

90 Cases To Be Tried In Criminal Court

Two charges of murder and four of arson heads the list of 90 cases to be brought before the Cherokee County Superior Court that begins July 29.

The criminal cases will be before the honorable J. W. Jackson, presiding judge.

A breakdown of the calendar shows a wide range of cases will be tried, ranging from murder to litterbugging. The more serious offenses include six charges of assault with a deadly weapon, one charge of assault on a female and one charge of incest.

Other cases are nine breaking and entering and larceny, seven drunk and disorderly, eight forgeries, one possession of non-tax paid liquor and the selling of liquor, one injury to personal property and three larcenies. Of the 24 charges of public drunkenness, one man was charged seven times and another 12 times.

Driving violations include driving in excess of 100 mph, seven charges of driving while intoxicated and several charges of driving while licenses were revoked and excessive speed.

One person is charged with resisting arrest, another on a fugitive charge and three for non-support.

Forty nine jurors have been called from the County for this term of court. From Murphy are Mrs. John Q. Hembree, Mrs. J. H. Duncan, William E. McDonald, Cyrus White, Edward C. Wood, Joseph M. Phillips, Arnold Guthrie, Quenton V. Lovingood and James R. Whitener.

Arnold Stiles, Carl Falls, Jr. E. L. Vickery, James B. Evans, Efrum P. Crisp, Kenneth McClure and Bertha M. Loudermilk.

William McClure, Ethel Young, Frank Kephart, Ben Beavers, Judith Davis Gentry, Linda Erwin, Boyd Davis, Nell White, May Thomas, and Lee Clifford.

Andrews residents are Haskell Gibby, Eugene D. Payne, Kenneth Allen, Lowell E. Hardin, Earl Ellis, Harley Head, Jr., Daniel Dills, Donald Crawford, Frank W. Swan, Garland Luther and Kate Palmer.

From Marble are James

Bettis Ray Brooks, Edgar Deitz, Claude H. Crisp, and Martin West. The remaining prospective jurors are James E. Anderson from Culberson, Faris W. Fowler and Alice Cook from Brasstown.

Local 4—H'ers Attend Club Week In Raleigh

A delegation of six 4-H Club members and Assistant Agricultural Extension Agent Wendell Hedden are representing Cherokee County at State 4-H Club Week in Raleigh this week.

The Cherokee County delegates are among some 1,250 club members and leaders participating in the annual four-day program which began Monday on the North Carolina State University campus.

The program consists of recreation, attending classes, competition, election of state officers and a lot of fellowship.

"Four-H Club Week offers an excellent opportunity for personal growth and development," comments Dr.

T. C. Blalock, state 4-H club leader. "It is an event that club members look forward to each year with great anticipation," he added.

During the week state winners are determined in the demonstration programs and various judging activities.

Among the events in which Cherokee County 4-H'ers are participating are entomology, with Steve Thompson as district winner competing, and poultry barbecue, with Jacky Pope as district winner, participating.

Members of the Cherokee County delegation attending are: Linda Pope, Debra Keener, Sandy Ledford, Debbie Clayton, Steve Thompson and Jacky Pope.

WNC Day Set To See Bristol Play Atlanta

The annual Western North Carolina day at the Atlanta Braves Stadium will be celebrated again this year to watch Dave Bristol's Cincinnati Reds play the Atlanta Braves at 2:05 P.M. All tickets will be field level, directly behind the Cincinnati Reds' dugout. The price will be \$3.50 per person.

Tickets will be sold through John Carringer and Pete McKeon of Murphy. Sam Hartman of Andrews and Tom Day of Hayesville. No cash refunds will be made on any

ticket sold. However, if the game is rained out, you will have a rain check for any succeeding regular game during the season at the Atlanta Stadium.

Those who wish to travel by bus, the price will be \$6.00 and bus tickets will be available at the bus station in Murphy. Several groups from Western North Carolina, along with the Smoky Mountain Shrine Club, will be in attendance.

Three hundred tickets are now on hand, and more are promised if needed.

Post Office Announce Change

The Postmasters from the Murphy and Hayesville Post Offices announced early this week that their office hours will change Saturday in compliance with the federal spending cutback.

