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Scalp the Braves!!!

Registration Fight Settled

By Wally Avett
Staff Writer

Glenn Stalcup, chairman of the Cherokee County Board of Elections, cooled down a hot political struggle Tuesday by agreeing to register Republicans as well as Democrats who can't make the trip to the Courthouse.

Republican leaders last week charged that Stalcup had been seen at several places out in the county, in the company of Blain Stalcup, Democratic candidate for sheriff, registering Democratic voters at their homes and businesses.

Stalcup is a Democrat and the three-man board of elections is dominated by the two Democrats, Stalcup and Fred McDonald. The Republican member, Robert Hartness, Tuesday threatened to resign unless the complaints of his party were answered in an open meeting of the board of elections and the registration of Democrats outside the Courthouse office is stopped.

Cherokee County is now on a loose-leaf registration system, with voters registering only at the elections office in the Courthouse on Tuesdays, Thursdays and until noon on Saturdays. The Republicans had asked that the registration books be returned to the precinct polling places as in the past but Stalcup had refused.

Armed with several affidavits from people who said they saw the chairman registering Democrats at stores and homes in the county, accompanied by the Democratic candidate for sheriff, a Republican delegation last Friday afternoon met with two FBI agents at the Cherokee County Sheriff's office and filed a formal complaint, charging discrimination in registration of voters.

On Tuesday morning, however, the matter was apparently settled, with Alex

Brock, executive secretary of the State Board of Elections, being the key figure.

Brock was contacted first by The Scout. "The chairman of a board of elections is not precluded by law from registering persons," he said. But he added that the question would be "Whether or not the state board would look approvingly on any election official using his position to favor any individual over another."

As for the matter of an election official being seen with a candidate, Brock said the regulations prohibit an election official from being an active campaign manager but do not specify what else an election official can or cannot do in campaigning.

He added that the state board has been discussing for some time the possibility of recommending to the General Assembly that a more specific law be passed concerning the conduct of election board members.

"In the absence of law, we appeal to members of both parties to abide by the principles of fair play," Brock said.

Later in the morning he had a telephone conversation with Stalcup and the matter was straightened out.

"I've just talked to Mr. Brock," Stalcup said about noon Tuesday. "He said as long as I registered Democrats and Republicans it would be all right. So I'm going to go down in the lower end of the county on Thursday and register some Republicans."

Chairman Stalcup said the Republicans would provide him with a list of people who would have trouble getting to the Courthouse elections office and he will register them. "These people that can't get in, I'm going to go out and register them," he said.

Stalcup also said he would not ride around again with a candidate. "I'm not going out with Blain any more," he said.

