

Sabotage Charged At Farner Fire

ORDERS ARE OUT TO "CRACK DOWN ON ALL SPEEDING

Highway Patrol is Told To Nab all Offenders High and Low Alike

State Highway patrolmen Smith and Lindsay have received letters from Governor Broughton ordering them to crack down on all automobile speeding. Identical letters have been sent to every Highway patrolman in the State, in a determined effort to cut down the number of traffic deaths.

Last year the traffic toll in North Carolina was nearly 1,300, and Gov. Broughton said that January figures indicated that unless prompt steps are taken, 1942 will be just as bad, or worse.

Under the new system, the State speed limit of 60 miles per hour will be allowed only on those long congested stretches of highway that are entirely free from dangerous curves, or intersections. There are practically none of these in this immediate section.

Speed limits will vary, according to road conditions, and will be rigidly enforced. Signs will be placed along all highways warning of curves or crossings ahead, and stating the maximum speed at which that stretch may be traveled. These speed limits will be fixed by the Highway Commission, who will send experts throughout the State to study every road.

Drivers who ignore the signs are to be arrested, Gov. Broughton says, regardless of whether the offenders be "citizens or officials, rich or poor, high or low.

The letter sent to the Highway patrolmen follows:

"Nearly thirteen hundred people lost their lives in automobile accidents on the highways of North Carolina in 1941. Fatalities during the present month of January, 1942 give indication that this will be an equally bloody year, unless something drastic is done.

"This is a record that is shocking to every North Carolinian; and something must be done about it. I am calling on you to do well your part.

"Speed is undoubtedly the major factor in fatal accidents. It is possible that the speed limit in this State is too high, but even the speed limit we have is violated almost with impunity in every section. This must

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Dumping Ground Given To Town Free By TVA; Plan To Buy Dropped

After advertising three weeks to buy a place for dumping refuse, the Town, on Wednesday, acquired two acres "free-for-nothing" as a gift from the TVA. The gift was made through Forestry service.

The new dumping ground lies in a ravine to the left of the Negro school house in Texana. Town Clerk Eph Christopher describes it as ideally suited for its purpose.

"It is 'way off from everybody' he said. "You can't even see it unless you go hunting it and walk right up on it. It won't bother a soul, and it is far enough from the river to remove all danger of contaminating the water."

Gift of the land came as the Town was just about to close a deal for the purchase of two acres from a private owner. The sale probably would have been consummated this week.

Chain Letter Based On War Stamps Is Barred, As Fraud

If you get "chain letters" having to do with war savings stamps, throw it away—or better still, turn it over to the Postmaster. In any event, do not answer it. It is against the law.

The letter may assure you that it is "all right", because it has a patriotic background, the idea being to sell more war savings stamps—as well as to benefit personally. But Uncle Sam says the scheme is a lottery, and has no business in the mails.

The following letter on the subject has been sent to every postoffice in the nation from the office of the Solicitor in Washington, D. C.

"To All Postmasters:

"The mails in all parts of the country are still being flooded with letters relating to so-called endless chain schemes soliciting defense savings stamps.

"The Bulletin of July 22, 1941, contained a notice regarding the legality of such schemes. Nevertheless, patrons of the various post offices are depositing in the mails matter relating to schemes of this nature.

They should be warned that the sending of such matter through the mails is a violation of the postal fraud and lottery statutes.

Notices are served upon persons participating in such schemes whose

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MAYOR MAYFIELD NEAR DEATH: HAS CLOT ON BRAIN

Stricken In Home Early Saturday Morning, Is Given 50-50 Chance

Stricken early last Saturday morning, Mayor Charles Mayfield lies near death in Petrie hospital, suffering from a blood clot on the brain. A close relative told the Scout that physicians gave him a fifty-fifty chance for recovery.

Mayor Mayfield's two sons, Frank and Ben are in Murphy, having been summoned by telegraph. Frank is with the U. S. Forestry service, at Mena, Arkansas. Ben is in the army, stationed at Camp Columbus.

