

WARNS AGAINST FOREST FIRES

Six Hundred and 47 Fires in Western N. C. in Past Six Months

WARDEN CITES LAWS

According to County Forest Warden J. R. Norman, of Surry county, during the first six months of 1940, 647 forest fires burned in western North Carolina. Of these 647 fires, only 14 were caused by lightning. In other words, 633 of the fires were man-caused and thereby preventable.

These 633 man-caused fires cost the State and counties of western North Carolina thousands of dollars in damage to timber, to say nothing of the effect that fires have on soil erosion, flood control, and the aesthetic value of our woodland.

One hundred seventy-two of these fires were classed as brush burning fires or fires that were caused by persons burning brush or other forms of debris. In other words, 172 fires were caused by some person who was careless or used bad judgment in burning brush, sedge and various other forms of litter and debris.

Already, with the first signs of fall, the grasses in the forests are dying and the foliage is losing its glossy green color and beginning to fall. Therefore the floor of the forest will soon be covered with a layer of dead and highly inflammable material subject again to the risk of more man-caused fires.

It is encouraging, however, to know that the number of man-caused fires in western North Carolina for the past several years have been steadily decreasing. You, as a citizen of Surry county, can render valuable assistance to your county, State and Forest Warden Organization in bringing about a still further decrease in our losses from forest fires. Here are a few of the ways in which you can help:

1. Don't toss a lighted cigarette or match out of your car. If you do so, your cigarette and match might land in inflammable materials causing a fire.
2. While hunting, be sure that your match and cigarette are fully extinguished before you throw them away. Also be sure that, when your pipe is emptied, the contents are completely extinguished.

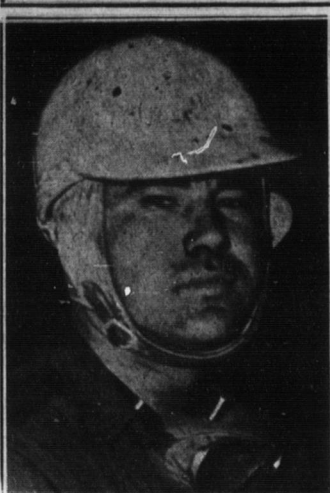
3. In building warming and camping fires, be sure that you have complied with the State laws. To build such a fire, the State law requires that you clear away all inflammable and combustible material for a space of 10 feet surrounding the place where such fire is kindled and that the fire be fully extinguished before leaving.
4. Before burning debris of any kind, secure from your County Forest Warden, or one of his authorized representatives, a burning permit. The State law is as follows on this:

Chapter 207 of the Public Laws of North Carolina (1937) (As amended)—

Provides That:

Section 1. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to start or cause to be started any fire or ignite any materials in any of the areas of woodlands under the protection of the State Forest Service or within five hundred feet of any such protected area, between the first day of February and the first day

Speedway Star



Joe Chitwood, defending Eastern A.A.A. automobile racing champion, is included in the field which will race at the new mile High Point Speedway Sunday, October 20th. More than thirty headline drivers are to compete in the Speedway's opening meet. Chitwood is the 1940 dirt track champion driver of the United States and winner of the main event at the Winston-Salem races last Saturday.

Yadkin-Owned Speedway Opens This Month

Now nearing completion, the High Point Speedway, designed to be the fastest mile banked circular raceway in the nation, will be opened Sunday, October 20, at 2 p.m., with world-famous drivers competing in an A.A.A. sanctioned program of automobile races.

Under construction since April by three Yadkin county men, C. N. Baity, Linsay Baity, Buck Baity, and by a Winston-Salem man, W. T. Surrat, the Speedway constitutes the finest racing plant of its type in the country. Steep banked, sweeping turns and an extremely fast racing surface together with accommodations to handle crowds of more than 50,000 persons, stamp it as a raceway which will rank second only to the 2½-mile brick Indianapolis Speedway, the scene each year of the rich 500-mile classic.

Eddie Rickenbacker, America's war-time airplane ace and head of the Contest Board of the American Automobile Association, which body will supervise

the actual running of the races here, has declared it to be in conformance with the latest requirements for the high speed demanded by the newest racing cars. A speed in excess of 120 miles an hour will be made in the opening race, according to racing experts who have tested the track.

