday.

After having reports from the Committees, the following officers were elected or re-elected: Chairman, Dave Moody; Vice Chairman, Jimmy Howe; Secretary, Sarah Patton; Treasurer, Charles Barrett; Blood Bank, Mrs. Ed Harshaw; Service to Military Families, Mrs. Beas Alverson; Diastor, Bunch Nugent; First Aid and Water Safety, Charles Hyatt; Public Information, Mrs. Carolyn Moore. The Directors are Mr. Joe Ray, Mr. Bill Hughes, Rev. Robert Crumpler, Mrs. Elva Blakemore, Mr. Horace Cannon and Mr. Franklin Barnett.

The annual Fund Campaign this year will be in March. Co-Chairmen, Gene Farmer and Beas Alverson will be in charge.



FOUR PERSONS WERE hospitalized following this car-truck wreck one mile east of Murphy on US 64, Tuesday morning. Highway Patrolman E.N. Hooper said the driver of the car, Levi C. Portner, 65, his wife, Zanis Mae, and two passengers, Harold Morrow, 19, and David H. Morrow, 65, all of Rt. 4, Murphy, were admitted to Providence Hospital suffering from multiple cuts, abrasions and bruises. The driver of the State Highway Department truck, Walter P. Moore, 45, of Rt. 1, Murphy, was not injured. Hooper said the two vehicles