

Jerry Liner, Two Sons, Are Pushing Central Apartments To Completion

Completion Is Set For October 1st

The pushing to completion of the Central Apartments—a 30-unit project—by October first, is the result of a father and two sons working as a team to meet a tight deadline.

The Jerry Liner Construction Company is the owner of the Central Elementary school which is being converted into 30 modern apartments. The company is composed of Jerry Liner, Sr., and two sons, Jerry, Jr., and Howard.

Since this year marks the 40th anniversary of Jerry, Sr. entrance into the general contracting business here, it is significant, that he have associated with him in executive capacities, his two sons.

The work of converting the former Central school into modern apartments began some weeks ago. The 30 apartments will consist of 22 two-bedroom units, 6 one-bedroom units, and 2 efficiency apartments.

All electric kitchens will be a feature of every apartment. Each unit will have an electric refrigerator, range, dishwasher, water heater.

Heat and water will be furnished, with an individual control for heat in each apartment. All apartments will be wired for TV.

Individual mail boxes, and an inter-communication system will also be a feature of the building. Liner said. An automatic self-controlled elevator and dry garbage disposal chutes will serve every floor.

Liner said that persons making applications now for an apartment could select their own color scheme and the apartment would be finished according to the specifications.

The drawings for the sound-proof structure were made by Jerry Liner, Jr., now taking building construction technology at Georgia Tech. After finishing high school here, he attended Mars Hill College, and then went to Western Carolina College. After graduating there served two years in the Army, going to Korea, as a sergeant. Upon his discharge from the Army, he studied civil engineering at State College, and then



JERRY LINER



JERRY LINER, JR.



HOWARD LINER

Greater Emphasis On Youth Program In Churches Urged

The United Christian Youth Movement in Evansville, Indiana, polled 1500 of the city's high school youth recently — and learned, among other things, some of the changes churches can make to "make youth go to church more often." The leading suggestions were: "Sermons with more meaning for young people," "Better youth activities," "Discussion of

entered Georgia Tech.

Howard Liner is general manager, in charge of some \$750,000 worth of construction in Western North Carolina at present. After finishing Waynesville high, where he starred as a football player, he entered Richmond Professional Institute, where he studied architectural designing, and then entered N. C. State and finishing his engineering course, specializing in civil engineering.

He graduated from N. C. State in 1953, and took over the position as superintendent of the \$400,000 Bethel school project. After the Bethel job he superintended the First Baptist church project in Brevard, and is now general superintendent of all building under construction, which includes: an elementary school, Bakersville; an elementary school, Marble; the renovation of the old gym, Clyde; senior high school, Murphy; and the Davidson River Presbyterian church, Brevard.

Jerry Liner, Sr., began the Junaluska Supply Company in 1910, which he still operates as a general store, as well as lumber and building materials. In 1916 he entered into the contracting business, and has built hundreds of structures since that time, including some 28 schools in Haywood, plus schools, churches, and business buildings throughout Western North Carolina and upper South Carolina.

Asked as to what position he would hold in the company, along with his two sons, he said: "He would just keep on working at whatever came up."

"He has several large contracts for new structures in this area, including a church which will cost about a half million dollars.

On the heels of the completion of the drawings for the Central Apartments, Mr. Liner received from Georgia Tech a letter from the dean about Jerry, Jr., pointing out the excellent work he was doing, and that for the past quarter he had made the honor roll, with a scholastic rating of 3.82, where only 3.00 is necessary for the distinction.

Two Governors Allocated Almost Two Millions For Pigeon River Highway

EDITOR'S NOTE—This is the second chapter on the history of the Pigeon River Road. The first part was published last Thursday. This history was compiled by the editor of The Mountaineer.

But let's leave the present for a moment and go back to 1929, when J. G. Stickleather, Sr., of Asheville, proposed that the state and county jointly build the road down Pigeon River, with Haywood County selling bonds for their half of the total cost of the project.

