



MERRY XMAS TO ALL!

The Alleghany News

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MERRY XMAS TO ALL!



County Is Covered By Blanket Of Snow; Temperature Falls

Bitter Cold Weather Experienced In County As Third Snow Falls

Tuesday, Alleghany county was doubly assured of a white Christmas unless there is considerable rise in the temperature before next week, since from five to nine inches of snow fell throughout the county where much of two recent snows still remained.

During the past week end, light snow, high winds and low temperatures, which dropped to two above zero in some sections made the weather particularly uncomfortable.

Those who had little wood and coal found it difficult to secure additional fuel since travel and weather conditions made it practically impossible.

Travel conditions have also been greatly impaired because of the snow and ice-covered highways. Travelling without chains has been virtually impossible during the past few days. There has been comparatively no traffic on the highways and to date no serious accidents have been reported. No buses made their runs on Wednesday morning, but were able to come through on Wednesday night.

High winds on Wednesday night caused much drifting of snow on the highways as well as on country roads.

Highway conditions made it necessary to close down most of the schools on Tuesday. Those that remained open reported small attendance.

Nathan's Creek School To Reopen

Will Use Gymnasium And Churches For Remainder Of Session

Nathan's Creek — (Special)—Plans are now being made to re-open Nathan's Creek high school along with the others after the Christmas holidays. Since the building was totally destroyed by fire last week, plans are now underway to convert the large gymnasium into class rooms and there is a possibility that the nearby Methodist church, as well as the Senter Baptist church may be used, if needed.

A. B. Hurt, principal of the school, said that both of the churches had been offered for use and that he deeply appreciated the interest and cooperation of everyone in the face of the disaster, which the community experienced.

Mr. Hurt also said that he wanted to express his appreciation to members of the West Jefferson fire department as well as to all others who made every effort possible to save the building. "The help we had enabled us to save much of our equipment," he declared.

He also pointed out that he had received a number of letters from friends of the school and the community, expressing regret over the loss, as well as a hope that a new building could be erected soon.

NEWS TO BE CLOSED MON., TUES., WED. A. M.

The office of The Alleghany News will be closed Monday, Tuesday and on Wednesday until noon in the observance of Christmas. This paper will be published as usual next week but will be a day later than usual.

This paper takes this occasion to again wish all of the readers a "Merry Christmas." This is also the message of the advertisers in this issue. Throughout this paper will be found many greetings sent to the readers as a personal message from merchants, other firms and individuals.

These greetings are being sent to more than 1,900 subscribers and to around 8,000 readers. To all of them, along with merchants, we again say, "Merry Christmas."

Tax Listing Is To Get Underway Early In January

Glenn Nichols Is Supervisor; Will Hold Instruction Meeting For Listers

Tax listing for 1946 will get underway in this county early in January in the various townships, tax supervisor G. Glenn Nichols, announced this week.

Mr. Nichols pointed out that a meeting of the listers will be held at an early date and that the dates for listing in the various communities will be given next week.

Listers are: Gap Civil, G. Glenn Nichols; Cherry Lane, Dewitt T. Bryan; Glade Creek, W. C. Evans; Piney Creek, Blake Hampton; Prather's Creek, Dan Jones; Whitehead, W. E. Hoppers and Cranberry, Mrs. T. S. Moxley.

Property owners and tax payers in each township are required to return to the tax listers for taxation all their real estate and personal property, which each one owns or is required to give in. All male persons between the ages of 21 and 50 are required to list their polls during the same

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\$170 Is Reported On Sale Of Xmas Seals In County

Miss Edwards Urges That All Money Be Turned In As Soon As Possible

Returns from the sale of Christmas seals in Alleghany county have reached \$170.00, Miss Minnie Lou Edwards, chairman, announced this week.

Miss Edwards pointed out that \$25.00 remained to be collected and urged that those who had received seals through the mail, to return either the seals or the \$1.00 immediately in order that the quota may be reached.

Miss Edwards also pointed out that a number of the schools had not yet made their reports on the sale of seals and urged that they do so as soon as possible.

"I wish to thank every person who has contributed to the fund through the purchase of seals," Miss Edwards stated and added that the people had shown excellent co-operation in the drive.

Sparta Man Takes Post In Watauga

Woodrow Richardson, popular young Sparta man, has been appointed assistant county agent of Watauga county, where he assumed his duties recently, it was learned here this week.