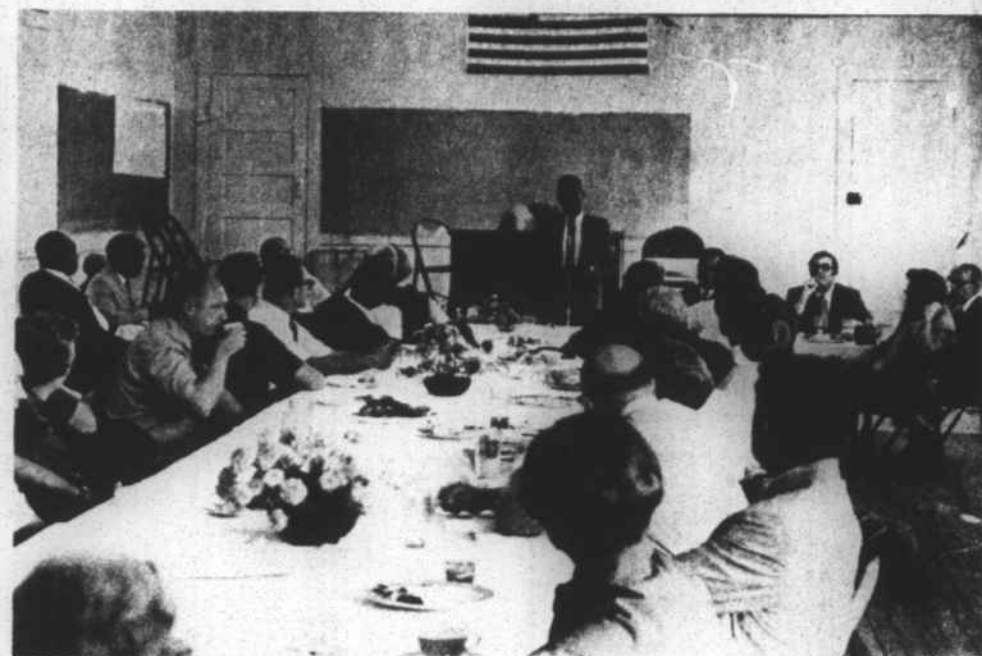


Water Power At Marble, Big Feed At Texana

In the photo at left, James Johnson, state FHA director, left, and Kermit Kilpatrick of the Marble community water system display an abundance of good

water with the help of the Valleymont Fire Department pumper truck in the background. At right, Frank Sudderth of the Texana water corporation speaks during

the dedication of that community's new water system. About 90 people enjoyed a supper together in the Texana schoolhouse preceding the speeches.



Scout Wins National Blue Ribbon Award

The Cherokee Scout and Clay County Progress has been designated a "National Blue Ribbon Newspaper" for 1970 and 1971 by the National Editorial Foundation of Washington, D.C.

The announcement was made this week in a letter to Scout Publisher Jack Owens from George Wortley III of Fayetteville, N.Y., president of the foundation. He noted that The Scout was one of only 168 newspapers in the United States to earn this designation.

"This award indicates that you conduct an alert and progressive community-minded newspaper operation," Wortley's letter states.

A total of 25 criteria, comparing the newspaper's service to its community against a national standard, were employed in the judging.

The foundation was founded in 1957 by the National Newspaper Association to further newspaper journalism and improve journalism education.

There are more than 150 non-daily newspapers in North Carolina and with a circulation in excess of 4,600, The Scout ranks in size in the top 15 weeklies. There are more than 9,000 non-daily newspapers in the nation.

Public Housing Bids Climb Even Higher

The Murphy Housing Authority opened bids again on its planned low-rent housing projects last week and found the price of construction has soared even higher.

When the bids were opened

the first time, back in July, the low bids totaled \$699,069. Last Thursday at the Power Board Building the bids were opened and low bids amounted to \$729,419.

The federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) had originally planned on building the two projects for \$600,000 and the second bidding has been scheduled by that agency in hopes that the prices would come closer to the allotted figure.

Ben Palmer, executive director of the housing authority, said on Tuesday of this week that he has not yet heard from HUD as to whether it will accept the higher bids or ask for a third bidding.

The increase was due to a jump in the bid of Smith & Jones, Inc. They were low in July and were again low last Thursday but their general contractor bid had increased from \$594,000 to \$625,000. John Smith said the increase was due to rapidly rising costs of building materials and sub-contracting.

Hughes Electric stuck with its bid of \$48,769 and was still low on the electrical work. Wells & West cut its July bid of \$56,300 to \$55,650 and was the lowest of three bidders on the plumbing work.

The planned projects are 10 units for the elderly on Hiwassee Street and 30 units of low-income housing near the Rimco Plant. Also included is the addition of a 24 by 40 foot community building to the authority's offices, which will serve as a small day care center for families living in the project.

Town Council Accepts Survey Of Boundaries

In its meeting Monday night the Murphy Town Council cleared the way for extending the town limits by accepting a survey of the limits as they stand now.

Felix Palmer is the surveyor who has been charting the town limits over the past year. Town Clerk Charlie Johnson explained that Palmer has been following lines which were actually in effect when a survey of the town limits was made back in 1927.

Unfortunately, Johnson said, that 1927 survey was never recorded and made official. The Town Council has discussed extension of the town limits but the Planning Board had advised that the survey should be completed

and accepted before extension is seriously considered.

The survey was accepted on motion of Francis Bourne Jr., seconded by John Carringer, the vote of members present being unanimous. Councilmen Ken Godfrey and Bud Brown were not present for the meeting.

The council also named Edwin Cook as chief of the Murphy Volunteer Fire Department. Cook has been assistant chief for a number of years; the chief, Bob White, died recently.

Council members also agreed to ask Cook to come to a meeting in the future and discuss with him how the department can be reorganized

and made stronger.

The council members were especially concerned over the poor attendance at firemen's schools held here in the past and discussed the possibility of making such training compulsory.

