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THE WAYNESVILLE MOUNTAINEER

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TODAY'S SMILE

One reason a dog is man's best friend is that it wags its tail—not its tongue.

$770,000 To Be Spent Expanding Haywood Electric Membership Lines

Bulk Of REA Expansion In Haywood

Heavier Lines Will Be Built

Rural Electrification workers are already busy on the Haywood Electrical Membership's $667,000 expansion project.

Contracts will be let in about 60 days on the construction of the REA organization's new headquarters here.

The remaining $100,000 of the total federal loan announced last Thursday will be reloaned to members for the installation of plumbing and the purchase of electrical appliances in accordance with the policy inagurated about a year ago.

These details were reported by Corporation Manager R. C. Sheffield of Waynesville this morning in reply to questions concerning the details of the loan which was announced last Thursday by U. S. Senator Frank P. Graham.

The $670,000 will build 285 miles of new lines to serve 885 new customers in the six counties under Corporation jurisdiction, for building the new headquarters, which will be located near the Waynesville Drive-In Theatre; for re-phasing the remaining main lines, including the installation of voltage regulators and sectionalizing equipment; to increase the capacity of the substations.

Most of the work, Mr. Sheffield said, would be done in Haywood county, which is the Coop's largest county and contains approximately 40 per cent of the total 3,800 consumers the organization now serves.

When the expansion job is completed within the next 12 months, he added, there will be facilities sufficient to take care of the immediate present and the anticipated new customers of the near future.

He declared that the improved system would be able to handle a total 6,500 members — nearly double the number now on the rolls.

Besides Haywood, the Co-op also serves rural consumers of Buncombe, Jackson, Transylvania and Macon counties, and Raburn county, Georgia.

"Haywood county is now 95 per cent electrified," Mr. Sheffield pointed out.

"When these new facilities are completed, Haywood county will be 99 per cent electrified."

The other counties are now running up to about 85 per cent in this respect, he added.

Taps for the new lines are now being staked out by REA work crews, he continued, explaining that no contracts for this work are to be let.

The work started this week.

In regard to the new headquarters building, he added, work will start as soon as the final plans are approved by the officials here and by the national office at Washington.

The structure will be erected under the supervision of the Southern Engineering Company of Atlanta, Ga., the architect.

In charge of the engineering work on the entire expansion project is B. O. Vannort Engineers, Inc., of Charlotte.

Up to the time the new loan was announced last week, the Haywood REA had received a total of $1,371,000 from the federal agency during the local co-op's ten years of existence to build its current lines for 4,200 consumers.

Donald Dunham has returned to Waynesville from Florida and is making preparation for the opening of the Dunham House for next season.

Optimism Prevails At Civic Meeting; Future Projects Suggested

Carl Goerch Makes Number Timely Suggestions For Area In Principal Address

Carl Goerch, editor of The State magazine, last Friday night declared the western area has got to establish more tourist accommodations to get the fullest possible value from the Cherokee drama in particular and the heavy volume of summer visitors in general.

He made his remarks before the nearly 350 people who attended the annual Chamber of Commerce banquet in the Hazelwood School cafeteria and a radio audience.

"If this thing (the Cherokee pageant project) is not handled properly," he warned, referring to the current shortage of tourist facilities, "the drama is liable to backfire and become the most adverse advertising Western North Carolina ever had.

"I believe," he continued, "that Western North Carolina has missed the boat where accommodations for tourists are concerned."

Strongly recommending the establishment of a place in Western North Carolina similar to Gatlinburg, Tennessee, he declared the valley between Soco Gap and Lake Junaluska is the "ideal place for another Gatlinburg."

Mr. Goerch made the banquet's principal address after being presented by the Chamber with a plaque inlaid with 650 pieces of native wood and shaped in the outline of the state of North Carolina.

W. Curtis Russ, editor of the Mountaineer and a director of the Chamber, presented the plaque on behalf of his organization in his introduction of Mr. Goerch to the banquet guests and Radio Station WHCC's listening audience.

The magazine editor, whose address was spiced with humorous anecdotes illustrating his remarks, declared flatly:

"And I hope they run the guy out of the county who wants to change the name of Maggie."

