

Published  
twice-a-Week  
every Tuesday  
and Friday

# THE WAYNESVILLE MOUNTAINEER

49,500 People  
Live within 20 miles of  
Waynesville—their ideal  
shopping center.

Published Twice-a-Week In The County Seat Of Haywood County At The Entrance Of The Great Smoky Mountains National Park

SECOND YEAR NO. 2 8 Pages Associated Press News WAYNESVILLE, N. C., TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1947 \$3.00 In Advance In Haywood and Jackson Counties

## SBI CHARGES FRAUD IN HAYWOOD PRIMARY

### Another Ground Hunt Is Planned For Missing Plane

Efforts to resume search for missing plane believed to be near here.

Intensive search, both on the ground and in the air, made "the first day it's worth to get in" the vicinity of the twin-engine plane missing almost three weeks ago.

Mr. J. Hieatt, intelligence officer at the Greenville (S. C.) base, made this statement in Waynesville Thursday.

Efforts to bring another group to lead the hunt on foot, as that a large number of pilots assist. The aircraft was in Greenville, an hour's flight from here, have an hour to make sorties over the area in which the plane is believed to have crashed.

Mr. Hieatt adds that he was higher authorities to find the fabric found in the Rat-Cove vicinity could not be a part of another plane crashed on Campbell mountain in the summer of 1943.

Investigating that that angle that the latter plane's fuselage was painted all-silver, while the fabric was camouflaged blue for the under part and jumbled olive top. This, so far as he adds to the certainty that the fabric came from the plane during the snowstorm.

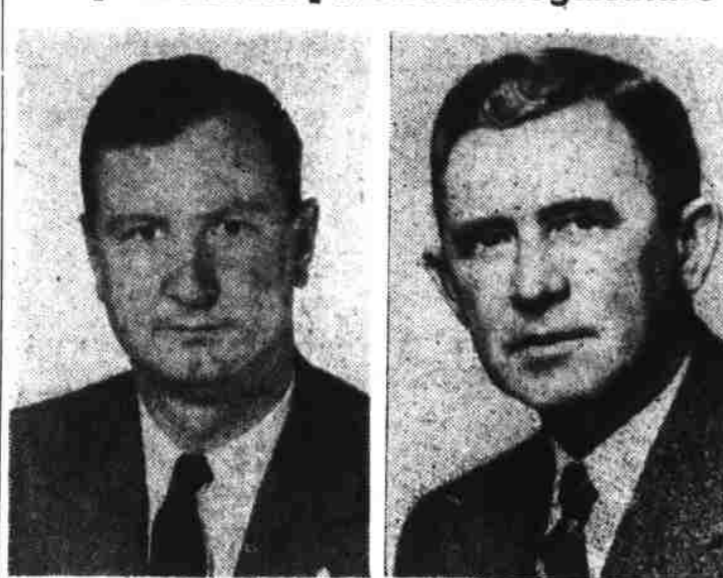
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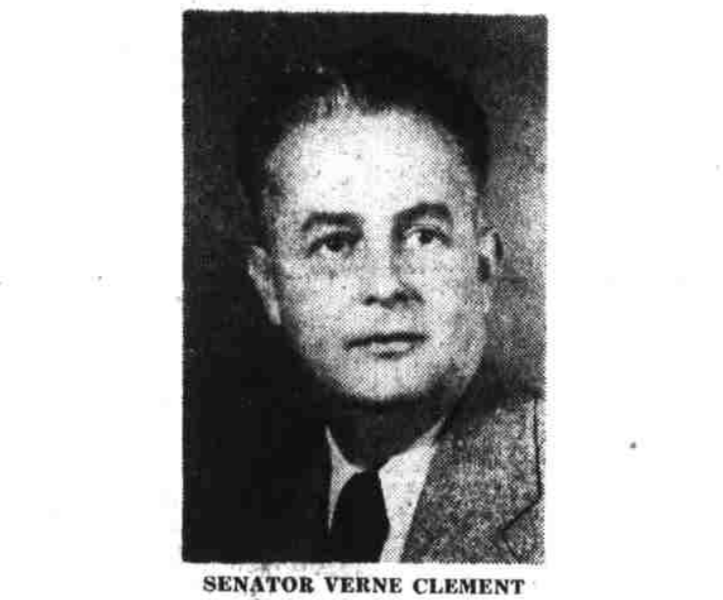
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Max.	Min.	Rainfall
65	35	.24
63	48	.79
50	21	
51	35	.10

### Represent Haywood In Legislature



SENATOR WILLIAM MEDFORD REP. GLENN C. PALMER



SENATOR VERNE CLEMENT

### Haywood's Legislators In Raleigh For Opening Of General Assembly

Haywood's three members of the General Assembly left yesterday for Raleigh to get ready for the opening of the Legislature Wednesday at noon.

