

2 NEW HIGHWAY LAWS WILL BE ENFORCED HERE

Defines 60-Mile Per Hour Speed Limit, Light-Dimming

Two new state-wide traffic laws passed in the last session of the general assembly are expected to bring greater protection to motorists and pedestrians in this section.

The two laws adopted are: (1) a 60-mile per hour speed limit for automobiles and (2) the dimming of all lights when approaching another vehicle.

Patrolman E. B. Quinn, Jr., who is assigned to Cherokee and Graham counties, has interpreted both laws as designed for greater protection from highway fatalities, and at the same time warns that any infringements will be punishable in the courts.

"Before anybody goes stepping their car up to 60 miles an hour on the mountain highways in these two counties", the officer stated, "he better make sure of three things. First, the car must be in excellent shape from the standpoint of brakes, lights and other accessories; second, he must absolutely stay on the right side of the black line, and third, this speed should only be undertaken when there is very little, if any, traffic on the highway.

"Any slip up on these three things means a charge of reckless driving, and that means a Superior court court charge now. And it costs a lot of money when a case goes to the Superior court.

"Also this 60-mile per hour law doesn't apply to 'traps', trucks or careless drivers. The speed limit for trucks remains the same as before—35 miles per hour."

The patrolman said he had already made a number of cases against violators of the light-dimming law, and that all persons failing to abide by it would be taken before a justice of the peace where conviction means \$10 and costs.

"These two laws were made for the added safety and protection of both motorists and pedestrians on state highways", Quinn stated. "The 60-mile per hour law is mainly designed for the broad, straight highways in the eastern portion of the state, and all conditions of the law as applicable in this mountain section must be strictly adhered to.

"It is easy enough to see the importance of the light-dimming law. By dimming lights every time you approach a vehicle you greatly lessen the chance of collision. This is one of the worst sections of the state for infringement of that rule."

It was also pointed out that there is a speed limit of 20 miles per hour on the new portion of the Shoal Creek road leading to the TVA Access road. This limit is being maintained, Mr. Quinn said, to allow the gravel on the road to settle rather than be thrown off into adjoining fields.

The last session of the legislature also provided for the addition of 50 new patrolmen to the state highway system on July 1 and it is probable that one of these will be stationed in the Cherokee-Graham county area to aid Mr. Quinn.

The local patrolman has made an exceptional record with only one fatality on the highways in these two counties since the first of the year. That resulted in the death of a young man in Graham county who was believed to have fallen under a truck while attempting to swing on to it.

HARRY MAUNEY WINS CONTEST

In the Peanut Guessing contest sponsored by Carringer's this week, Harry Mauney won a pair of Keds athletic shoes by guessing the nearest number of nuts.

Weather Vane

Listed below are maximum and minimum temperatures and rainfall for the past week compared with similar data for last year.

TEMPERATURES		1939		1938	
11	78	42	66	43	
12	86	51	71	47	
13	82	57	68	3	
14	76	53	73	56	
15	58	39	68	46	
16	71	46	68	45	
17	66	51	74	46	
RAINFALL INCHES		1939		1938	
Total Since May 1.....	0.49		1.47		
Total since January 1.....	26.17		23.53		

Local Red Cross Chapter Outlines Program for 1939

The Cherokee county Red Cross chapter held a meeting in the Regal hotel Tuesday night and laid plans for their 1939 campaign.

Mrs. Mary Camp Sprinkle, national field representative of the Red Cross was present at the meeting and aided in outlining the program.

Several new officers were added to the list of directors, and new departments were instituted.

Officers to serve in 1939 are: W. M. Fain, chairman; Mayor J. B. Gray, vice-chairman; Mrs. C. W. Savage, secretary and roll call chairman; W. W. Hyde, treasurer; Sam Carr, publicity director; Mrs. K. C. Wright, chairman of health committee to work in cooperation with the county health department; K. C. Wright, chairman of first aid committee; Mrs. Frank Ellis, in charge of loan closet; Mrs. H. E. Bishop, in charge of nutrition.

Allen Lovingood, of the local American Legion post, secretary of home service work; Mrs. W. S. Pigott, representative at Hiwassee Dam; Mrs. George W. Bidstrup, representative at Brasstown; Mrs. B. W. Whitfield, assistant roll call chairman; Park Fisher, in charge of Junior Red Cross work.

Budgets were set at the meeting for control of palagra, the loan closet and nutrition. Miss Ola Hamilton, county health nurse, was named to aid in the health work.

TVA To Appeal From \$1,800,000 Award For Power Company Lands

Bank To Be Closed On Saturday, May 20

The Citizens Bank and Trust company at Murphy and Andrews will be closed all day Saturday, May 20, officials have notified citizens of this section.