The Haywood County commissioners turned down the proposal, since the Tennessee and North Carolina Railroad was still in operation, and continued to refuse to sell a right-of-way. And too, the railroad was hauling materials to points near Waterville for the construction of the hydro-electric dam and power plant of the Carolina Power and Light Company. The Haywood officials did not want any interruption on the project.

Just as soon as the power plant and dam were finished, it appeared to be a logical time to renew efforts to see about re-opening plans for building the Pigeon River Road. The advocates of the project had just started when they learned that TVA was considering building a dam on Pigeon River and which would send backwater all the way to Lake Junaluska and Clyde.

Faced with the possibility of TVA flooding of the area, those behind the project realized no highway could be constructed down Pigeon River.

The threat of the TVA dam hung like a dark cloud over the heads of the advocates of the road down the river, until the last few months of the administration of Governor Gregg Cherry in 1948. One day TVA suddenly announced all plans for building a dam on Pigeon River were scrapped, and the area was wide open for the proposed road. Governor Cherry put his highway engineers to work on the project, and they, too, like other engineers before them (and also since) found the proposed highway down Pigeon River feasible, because it offered a water-grade route, and would also be an all-weather highway.

With the survey complete, Governor Cherry was so pleased he allocated \$450,000 out of highway surplus funds to the project two days before Christmas, 1949. It was the finest Christmas present this area ever received.

Former Governor Kerr Scott was quick to see the need of the road and as soon as surplus highway funds were available, he added \$500,000 more to the Pigeon River account. Engineers in their estimates found the \$950,000 fund was not sufficient to grade a reasonable link of the road, so Governor Scott added \$1,000,000 from later acquired surplus funds, bringing the total to \$1,950,000.

With almost two millions in hand, the matter of acquiring a 20-mile right-of-way began. And here an almost unbelievable accomplishment took place. Twenty miles of right-of-way were given without cost to the state. The only single cost being the removal of two small, inexpensive houses. This free right-of-way is believed to be a record in the state. Anyway, it represented a huge savings to the state, and meant that all of the \$1,950,000 allocation could be

used for youth problems. "More opportunities for youth participation," "Better explanation of meaning of religion," "More understanding of youth by church," "Better trained and more interesting leaders," "Less criticism of youth," "Young people should feel more welcome."

spent on construction.

In February, 1953, the State Highway Commission let a contract for grading 6.59 miles from the North Carolina-Tennessee line to Cold Springs.

Work began within a few weeks, and almost six years to the day that Governor Cherry made the first allocation to the road, the contractor finished the grading of the 6.59-mile link, and moved his equipment away.

While the contractor was blasting rock, and grading for the water-grade road on the banks of the river, crews of highway engineers were working several miles ahead, making the final detailed surveys of the next six-mile link, from Cold Springs to the mouth of Fines Creek.

Just as the contractor was moving out his equipment after finishing the grading, the Tennessee Highway Commission checked their north-south routes and went on record asking that the Pigeon River Road be put on the interstate system. This would be worth much to both states from a financial standpoint as federal funds are spent on interstate roads.

The Tennessee request came in December, 1954.

It is 13 miles from here to Cove Creek; 2 miles from Cove Creek to the state line, and 18 miles from the line on to Newport, Tenn.

Saturday Night Square Dances Start This Week

Saturday night square dances will be resumed at the Waynesville Armory, starting April 21, under the sponsorship of the local lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose. The dances will feature Pete Hill's string band with "Bug" Kuykendall as caller. Hours will be from 8 p.m. until midnight, and admission will be 50 cents a person.

Proceeds will go into the Moose



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Industry And Building Loan Associations Vital Progress, Says Prevost

"An expanding industrial program and a progressive building and loan association go hand-in-hand in a community," R. L. Prevost, industrialist president of the Haywood Home Building and Loan Association told Rotarians here Friday.

"A progressive building and loan association plays an important indirect role in the life and development of industry," the industrialist said.

"Here in Haywood county we have three thriving associations with assets totaling over nine million dollars. This is far above the average for counties in the state."

