

THE WAYNESVILLE MOUNTAINEER

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Associated Press News

WAYNESVILLE, N. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 1947

\$3.00 In Advance In Haywood and Jackson Counties

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

Inland Wood Company Suffers \$40,000 Fire Loss

Haywood Farm Co-op Building Large Retail Unit Plant Goes Up In Flame Wednesday

Factory And Finishing Buildings Destroyed When Spark Sets Lacquer Afire

It was three o'clock Wednesday afternoon at the Inland Wood Products Manufacturing company finishing room, one mile west of Lake Junaluska along highway 19-23 when a spark from a hot motor set fire to the lacquer spraying machine being operated by Dencie Cagle. The fire caught hold of the wood and combustible paints, racing swiftly throughout the building.

Within less than two hours the finishing room and main factory building were left a smoldering ruin — a loss estimated by the plant manager, Vardy Fugate, to be from \$40,000 to \$45,000; with a place of employment lost to 16 workers and some 25 others who were to begin work shortly on the new spring and summer line of inland wood novelties.

The company owner, George Kessler of New Brunswick, N. J., is expected to arrive today, after which the future of the plant will be determined.

He is reported to have \$22,000 insurance coverage. Employees of the company fought the blaze with all means at their disposal, 24 fire extinguishers scattered about the two main buildings, and called the Waynesville fire department, Fire Chief Clem Fitzgerald answered the call with one truck, but since there was nothing larger than half-inch water outlets at the site the firemen were without facilities to extinguish the blaze.

Flames reached more than 50 feet in the air during the height of the fire, and police and highway patrolmen blocked traffic from passing by on the highway to protect travelers from heat and the danger of an explosion of lacquer from the green-painted shed, about 100 feet away from the finishing room, where 350 gallons of lacquer were stored.

Fire caught hold of the closed stack of lumber in the ravine leading uphill, but employees threw sand and water from a garden hose on it, and were assisted by the firemen after they attached a hose to the Waynesville street cleaning truck and sprayed the lumber and a number of small machines taken from the two buildings.

Although the office was hemmed in by the fire minutes after it began and practically all records were lost, employees rolled out to safety approximately \$4,000 worth of planers, routing machines and variety saws.

The dry lumber shed and lacquer shed also were undamaged. There were no high winds blowing, and the heat rose straight upward with smoke billowing high and visible from several miles.

West bound traffic was directed over the Junaluska-Dellwood cut-off—where construction crews were preparing it for pavement—but traffic officers found it necessary to stop all vehicles going towards the east for approximately an hour.

The company was purchased (Continued on Page Six)

4-H Club Leader Here In Conference With County Agents

Miss Eleanor Barber, assistant 4-H club leader of the North Carolina extension service spent Thursday in town in consultation with the county farm and home agents.

Highway Record For 1947 In Haywood

(To Date)
Killed - - 2
Injured - 12

(This Information Compiled From Records of State Highway Patrol)

State Promises To Repair Two Crabtree Creek Roads

Delegation Of 50 Talk To Highway Engineers

Road Impassible During Winter Weather, Causing Many Hardships

Rock to make the road up Crabtree and Ball creeks passable the year around was promised by J. C. Walker, state highway department engineer for the western district, and his assistant, James Knight, at a meeting in the courthouse Tuesday afternoon attended by the county commissioners, school superintendent and a delegation of more than 50 persons from the Crabtree section.

After listening to the Crabtree residents describe the hardships they encountered during the winter and on any rainy period, Mr. Walker stated that he would make the road his number 1 improvement project for Haywood county and "get it in shape to travel" before next winter at the latest.

The engineers discussed in detail how their department functions, being limited by appropriations from the state legislature and directed to apply their funds only to specified types of work. They described how run-down machinery was one of their major problems, and said that many items of equipment had been on order for several years and still was not coming in.

Mr. Knight remarked that the break-down of a shovel was a main cause of the Crabtree road's bad condition. It was assigned to filling in the road last August, he related, several feet above the danger level from the creek. Its motor broke down after it had filled part of the road, and the needed part for repair has not been secured yet.

Vivid descriptions of how the road had affected life in the community were told by residents, who felt that immediate steps should be taken to remedy the road.

There are 108 families who live (Continued on Page Six)

Sims Tire Puts In Larger Boiler

Sims Tire and Battery Company are installing a large oil-burning boiler this week. The larger capacity boiler is needed to operate the recapping plant of the firm.

Since the addition of several additional recapping molds, the steam requirements have more than doubled and necessitated a larger boiler, according to L. E. Sims, owner.

The front of the place is also getting the finishing touches, as plasterers are completing the work of the final finish on the outside walls.

Instructs Supt. Messer To Replace Sub-Standard Teachers Where Possible

School committees were appointed for the six districts in Haywood county, exclusive of Canton, by the board of education at their meeting in the courthouse Monday, with nine new committeemen on the lists.