His recommendations regarding the development of the Maggie section was just one of several he made in regard to the development of this area to catch a greater volume of tourist business.

In reference to the drama itself, he suggested the establishment of a "tent village" to accommodate the visitors overnight right on the fair grounds, and that the Cherokees appear in native costume and hold tribal dances for the visitors.

In presenting this idea, he declared:

"There isn't time to build hotels or tourist courts of stone, brick or frame construction. But there is time to build (this) other type of accommodations.

"These tents, of course, would be better if they were in the form of Indian tepees. But if they cannot be obtained, then I'm sure tents could be purchased as Army

(See Goerch—Page 8)

350 People Attend Annual Banquet For Most Colorful Event In Years

A capacity attendance of 350 on Friday enjoyed what officials termed "The best Chamber of Commerce banquet ever staged here."

Every available seat at the Hazelwood school dining room was taken, and some 50 persons wanted tickets at the last minute after the supply had been exhausted.

The colorful event, climaxed by a stirring address by Carl Goerch, editor-publisher of The State magazine, left everyone thinking about the undeveloped possibilities in this area.

The entire program went as scheduled, without the slightest variation, and the wide variety of entertainment kept the huge crowd interested throughout the program.

James L. Kilpatrick, president, was master of ceremonies and Charles E. Ray introduced the guests.

W. Curtis Russ presented the speaker, and in so doing, gave him a large plaque of inlaid wood, shaped like North Carolina, with the inscription: "Carl Goerch, a loyal and consistent booster of Western North Carolina, presented by the Waynesville Chamber of Commerce."

Mrs. Goerch was given a basket of Haywood apples, as a gift from the Haywood Apple Growers Association.

Among the visitors attending the meeting, were: Felix Pickelsimer, Sylva Chamber of Comerce; P. M. Canak, secretary Hendersonville Chamber of Commerce, Beekman Huger, Champion Paper and Fibre Co.; Julian B. Stepp, Carolina Power and Light Company, Francis J. Heazel, past president Asheville Chamber of Commerce; Mayor Kelly Bennett, Bryson City; Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ferguson, Bryson City, the latter president of the Chamber of Commerce; Mr. and Mrs. Robert White, acting superintendent of the Park, Gatlinburg; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Sink, Cherokee; Mr and Mrs. Ross Caldwell, Cherokee; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Jennings, Cherokee; Mrs. Molly Arneech, Cherokee, and Harry Buchanan, Hendersonville.

During the dinner Teddy Martin's orchestra furnished music, followed by several numbers by the Cherokee Indian quartette.

The flowers were furnished by Waynesville Florist for the occasion, and the meal was served by Mrs. Rufus Siler, and members of the high school Home Economics Class.

Harry Buchanan Cites Value Of Cherokee Drama To This Entire Area

Harry Buchanan, president of the Cherokee Historical Association, told a Chamber of Commerce banquet audience Friday night that "people will know they're in North Carolina" before the Cherokee Indian drama is over this summer.

His remarks referred to the difficulty many visitors over their tional Park express over their knowing when they're in the Tennessee side and when they're in North Carolina.

He told the nearly 400 people at the annual Chamber event in the Hazelwood School Cafeteria that, though the drama funds are still about $20,000 short of what is needed, "the Drama will go on July 1 regardless."

Touching on the available tourist accommodations in this area he indicated that, though more are needed, "Waynesville seems to be building a town from Waynesville to Cherokee."

Discussing the progress of the plans for the premiere of the drama, "Unto These Hills," Mr. Buchanan reported that the amphitheater, which will seat an audience of 2,700 people, is now 80 per cent complete, that an access road to it will be completed in time for the opening.

Rehearsals for members of the cast will start June 1.

Referring to the script, he explained that the play opens with the arrival of DeSoto and his Spanish soldiers to Western North Carolina in their search for gold, and touches the principal points in the colorful, often tragic, history of the Cherokee nation.

So far, he added, discussing the fund-raising drive, all of the money has been raised in the counties comprising the western 12th Congressional District, and "not one dime" has been raised outside of the district."

