

## Total Peace Is Believed To Be In World's Reach

### United Nations' Harmony Is Seen Ahead As Christmas Season Approaches

London—British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin Sunday night expressed the belief that Russia has shown herself ready to cooperate with other nations, and that complete peace is within grasp of the world as the Christmas season draws near.

The Foreign Secretary, who returned last week from United Nations and Big Four Foreign Ministers meetings in New York, said in a speech prepared for a BBC broadcast that Russia realized there was "a desire for complete understanding."

"There is throughout the world a readiness to cooperate with her and see her develop her system in her own way, with the recognition that others equally have the right to their own way of life," he declared.

Defining the new role of Great Britain, Bevin said, "The war has left two great powers predominant—the United States and Soviet Russia. Great Britain lies midway in geography and way of" (Continued on Page 4)

## Draft Board Now Open Wed., Fri.

### Sam L. Davis, Clerk Of Ashe Draft Board, To Head Local Office

Sam L. Davis, chief clerk of the Ashe county draft board, will assume his duties here in Alleghany county on Wednesday and Friday of each week, it was learned here yesterday. He will be in the office here in Sparta two days a week, beginning on Wednesday at 5:30 p. m.

Mr. Davis will not be in Sparta this week, however, as the draft board will observe the holidays through December 27.

He will be in the office in West Jefferson each Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, it was pointed out.

## Seal Chairman Asks For Reports

Approximately \$120.00 has been collected in the Christmas seal drive, Miss Minnie Lou Edwards, county chairman, stated yesterday. A total of \$28.00 has been reported from the bangle day but not nearly half of the schools or individuals have reported as yet.

Miss Edwards again urged this week that everyone cooperate in sending in their money or to return the seals in order that she might make her report.

## 61 Examined At County Eye Clinic

A total of 61 persons took advantage of the eye clinic held at the Alleghany county health department last Wednesday and Thursday. Dr. J. D. Wiley, ophthalmologist of Winston-Salem, was here to assist Dr. Robert R. King, Jr., with the clinic.

On Thursday a total of 30 people were examined and glasses were prescribed for 28. On Wednesday 31 were examined and glasses were prescribed for 22 and surgery suggested for two. Dr. King pointed out that the clinic was a success and that plans are being formulated for another of its kind to be held at a later date.