Joe Ray, Murphy Postmaster, said that the window service will be from 8:30 to 10:30 Saturday morning. Until now the window hours have been from 8:30 to 12:30. A memorandum from the district office in Atlanta said that there would be a maximum time limit of two hours for Saturday window services.

The notice also stated that there is to be no cash transactions made during this time. General delivery mail is the only service offered.

At Hayesville the Post Office window will not be open at all on Saturday. Postmaster Quinton Moore said that rural and city pick-ups will continue, however.

Other postal services that are expected to be curtailed include cutting delivery days eventually to four per week. At the present time these changes are not definite.

Bond Sales Ahead

Savings Bond and Freedom Share sales in Cherokee County totaled \$23,201 for May, according to Bland W. Worley, State Volunteer Chairman. For the first five months of this year the combined sales amounted to \$149,081, which is 44.2 percent of the county's annual goal for 1968.

Sales of Savings Bonds and Freedom Shares in North Carolina totaled \$5,072,710 in May. These are the highest sales on record for May and represent an increase over May a year ago of more than four percent.

Cumulative sales for the first five months of this year amounted to \$27,697,678, an increase of over five percent above the same period a year ago.

In the first five months of this year North Carolina has achieved over 40 percent of its 1968 goal of \$68,800,000.



Before . . .



and After

The top picture was made at the first of May near the Hiwassee Campground on Lake Hiwassee. The water level was far below where it usually is at this time of year. The bottom picture, made Tuesday, was also made on Lake Hiwassee. During the entire summer the water level did not rise much above the pictured levels.

Lakes Low - 5 Inches Less Rain This Year

By Bill Gray

A wide strip of mud encircles the clear water of Chatuge-Elmo's Boat Dock is almost high and dry on Lake Hiwassee.

This has been the dilemma all summer of those people who depend on a full lake to attract tourists and to those who frequent the lakes for enjoyment. In May the area TVA lakes, Chatuge, Hiwassee and Nottely were well below the expected Spring fill. By June the lakes had risen an additional two or three feet, not anywhere near the high levels usually reached.

Many people have asked in the past several week why previous levels were not reached and held this year. Among those were Tommy Gentry, Race Chairman for the Jaycee Water Festival, who wrote TVA in Knoxville inquiring about the anticipated lake level at the time of the Jaycee Race.

The reply sent to Mr. Gentry from Alfred J. Cooper, Chief of the River Control Branch, was typical of the responses received by the Scout from other TVA officials: the lakes are low because of a decrease in the average rainfall in the TVA valley. The lake was 12 feet below the gates at the time of the boat race.

However, additional information was given in a letter from Mr. Cooper to Kenneth Godfrey, member of the Town Board. To quote Mr. Cooper, "In our letter to you dated July 29, 1966, we pointed out it was expected

that Hiwassee Reservoir levels would be lower than had been experienced in past years as a result of trying to achieve a better balance of lake levels in Chatuge, Nottely, and Hiwassee.

The rainfall last summer was unusually heavy, so this expected normal effect did not materialize in Hiwassee, producing very high levels all summer. Rainfall in June this year was much below normal in this area, and it has been necessary to draw water from all three Hiwassee projects to aid in supplying the powerload.

For example, in June, Chatuge was drawn 2 feet, Nottely 5 feet, and Hiwassee 4 feet. As of today Chatuge is 10 feet below full pool, Nottely 22 feet below, and Hiwassee 13 feet below. All three lakes are lower than they were in the last two years.

Again we must point out that it is quite possible that the lower levels in Hiwassee will necessitate some adjustments in facilities. Mr. Walter Arrants is now Manager of Properties of the Central District Office located at Athens, Tennessee, and he shall be glad to advise you on plans needed to adjust facilities." This letter was dated July 3rd.

TVA's attempt to keep more water in Nottely is the basis for their expected lower levels than in the past. Nottely, which is located near Blairsville, Georgia, has in the past been almost a river rather than a lake.

The attention drawn to Nottely was the result of the formation of the Upper Hiwassee Watershed Development. This organization was formed several years ago by people in Clay and Cherokee Counties in

North Carolina and Union, Towns, and Fannin Counties in Georgia. Their main interest is the development of the area in relation to the streams and lakes.