The Mountaineer interviewed two of the members, and learned that a limited amount of local legislation would be sought by the Haywood lawmakers. Several bills will be modified, and possibly others considered, but no drastic changes are in view at present.

Representative Glenn C. Palmer, serving his fifth term, is slated to be considered as chairman of the House Agriculture Committee. He served as co-chairman last term, as well as being a member of 18 other committees. His specialty is roads, education, and agriculture.

Senator Medford did not disclose his plans, other than to say he did not believe there would be much local legislation for Haywood presented. Senator Medford, an attorney, won the Democratic nomination last May over J. R. Boyd. He did not have any opposition in the general election. Senator Medford has taken a prominent part in civic and religious affairs of the county, and has been active in the Young Democratic clubs of the state. He is a veteran of World War II, and a graduate of the University of North Carolina.

**Highway Record For 1947 In Haywood**  
(To Date)  
**Killed - - 0**  
**Injured - - 0**  
(This Information Compiled From Records of State Highway Patrol)

### Civil Court Grants Five Divorces First Day

One Civil Case Is Compromised, Another On Trial Late Monday

Five divorces were granted here in the opening Monday morning of January Civil term of Superior court, which convened at 10:00 o'clock with Judge William H. Bobbitt, of Charlotte presiding. The cases included the following: John J. Newmont from Renee N. Newmont. Harry Eugene Noland from Wanda P. Noland. Faye S. Chambers from William P. Chambers. Marie H. Turnmyre from Frederick S. Turnmyre. Loretta Caldwell from Loyd Caldwell.

The case of Marmon Duvall versus Richard Kiser, which involved an automobile accident was compromised by the attorneys. The plaintiff, who was asking for \$10,000 for personal injuries and \$500 damages for car, received \$2,300 from the defendant.

The trial of the case of J. W. Beece versus F. Dewey Ross, which grew out of an affray was starting as The Mountaineer went to press. The plaintiff who lost an eye in the fight and was confined to the hospital for sometime following is being sued for \$10,000.

The suit was filed in court in November, 1945, and has been on the calendar since that date, having been continued from one term of court to another.

Fred Martin, Jr. is recovering rapidly from accident injuries. Fred Martin, Jr., 22-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Martin of Waynesville, who was injured New Year's eve in an automobile accident, is reported recovering rapidly. He has been under care at the Haywood County hospital since being brought there after the accident, and it is expected that he will be in condition to return home within the next few days, although not fully recovered.

On his way to Asheville the night of the accident, young Martin was driving by himself. Due to rain the road was slick, and the automobile got out of control beyond Canton, near the Buncombe county line, and crashed into a road embankment. The driver was severely injured, with several cuts about his face.

Letters to farm families were distributed through the schools after their opening Monday requesting that they order the poison needed to kill the rodents on their places as soon as possible. A number of orders have been received already in the county agent's office, organizer of the campaign. Waynesville officials have ordered 1,500 pounds of fish, 75 pounds of the poison (fortified red

### Atty.-General McMullan Says Evidence Will Go To Next Grand Jury Here

Solicitor Moore Says Official Report Has Not Yet Reached Him

The Haywood county grand jury that will be empaneled in February to serve during the first six months of 1947 will be called on to investigate charges of election irregularities in the county during the Democratic primary last May. According to an Associated Press story from Raleigh, widely published throughout the state Saturday, Attorney General Harry McMullan has a report, compiled by State Bureau of Investigation representatives, which he said, justifies "criminal prosecution against persons named in the report."

The AP reported that this information had been submitted to the solicitor of this district to present to the county grand jury. However, Dan K. Moore, of Sylva, who assumed office as solicitor Jan. 1, stated to The Mountaineer yesterday that he has not received this report and knows no more about it "than what I have seen in the newspapers."

The information contained in the report possibly was known to the former solicitor, John M. Queen, since he was contacted by the SBI men when they began their investigation. According to Charles W. Edwards, Jr., of Lake Junaluska, publicity man for the Veterans organization in the primary who was one of the leaders in having the election investigated, the two agents first contacted Solicitor Queen when they began their probe last fall.

The agents, J. W. Jessup and R. A. Allen, compiled a lengthy document, Mr. Edwards states that their investigation concerned only the primary and not the general election, so far as he knew, and that it was made "some time after" the May primary.