Mayor Mayfield fell senseless, following slight spell of dizziness. Coming out of his coma, the Mayor became delirious, and for several days alternated between unconsciousness and being out of his head. Dr. Bernard Smith was summoned from Asheville and diagnosed the case as a brain blood clot.

No operation is said to be contemplated at this time. On Tuesday the Mayor's veins were tapped and a quantity of blood withdrawn to relieve his dangerously high blood pressure. A slight improvement in his condition is said to have been noted as a result, but no definite statement could be obtained, when the Scout went to press as to whether or not he will recover.

During the Mayor's illness, his official duties are being attended to by Noah Lovingood, member of the Town Board and Mayor Pro-Tem.

Red Cross Fund Now \$13,064; Still Growing

Exceeding even the hopes of Chairman Joe Ray, collections for the Red Cross War Relief drive now total \$13,064, and the returns still are incomplete.

Ray says he expects the final total will be more than \$13,000, and may reach \$13,200. The donations set a national record.

School Plans Program As Term Ends Feb. 27

The four months winter term at the Campbell Folk school will come to a close on Friday, Feb. 27, marked with a program put on by the students.

Several papers will be read by the student authors, dealing with needs for better community development, and there will be a series of folk songs which will be acted out while they being sung.

Final Notice

This is the last copy of the Scout that you will receive unless your subscription is "paid up". As previously explained, the rising cost of paper, ink and labor make it impractical to carry readers "on credit."

The address slip pasted on your Scout shows whether or not your subscription has expired. The first figure shows the month;—January is No. 1; February is No. 2, and so on. The Second figure shows the year. Thus the figures 11-41 would mean that your subscription expired in November, the eleventh month of last year.

No matter how long your subscription expired, come in and pay for one year in advance, and all arrears will be wiped off, and we'll start all over again.

Otherwise, sorry as we may be, your name will be taken off the list.

Blaze Believed Set In Several Places

CHEESE FACTORY CONSIDERED BY MT. VALLEY CO-OP

Lack of Initial Capital Greatest Drawback, Members Are Told

The Mountain Valley Co-op is considering the idea of branching out and operating a cheese factory. The subject was brought up by Manager Luck Tuckwiller at the annual meeting of the owner-members in Brass-town last Saturday night.

Discussion of the possible new venture came after Tuckwiller had made a report showing that the Cooperative did three times as much business last year as it had done in 1940. In addition to the members, the meeting was attended by J. H. Brendle, Mrs. J. B. Scroggs, Mrs. Will Brendle and Fred Smith.

Neal Scroggs, Director-vice president was in the chair and the program included a color film portraying self-service in a cooperative market.

Talks were made by Mrs. Olive Campbell, Public Director of the Cooperative, and by Miss Louise Pittman. The former praised the work of Manager Tuckwiller and of Wayne Holland, head of the creamery plant. Miss Pittman urged greater membership in the organization as an aid to patriotism.

Concerning the manufacture of cheese, Manager Tuckwiller said a study is being made of its possibilities in this section. He emphasized however, that no immediate action is likely.

Although the manufacture of cheese would seem to offer a good market for some years to come, he said, there would have to be the prospect of considerable capital, as an initial investment, before definite steps could be taken.

The making of cheese, he pointed out, would help rather than hinder the butter business. He quoted State experts as reporting that where cheese is taken up by a creamery, the

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Building a Roaring Mass Of Flames, Almost Instantly, Is Claim

F. B. I. agents are investigating the fire which completely destroyed the Appalachia Dam warehouse and machine shop at Farner last Sunday night. The blaze, which caused \$250,000 damage, is generally believed to have been the result of sabotage.

