



No Need For Firemen

Hugh billows of black smoke boiled up as flames quickly destroyed the home of Mrs. Jackie Adams in the Brassdown section Tuesday afternoon.

According to reports at the scene, Mrs. Adams was sick and in bed when the fire started, and was carried out a back window by neighbors who saw the house was on fire. A 1962 Ford that was parked close to the

house and a small building (in the foreground) were also destroyed.

The Murphy volunteer fire department were advised not to go to the fire, as the house was already destroyed by the time they were notified. (Scout photo by Bill Gray)

Football Pays For Itself In Murphy, Financial Statement Shows

The 1968 Murphy High School football season was a success financially as well as in the win-loss column, according to a financial statement released last week by Murphy City School Superintendent John Jordan.

Total receipts for the year were \$10,749.33 and expenditures were \$9,410.21, which left a balance of \$1,339.02.

"This has been one of our best years, financially," Jordan said, "and we are certainly glad to see our football program at Murphy coming out ahead."

Gate receipts and advance ticket sales accounted for \$8,760 of the total revenue. Of the five regular season home games, the homecoming game against Hayesville drew the largest gate receipt, which was

\$1,592.31. Other teams drew the following: Blairsville, \$1,301; Sylva-Webster, \$1,363; Franklin, \$1,159; and Andrews, \$1,088.

Murphy's share of the gate receipts of the AA playoff game against the Hendersonville Bearcats at Sylva was \$1,608. Had it not been for this game the school would have experienced a \$300 loss over the entire season.

Other ticket revenue came from \$502 in season ticket sales, \$103 in pregame sales against Hendersonville, and \$42 in advance sales to the Gilmer County game.

The remaining \$2,000 came from such miscellaneous items as gate change returned, insurance, cheerleader uniforms and a guarantee of \$200 with West Fannin.

The major expenditures included \$3,672 for uniforms, \$1,148 for equipment and \$1,875 for coaches travel and salary.

According to Jordan, the balance of \$1,339.02 will go into the basketball program. He said that a statement showing the basketball revenue and expenditures would be released at the end of the season.

The Murphy High Bulldogs had a 10-0-1 record for the season, losing only to Hendersonville in the season's last game.

Other large expenditures include film, \$327; cheerleader uniforms, \$326; insurance \$508; electric service, \$384; electric service for little league, \$36; official fees, \$415, and gate change, \$975.

The remaining amount included advance ticket sales, sales tax on equipment,

Catamount Coach from Dan Robinson, who resigned last fall after 13 seasons as head coach.

Announcement of the selection of Waters from more than 50 applicants was made today by Col. Walter L. Williams, Athletic Director of Western Carolina.

A 1960 graduate of Presbyterian College in Clinton, S. C. Waters was chosen the Most Valuable Player in the Tangerine Bowl in 1960 and was picked that year in the 7th round of the National Football League draft by the 40-ers.

He played four years at quarterback from 1960-63, then one season at defensive

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Voter Registration Equipment Bought By County Commissioners

The Cherokee County Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the purchase of \$1,859.37 of binding and indexing equipment in preparation for the new loose leaf voter registration system that will go into effect in 1970.

The equipment includes 23 indexes, dividers, storage cabinet and a fire proof vault. The change over from the present system is in compliance with a law passed by the N. C. General Assembly requiring all counties in the state to adopt the loose leaf system.

All members of the Board were present at the regular monthly meeting Monday

when this action took place. Members include Chairman W. T. Moore, Ray Sims, Jack Simonds, Andrew Barton, Carlyle Matheson and Luther Dockery.

Other business of the day-long meeting included releasing several minor property liens and personal taxes.

Several road recommendations were forwarded on the highway department. They were that improvements be made on the Wiggins and Mt. Liberty Cemetery Roads, Bear Paw Road, Bell Hill Road and Beaver Dam Road.



Water, Water Everywhere

All of the areas creeks and rivers were out of their banks Sunday afternoon following five days of almost continuous rainfall. The above roadway was completely submerged at noon Sunday, with parts of the road bed under six feet of water. Scout photographer Jim Morgan made this

photograph about a mile south of Marble, just off the main highway.