A schedule is being arranged for each district committee to meet in the superintendent's office, elect their respective chairmen, and select the teachers for their schools.

The county board, R. T. Messer of Waynesville, chairman; Vinson Davis, Crabtree; and H. V. Cagle, Beaverdam, instructed Supt. Jack Messer to replace as many as possible of the teachers with sub-standard certificates with instructors holding class A certificates. Of the 180 teachers at the schools in the six districts, 47 have the lower class certificate.

Supt. Messer believes that it will be possible to secure a good share of accredited replacements from college graduates and other sources.

Next meeting of the county board will be in May, when the 1947-48 budget will be outlined and building needs of the school planned.

Members of the school committees are as follows: Waynesville district—Claude Allen, Hazelwood; Guy Massie, Jim Noland, Fred Campbell, Waynesville; and Medford Leatherwood, Waynesville Rt. 2. Mr. Noland and Mr. Campbell succeeded Jerry Liner and Sam Queen.

Bethel—Forrest Justice, Walker Brown, Edgar Burnett, Canton, Rt. 3; George Stamey and Rex L. Pless, Canton, Rt. 2. Mr. Burnett succeeds Charles Moody.

Clyde—Coleman Francis, Mark Leatherwood, Roy Haynes, Larry Cagle, Clifford Ernest Brown, Jr. Mr. Cagle and Mr. Brown succeed Hattie Terrell and C. E. Brown, Sr.

Crabtree-Iron Duff—Fred Noland, Jim Best, Weaver Chambers, and Hugh Noland, Clyde Rt. 1; and Hardy Caldwell, Waynesville, Rt. 2. Mr. Best, Weaver Chambers (Continued on Page Six)

Crabtree-Iron Duff Senior Play Tonight

The Crabtree-Iron Duff high school senior class will present the play, "He Couldn't Take It," tonight at 8 o'clock in the school auditorium. Mrs. O. L. Yates is directing the play.

There will be a small admission charge.

Minstrel Show Will Open Tonight At High School

A steady series of rehearsals, in full-dress for the first time last night, has put the Lions club minstrel show in readiness for their opening performance tonight, when the curtain will rise at 8 o'clock in the Waynesville township high school auditorium.

John Cuddeback will lead the blackface chorus of 40 in the opening number, after which Herbert Buchanan—the interlocutor—will turn loose the end men, "Bosco" Killian, "Sonny" Davis, "Honey Boy" Geringer and "Lucious" Roberts. These characters have the job of injecting comedy throughout the show, and Director Joe Casabella claims that they are naturals for the job.

A ragtime crew from the Waynesville township high school band will accompany the performance, and string specialties will be given by the Ramp Hill Ramblers. Solos will be taken by John Cuddeback, O. R. Roberts and Joe Casabella; and two numbers are programmed by the Lions Quartet. Original music and old favorites have been arranged especially for the show by Charles Isley.

Tap and clog dances will feature Richard Geringer, W. G. Byers and Tom Campbell and during the second part of the show Chester Coggburn will give his act.

Four performances of the show (Continued on Page Six)

School Board Appoints District Committees At Meeting Here Monday

Three Are In Race For Local Board

Two more candidates announced for aldermen this week, it was reported at the Waynesville Town Hall yesterday. Dr. Thomas Stringfield and Asbury Howell have joined Mack Pace, Dayton Rubber company employe, in seeking seats on the town board that will be selected in the May 6 municipal election.

No candidates have yet filed for the office of mayor.

Contracts Are Asked On School Projects

Construction of New Colored School, Lunchroom at Morning Star, Planned

Bids for the construction of a high school at Canton for all the colored students of Haywood county, and for a lunchroom addition at Morning Star school will be taken until April 21, according to an announcement this week by A. J. Hutchins, Canton school superintendent.

Construction has been planned for some time and money set aside for the projects. However, due to state regulations on accepting contracts it was not possible for some time to find a firm that would offer to do the work for a set amount, Sen. William Medford introduced legislation into the General Assembly which allows the Canton school district to contract for these two projects on a cost-plus basis, if necessary.

The new school is to be of brick and will contain seven classrooms and a home economics room on the ground floor. A work shop will be added at some future time.

It will replace the colored school which burned down several years (Continued on Page Six)

Miss Gibbs' Play To Be Given Today At The University

The Dramateers of Mars Hill college will present "Pity, If You Please," an original one-act play by Pollyanna Gibbs, of Waynesville, in the Annual Dramatic Festival at the University of North Carolina, Friday, April 11.

The play, which was accepted for production by the Carolina Playmakers Guild, was presented at Mars Hill college February 22 and in Asheville March 20. The play, which includes five characters, is built around a woman who is a neurotic and who dominates (Continued on Page Six)

3 Sections Today 18 Pages

Central Cleaners Install Boiler, New Equipment

Central Cleaners have just installed several new pieces of equipment, including a marine type, 150-horsepower oil boiler, and a new washing machine.

This equipment merely supplements present equipment, according to Johnny Shelby, owner and operator.