Prevost, who has been a director since the local building and loan was founded in 1919, is one of the two living charter members. The other is George H. Ward, Asheville. The charter members now deceased include: Dr. J. H. Way, J. R. Boyd, Dr. Thomas Stringfield, Pink Francis, Frank Miller, S. H. Bushnell, C. E. Quinlan, and Clyde H. Ray, Sr.

Mr. Prevost was named vice president, and was elected to presidency on the death of Dr. Way.

The speaker went on to say: "Let's take a look at the part the building and loan association plays in the field of industry, and especially in helping to locate new industries. There is a lot of information desired by concerns seeking a new location — such as transportation facilities, available power, water, freight rates, taxes, schools, churches, the mental attitude of the people toward industry, and whether or not there are any organized facilities in the

lodge welfare fund.

The dances have been planned at the armory, Moose officials said, in the belief that the Waynesville area needs more entertainment.

Revival Services Under Way At Hazelwood Baptist

Revival services are now in progress at the First Baptist

community for supplying the necessary housing quarters for workmen. That is where the building and loan association projects itself into the picture.

"A good, strong Building and Loan Association, by encouraging thrift and home ownership, stabilizes labor conditions in the community and greatly reduces labor turnover in industrial plants, and also, through encouragement of thrift and home ownership, raises the standard of living for the entire community."

"Just a word or two as to what our association has been doing and is doing along these lines. For the past five years we have made an average of 200 loans per year for purchasing of homes and building new homes."

"For instance, in 1955 we made loans for 102 new homes and loans for 159 purchased loans. This means that for the past five years we have helped 1,000 families to either buy or build themselves a home in this community."

"Some of you may think we are in competition with our banking institutions — but we are not — we are cooperating with them in helping to build up a bigger and better community, a community that we want to keep in balance as to industry, agriculture, and our tourist business. If we can keep these in balance, we will automatically build up a prosperous trading area, and that, after all, is what we are all striving and working toward."



WINNERS in the senior division of the annual declamation contest at Clyde School last week were Jean Hardin and Eddie Starr. The event was sponsored by the Clyde Woman's Club.

Four Students Win Annual Clyde Declamation Contest

Judy Murray, John McCracken, Jean Hardin, and Eddie Starr were first-place winners in two declamation contests held at Clyde School last week under sponsorship of the Clyde Woman's Club.

In the contest held Tuesday for students of grades one through seven, Miss Murray won in the girls' division with her presentation of "Janice Entertains Her Sister's Beau."

Carolyn Lankford was second with "Mary Ellen's Star" and

Carolyn Haynes was third with "I Speak For Democracy."

In the boys' division of the elementary grades contest, John McCracken won with "Down On The Farm". Roger Norris was second with "True Heroes" and Mike Brown was third with "Three Ghosts and One Watermelon."