He reports that at the time of the primary there were a group of persons in the county who were interested in reforming the manner in which elections are held. They felt that such practices as vote-buying, stuffing the polls, and controlled counting of votes were generally accepted as normal, not only in Haywood county but over the state, and wished to get legal evidence of this to make elections what they should be—representative of the will of the people.

This reform group, whom he declined to name, hired two private investigators to watch voting during the primary. They also had other citizens on the lookout, he reports, and what they stated as having seen was the basis for asking a formal state investigation.

Their request to Governor Cherry was turned over to the Attorney General, who assigned the SBI to the job. Their report was returned to the attorney general, who afterwards submitted a copy of it to the State Board of Elections. J. Ray Morgan, Waynesville attorney and member of the State Election Board told The Mountaineer that the SBI report was "at least 40 pages" and very thick. He did not get to examine it, however, since the nature of the charges did not fall within the board's jurisdiction. The State Board, Mr. Morgan explains, does not have control over the actions of candidates or precinct officials, but only if it was a matter concerning the County Board of Elections. Mr. Edwards says that the information released to the press was only a small portion of that contained in the report, which he says concerns numerous events that happened at practically every precinct in the county. It was released at this time, he believes, because the State Board of Elections is recommending several vote-reform measures (abolish civilian absentee voting, divide large precincts) to the State Legislature, and wishes to show the need of such changes in the law. Asked to name other members of the reform group, he stated that he preferred they announce themselves, but added that the persons who pushed the investigation did not include any of the candidates on the Veterans ticket. Mr. Edwards, when asked if their purpose in calling for an investigation was to remove some of the present officeholders, he commented: "I saw Judge Alley come in this ward with Slick Stamey," Edwards said Stamey, although not eligible, voted in both Waynesville precincts. The SBI report contained interviews with a number of other Haywood residents who said they had witnessed irregularities. Praises McMullan After the report from McMullan had been placed in the minutes of the board, the board adopted a letter from Col. Joyner praising Atty.-Gen. McMullan for his assistance. "May I take this occasion to say that in connection with enforcement of election laws, as well as in connection with day to day interpretation of those laws, I have received complete, effective and very helpful cooperation from the attorney general and from the assistant attorney general," Col. Joyner wrote.

### Former Haywood Man Killed In Mine Explosion

Last Rites Conducted Monday for Victim, John J. Whitesides.

John Joseph Whitesides, 31, native of the Canton section of the county, was instantly killed in a coal mine explosion on Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock in Girardville, Pa., where he had been residing for the past month. The son of Mr. and Mrs. William Brown Whitesides, of Bryson City, formerly of Haywood county had spent most of his life in this county.

He was a veteran of World War II, and had served for four years in the army, with 22 months overseas duty. He was employed by the Underpinning Foundation Company, Inc., of Girardville, Pa.

Funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Holly Springs Baptist church near Bryson City, with the Rev. Mr. Greene, pastor and the Rev. Mr. Freeman, officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery. Serving as pallbearers were: Bronson Whitesides, Earl Parris, J. C. Parris, Ed Fuller, William Howard, Palmer Howard, Bryson Fuller and Gene Johnston.

Surviving are parents; his widow, the former Miss Rosie Reese, and a son, James Whitesides, by a former marriage; one sister, Mrs. B. C. Chambers; one brother, Lee Whitesides, all of Bryson City, and a brother, Ray, of Candler. The Garrett Funeral Home had charge of the arrangements.

### Hospital Head



L. H. BRAMLETT of Waynesville was re-elected chairman of the board of trustees, Haywood County Hospital, for 1947.

L. H. Bramlett was re-elected chairman of the Haywood County Hospital board at a meeting at the Nurses Home which was held last Thursday. Others who will serve with Mr. Bramlett are Mark Ferguson, vice chairman, and F. M. Byers, secretary.

Announcement was made at the meeting of the staff of the county hospital which includes the following: Dr. Thomas Stringfield, chief of staff, and Dr. Sam Stringfield, Dr. Tom Stringfield, Dr. R. H. Stretcher, Dr. Rufus R. McCracken, Dr. W. L. Kirkpatrick, Dr. R. S. Roberson.

Dr. N. F. Lancaster, Dr. J. Frank Pate, Dr. J. L. Reeves, Dr. V. H. Duckett, Dr. R. H. Moore, Dr. J. B. Westmoreland, Dr. R. H. Owen, Dr. M. L. Owen, Dr. C. F. Owen, and Dr. Boyd Owen.