In other action, Weaver & Schaeffer, an accounting firm from Asheville, was named to do the audit of the town books.

The councilmen voted to sell Hilliard Lanning an old rock crusher part for \$30 and a broken-down road grader for \$90.

Mrs. Francis Bourne Jr. and Mrs. Don Witherspoon were named to the board of trustees of the Murphy library.

Dedication Is Set At Hayesville

North Carolina Attorney General Robert Morgan will be the speaker Friday night at Hayesville as the high school football field there is dedicated to the memory of Frank R. Long.

It is a Yellow Jacket Club project and Wally Moore, club chairman for the program, this week announced that Morgan had accepted the invitation and will speak at the halftime ceremony of the Hayesville - Robbinsville game.

Long had taught school at Hayesville for more than 30 years at the time of his sudden death last March. He had also coached football at Hayesville High School for 18 years.

Moore said a memorial monument has been installed at the playing field and the widow, Mrs. Frank Long, will unveil it as part of the dedication ceremonies Friday night.

The Yellow Jacket club has also done a general facelift job at the Hayesville field, painting the fences and putting in new bleachers which will seat more than 370 on the visitors' side.

Rider Suffers Broken Leg

A nine-year-old Murphy boy suffered a broken leg Tuesday afternoon when the bicycle he was riding was hit by a car.

Murphy Policeman C.C. Howard Jr., investigating officer, said the boy, Tim Hughes of 205 Hiwassee St., apparently rode out in front of the car and termed the accident unavoidable.

No charges were made against the driver of the car, Howard Bryson, 28, of Unaka. The accident occurred at the intersection of Church and Hiwassee streets at 1:30 p.m.

Registration Totals Given Republicans Hear Atkinson

"We need a Congressman who will make things happen rather than running in and trying to announce them."

So spoke Luke Atkinson of Asheville Saturday night at a Republican rally at the Rock Gym here in Murphy, referring to his opponent, incumbent Democratic Congressman Roy Taylor. Atkinson, GOP candidate for the House seat held by Taylor, told the crowd of about 200 Republicans that he is "agin the Gun Control Act."

He said "What they want to do is take the guns away from the people and leave them in the hands of the outlaws."

Atkinson, an Asheville City councilman, also hit hard at the rising national crime rate and said "the foot-dragging Congress could curb crime" if it would pass some of the Nixon bills.

Atkinson was introduced by Republican State Senator Herman (Bull) West, running for re-election this year. West

emphasized that more Republican Congressmen are needed in Washington give the Nixon administration the strength it needs to pass its bills.

Attorney Lonnie Hoover acted as a master of ceremonies, introducing the various Republican candidates for county office - Jack Simonds, Maurice West and Jack Lovingood for commissioners, Don Ramsey for clerk of court, Ed Graves for register of deeds, Ralph Rayfield for coroner and Charles White for sheriff.

Also introduced as Republicans were three candidates running for the county school board, which is to be a non-partisan ballot. They were Dr. W.A. Hoover, Johnny Wilson and Doyle Burch.

State Farmers Home Administration Director James Johnston, who had just spoken at water systems dedications at Marble and Texana, was also introduced to the crowd.

Graves spoke briefly, giving a report on the voter registration figures. He told the rally that as of last Friday, Democrats have registered and the Republicans have 2,828. There are 1156 registered voters.

The Democrats hold the edge over the GOP in District 1, with 1109 Democrats to 773 Republicans, he said. In District 2, the Democrats have 1,287 to 995. In District 3, Republicans have a slight edge with 1156 registered voters to Democrats' 1104.



Meeting The Voters

Luke Atkinson, standing, the Rock Gym. At left is F.O. Republican candidate for the Christopher and State Senator Herman U.S. House, is shown greeting voters at (Bull) West, running for re-election the GOP rally held Saturday night at (Staff Photo)

Grape Creek Home Burns

An onlooker watches as a Grape Creek house burns to the ground. It happened last Friday morning, cause of the blaze unknown. The six-room frame house was owned by the Rev. Norval Peck of Etowah, Tenn. and was

occupied by Frank and Helen Greene. The Murphy volunteers had the fire under control at one time but ran out of water and house was consumed before they could replenish their supply (Photo by Carringer)