This day is Mecklenburg Declaration Day of Independence and is observed as a legal holiday in North Carolina. All banks in the state will be closed on that date.

New Town Board Is Scheduled To Meet

The first meeting of the newly elected town council will be held at the town office tonight (Thursday) for the purpose of discussing municipal business.

The meeting was originally scheduled for last Thursday night but had to be postponed due to the inability of several members to attend.

This will mark the first time the board has met in executive session since its election on May 2. Serving on the board are: Mayor J. B. Gray and Aldermen Noah Lovingood, C. D. Mayfield, and Ed Moore, incumbents, and W. M. Mauney, Tom Axley and W. P. Odom.

Three-Man Commission Sets Price In Asheville On Friday Morning

The Tennessee Valley Authority will appeal from a \$1,800,000 award made Friday to the Southern States Power company for condemned lands in Cherokee county, the Asheville Citizen Saturday quoted Thomas L. Johnson, Asheville attorney for TVA, as saying.

The award was made by a three-man commission which heard testimony in the case in Federal court in Asheville last Fall. A larger number of local persons acted as witnesses in both sides of the court procedure.

Mr. Johnson told the Citizen it would be more than two weeks before counsel for the authority actually files its appeal with Federal Judge E. Yates Webb. Both parties to suit are allowed 20 days in which to take this action.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TO END ON FRIDAY NIGHT

The Vacation Bible School, conducted by the Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian churches for the children of Murphy is very successful according to reports of the workers. The three pastors with ten of the volunteer workers of the churches are teaching about 125 children ranging in age from 5 to 16. The children all seem to enjoy this privilege during the vacation.

On Friday night, May 19, at 7:30 p. m. the children of the Vacation Bible School will give a program at the Methodist church. The parents of the children and the public are invited to come to this program which will be the close of the school.

Rev. J. C. Ammons is directing the school.

Parking Lines Are Designated in Town

The law forces of the Town of Murphy are tightening on violators of traffic parking rules.

Wednesday the town had several hundred metal-headed parking lines installed to designate street-crossing areas, but apparently little attention was paid to them when it came to parking vehicles.

Wednesday night policeman Neil Sneed recorded all license numbers of cars parked in the pedestrian rights-of-way and said that owners of the vehicles would be summoned before the mayor for the second violation.

New Jury Law To Be Observed In County

Another new and unpublicized law passed by the last session of the legislature will be inaugurated here when Cherokee County Superior court convenes for a two-weeks session of trial of civil cases on June 19.

The new law requires that a different grand jury be chosen for each session of Superior court held. Heretofore a grand jury has been chosen during the April term of court which served throughout the year.

"Moose" To Attend Dinner In Murphy

Murphy members of the Cherokee County Moose lodge will participate in a "bean and chicken" supper to be held at the Dickey Hotel in Murphy Sunday night, May 21 at 7 o'clock.

The dinner is the result of a recent membership drive promoted by members of the club. They were divided into two groups—the "blues" and the "whites". It was agreed that the losing group would "eat beans" and furnish the winning group with chicken. The "bean eaters" will foot the bill. All who plan to attend please notify Virgil Lovingood by Saturday.

SLIGHT FIRE REPORTED

A fire alarm was sent in from the Henry House Wednesday noon when a flue from a water-jack caught on fire, but the slight blaze, was extinguished before the fire-fighting facilities of the town could reach the scene.

NEW SOUND SYSTEM IN USE

A new Simplex 4-Star Sound System has been installed in the Renn theater and is at use at present. This new equipment makes the local theater one of the best-equipped and most modern theaters in Western North Carolina. Mr. P. J. Henn, the owner has recently spent several thousand enlarging and improving his theater here.

Youth Recreation To Be Discussed At Meet Here

A meeting that every parent in Murphy should be interested in will be held at the Methodist church following commencement exercises of the Daily Vacation Bible school Friday night at 7:30.

At this time the Murphy Playground and youth recreation program will be discussed in round-table fashion.

It was originally intended to hold this gathering at the court house in the form of a mass meeting, but when it was learned that the bible school would hold its commencement on the same evening leaders in the movement decided to change the place of meeting to the church as it is believed most of the parents in town will already be assembled there.

The supervised playground and recreation movement in Murphy began several weeks ago when various clubs studied the lack of such facilities for youthful activities in the town.

Methods and means of supervised play were studied at a meeting of representatives of Murphy's various civic clubs in the library last week. Tentative plans for supervised play and recreation were drawn up and it is proposed to submit these to the parents attending the meeting Friday night.