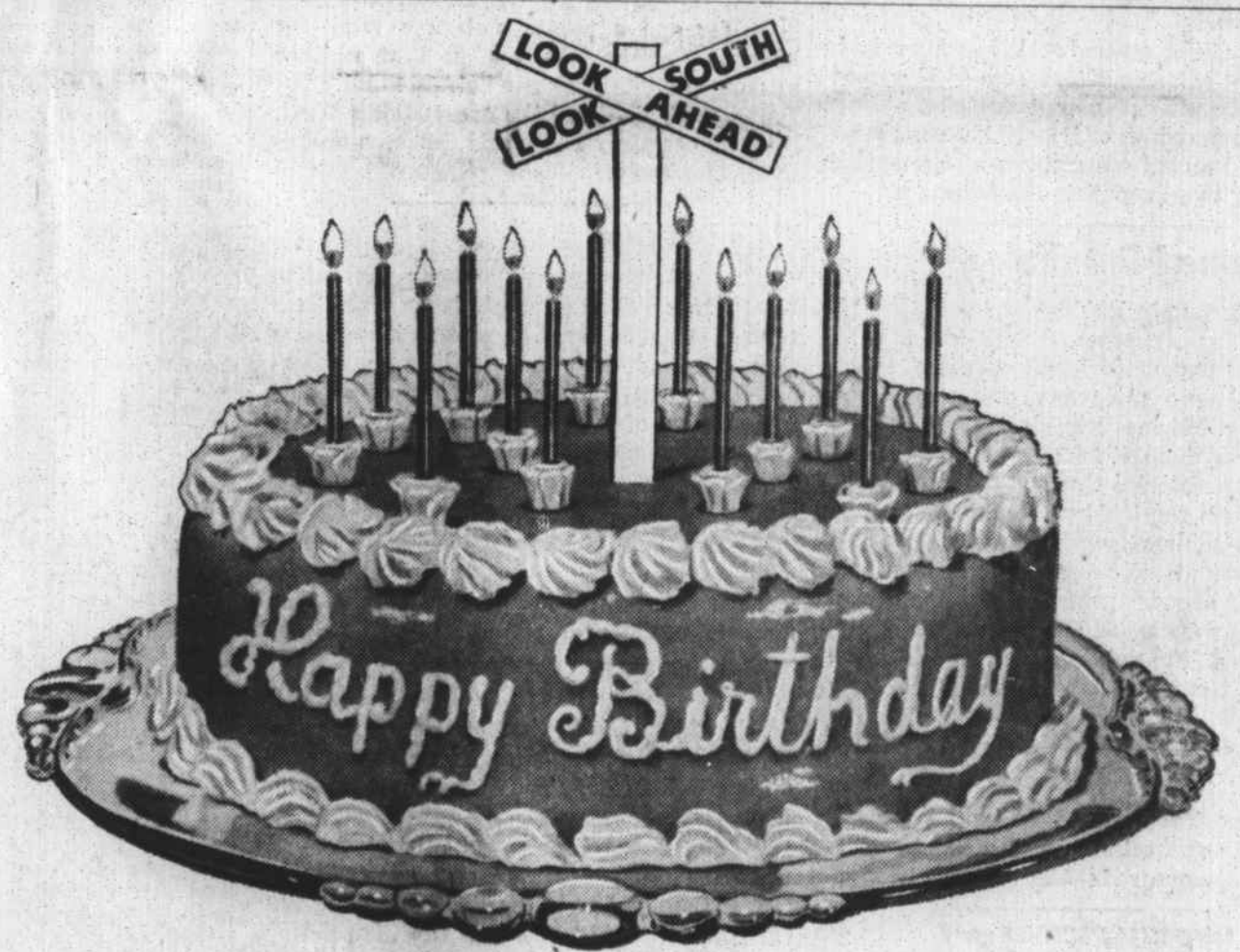
In the contest for students in grades eight through twelve, held Wednesday, Miss Hardin won first place with "The Lady Or the Tiger."

Theresa Brown was second with "Small Girl at Surprise Party", and Rosemary Newman was third with "I Am An American."

Eddie Starr was first in the boys' division with his presentation of "Our Rich Heritage", while Mike Leatherwood was second with "Our National Flag."

Other contestants in the elementary contest were Steve Leatherwood, Earl Newman, Sharon

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420 million ...and one to grow on!

OUR NOW-FAMILIAR SLOGAN "Look Ahead—Look South!" is thirteen years old this month. But you have to count more than the candles on this birthday cake. Count, instead, the number of times we have used this hard-working phrase since it was "born."

The total is impressive—for in these past thirteen years we've said "Look Ahead—Look South!" more than 420 million times in leading financial publications and in magazines from coast to coast. During this same period, there have been 4,203 major industrial developments along our lines alone.

Every time we say "Look Ahead—Look South!" it is an invitation to all America to share in the opportunities of the modern Southland. And every invitation is a bid for new industries for the expanding South "to grow on."

For all of us, the economic development of the South is not a thing apart. It's as close to a man as the job he holds, as personal as his take-home pay. The future of the Southland is your future—and ours. It never looked brighter or offered more "to grow on."

Harry A. D. Smith
President



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