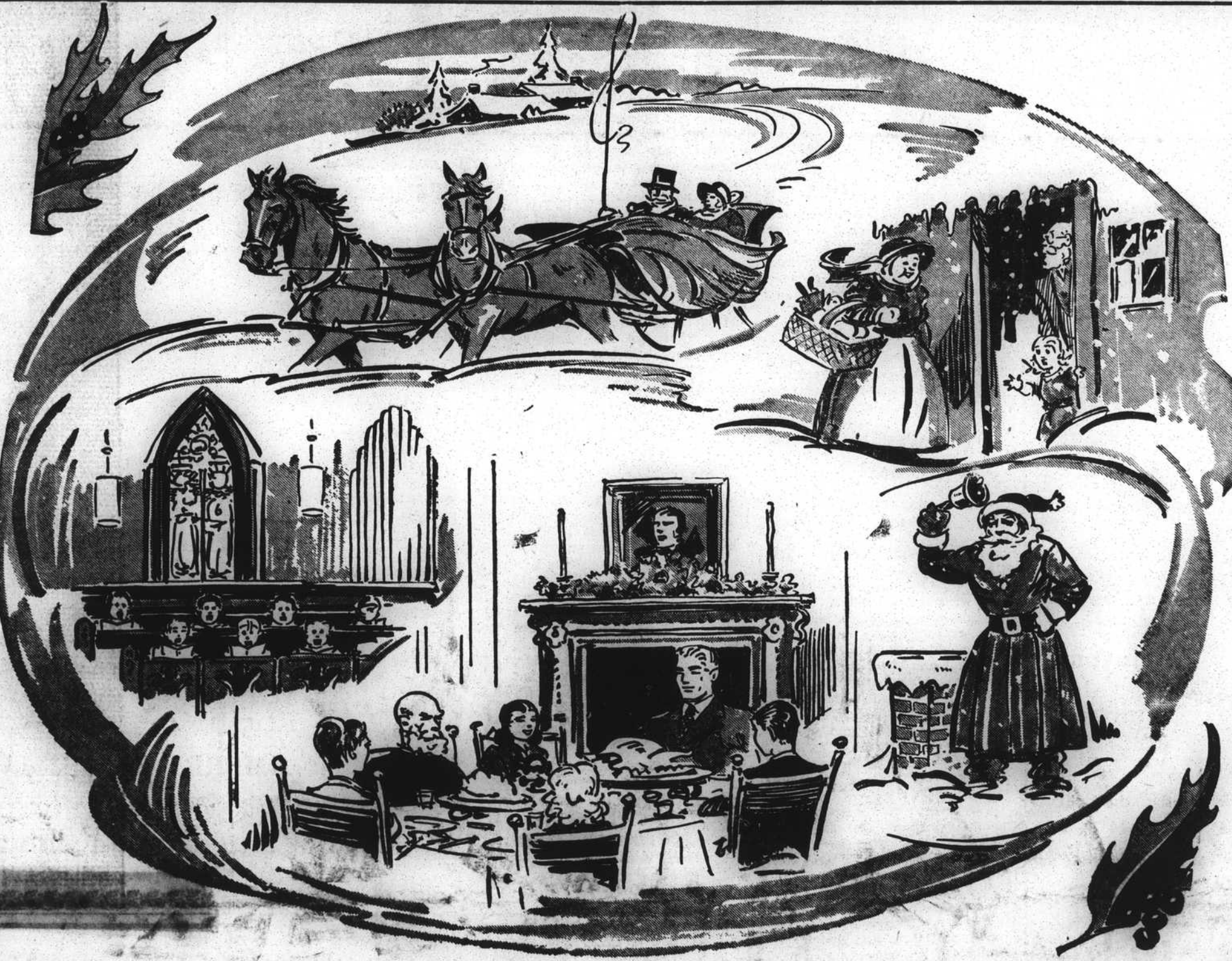
## WHITE CHRISTMAS MAY BE COMING

The possibilities of a white Christmas for this section has been seen by the U. S. Weather Bureau in a prediction that says precipitation will begin on Tuesday night.

While the bureau has not guaranteed snow, it reports that the forecast is for some kind of precipitation beginning on Tuesday and continuing through the holidays.

The sudden changes in the weather for the last few days, from mild spring-like temperature to wintry blizzards may mean anything, rain, sleet or a real white Christmas.

## SINCERE CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO EVERYONE... EVERYWHERE!



## Quiet Christmas Expected To Be Observed Here

### Schools Are Closed For Week; Stores Will Be Closed For Two Days

Alleghany county is expecting to celebrate its second peace-time Christmas quietly Wednesday with family reunions and the cessation of business. And according to the amount of gifts purchased, this yuletide should be a generous one.

Real winter weather, which has been delayed so long, and is now due, should keep more people at home this Christmas. And for them it will be an old-fashioned Christmas, with turkey and all the trimmings for most Alleghany families.

Retail stores are expected to close Wednesday and Thursday, according to an announcement made some two weeks 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 closed Friday for a long holiday of two weeks. They will resume work on Monday, January 6.

Schools, generally, throughout the county closed on Friday of the past week and will remain closed until December 30. The Glade Valley school will remain closed until January 7.

## Record Prices On Boone Mart

### Alleghany Farmers Pleased; Sales Closed Until After Holidays

Sales in the tobacco warehouses at Boone closed on Friday for the Christmas holidays, with record volume and prices reported. Alleghany farmers who sold their tobacco there, report that they are well pleased with prices for the better grades, particularly.

It was announced that dates for the reopening of sales after the holidays were tentative as yet, but that houses would remain open straight through the holidays to receive tobacco except on Christmas day. It was explained that the sales would probably be resumed again on Monday, December 30. This is to be confirmed later, officials announced, however.

## Phosphate To Be Applied By Dec. 31

Farmers are again reminded that all AAA lime and phosphate must be applied by December 31 if the farmer is to get credit for the material on the 1946 program.

"It will be necessary to transfer all lime and phosphate, not applied by this date, to 1947. When this is done the farm will probably not be allowed any additional material for the coming year. Farmers should see that all material is applied by the closing date," Herbert Osborne, chairman of the AAA committee, said.

Mr. and Mrs. Clete Choate were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Nolan in Waynesboro last weekend.

## Churches Have Programs For Christmas; Less Fortunate Of County Will Be Remembered

### Several Hold Special Programs On Sunday; Pageants Are Given

The Christmastide is being fittingly observed in Alleghany county with churches portraying the birth of Christ, in pageants and other services and groups and individuals recognizing that it is more blessed to give than to receive, and thus remembering the less fortunate with practical gifts.

Most of the churches held special Christmas services on Sunday and some others in the county are yet to be given. The Sparta Baptist church presented the pageant, "The Light of Men," on Sunday night which was attended by a large crowd. There were 28 characters portraying this Christmas scene.

Both the Sparta Methodist and Presbyterian churches also held Christmas programs on Sunday evening and trees with treats were sponsored by the Sunday (Continued on Page 4)

## 2 New 4-H Clubs Are Organized; Officers Named

### Special Programs Are Held; H. D. Clubs Also Hold Christmas Meetings

Two new 4-H clubs were organized in the county this month by John Burch and Mrs. Isom Wagoner.

On December 10, a 4-H club was organized at the Glade Valley school. This club includes only boys and girls from Alleghany county. Officers were elected as follows: Joanne Phipps, president; Elene Hart, vice president; Norma G. Thompson, secretary and treasurer.