But as can quickly be seen by Mr. Cooper's letter, their efforts to raise the level of Nottely have not been successful. From the most recent U. S. Weather Bureau reports Hiwassee is 18 feet below being full, Chatuge is 13 feet down, and Nottely is over 24 feet below their gates. Nantahala and Fontana are down 20 and 9 feet respectively.

A call by the Scout to Mr. Paul Evans, a TVA official in Knoxville, confirmed the fact that the lakes are lower now than in the past two years. And, according to TVA in Knoxville, there is no special reason for the low levels, such as work being done on a dam, other than rainfall. Mr. Evans said that the rainfall for the valley was five inches below normal for the first six months of this year.

Last Saturday some TVA officials met with other community development leaders in Hayesville and this problem was discussed. It was brought out again that the TVA lake system was built for flood control and to produce electric power. The recreational value of the lakes is purely a by-product and secondary to the original purpose. By law, TVA is required to utilize the flood control aspect before other things are considered.

Several people have speculated that the situation last summer influenced the present levels. Last year it rained 21 days in July, which filled Lake Hiwassee. If there had been a flooding condition, the full lakes would have been of little value.

It was suggested that TVA was expecting this again this year, and pulled the lakes early. The rains did not materialize, leaving the lakes unusually low. This, of course, is speculation.

An interesting note is that the TVA could drain Chatuge almost dry and still not fill Hiwassee. Although Hiwassee is not tremendously larger in surface area than Chatuge, Hiwassee holds approximately 2 1/2 to 3 times as much water as Chatuge. This is a help and hindrance to Chatuge in that although it fills quicker during rains, it also goes down faster when pulled. Chatuge is one of the shallowest lakes in the TVA chain. When it is pulled two or three feet vertically there is a lot of mud around the shore because of the gently sloping banks.

From the information from TVA it looks as though the high lake levels will no longer be enjoyed during summer months except when exceptionally rainy season occur. As for a remedy, there seems to be none. As Mr. Cooper said, adjustments to recreational facilities will have to be made.

Contract Awarded On 18 Hole Golf Course

The Contract has been awarded on the 18 hole golf course to be built near Murphy; John T. Gill, Chairman of the Rural Renewal Development Authority announced recently. Wells and West Construction Company of Murphy was the apparent low bidder on the project.

Funds for the \$150,000 golf course was provided for by the Farmers Home Administration and obtained by the Rural Renewal Authority.

Bids for the contract were opened July 9th, but all three bids were over the amount allocated for the project. The bidders agreed to negotiate with the Authority.

In order to get the price of the course down to the available funds the original plans were slightly altered. The only changes necessary, according to Gill, was to dig out the ponds in the course instead of building dams.

Gill said that although the

Authority has passed on the Contract, it still had to be approved by Raleigh. As soon as Raleigh office makes it official, construction can begin.

Wells and West's contract stated that completion time would be approximately one

calendar year.

The golf course will include fairways, driving ranges, greens, tees, cart trails, bridges, and irrigation systems. The course is part of a recreation complex to be completed later and is located on the old John Mulkey farm south of Murphy.

Mr. Harvey is not alone in his desires. Each political year, every candidate platforms for better schools and better roads. That's all well and good but I can't think of a single person who would be against schools and roads.

Mr. Harvey also pointed out that Western North

The Ridge Runner Says:

Dear Mr. Editor:

Recently when Scott Harvey, Republican Candidate for the United States Senate from this district, spoke to the GOP convention here, he promised to work diligently for better schools, better roads, and to make this county more safe and secure for our families.

Mr. Harvey is not alone in his desires. Each political year, every candidate platforms for better schools and better roads. That's all well and good but I can't think of a single person who would be against schools and roads.

Mr. Harvey also pointed out that Western North

Carolina needs full time employment to raise the per capita income which is among the lowest in the nation. It's true that the need is great but how do we go about it?

With four months of campaigning ahead before election, I think the candidates have ample time to be more realistic in their approach to the voters.