Those attending the first meeting were Mrs. James B. Ward, Mrs. Cyrus White, Mrs. Earl Neiswanger, H. Ralph Jacobs, K. C. Wright and W. A. Sherrill.

Briefly these two things were tentatively proposed. First, it is believed a fund could be raised for the provision of a supervised playground at the Murphy school house. There are a number of swings and other devices already there to delight the children. These could be supplemented at a nominal fee to entertain all children between the ages of five and fifteen.

It is possible that some young man can be obtained to supervise and direct the recreation during the summer—provide amusement, teach the children new and interesting games and keep them occupied. Mrs. Willabelle Posey, Cherokee county NYA supervisor, said that it could be arranged for NYA students to build many of the articles to be used at the playground.

Further it was proposed to have some young lady volunteer her services as director of a "story-telling" hour. All children love stories and enjoy hearing them.

Secondly, for the older youths it is proposed, among other things, to have one street in Murphy roped off one evening each week to be used as a skating rink.

But all this, and much more of course, will be brought out and discussed at the meeting. It is the duty of parents who want to see their children wholesomely and cleanly occupied during the summer evenings to attend and take part in this discussion.

It is generally admitted that recreational facilities for all young people in the town are decidedly limited. They must have something to occupy their evenings, and if supervised play and recreation is provided can rest assured their children are spending their time well and to the advantage of themselves. This is the general consensus of the town.

Mr. O. D. Johnson, director of recreation of the training division of TVA, will be at the meeting and his experienced services will be available for this work, it is said. Everyone is acquainted with "Johnnies" work and knows that no better person could be obtained to oversee this job. Only recently he did a swell job of organizing a club for the high school set, and from all indications it is one of the finest pieces of work that has been done for the youth of the town. By all means we should not miss the opportunity of availing ourselves of his valuable services.

More than this can not be said of one of the most worth-while projects that has been attempted in Murphy in quite a while.

—The Editor

G. Lyle Jones, Asheville attorney for the Southern States Power company, which contended during the protracted hearing of the case that its holdings were worth \$7,500,000, said the power company had not decided whether it would join the authority in seeking an appeal.

The appeal will be heard by a three-judge court, and an appeal from their decision would go directly to the United States supreme court.

The commission's report, read to attorneys in the case Friday morning and filed with the court a little later, awarded the power company \$1,437,000 for 12,679 acres of Cherokee county land condemned by the TVA for the dam project, \$253,000 for 8,300 acres allegedly damaged by the development, and \$110,000 for certain transmission lines and properties purchased by the power company from the town of Murphy.

Will Retire Indebtedness Of the latter amount \$79,000 will be used to retire the remaining bonded indebtedness which the company assumed when it purchased the properties for \$200,000.

Since the commission's appraisal was of January 28, 1936, indications were that interest claims on the money would boost the total purchase price set by the appraisers to more than \$2,000,000.

Claiming the 12,000 acres of property condemned by the authority could be used profitably only for farming purposes, experts testifying for the TVA during the hearing said the tract was worth \$96,000 for that purpose and "in no event more than \$146,000 for any use."

Witness for the power company, on the other hand, had claimed the tract possessed rich potentialities as a site for a huge privately constructed hydro-electric development and had asked \$7,500,000 for it.

Steering a middle road between allegations of the two sides, the commission it recognized the land had value as a seat of hydro-electric developments but ruled that its distance from large industrial plants which might use the power detracted from its value.

Distance Considered

Pointing out that the nearest large industrial plant was more than 100 miles away, the commission said "this discount alone brings the value of the property of the Southern States Power company far below the \$7,500,000 claimed by it". But, it ruled, "a balance still subsists in favor of the use of the property as the site of a hydro-electric generating plant."

Officials of the utility testified during the hearing that they had planned to build four power dams, all 110 feet or more in height, on the property taken over by the authority for the Hiwassee dam. The four projects, witnesses said, could be constructed at a total cost of \$30,000,000 and would have a production capacity of 512,000,000 kilowatt-hours.

TVA witnesses said construction costs would be considerably higher and production capacity considerably less than the power company claimed.

The commission, appointed by Judge Webb, was headed by Odus M. Mull, of Shelby, and composed of J. K. Cowan, of Asheville, and Albert R. Bauman, of Montreat. The three spent almost a year hearing and sifting evidence in the case.

During the hearing 65 witnesses took the stand, 500 exhibits were filed and 6,000 pages of testimony taken. The three district judges who hear the appeal may use the transcript of proceedings before the commission or may hear all the proof over again.

In its report the commission made claims of 61 persons and firms for certain mineral rights and fee in 3-

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