His address was one of the principal features of the annual banquet.

MR. NOLAND IN HOSPITAL

W. H. Noland, who is a patient at Mission Hospital, Asheville, is reported to be resting comfortably.

Crash Victim

WILLIAM L. BALENTINE who was instantly killed when his plane crashed here late Sunday afternoon. Two others with him suffered slight injuries.

One Killed, Two Hurt In Plane Crash On Sunday

Fatal Plane Crash Arouses Wide Interest

The tragic story of the death of William L. Balentine in the flaming wreckage of his plane yesterday afternoon aroused deep interest throughout North and South Carolina.

Late this morning, the Greenwood, S. C., Index-Journal, and the United Press office at Charlotte both phoned the Mountaineer for full details of the accident.

The Greenwood paper covers Ware Shoals, where Mr. Balentine was raised.

The UP was seeking more details for a story for its trunk wire, which goes to its newspaper customers throughout the nation.

William L. Balentine burned to death before the eyes of his younger brother late yesterday afternoon when his small plane crashed and burst into flames at the edge of the Hazelwood Airport.

Jack Kelly and Paul Franklin, who were riding with him, escaped with minor injuries when they were thrown out of the plane as it hit the ground just beyond the south end of the landing strip.

Charles Balentine, the victim's brother, was bringing his own plane in for a landing when he saw the crash.

In an effort to land as close to the scene as possible, he nearly crashed himself. He escaped injury, however, and the damage to his craft was limited to one of the landing wheels.

Kelly and Franklin, both 19-year-old Waynesville boys, were released from Haywood County Hospital after being treated for lacerations.

Kelly sustained a gash on his chin and one leg, and lost several teeth. Franklin was treated for a forehead laceration and also suffered a bruised hip.

Franklin told a newsman the plane went into a steep climb to avoid the barbed-wire fence near the end of the runway.

"We weren't up more than 250 feet," he said, "then the plane hit a windpocket and nosed over.

"When we hit the ground, the safety belt holding Jack and I in the back seat broke, the door flew open, and we were thrown out.

"The plane must have started burning right after we hit.

"We ran back to try to help Bill as soon as we got to our feet. He said, 'Get back, get back.'

"Then the gas in the tanks shot up and we couldn't get to him."

Mr. Balentine died without a sound, apparently trapped in the wreckage of the plane's controls, one of his legs broken.

Within seconds, many people had reached the scene, but the searing heat from the roaring flames beat back the rescuers.

Less than three minutes after it struck the ground, the plane was a smoking skeleton of charred metal.

The men who went to the plane after the flames subsided found Mr. Balentine's hands clutching at a piece of frame as though death had come as he was making a final desperate effort to pull himself free.

The three men had taken off from the strip just a few hours after Mr. Balentine had attended a party to celebrate his coming birthday.

He would have been 35 years old today.

Dr. J. Frank Pate of Canton, Haywood County Coroner, said after examining the body last night that there was no need for an inquest.

Mr. Balentine, a native of Ware Shoals, S. C., had served through World War II. He worked for the A. C. Lawrence Leather Company of Hazelwood and also operated the Shell Service Station on Main Street.

He had been a pilot for the last

(See Balentine—Page 8)

Forester Grateful For Efforts To Find Him

The forester who was lost for 12 hours on the Waynesville Watershed last week expressed his feeling in this way toward those who pressed the search for him:

"I was a stranger, and yet it made no difference to them.

"They looked for me anyway."

The forester, Wolodymyr Kolodij, was marking timber on the watershed when he took a wrong turn in the dense underbrush and lost his way.

When he was reported missing, Town Manager Grayden Ferguson and Police Chief Orville Noland organized the search that continued until well after midnight.

Kolodij found his own way out, however, reaching town at 3 a.m. —half a day and 18 brush-tangled miles after he had first started homeward.

"I want to express thanks," he said in his statement to the Mountaineer, "to Mr. Ferguson, the police and the other men who searched for me.

"I say this not only for myself but also for my wife and our three children.

