

New Travel Signs Meant To Heighten Motoring Pleasure

A program to make every ride along a North Carolina highway a travel tour has been launched by the North Carolina Travel Council.

Through cooperation with the Highway and C & D departments, the Council hopes to guide travelers to points of interest and to reveal significant and dramatic features along the roads.

"It is not our intention to clutter the highways up with more signs," said Bill Sharpe, of Raleigh, chairman of the Sign Committee, "nor to duplicate the historical markers."

"We only want to mark neglected points and make it easier for travelers — home folks and tourists alike—to find interesting places and to know when they get there. Relatively few signs will be needed."

A model sign has been erected by the committee on N. C. 181 north of Morganton. Erected on a turnout, it identifies on the horizon three spectacular features of the ridge — Sitting Bear, Table Rock and Hawksbill. "Thousands of people have passed this spot without lifting their eyes," said Sharpe, "and many who have seen the ridge don't know what they're looking at."

The committee also noted that the growth of the secondary road system had opened up scores of interesting new routes, but even local people didn't know what they led to. "We propose to put up signs telling what a traveler will see if he takes these new short-cuts. Some of them lead to waterfalls, picnic areas, trout waters or lakes. We also are trying to identify gaps, canals, waterways, and other natural wonders which will enhance appreciation of our state."

He appealed to citizens to submit suggestions to the Committee. These will be screened and passed on to the cooperating agencies for possible fulfillment.



A KEEN-EYED MARKSMAN casts a critical eye on the efforts of his competitors at the annual Cataloochee Beef Shoot. The family of Frank Rich have been perennial contenders at the event.



IT'S A LO-O-OO-ONG LONG RIFLE that our modern-day Davy Crockett is using toward a target 60 yards away. This photo was made at last year's Beef Shoot at Cataloochee Ranch, when Edward S. Mauney of Blairsville, Ga., showed up all togged out in the proper regalia for handling the ancient muzzle-loader. (United Press Photo).

MORE ABOUT

Beef Shoot

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the melting of lead and pouring of bullets, and the careful measuring of powder charges (sometimes in a hollow bear's tooth). Throughout the day, there are lively discussions of the merits of favorite rifles, which often have names like "Ole Betsy," "Ole Fleabitten Rusty," or "Ole Granny."

Each contestant makes his own target of charred wood in any form he wishes; it is the closeness of the pattern of three shots at 60 yards that decides the winners. The

judges use calipers to measure the patterns. Grand prize in each division is a quarter of beef, and there are additional prizes for the second and third place winners.

Most of the shooting is done from prone position, and a log or other rest may be used for the rifle. Some of the marksmen fire from a position flat on their backs; others sit on a chair or knee. They may take as long as three minutes to aim, and their assistants are allowed to shade the sights or breechlocks of the rifles from the sun.

Long-barrelled rifles are not so plentiful as in the past, but Alexander always manages to assemble a good supply for the Beef Shoot with the help of neighboring families. Many of the rifles were made in the Cataloochee area; others were imported long ago from Lancaster, Pa., and are known as "Lancasters." All of the guns are locally

was 12; Helen, now Mrs. D. G. McKenzie, Mobile, Ala. was 8, and John Loyd, who died in 1934, was 4. The copyrighted version of the song contains the line:

by the St. Francois Railroad club of Bonne Terre, Mo.

Also on display are copies of the ballad narrative as told by Wallace Saunders, Negro engine wiper—"Come, all you rounders, for I want you to hear the story told of a brave engineer; Casey Jones was the rounder's name; on a heavy six-eight wheeler he rode to fame," Saunders, who said he just made up the original folk song, "kinda different every day," was persuaded to write it down for a bottle of gin.

It was picked up first by a vaudeville team, then a song-writing team known as Newton and Seibert changed the verses slightly and made it their own by copyrighting it in 1903.

When Casey was killed the news came to Mrs. Jones and their three children at Jackson, Charles, now living in Jackson,

Washington Supermarkets Have International Flavor

By JANE EADS

WASHINGTON — Mrs. Casey Jones, widow of the legendary character who most Americans believe exists only in a songwriter's imagination, is still alive and keeping green the memories of the hero of the iron horse in Jackson, Tenn.

Mrs. Helen Duprey Bullock, historian of the National Trust for historic Preservation, says:

"Though now 86, Mrs. Jones is still alert and one can still see traces of the beauty of the sprightly, red-haired Irish lass who in 1886 at the age of 16 married the brave Casey, then 22."

The town of Jackson and the Assn. for Preservation of Tennes-

see Antiquities, which is a member of the National Trust, have taken over and furnished their early 19th century frame house, for a national museum of railroading.

In it will be a copy of the famous whistle which Jones used and whose handling set him apart from the common run of engineers of his day. The sound he made has been variously described by old-timers as a sort of "whippoorwill" call and like the "war cry of a Viking," a mournful wail, "starting low and working up to a fearful crescendo."

In those days the whistle was the personal property of the engineer. The real whistle is owned

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people of the county will be held, preceding the afternoon program.

One of the elaborate displays emphasizing home and farm safety will come from the Board of Health office in Raleigh.

Tractor hazards and safety measures will be demonstrated by tractor drivers under the direction of Hugh Rogers.

Kitchen hazards will be demonstrated by Home Demonstration Clubs, aided by Miss Mary Cornwell, home agent.

Dan Merrill, chief of the Brevard Fire Department is expected to demonstrate electrical hazards in a comprehensive exhibit of a house. Ralph M. Crawford, Canton Red Cross safety chairman, will demonstrate, and teach artificial respiration throughout the afternoon. At the same time the Haywood County Hospital will provide technicians and material to do blood types and RH factors on all who wish them, free of charge.

The importance of health and accident insurance will be stressed, and the need for civil defense will be explained by a representative of the area civil defense organization.

The Haywood County Nurses Association will demonstrate hazards in the home medicine cabinet and their possible removal. The Medical Auxiliary will emphasize the importance of safe toys through the medium of a puppet show presented by Mrs. Faith Bitton.

Housework Easy Without Nagging Backache

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