

Seen Along...



The Elk Trail

... Colored boys in bus station jiggling to a tune from a radio.

... College students, returning home for the holidays, appearing in church Sunday.

... Willie Bell reading Thursday's issue of The Tribune, thinking it was today's.

... Charles Neaves returning to town after serving as attorney for a law suit in South Carolina.

... Downtown department store workers scurrying to try to complete shopping for Christmas during lunch hours.

... Dick Stockton in town, reporting he may return to spring training with the Erie, Pa., baseball squad.

... New mailman getting acquainted with route, having just been added to the postal staff for the rush season.

... Little boy asking mother for a dollar to buy himself some chewing gum—and two cents to buy Daddy a Christmas present.

... Car with "Just Married" signs adorning it hastening down the road. Followed by another car sounding often with its horn.

... David Brown speaking with amazement of the conditions he found in some homes in Elkin which will be helped by the VFW Charity Fund.

... Carolyn Fletcher making quick exit when new owner of turkey enters with his prize. Explaining as she runs, "I'm allergic to feathered animals."

... Skinny Hyslop, Harry Hensel, Dixie Graham, E. W. McDaniell, et al. making plans for the 12:01 club's annual banquet at Hotel Elkin.

... Neil Melvin examining his hair in the mirror, seeing if any new gray ones were added after his basketball team's overtime thriller with Sparta High Friday night.

... Overheard on the street: (Young man to his wife) "Did you see Dr. Beale about your cold?" (Wife answers) "No, he's on his way to the maternity ward at the hospital." (Husband) "And I didn't even know he was expecting."

TRAPHILL ROAD BEING PLANNED

To Run From End of Pavement Near Hays By Way of Traphill To No. 21

BIDS ARE ADVERTISED

Construction of a paved highway from the end of the present pavement near Hays by way of Traphill to U. S. Highway 21 at Doughton is being planned by the State Highway Commission.

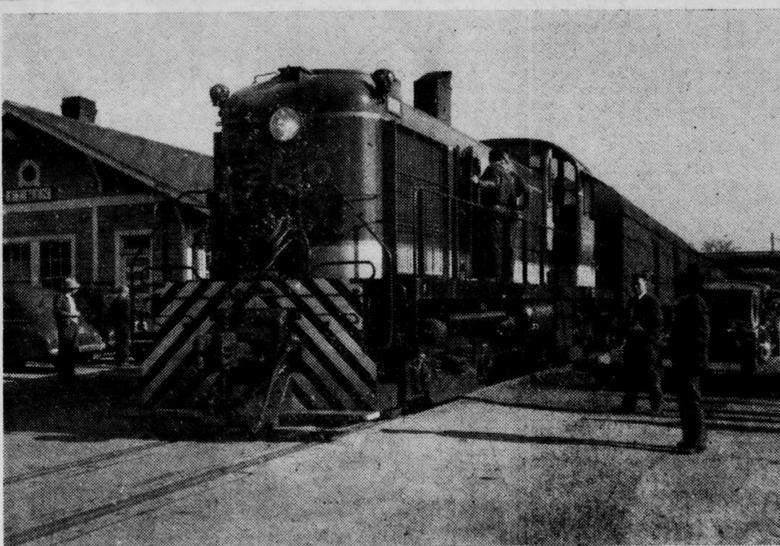
W. J. Bason, roads committee chairman, said that the first section of the highway, 4.4 miles from the end of the pavement near Hays to Dockery, is advertised for bids in the December letting.

Commenting on the plans for the project, Mr. Bason pointed out that the people of northwestern Wilkes were elated over the prospects for getting out of the mud, and pointed out that the commission cannot build all the road at one time and must proceed as construction is practical.

Mr. Bason explained that not only will the road serve a big area not now reached by a paved highway, but it will mean a shorter route of travel from North Wilkesboro to Roaring Gap and other places in Alleghany County. The Traphill road, as the project is known, will be financed by road bond funds.

Pilgrim Church To Present Play

"A Dream of the Christ Child," Christmas play, will be sponsored Christmas night at the Pilgrim Church by the Sunday School. The smaller children will have part with the recitation and songs. The Rev. George C. Farah, pastor, has given an invitation for the public to attend.