"Though I am a stranger here,

(See Forester—Page 8)

Methodists' 1950 District Meeting Set

Approximately 300 pastors and lay delegates will hold the 1950 annual Waynesville Methodist District meeting Thursday at Franklin.

Dr. C. N. Clark of Waynesville, the church's district superintendent, in his announcement today, said he would convene the session at 9 a. m. at Franklin's First Methodist church.

Attending the annual gathering will be representatives of the 31 pastoral charges and the 78 churches in the district jurisdiction which covers seven western counties.

Also scheduled to appear are representatives of the Western North Carolina Methodist Conference boards of education, missions, brotherhood and the church's schools of the area.

The principal business of the meeting will be the consideration of the official regular reports from the Methodist institutions of the district.

Rabies Clinic Schedule Set For This Week

The schedule for the middle of this week for the annual Haywood County rabies clinics was announced today as follows:

Canton—Wednesday, Myer's Cash Grocery, 3:30 p.m.; Rollins Grocery, Highland Park, 4:30 p.m.; Nina's Grill, 6 p.m.

Thickety — Thursday, James Smith farm, 3:30 P. M.; Williamson's Grocery, 4:30 P. M.; Clark's and Bryson's Grocery, Fibreville, 5:30 P. M.

Local Musicians Capture Top Honors At State Meet

By winning a rating of "Superior" in grade six in the state band contest in Greensboro Friday night, the Waynesville high school 56-piece concert band automatically won a return engagement to the same event next April.

The local band, playing in the highest grade in the state—grade six—won the rating of superior along with Lenoir, and Greensboro. The other entries in the same grade were High Point and Winston-Salem.

Waynesville's 56 pieces won the same high rating as did the 70 pieces from Lenoir, and the 96 pieces from Greensboro.

In the 1949 contest the Waynesville band won a rating of excellent in grade five.

This year the band was in a higher grade and won an even higher rating, "which means a lot of ground has been covered," said Charles Isley, director of the band.

The band received the news of their rating in a similar manner to the citizens of this community—with a lusty welcome, mixed with cheering and tears of joy.

Special recognition is expected to be given the successful conquerers at the chapel program Tuesday morning.

Soloists Receive High Ratings

Robert Massie, cornetist, and J. D. Stanley, tuba, received ratings of excellent in the solo contests on Thursday. Both boys are juniors, and this was their first entry in a state contest. Mr. Isley predicted both would rate higher next year. The soloists were accompanied on the piano by Jimmy Galloway.

The French horn quartette won a rating of superior. The quartette is composed of Betty Noland, Dorothy Caldwell, Nancy Leatherwood and Barbara Chase.

M. H. Bowles, superintendent, said that the band committee was "short 17 cents" of the $400 goal needed to send the band and chorus to the state contest. The two groups gave a concert to raise the money, and the ticket sale, together with special cash gifts left a 17-cent deficit.

There were 31 members of the local chorus who joined with 500 others in the special musical festival on Wednesday in Greensboro. Mrs. W. E. Carter, of Lake Junaluska, chaperoned the chorus, while Mrs. W. H. Burgin was chaperone for the band members.

Mr. Isley went down with the chorus, and remained throughout the festival, directing the band in the contest on Friday. He was also elected president of the State Choral Directors organization during the business session which was held Wednesday.

Robert Campbell, assistant director, went down Wednesday, accompanying the soloists from here, who participated in the contests on Thursday. Re remained until after the band contest Friday.

Saturday afternoon, a large group of citizens went to Lake Junaluska to greet the returning musicians. The special bus was met by officers at the Buncombe line, and escorted into town, and all traffic on Main Street was halted as the parade went through, with sirens and horns wide open.

The happy group went out through Hazelwood, and on to the high school, where parents, and well-wishers met the group for a joyous welcome home. Again,

(See Band—Page 8)

Waynesville Student Wins Speech Contest

Malcolm Williamson, Jr., 16-year-old Waynesville Township High School junior, is the new champion of the Haywood county speech contest sponsored by the Knights of Pythias Lodge.

Young Williamson was judged the best speaker in the county contest staged at Canton on Friday night.