TVA officials reported that 5.8 inches of water fell from Thursday through Sunday, with continuous rain from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon.

Survey Indicates The Extent Of Poverty, Unemployment & Opportunities In Area

Over 50 industrial leaders, businessmen and educators from the Upper Hiwassee Development Association area attended the UHDA's Human Resources Workshop January 29 to hear the results of a survey which concerns the area's labor and economic situation.

The survey, which was completed last summer, was done by Robert Mosteller and Michael Bowen, the two Southern Regional Education Board interns. Proposed questions that were to be answered by the survey included 1) number of unemployed, 2) number of unemployed who are seeking work, 3) how do we attract industry when we have an untrained labor force, 4) for what jobs should high school students prepare, 5) just how poor are we, and 6) does welfare kill initiative.

The results of the survey, which are quite lengthy, were not given, but the general findings were discussed by the interns and the group.

Robert Mosteller who surveyed the latent labor force in the area, reported the following findings:

In this area, which includes Fannin, Towns, and Union Counties in Georgia and Clay and Cherokee Counties in North Carolina, the median income increased from \$2400 in 1959 to a present \$3700. Still, four percent of the families earn less than \$3,000, although 85 percent own their own homes. In N. C. one out

of four houses contacted had no indoor bathroom facilities, while one out of five had none in Georgia.

According to the survey, many people have only an eight grade education and there is approximately 70 percent unemployment. The report also showed that there is not as many of the unemployed looking for work as was once thought. There were 18 percent of the unemployed who did not work a full week, with the remainder not working a full year.

Reasons for unemployment included layoffs, looking for work and not wanting to work.

Although one out of four raised meat, it was found that a larger percent of the people did not eat well.

One of the surprising things brought out was that 20

percent of the people who had a skill were not using that skill. Welfare, it was found, was supporting mostly unemployed, illiterate people who were incapable of doing any work.

As to the latent labor force, 20 percent of the people contacted said they were willing to work, but many of them were unskilled. This brought out the need for training facilities and what was being done in the public schools.

If work were available, 40 percent of the people contacted that are now working out of the area would move back, and another 20 percent said they would if they had comparable salaries.

Mosteller also reported that the rural roads in North Carolina were in better

condition than those in Georgia, but the need for better roads is prevalent in both states.

Mike Bowen, who studied the employment opportunities, determined the number of people now employed in the economy of the area and what field they were involved.

The ratio of service-industr-

ial workers, which has been found to be one to one in prosperous areas, was discussed and the question was brought up as to whether or not this area could support one service related worker for each industrial worker.

In 1974 over 13,600 will be

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Heart Fund Drive To Begin Saturday

Cherokee County Heart Fund volunteers will be joining over 100,000 others throughout the state who are participating in North Carolina's Heart Month. The Heart Fund drive is separate from the United Fund, as it was not included in the original Cherokee County United Fund drive.

Dates for balloon and tag days in Murphy are: balloon days, February 8 and 15; tag days, February 14 and 22. Heart Sunday will be held in the West Cherokee Division February 16 through the 22.

Heart chairmen are: Murphy City, Faye Kenney; Bates Creek, Doris Dockery; Grape Creek, Betty Haiger; Ebenezer, Grace Hall; Boiling Springs, Wayne Abernathy; Grandview and Owl Creek, Mr. Hebert O'Dell.

Ogretta, Nancy Helms; Unaka, Alice Morley; Violet, Mrs. W. D. Graham; Hiwassee Dam, Mildred Graves and Charmia Jones; Friendship and Shoal Creek, Harry Bagley; Culberson, Wilma Shields; Ranger, Betty Kilpatrick and Virginia Burgess; Martins Creek, Doris Ashe, A. J. Martin and Geneva Chastain; Bellview, Eva Nell Hughes; Moccasin Creek, Florence Henson; Brasstown, Verna Lee Kephart and Blanche Smith; Peachtree, Willard Hembree; Tomotia, Wilma Pope; Pleasant Valley, Grlene Dockery; Texana, Catherine Sudderth.