A graduate of State College, Raleigh, Mr. Richardson spent several months overseas in the European theater of operations. He was recently discharged from service.

Mr. Richardson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Richardson, of Sparta.

E. Gwyn Blevins Buried On Sunday

Funeral service for E. Gwyn Blevins, 35, who died of pneumonia at his home at Glade Valley, was conducted Sunday at Laurel Glen church with Revs. Claude Bartley, Walter Evans, Millard Pruitt and Charlie Wooten, officiating. Interment followed in the church cemetery.

The son of John Blevins and the late Della Blevins, he was employed by the state highway department at the time of his death. He had been ill only a few days.

Surviving in addition to his father are his wife, Mrs. Mae Bauguess Blevins and five children, Gwendolyn, Shirley, Carol, Evell and Wanda.

Three brothers and six sisters also survive.

Sincere Christmas Greetings To Everyone . . . Everywhere!



Rev. F. G. Walker Speaks To C. of C. At Xmas Meeting

Theme Of "Christmas" Carried Out In Meeting; Solo Rendered By Mr. Johnson

Rev. F. G. Walker, pastor of the Sparta First Baptist church, spoke to members of the Chamber of Commerce at the December meeting here Friday night when the theme of the entire program centered around "Christmas."

Addressing his remarks on "The Spirit of Christmas," Rev. Mr. Walker was introduced by R. F. Crouse, president of the chamber.

Opening the meeting was a solo, "Oh Holy Night," by Walter Johnson, of Sparta and Wins-

Christmas Cakes May Be Limited

Because of limited sugar, Christmas cakes are expected to be limited this year, with the exception of traditional fruit cakes.

But there are perhaps those who have saved their sugar and will enjoy an old-fashioned cocoanut cake while it lasts, for cocoanuts are here again.

While Supar Stamp 38 expires December 31, there are perhaps few of them that have not been cashed in. But the New Year, January 1, will validate stamp 39, which will not expire until April 30.

The civilian sugar allocation for the first quarter of 1946 recently announced by the U. S. Department of Agriculture is not sufficient to permit increasing rations to various types of users, Mr. Driscoll said.

Alleghany County Churches Planning To Have Special Christmas Services Sunday

Schools Closed Early Because Of Cold Weather

Special Christmas Programs Are Held In Some Before Closing

Alleghany county schools are observing Christmas holidays this week with a number opening again on December 31, while others will not resume work until January 2, Supt. Clyde Fields said.

Due to the extreme bad weather during the past week, and the snow-covered highways, many of the schools were not able to operate on Wednesday as had previously been planned.

Most of the schools, however, had programs or Christmas trees

Needy Are To Be Remembered

While there are fewer needy families in this county than there have been in times past, according to reports, many of those less fortunate ones are to be remembered at Christmas.

A number of individuals are preparing boxes as are church groups and other organizations. It is understood that the welfare department will furnish the names of needy families to groups and individuals wishing to remember them at Christmas.

Plays, Pageants And Other Features Planned; Schedules Are Given

The spirit of Christmas will be fittingly observed in the churches of Alleghany county this year as the first peacetime Christmas in five years is observed. A number of special programs have been planned and dramatic pageants and other colorful portrayals of the time when Christ was born, will carry a message of peace on earth, good will toward men.

The Methodist and Presbyterian services will be combined, it was pointed out, when a special program will be held at the Presbyterian church on Sunday night at 7 o'clock. A number of readings and songs will be heard, after which there will be a Christmas tree. In charge of the pro-

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Snow Is General In Western N. C.

Snow, which blanketed Alleghany county Tuesday, was general throughout western North Carolina as well as in other sections of the state and nation.

Dean Colvard, in charge of State Test Farms in this area, drove from Waynesville to the test farm at Transou, yesterday, and reported a snow-covered highway throughout his trip. He pointed out that there was very little difference in temperature or depth of snow in any section through which he came.

\$50,000.00 School Building Is Destroyed By Fire



Nathan's Creek High School, which was completely destroyed by fire last week. Much of the movable equipment was saved. The loss, estimated at \$50,000.00, was without any insurance coverage. (Staff Photo)

Graham Named Supervisor For State Test Farm

Dean Colvard Resigns As Assistant Director In Charge Of Farms

W. Kerr Scott, Commissioner of Agriculture, yesterday, announced the appointment of James A. Graham to the position of superintendent of the Upper Mountain Experiment Station, at Transou, effective January 1.