By overcoming his first big hurdle, the Waynesville boy advanced as a contender for district, state and national honors.

He succeeded another Waynesville student, Miss Mozelle Liner, who last year gained the state finals.

Younger Set Has Two Columnists

Today's "Younger Set" is written by two students—Carolyn Sayer, of Waynesville high, and Helen Ferguson of Crabtree-Iron Duff

Both columns are packed with news of interest to all students, and because of the time value, both columns are being published today.

Sonoma Lodge To Hold Oyster Supper Friday

Sonoma Lodge No. 472, A.F.& A.M. will be hosts to an Oyster Supper for the Past Masters Club and the West Gate Club on Friday night, April 26th, at 7:30 p. m. in the Bethel High School Cafeteria. A very interesting program has been arranged, with a spelling match between the two Clubs. All Past Masters and members of the West Gate Club are cordially invited to attend.

Officers are: E. G. Stamey, president and C. B. Hosaflook, secretary, Past Masters' Club; and L. H. Cagle, president and Jack Sentelle, secretary, West Gage Club.

Waynesville Band Entering Lions Contest In Charlotte

The Waynesville military, or marching band, of 75 pieces, are slated to participate in the annual contest of the Lions State Convention in Charlotte in June.

The Wayesville Club is sponsoring the trip of the band. This is the first time the local band has ever entered the Lions State Band contest.

Highway Record For 1950 In Haywood

(To Date)

Killed 2

Injured 10

(This information compiled from Records of State Highway Patrol)

Idelights Of The News

Shortage?

Bippetoe of Waynesville gs may have to be im- for the May 7 Ramp Con- at Black Camp Gap, judg- what he saw last Sunday. orted a steady stream of e to Black Camp Gap all the day—and left, loaded gs.

eavy volume of traffic to he attributes to the wide- publicity the Ramp Con- has received over the re- eks.

nce?

the moon lovely," sighed l girl to her escort as they the night from the porch ome.

" he whispered, "just like ric light bulb."

el's elderly aunt, just com- from a movie, caught the ark and snorted:

ucky young people are so

have so little else to re- l them."

lean

ther day, a man with a wife finally was struck by rom his conscience.

e she goes out every morn- teach school," he mused, er dear little pointed head bane, and when she gets me late in the afternoon, her weary frame up the hat does she do?"

ll you what she does," he self with rising indigna- he has to wash the break- es. Then she has to wash h dishes. Then she has to per for the three of us." used a moment to brush a etic tear from his eye. uaring his shoulders, he clean pair of overalls and the big stack of dishes in

hour later, panting from accustomed exertion, he washed and dried the m coffee pot, and placed electric stove.

he climbed back into his suit, took a last look a- feeling the old cigarette make sure they were all then left for his office.

night after the family re- from a brief trip out of felt that a cup of coffee a good idea.

always was a pot of break- fee on the stove, and need- to be heated.

ling cheerfully, he turned e on under the pot, and out the business of blow- ew fuse in the bedroom tempting to be handy.

inutes later, wife, husband ld simultaneously started

hing was burning, they a- d it didn't smell like cof-

an went out into the kitch- vestigate.

rived too late, though. red-hot grill had melted bottom of the empty cof- he had forgotten he so washed and dried.

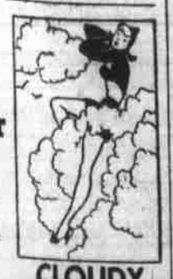
laimed Dogs To Sleep Chloroform

own of Waynesville uses a anaesthetic as its means ing of dogs unclaimed 72 er they are put in the new d.

al physician assured con- citizens today that the of putting an unwanted death is by chloroforming. d death comes after the eathes the vapors for only ds.

untaineer reporter inquir- the method of disposal ny Waynesville people ex- concern over the matter ed how the dogs were put

picked up in public are hours in the pound. If they claimed by their owners t by interested persons at of that time, they are rmed.



CLOUDY

y, April 24—Partly cloudy ntinued warm today; Tues- tered showers and turning

	Max.	Min.	Rainfall
	57	35	.18
	55	25	....
	67	28	....
	79	52	....