A 4-H club was organized at Liberty Knob on December 17 with 18 members enrolled. The election of officers was postponed until the January meeting. (Continued on Page 8)

## Black Recognized For Years Of Service In Sunday School

Lee Black, one of Alleghany county's best known and best loved citizens has recently received recognition in the Christian Advocate, Methodist church magazine for his long years of service as Sunday school superintendent. Mr. Black has been quite ill at his home at Laurel Springs for the past few weeks, but latest reports indicate that he is slowly improving. Below is a reproduction of the article which appeared in the Christian Advocate:

"Mr. Lee Black has been superintendent of the Mt. Zion Methodist Sunday school for sixty years and continues in that capacity. He was appointed to his present position by Dr. J. H. Weaver, then superintendent of the Holston District, of which the Laurel Springs area was a part. Mr. Black has attended district conference for fifty years" (Continued on Page 4)



LEE BLACK

## Herbert Allen Is Released On Bond Of \$1,000

### Has Been Held In Jail In Connection With Shooting Of Edison Smith

Herbert Allen, who has been held in the Alleghany county jail, in connection with the shooting of Edison Smith, on December 9, was released on a \$1,000 bond this week, according to information received from the sheriff. Reports from the Elkin hospital, where Smith was rushed after the fracas, indicate that he is much improved and will be released from the hospital soon.

Allen was reported to have fired a .22 pistol at Smith, wounding him critically in the abdomen. Further investigation of the shooting, showed that both boys had been drinking and neither was quite clear as to what actually happened.

The shooting occurred near Saddle Mountain. A hearing of the case is indefinite, pending the outcome of Smith's condition.

## Sparta Gets New Rural Route

Postmaster Silas Nichols has received notice from the Post Office department, announcing the change of the starting point of rural route 1 from Stratford to Sparta, effective January 1, 1947.

After January 1, the address of patrons on the present Stratford route will be Sparta, route 3, instead of Stratford route 1.

However, any mail addressed to Stratford for these patrons will be forwarded to Sparta, because of the change in service.

## Basketball Game Postponed Friday

Basketball fans were doomed to disappointment last Friday when the game scheduled between Sparta and Fries, Va., was called off because of the severe winter weather and the condition of the highways.

The next game scheduled here after the holidays is on Monday, January 6.

## Record Christmas Business Reported By Stores; Santa Expected To Be Generous

### Tax Listing To Get Underway Early In January

### G. Glenn Nichols Is Again Named Supervisor By Commissioners

Tax listing for 1947 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, Mrs. D. T. Bryan; Cranberry, Mrs. Tommy Moxley; Glade Creek, J. N. Evans; Piney Creek, Blake Hampton; Prather's Creek, Charlie Mitchell; and Whitehead, W. E. Hoppers.

Miss Mary Franklin Duncan was in West Jefferson, Monday.

### Uncle Sam Also Has Increase; Mails Are Unusually Heavy

Setting a record for volume for Christmas business, Sparta stores will be closed Christmas day and the day after for a well earned rest to employees. According to information received from most of the local stores, Monday and Tuesday were unusually heavy days in spite of much Christmas shopping which was done earlier in the season.

Judging from the amount of gifts purchased locally this Christmas should be a generous one for most people. And there are many who will be made happier by such practical gifts as radios and other electrical appliances that have been scarce items during the war years.

Santa should have little trouble in finding nylon hose hanging by the chimneys as many of these were sold here.

There should be a bountiful supply of Christmas greetings for everyone as the sale of Christmas cards showed a big increase. (Continued on Page 4)

## History's Greatest Earthquake Strikes Japan; Tidal Waves

Tokyo—A deadly earthquake, ranked as possibly the heaviest in world history and followed by at least six tremendous sea waves, wrought havoc in more than 60,000 square miles of Southern Japan Saturday, taking a high, but still unnumbered total of lives.

No American personnel of any sort, military or civilian, were among the casualties reported so far. One British soldier was reported missing.

Striking in the predawn darkness of 4:20 a. m. (2:20 p. m. Friday, e.s.t.) the gigantic earth tremor shook an area of Japan stretching southwest from about 90 miles below Tokyo into the island of Kyushu, a distance of 450 miles.

Ten to 15 minutes later, the

first of six seismic-born ocean waves rolled over the coast at heights estimated up to 10 feet, washing away fishing villages, flooding countless homes far inland and drowning many Japanese who had escaped the quake itself.

Again and again the huge waves rolled in, then ebbed with awful destruction at intervals of about a half-hour. Lesser tremors accompanied them. At some points quake-set fires added to the horror.

Officials of the Japanese Central Meteorological Observatory said the disaster was the most severe ever known to have shaken Japan, with a force five times greater than that of 1923, which took more than 100,000 lives in Tokyo and Yokohama.

## NEWS OFFICE TO BE CLOSED UNTIL MON.

The office of The Alleghany News will be closed Wednesday through Saturday in observance of the Christmas holidays. The paper is published on Tuesday this week, but will follow the regular schedule next week.

The News 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 1,000 subscribers in the area around Sparta. To all of these, along with merchants, we again say "Merry Christmas."