### High Price Grets Burley Growers As Sale Recess Ends

Prices soared to an unofficial average of \$50.34 during Monday morning sales on the Asheville burley tobacco market, an average of \$7.09 per hundredweight higher than on December 20, the last trading day before the Christmas holiday.

Of the first 78 baskets sold, 39 moved at \$50 and higher; with top prices of \$58. A higher quality leaf is on the floors of the city's eight warehouses than was general during the pre-Christmas period, which will encourage price levels to hold up.

The remaining 100,000 pounds in Bernard-Walker warehouse No. 2 was sold within an hour after sales resumed, and the buying force then moved to Carolina house, which had 800,000 pounds on the floor. Selling is expected to remain there through Thursday. An estimated 2,500,000 pounds is yet to be sold.

### County-Wide Rat Killing Campaign Starts Jan. 15

Haywood county will get its rat-killing campaign under way Saturday, when farmers will get a supply of poison through the schools and town officials in Waynesville, Hazletwood, and Canton will organize campaigns in their respective communities. Letters to farm families were distributed through the schools after their opening Monday requesting that they order the poison needed to kill the rodents on their places as soon as possible. A number of orders have been received already in the county agent's office, organizer of the campaign. Waynesville officials have ordered 1,500 pounds of fish, 75 pounds of the poison (fortified red

### Vote Buying, Other Irregularities Are Charged In SBI Investigation

(By the Associated Press)

RALEIGH, Jan. 3—Evidence uncovered by SBI agents in probes of alleged election irregularities in Democratic primaries last spring will be turned over to grand juries in Haywood and Bladen counties, Atty-Gen. Harry McMullan reported yesterday to the State Board of Elections. Disclosure of the Haywood investigation came as a surprise, since the State Board had kept it secret. Col. W. T. Joyner, chairman, explained that no formal petition had been filed with the State Board, but the matter was called to its attention by Governor Cherry after he had received a protest from Charles W. Edwards, Jr., of Lake Junaluska, who described himself as representative of a veterans' ticket.

McMullan submitted a copy of the report of Agents J. W. Jessup and R. A. Allen on their investigation in Haywood, and commented: "It appears that sufficient evidence of vote-buying, disorders at the voting places, multiple voting and ballot changing has been found to justify the institution of criminal prosecution against persons named in the report."

Edwards complained to Governor Cherry last August 7 about the voting conditions during the primary in Haywood, and the Governor referred the complaint to the State Board of Elections. In his complaint, Edwards claimed that "in a number of instances, polling was carried out in an atmosphere of secrecy similar to star chamber proceedings," and cited as an instance the South Ward in Waynesville, where he said the entrance was closed to the public and guarded by Bob Ray, a deputy sheriff, armed with a heavy stick.

He also charged Hayes Alley, the registrar of the precinct, and Mrs. Lillie Atkinson, the clerk with marking ballots for voters, and claims that he was thrown out of the polling place by Ray after protesting that Mrs. Atkinson had marked a ballot for a voter not eligible for assistance. Says Ballots Marked In Ivey Hill Township, he said, two votes were challenged by Sam Queen, but the elections officials made no record of the challenges. At Lake Junaluska, he said, Ford James, an election judge, insisted on marking a ballot for a young woman although she "told him she didn't need help."

Edwards claimed that Sheriff R. V. Welch campaigned actively in the immediate vicinity of South Ward polls and was seen to give money to voters. He also charged Alvey Mehaffey with changing the marking of a ballot cast in Ivey Hill by Lucille Grant Cook. Frank M. Davis of Waynesville, Route 2, said he saw David Underwood pay for votes in Waynesville's North Ward.

J. T. Corman, Lake Junaluska registrar, told the SBI agents, "I am satisfied that there was some buying of votes in this precinct." W. L. Mehaffey of Hazelwood also asserted that he saw Hayes Alley mark ballots for voters. G. F. Platt of Waynesville, Route 1, told the SBI agents he saw Superior Court Judge Felix E. Alley escort a felon identified as "Slick" Stamey, to the polls in Waynesville, and Elbert Sawyers of Waynesville also declared, "I saw Judge Alley come in this ward with Slick Stamey," Edwards said Stamey, although not eligible, voted in both Waynesville precincts.

The SBI report contained interviews with a number of other Haywood residents who said they had witnessed irregularities. Praises McMullan After the report from McMullan had been placed in the minutes of the board, the board adopted a letter from Col. Joyner praising Atty.-Gen. McMullan for his assistance. "May I take this occasion to say that in connection with enforcement of election laws, as well as in connection with day to day interpretation of those laws, I have received complete, effective and very helpful cooperation from the attorney general and from the assistant attorney general," Col. Joyner wrote.