The Heart Fund fights heart attacks, heart defects, stroke and high blood pressure. This year's slogan is "Give So More Will Live When A Volunteer Calls On You!!"

County To Participate In Law Enforcement Program

Ten law enforcement associated personnel from Cherokee County were among 60 people who met in Bryson City January 30 to form an organization for the improvement of law enforcement services in six southwestern counties. The counties presently involved are Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon and Swain Counties.

Representing the town of

Murphy were Police Chief Pete Stalcup and City Clerk Charlie Johnson. County Commissioner W. T. Moore, Sheriff Claude Anderson and Deputies Holloway and Radford represented the county, while Mayor Percy Ferbee and Police Chief Milton Mashburn attended from Andrews.

The group were present to See Enforcement
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For Clyde May, Life Began At 39

By Bill Gray
Friday was a day that Clyde May will remember for a long time. It was his 39th birthday and the end of his second week of work with Levi Strauss Company in Murphy.

For most of us these events pass by hardly even noticed, but for Clyde, who has been totally blind since birth, it was the first time in all of his 39 years that he has held a full-time job.

The hiring of Clyde by Levi was a first also for Murphy, as he is the first totally blind person hired in this area as a regular industrial employee.

Horace Cannon, plant manager for Levi, became involved with Clyde when he mentioned to Murphy Lions Club member Merle Davis that Levi would be willing to hire a blind person. Wheels began turning and through the work of Lion Area Representative Howard Crouch, Clyde was interviewed and found capable of doing the job.

"In the two weeks that Clyde has been here," Cannon said, "he has done outstanding to be blind. He is as nice to everyone as can be, and he really appreciates what it does

for him."

Clyde's job is turning front pockets, which involves the literal turning in-side-out trouser pockets before they are sewn into trousers. He places a pocket on a verticle medal stand, depresses a foot pedal to straighten the pocket, and then stacks them into a neat pile to be carried to another department.

Eunice Ledford, the head trainer who works with Clyde, was surprised at his ability to learn. "His progress against job standards is following the normal curve in spite of his handicaps," she said after referring to a chart. "It took several days for him to catch on because of his not being able to see, but after that when he got the 'feel' of what he was doing he has moved right along with no problem."

Clyde works the regular shift along with everyone else, and is driven back and forth to work by a fellow employee, George Morrow.

"He is no more problem than any of the other employees," Jerry Reynolds, who supplies him with materials, said of Clyde.

Reynolds also helps Clyde when he goes on breaks and to lunch. "It is amazing the way Clyde gets around," Reynolds continued. "As soon as we finish moving things around I'm sure he will be able to make it around in the plant by himself."

The only special arrangement made for him was setting up a work station near the aisle so he would be more free to move about.

According to Cannon, Clyde was born in the Nantahala mountains and lived there until he moved to Asheville in 1954. While there he worked in the Lions Industries for the Blind, helping to rebuild and repair mattresses.

"Clyde has never been to a school," Cannon said, "but he reads braille very well and takes several magazines. Clyde speaks very well, and obviously has a high I. Q."

In 1964 he was laid off from his work in Asheville and moved back to Nantahala to live with his mother and sisters. At present he lives alone in a boarding house on Willow Street until the weekend, when



his mother takes him back to Nantahala.

Cannon noted that the Levi Strauss Company, which has plants throughout the United States, is involved in a program of actively seeking and employing disadvantaged persons. Levi now employs 178 disadvantaged people in their eastern plants alone.

Clyde is very proud of his new job, and the fact that he is now doing some productive work. When talking about his work, Clyde had these things to say: "I like it just fine. Everyone has been wonderful. It's the first time I've worked since 1964, and I'm really enjoying it."

The employees that work around Clyde are certainly impressed, awed and inspired by his work. There is much morale in the area where Clyde works than the Area Personnel Manager says he has ever seen before. The employees are surprised that Clyde is not helpless, and are proud to have him in the plant.

Fortunately for Clyde May, Levi has an interest in helping the disadvantaged.