ANOTHER CHOO-CHOO — Temporarily taking the headlines away from the Carolina Choo-Choo, Charlie Justice, is this modern version of the "Iron Horse," which now goes through Elkin daily. This diesel engine replaces the old-type steam locomotive on the regular run from Winston-Salem to North Wilkesboro. (TRIBUNE PHOTO)

Townpeople Are Busy With Holiday Activity

Elkin is astir this week with preparations for Christmas — the day of days.

The pre-Yuletide season means holidays for some, but longer working hours for others in the community as the final week before the climax of the festivities opens.

Beginning tomorrow, the stores will be open until 8 p. m. for four days, lasting through Friday, while school children and employees of Chatham Manufacturing Co. are enjoying Christmas holidays.

KIWANIAN LOG AUCTION HELD

More Than \$800 Raised At Sale To Support Elkin High School Band

LEARY PURCHASES LOG

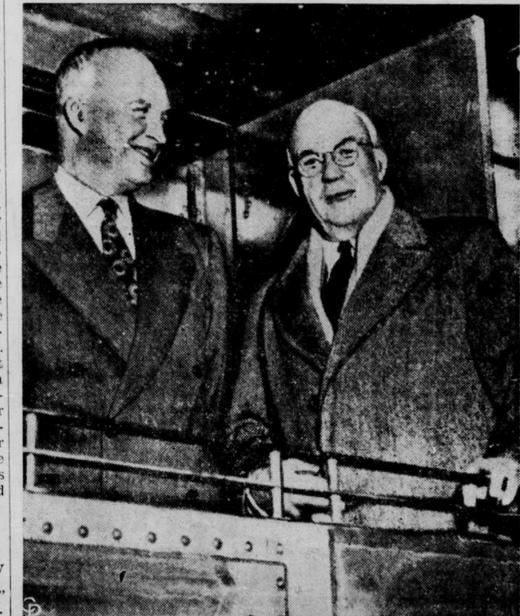
The annual Kiwanis auction Thursday night netted approximately \$800 to support the Elkin High School Band, which is sponsored by the club.

The Kiwanis log, which the president must either buy or deliver to the home of the buyer, was purchased by President Clifton Leary for \$15. Main bidders for the log were Walter Combs of State Road and George Marshall of San Francisco, a representative of Chatham Manufacturing Company. Mr. Marshall said that had he won in the bidding the president would be required to roll the log to Thurmond Chatham's Roundabout Farm at Ronda.

A new addition to the sale this year was a junior log which the vice-president would be required to deliver to the purchaser in case he did not buy it. Vice-President Howard Ford was a lively bidder and purchased the log for \$10.

Auctioneers were Kiwanians C. N. Myers, W. M. Allen, Harry Hensel, Charles Armstrong and Gene Hall. Items for sale were contributed.

(Continued On Page Four)



'IKE' DENIES HE IS A CANDIDATE — En route to New York, General Dwight D. Eisenhower (left) chats on the rear platform of his train with his brother, Arthur B. Eisenhower, a Kansas City banker. The famed General, now head of Columbia University in New York, denies being a Presidential candidate and insists he will not be talked into becoming one. (International Soundphoto)

Tribune Will Not Be Published Next Monday

The Tribune will not be published Monday, December 26, in order to allow its personnel a brief period of holidays during Christmas.

Practically all semi-weekly newspapers customarily suspend publication for one issue during the Yule season for a similar purpose.

The Tribune observes few holidays during the year, and its staff is sure that readers and advertisers will cooperate during the short vacation. The office will be closed Friday at noon and will reopen Tuesday morning following Christmas Day.

The fine cooperation of The Tribune's correspondents, readers and advertisers since entering the semi-weekly field is sincerely appreciated.

CHARITY FUND NOW AT \$603.

Churches of Community Take Offering; Goal of Campaign Is \$1,000

NEED THIS YEAR GREAT

The Community Christian Charity fund was boosted to \$603 today, plus clothing, toys and food.

Yesterday, the churches of the community took offering for the fund but up to press time proceeds from all of them had not been turned in. The drive was expected to be increased considerably from the offerings.

The Rev. George C. Farah, chairman of the campaign, said that the amount given was better than last year's total, but pointed out that the goal had been set at \$1,000 this year to take care of increasing needs.

Those contributing last week were:

Sterling Browning, clothing. Mrs. G. A. B. Moore, clothing. Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Hodel, clothing, toys and \$25.

Business and Professional Woman's Club, \$20. Friends, \$5 and clothing. Mrs. Sheffie Graham, clothing and toys.