A new structure is being rushed near the burned wreckage. It was started before the embers had cooled, and probably will be completed by Monday. New machinery and tools cannot be secured without long delay, for the TVA is not given first preference in priority ratings. It is planned, however, to re-equip from old power houses. Shipments will be made as speedily as possible.

According to workmen near the building at the time, the entire structure was a mass of flames in only a few minutes. They insist that had the blaze been started by an overheated stove, as was first suggested, it could have burned slowly and probably have been discovered in time to prevent heavy damage.

These workmen believe the blaze was started in half a dozen places, at the same time. A few moments after being discovered, the flames were so high that the glare was clearly seen at Hiwassee Dam, 12 miles away.

A tight lid has been clamped down by TVA headquarters, at Hiwassee on news regarding the fire. Questions are referred to Publicity Headquarters in Knoxville. That office admits there was a fire, but is silent as to details of the investigation.

From men working near the warehouse at the time, however, it is learned that nothing seemed out of the ordinary until suddenly the entire structure seemed to burst into a solid sheet of flame. The blaze was so fierce and hot that steel tools and iron machinery were reduced to a molten mass.

The building contained tools, equipment, a large store of automobile tires, at least one truck, and a "Guinea" engine (a small hauling device operated by gasoline).

A number of workmen suffered

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Humorous Incidents Relieve Serious Task As Draft Board Quizzes Registrants

Members of the County Draft Board work without pay and are required to put in many hours hearing cases which may bring them nothing but hard feelings. That is because a lot of draft registrants want deferment, and get mad if they are refused.

Of course the members of the Board must be guided entirely by the law. They are not allowed to be influenced by their own feelings—but the man who has had his plea denied is liable to blame them, personally, just the same.

Mostly it's a pretty serious business—but not always. And not all the draftees want deferment.

A mountaineer came in last week, for instance, answered all the questions and then said: "Well gimme my gun."

The members of the Board assured him that he had not brought a gun. "Course I ain't," the mountaineer

replied. "But I'm supposed to git one, aint I? Well give it here, and let me get goin'."

When it was explained that he would have to pass a physical examination, and then wait until he was called, he was fit to be tied.

"H——!" he said. I've done made all arrangements back home, and I want to go right now."

It was different with another mountaineer who appeared before the Board. This one was asking exemption.

"Are you diseased? Have you any physical ailment. In other words, is there anything the matter with you?" he was asked.

"I aint diseased, and I aint got no physical ailment that I know," of was the reply, "but there's plenty the matter with me."

What is wrong?" he was asked.

"Plenty is wrong!" was the sad reply. "I'm married."

Artist, Questioned Here as Spy Suspect, Boosts Beauty of Section at Exhibit

This immediate section is both glorified and advertised in four paintings now being featured in an art exhibit in Boston, Mass. The canvases are the work of Prof. Kenneth Washburn, of the Fine Arts department of Cornell University. He painted them while on a visit here last Spring.

The artist recently presented another of his canvases to the Folk School, and it now hangs in the Brasstown Folk Museum. The artist declared the beauty of this section held him "spellbound."

Nevertheless Prof. Washburn had a tough time making those paintings.

The tough time was experienced because the artist goes in more for comfort than for style, when he is working. So it happened one morning that he was over Texana, dressed in dungarees and a shirt that was much the worse for wear. Those dilapidated clothes definitely did not

go with his fine intellectual face.

Neither did his clothes fit his voice and manner when a Murphy policeman came up and asked him what he was doing. The artist explained that he was preparing to make a painting, but to the cop, the few lines sketched in black looked more like they might be a military drawing.

That cop was taking no chances. He hustled the artist off to the Mayor, for questioning, on suspicion of being a spy and making a diagram of the Hiwassee Dam territory, for future use by enemy bombers, or sabotage workers.

Happily, it didn't take the Mayor long to realize that a horrible mistake had been made, and the artist was released, with apologies.

Also, he says he has no hard feelings. On the contrary, he is convinced that this is one section where an enemy alien would find the going mighty hard.