Ira Vail, of Great Neck, N. Y., himself one of the greatest race drivers the world has ever known, brought here to serve as race director for the Speedway, is confident that the mile track will be turned in less than 30 seconds in the inaugural races. The field assembled for the opening events will represent the cream of the speedway drivers and they will be mounted in the fastest and most expensive cars made.

Many Indianapolis drivers and most of the outstanding stars who have been campaigning in the North and in the Middle West, are to participate. Of them, many will be newcomers to the South, due to the fact that the lack of a major speedway up to now has caused many of the big-name drivers to pass up Southern competition.

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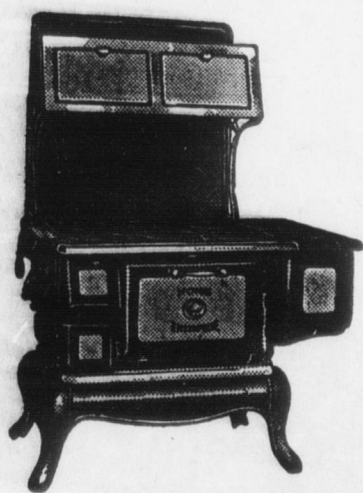
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of June, inclusive, or between the first day of October and the thirtieth day of November, inclusive, in any year, without first obtaining from the State Forester or one of his duly authorized agents a permit to set out fire or ignite any material in such above mentioned area; no charge shall be made for the granting of said permits.

Section 2. This act shall not apply to any fires started or caused to be started within five hundred feet of a dwelling house.

Section 3. Any person, firm or corporation violating this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined not more than fifty (50) dollars, or imprisoned for a period of not more than thirty (30) days.

Section 4. All laws and clauses of laws in conflict with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Burning permits can be secured from County Forest Warden J. R. Norman at Mountain Park, N. C., and the following District Wardens: J. S. Sparger, Mt. Airy, Route 6; R. S. Johnson, Mt. Airy, Route 4; Ed J. Smith, Mt. Airy, Route 3; M. S. Ramey, Low Gap; V. W. Coe, Dobson, Route 2; W. T. Allen, Pinnacle, Route 1; W. M. Gray, Elkin; Joe S. Greenwood, Elkin, Route 1; Register of Deeds, Dobson; G. C. Corder, Dobson, Route 2.

5. After securing your burning permit, notify your adjoining landowner that you intend to do such burning.

6. Maintain careful and competent watch over your fire and never leave your fire until it is completely out.

7. Never burn near the woods or where fire can reach the woods when conditions are dangerously dry.

8. The State Forest Service laws are going to be enforced. Those failing to comply with these laws are going to be prosecuted. We hope that through your cooperation this will not be necessary.

Winston-Salem Presbytery To Meet Tuesday

Mr. R. B. Sanford, Presbyterian layman of Mocksville, will call the Presbytery of Winston-Salem to order next Tuesday morning at ten o'clock in the Hills Presbyterian church located about three miles from Pilot Mountain. Rev. W. C. Cooper, pastor of the Mocksville Presbyterian church, will preach the sermon, which will be followed by the observance of the Lord's Supper. Mr. Cooper's subject will be "Jesus Is Lord and Christ."

Dr. Claud H. Fritchard, educational secretary of Assembly's Home Missions, of Atlanta, Ga., will make an address on home missions. This address will be in connection with the report of the Presbytery's Committees on Presbytery's, Synod's and Assembly's Home Missions.

Winston-Salem Presbytery is composed of nine counties in Northwestern North Carolina. In its 43 churches there are more than 5,300 members. The ministers, an elder and a deacon from each church are expected to attend the Hills' meeting. This is the first time that a Presbytery has ever met at Hills. Of this church Rev. L. F. Cowan is minister and Mr. Walter Hill is clerk of the Session.

Washburn, U. S. Secretary of State under Grant was in office less than a week.

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*Figures compiled by Harvard Bureau of Business Research and Northwestern University Bureau of Business Research.