A friend, \$5. Mr. and Mrs. Alex Biggs \$20. A friend, \$6. Lucy Hanes Chatham Club No. 2, \$10.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Eller, food. Dorothy Jean Salmons, clothing. First Methodist Church (White Christmas offering), food, clothing, toys and \$100.

Solicitations will be made through Christmas and baskets will be distributed to needy families during the latter part of this week. The aid to the poor will not be restricted to Christmas, however. It will be spread throughout the year as the need demands. Contributions will be received at The Tribune office through Christmas.

Bethel Ladies Plan Bake Sale Friday

The ladies of the Bethel Baptist Church will hold a bake sale Friday at the Quality Food Store in Jonesville.

The sale will feature homemade cakes, pies, cookies and candies. The proceeds from the sale will go into the church building fund.

GAMBILL BOUND OVER TO COURT AFTER HEARING

Winston-Salem Youth Charged With Murder of Brown

HEARING BEFORE HALL

Police Reopen Investigation In Death of Yadkin County Farmer In Twin City

PATROLMAN TESTIFIES

John Worth Gambill was bound over to Surry Superior Court's January term Saturday afternoon here following a hearing before Justice of Peace Julius Hall.

The 18-year-old Winston-Salem youth was charged with murder, first degree. He had confessed Sunday, a week ago, the slaying of Clarie L. Brown near the outskirts of Elkin on Friday, Dec. 9.

And as the first legal steps were taken to determine his guilt, or the extent of it, officers were conducting a quiet investigation which they believe, may connect Gambill with a second killing.

Isaac Henry Baily, 71-year-old Yadkin County farmer, was shot to death in Winston-Salem on Saturday, Oct. 22.

The only clue police have in the death is a .32 calibre automatic slug found in Baily's body.

Officers here said Saturday that the similarity of calibre is the only connection they have made between Gambill and the October shooting on Winston-Salem's Oak Street.

The murder weapon used here, and the slug found in Brown's pie truck seat have been sent to Raleigh.

(Continued On Page Four)

OLD BELT LEAF MARTS CLOSED

Final Auctions Held Friday After 14 Weeks of Sales In Flue-Cured Markets

MARKED BY LOW PRICES

After fourteen weeks of sales the 1949 marketing season on the Old Belt flue-cured tobacco markets was completed last week. Final auctions were held Friday, December 16 on the three markets operating, Danville and South Boston, Virginia, and Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

According to the United States, North Carolina and Virginia Departments of Agriculture the final week was marked by lower average prices for most grades, small volume, and the poorest quality of the season.

Declines this week were mostly \$1.00 and \$2.00 per hundred from last week and were more consistent for leaf and smoking leaf. Cutters and lugs, offered in very small volume, were fairly steady while nondescript strengthened slightly.

General quality of the offerings was considerably lower because of a sharp increase in common leaf and nondescript grades. The percentage of damaged and unsound tobacco also continued to increase.

Gross sales during the week were reported as only 2,061,688 pounds at an average of \$28.98 per hundred. This was a drop of \$8.06 from

(Continued On Page Four)

Investigations Started In Three Wilkes County Deaths Over Week-End



BRING HELP TO NEEDY — These veterans have been giving up many of their evening hours recently to working on the VFW Christmas drive, designed to bring help to the needy in this vicinity. From 30 to 35 families will be helped this year, according to committee chairman David Brown. Left to right, Charlie Swift, Jim Dobbins, Hubert Shepard, Russell Burcham, Brown, Raymond Vestal, and Maurice Bumgarner. Not present when the picture was taken were committeemen Roscoe Poplin, Jack Robinson, Ralph Smoot, and Jim Spann. (TRIBUNE PHOTO)

Traphill Man Is Charged With Murder

Three violent deaths in Wilkes County over the week-end set Sheriff C. G. Poindexter and his force of deputies to work on full-scale investigations today.

Up to noon the Sheriff reported that investigation was being made into the death of an Elkin Furniture Company employee, and a 49-year-old father of nine children, and a third Wilkes resident who appeared to have been bludgeoned to death near the Scenic Highway.

Grant (Skinny) Holbrook, 34, of Traphill, was charged with murder in connection with the Saturday afternoon rifle shooting of Paul Hemric, 39, of near Traphill, who worked at the Elkin Furniture Company.

An investigation continued in the death of a second man, Felts Curtis, 49-year-old father of nine children, whose body was found early Saturday morning near North Wilkesboro.