The boiler is of the latest design oil burner, and provides constant 100-pound pressure of steam for the two floors of cleaning equipment operated by the firm

Worked Together On Book



It took three people to write "Mrs. Mike," and it's a first book for all of them. Mrs. Mike herself (inset) was the wife of a Northwest Mounted policeman, and lived the rugged, hardy and dangerous northwoods life denied to most of us nowadays. After her husband's death, she tried to sell some stories about her experiences to Hollywood agents, and one was so thrilled with her accounts that he introduced her to Benedict and Nancy Freeman, a young couple trying to make a go of writing. With Mrs. Mike Flannigan talking and the Freedmans typing, this biographical-autobiographical novel was completed.

Phone Tieup Continues With Loss Of Service Felt By Local Business

Manager Reports Public Is Cooperating In Making Only Emergency Calls

Softball Organization Meeting Monday Night

All parties interested in sponsoring a softball team in the Waynesville-Hazelwood-Lake Junaluska league are requested to attend an organization meeting Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock in the L. N. Davis Insurance office. C. E. Weatherby will take charge of the meeting.

Police To Enforce Hour Parking Law On Main Street

The one hour parking law will be rigidly enforced, starting April 15, according to Chief of Police Orville Noland. During the winter the parking regulations have not been enforced.

Chief Noland also said that a campaign would be pushed to see that all motor vehicles had city license tags. The tags are on sale at the city hall for \$1, and all persons found without a tag that comes under the ordinance, will be hauled into court and subject to a fine of \$10, he said.

So far this year only 362 tags have been sold and there are about 500 motor vehicles that should have the tags, he pointed out.

Jurors Are Drawn Here For Civil Court Term

County Commissioners Meet Monday, Name Bryson Superintendent of Welfare

Jury venues were drawn for the May civil term of Superior Court at the meeting Monday of the board of Commissioners in the courthouse.

The resignation of H. Arthur Osborne, Canton, as superintendent of public welfare was accepted and Gudge C. Bryson, Canton, was unanimously appointed to that position. A two-year bond also was presented by the county auditor, Charles H. Metcalf.

Three petitions were presented for road work in the Pigeon, Howell Mill road and Edwards Cove sections. The requests were forwarded to the state highway and public works commission.

The first week jury will be drawn from Marshall Messer, Jonathan Creek; Marion B. Jones, Beaverdam; Joe Teague, White Oak; Dave P. Turner, Waynesville; J. R. Boyd, Jr., Waynesville; R. L. Wells, Pigeon; Lee Birchfield, East Ford; Earnest F. Caldwell, Clyde; Foster Frady, Waynesville; Cecil Spencer, Clyde; Albert Trull, East Fork; Ernest Rhodamer, Jonathan Creek; James D. Gossett, Pigeon; (Continued On Page 6)

Easter Seal Drive Short \$70 Of Goal

With a goal of \$200 set for the sale of Easter Seals for Crippled Children, the community campaign is falling short by only \$130, reported to date, according to James E. Massie, chairman serving from the Waynesville Rotary Club, sponsoring organization.

"I do not have the complete reports from all the schools through which the sales were made, and I also feel that many persons who intended to buy seals have delayed making their purchase, but I am sure by the end of the week we will be over our quota," said Mr. Massie when contacted yesterday for a report.

For many years the National Society for Crippled Children and its affiliated state societies have sponsored a program designed to benefit handicapped children. The ideal of the agencies is that every handicapped child shall receive opportunities to develop his talents in equal proportion as that provided for the average or so-called normal child. The symbol of this ideal is the Easter Seal.

"Just because Easter is over does not mean that you cannot use the seals. Everyone should be proud to use them on their letters and show that they are lending a helping hand in this worthy cause," said Mr. Massie.

The chairman further pointed out that any person who has not and wishes to buy seals may find them at his office over the Park Theater.

Assembly Passes Many Laws Affecting Haywood

Senator William Medford and Representative Glenn C. Palmer were sponsors of 10 laws relating only to Haywood county which passed the 1947 legislature, and three statewide bills were passed after being introduced by Sen. Medford.

He was the author of the public act to create a commission of seven members (one to be from Haywood) to coordinate all the activities in behalf of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park, the Blue Ridge Parkway, and the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests. Gov. Cherry indicated that he would appoint the commission shortly after the adjournment of the General Assembly.

Clyde's Rep Palmer effected a substantial saving for the farmers of Western North Carolina by securing a reduction of burley tobacco warehouse fees, agreed to voluntarily by the warehousemen on a two-year basis after the representative announced plans to lower their fees by legislation.

Two statewide measures sponsored by Sen. Medford aimed primarily to take care of local situations were one to authorize a town to create a commission for supervision of public cemeteries, and one to permit a county to place its poor in private institutions at county expense. Rep. Palmer's bill to extend the (Continued on Page Six)

Published Twice-a-Week Tuesday and Friday
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