Mr. Graham was reared on a farm in Rowan county and is a graduate of N. C. State College. At present he is teacher of vocational agriculture at the Celeste Henkel High School, Route 3, Statesville. Mr. Graham has specialized in livestock farming and is well qualified to superintend the Upper Mountain Station.

W. Kerr Scott also announced the resignation of Dean W. Colvard, assistant director in charge of the Mountain Experiment Stations located at Waynesville and Transou, the resignation to become effective February 1, 1946.

He will be succeeded by Howard Clapp, of Waynesville.

Scott said that Colvard is resigning his present position to take a year of graduate study at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, after which he will be-

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Box Supper To Be Held At Rich Hill

A box supper will be held at Rich Hill school on Saturday night, December 22 at seven o'clock, it was announced this week.

Mrs. Nell Gentry, principal of the school, explained that the public is cordially invited to attend the entertainment and that all ladies are urged to bring a box.

String music will be furnished and cake walks, cake for the prettiest girl, pickles for the ugliest man and the sale of boxes will be featured.

Record Prices On Boone Mart

Sales at the Mountain Burley Warehouses, in Boone, will close at the end of tomorrow's business, until after the holiday season, officials announced. It was also announced that the warehouses would re-open to receive tobacco on Monday, December 31, in order to have it there when the sales re-open.

So far, Boone has made an outstanding record for sales and top market prices. Officials said that the sales would probably pass the three-million poundage mark this week.

The many farmers of Alleghany and Ashe that have sold their tobacco have been pleased with prices, according to all reports.

Quiet Christmas Expected To Be Observed Here

Stores, Banks And Offices To Be Closed; Record Business Is Reported

Alleghany is expecting to celebrate its first peace-time Christmas in five years, quietly, Tuesday, with family reunions and the cessation of business. And according to the amount of gifts purchased, this Yuletide should be a generous one.

The severe winter weather, which this section has experienced, leaving the highways covered in ice and snow, should keep most people at home for an old-fashioned Christmas. And the return of many veterans from the far-flung battle fields of the world will make family reunions something like the realization of dreams.

Retail stores are expected to close on Tuesday and on Wednesday as well, according to an announcement made sometime ago. The Northwestern Bank will also be closed two days as will a number of other business establishments. As far as it could be learned, most of the county offices will only observe Christmas Day.

The D. and P. Pipe Works will close its doors on Friday for a full week, resuming work on Monday, Dec. 31.

The local draft board will close on Saturday morning and remain closed through Tuesday.

The schools of the county will have their holidays during Christmas week, many of them not resuming work until December 31 or early in January.

Churches are planning special programs. These are announced elsewhere in today's paper.

In spite of hampered travel conditions, because of the weather and shortages in many lines of merchandise, local merchants report a record business for the holiday season and point out that the public has not only bought gift merchandise, but much practical merchandise as well. Uncle Sam has not been forgotten either, as many Victory Bonds and stamps have been purchased for gifts.

Uncle Sam Has Extra Business

Many Post Offices Of The County Report Record Breaking Days

Due to the fact that many people are still away from home this year and will receive their Christmas greetings, as well as gifts, by mail, many post offices of the county report that business this week has reached a new high peak.

Sparta reported some of the biggest days in history on Monday and Tuesday, as did some of the other post offices of the county.

"I never knew there could be so many Christmas cards," one postal worker declared.

Packages are also on the increase this year, both incoming as well as outgoing. And in spite of warnings of early Christmas mailings to assure delivery, many packages are still being mailed here. Packages have been sent from Alleghany to all parts of the world, where men in service are stationed. "Uncle Sam is going to have to cover a lot of territory for Santa," someone remarked.

MAIL CARRIERS TO OBSERVE HOLIDAY

Alleghany rural mail carriers, along with others throughout the county, who have played such a part as Santa's helpers by delivering and receiving packages that will help to make Christmas merry, will be able to bank by their own holidays as they observe a holiday, next Tuesday.

The respite will be particularly welcomed this year since the extreme cold weather, coupled with the roads covered in ice and snow, has made deliveries a hardship recently.

Postmaster S. R. Nichols has announced that the Sparta Post Office will be closed all day on Tuesday for Christmas.

In spite of early warnings to the public, heavy holiday mail is still coming in, he said.