The third death, believed to be a murder victim, was discovered early this morning about two miles from the scenic highway between Laurel Springs and the "Jumping Off" place in upper Wilkes. Lloyd Hunt, who found the body, notified the sheriff. The dead man was identified as Glenn Farrington.

In the death of Paul Hemric, two Ronda men were held in jail Saturday night as suspects in the shooting, but were released under bond as material witnesses yesterday. They were Grady Moore and James Hall.

Sheriff Poindexter said that a hearing was held this morning and that Grant Holbrook was being held without bond on a charge of murder.

Sheriff Poindexter gave this version of the shooting:

The four men were in Holbrook's store about 2:30 p. m. Holbrook and Hemric started an argument and left the store together. Holbrook suddenly ran back into the store, picked up his 25-32 calibre rifle and ran back outside.

A shot was heard, and when the men inside the store ran outside, Hemric was lying on the ground dead. A slug had entered his left ear and emerged through the top of his head.

Sheriff Poindexter said that Holbrook sent one of the men after Deputy Sheriff Blaine Sparks, who lives in Traphill.

Deputy Sparks soon found the rifle under a log approximately 125 feet from the store, and the men in the store were arrested.

(Continued On Page Four)

POSTAL RUSH CLIMAX AHEAD

Local Officials Say Volume May Equal Last Year's Record-Breaking Total

SIX WORKERS ADDED

The climax of the Christmas mail rush will hit sometime later this week, according to postal officials in Elkin this morning.

Already six men have been added to the staff in preparation for the heavy load that always comes with the Yule season. The rush of Christmas cards and gifts has already begun taxing the facilities of the office, but prompt service is still assured the people of this area.

Whether or not the load this year will be heavier than the preceding years cannot yet be told, officials reported, but it may equal last year's record-breaking total.

Last year's Yule rush was the largest in history and climaxed the most profitable year in the span of the Elkin postoffice, according to postmaster J. F. Moseley. Six extra workers were also added to the staff for the holiday season.

During the 1948 Christmas rush, approximately 20,000 pieces of mail were handled daily.

VFW Help Is Planned For 30 To 35 Families

Christmas cheer will be brought to 30 to 35 families in the vicinity of Elkin by the VFW this year as the kind hand of the veterans stretches out as far as Thurmond and Devotion in the outlying areas.

Baskets, bags, and boxes — the baskets containing groceries, the boxes toys and clothes and the bags fruit and candy — will be distributed to the needy families on the list of the VFW, which totals 29 families today. But chairman of the fund David Brown, expects to add a few more names before distribution time Friday and Saturday.

Every child in the families on the list, although some of the families have as many as eight kids, will get a toy, according to Brown. Clothing will be shared with every family getting some and the groceries, fruit, and candy has been evenly split between the boxes and baskets.

A number of the people to be helped live in the city limits of

(Continued On Page Four)

Only One Minor Wreck Reported

Only one minor wreck was reported by the state highway patrol office in Elkin today.

A 1941 model Chevrolet operated by James Gray Shores, a Navy man from State Road and on duty at San Diego, Calif., ran into the rear of an automobile owned by Marvin Grettis Stonestreet, of State Road, near Klondike Farm Saturday evening.

Stonestreet's car, a 1938 model Chevrolet, was parked on the highway where his lights had failed him, patrolman D. C. Caudle reported. Estimated damages to the two cars totaled \$100, according to patrolman Caudle.

NOMINATIONS ACCELERATED

Elkin Jaycee's Distinguished Service Award Ballots Needed Immediately

TO BE SENT TO BIVINS

Nominations for the Elkin Junior Chamber of Commerce distinguished service award key to the outstanding young man of the year were stepped up last week, but Joe Gwyn Bivins, chairman of the committee, said that more were needed for a true representation.

Presentation of the key will be made January 23 at a regular meeting of the club. At this time the 29th anniversary of the founding of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce will be observed.

The Jaycees' 29th Anniversary Week is January 14-21. During this Jaycee Week, distinguished service award keys will be given to the ten outstanding young men in America by the U. S. Junior Chamber of Commerce at a ceremony to be held in Peoria, Ill.

Pointing out the significance of

(Continued On Page Four)



ALREADY BUSY — Four of the postoffice officials in Elkin are already busy working on the Christmas rush. Left to right, Linville Norman, Kermit Darnell, E. S. Graham, and Glenn Lewis. (TRIBUNE PHOTO)