I for one would like to hear how they plan to achieve their goals not just what they desire and need.

You know, there is a possibility that ears will go deaf to the same old routine year after year.

Yours truly,
Ridge Runner

District Softball Tournament Begins

The 1968 version of the Far West District Slow Pitch Softball Tournament gets underway Friday at the Robbinsville High School field. Kicking off the action will be the local Dirty Reds who will go against a strong Na-Bers Drive-In Team from Bryson City. This game will be the first of four scheduled for Friday Night. Perhaps the best game of the evening will match Texaco of Andrews against Texanna of Murphy at 7:30 p.m.

Last years champs, Jim's Laundry, of Bryson City take the field on Wednesday Night as they meet the winner of a Fridays game between the Andrews Independents and Coble Dairy of Murphy at 8:45. The champs will once again feature last years most valuable player, Lionel Brooks and several All-Stars including Pitcher, Burgin Edwards and Third Baseman, Snake Norton.

The Contractors, local league leaders and losers of only three games this year make their first appearance on Wednesday at 7:30 when they meet the winner of the Dirty Reds and Na-Bers game. All Star Outfielder, Roger Webster and returning serviceman, Mike Sneed, will lead the Contractors who certainly must rank as a tournament favorite.

Several top tournament favorites also see action Saturday as last years runners-up, Sealtest, featuring All-Star pitcher Ernest Reed, and All-Star First Baseman, Jerry Postell, takes on high flying Clifton Precision of Murphy at 7:45 In an earlier Saturday game top rated Levi Strauss of Murphy meets Hayesville's number one team, Bell Creek, at 6:30.

Medical, Food Grant Approved

Four Square Community Action of Andrews announced that it has been appropriated \$4,600 to finance an Emergency Food and Medical Services Program for Cherokee, Graham and Swain Counties.

The purpose of this program, which will run for six months in duration will be to serve the people on commodity food programs by supplementing their allotments.

Medical services will be provided for those having conditions stemming from chronic malnutrition. A nutrition education program will be administered with the hope of improving the program impact. The announcement said.

Lions Install Officers

The Murphy Lions Club installed officers for the coming year at their regular dinner meeting July 9th. District Governor John Ramsey swore in each elected member to their new office. He congratulated the Murphy Club on its activities and as being the best working club west of Asheville.

Lion Edd Harshaw was cited for his outstanding service in Lionism. Governor Ramsey set the goal for the Lion's work with the blind as one eye will per Lion in Western North Carolina.

Last year the Murphy Club made a total of 129 trips to visit the blind or near-blind in Cherokee County. They paid for seven eye operations, gave

the Eye Clinic which the Lion's Club owns. The Murphy Club gave \$513 to the North Carolina Association for the Blind as their White Cane donation to carry on work with the blind on the state level.

\$255 Left In Fire Truck Goal

The Clay County Rescue Squad has announced that just \$255.75 is remaining in their drive to equip their fire truck. When the goal of \$3,000 is reached equipment will be purchased making the truck available for use.

Donors this week are Willard Lovin, Employees of Hayesville Manufacturing Company, Lois A. Bell, Doyle Coker, Loftin Cherry, Jerry Anderson, Clarence Shook and Horace Wimpey.

4-Square

The 4 Square Board of Directors training session will be held at the Andrews Community Center this Saturday at 9 a.m. All members are urged to attend. Any member not having transportation contact the 4 Square Office.

Summer Enrichment

Another popular course is Physical Education under the supervision of Mr. Bob Hendrix. All pupils enrolled in the Summer program participate in softball, tennis, basketball, volley ball and badminton. The students are divided into teams and compete on that basis.

Mrs. Edna Whitley, school librarian, has conducted daily story hours for the primary grades. All other grades have regular library periods and have access to all library materials.



New Lions Club Officers installed July 9th are, left to right, P. N. Hensley, Lion Robert Bruce, Charlie Hughes, Dave Tamer, Edd Harshaw, Vice-President; Moody and W. A. Hoover, Directors; Jimmy Howse, Secretary; Max Robert Crumpler, Tail Twister. Douglas Blakemore, President; and Tommy Carlson, Treasurer is not pictured.