

Commission Withholds Decision on Noon Train

Hearing Brings Out Very Few Actual Facts—Many Mount Airy Citizens Attend.

After a two-days' hearing before the State Corporation Commission last week that body announced that it would study the subject and render a decision at a later date as to whether or not the A. & Y. railway receivers would be permitted to discontinue the noon train that is now in operation.

Superintendent DeButts was the main witness for the railroad and those who attended the hearing state that he was unable to give very many authentic figures as to the costs and revenues that went into the operation of the passenger train in question. It seems that he had taken the total figures of the passenger business of both trains and by a simple method of arithmetic divided the figures in half, thus charging one half the loss of the service to the noon train. And his figures covered only a short period of a time—a period which the citizens contended was the dull season of the year for shipping.

In his direct evidence Mr. DeButts recited the terrible state of affairs that existed with the railroad when he took over the supervision of the road. The ties, he stated, were about all rotted out, the rails were thin and worn, and the road had no equipment and nothing else of a tangible value, except the road bed. It was a gloomy picture he painted of the struggle of such a derelict. However when John H. Folger, appearing in behalf of the citizens of this city, began to ask him further questions the situation began to grow brighter. It was learned from the quizzing Mr. Folger gave him that the receivers had made enough money out of the road to pay a large sum on its debts, to replace all rotten ties on the road bed, and that tons and tons of rails had been purchased and practically all the rails on the road replaced with heavier steel.

Mr. Folger put witnesses before the commission to show that the greater part of the revenue from the passenger trains was secured by operation of the noon train—the biggest shippers stating that 80 per cent of the express came on that train. And Mr. Folger contended it was no proper way to get at the true facts by just simply dividing the figures of the two trains.

There were many questions that were asked the Superintendent in regard to expenses and receipts of the road that he could not answer. Those who attended the hearing were impressed with the absence of authentic figures on the part of the railroad to support their claim. There have been some reports in the newspapers in regard to a compromise but this is denied by those who attended the hearing and they are still holding out for the train until more figures are brought forward.

Those who attended the two days' hearing were: J. H. Folger, Mayor W. G. Sydnor, W. E. Merritt, G. C. Lovill, S. C. Stewart, W. S. Harris, J. H. Johnson, S. A. Hennis, C. H. Haynes, W. B. Partridge, R. E. Inman, J. B. Sparger, S. M. Hale and W. G. Andrews.

Mrs. Absher Hostess For Visitor

Mrs. Claude Absher was hostess to the high school and junior college girls Wednesday afternoon complimenting Miss Dorothy Thompson, house guest of Mrs. Herman Robinson. Bridge was played after which a course of refreshments was served featuring a cool and refreshing color scheme of green and white. Miss Agnes Galloway was rewarded for top score with a dainty gift and a pair of white silk hose was presented to Miss Thompson.

Westfield Township Sunday School Convention

Pilot Mountain, Route 2, July 26.—The Westfield Sunday School Convention will meet in the Indian Grove Baptist Church next Sunday, July 31. Dinner will be served on the grounds and the public is invited to come and bring a well filled basket. Among the speakers will be Rev. Charles Harris, Rev. E. G. Davis and H. O. Wolts.

A son, Jack Wayne, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Ashburn on Franklin Street, July 25.

Local Meat Market May Be Flooded on Return of These Nimrods

W. I. Monday and Harvey Boyd are spending this week in the swamps of Perquimans County bear hunting. After bagging their lawful limit of bruin and preparing the meat for shipment to their home town they will fish in Albemarle Sound until they exhaust their bait. It is said that some of our market men have been advised not to kill after the middle of the week as these Nimrods of Mount Airy expect their shipment of wild meat to supply the town for the week end.

Give The Fire Trucks Rooms

The officials of the city expect to prosecute those who in the future impede the progress of the fire trucks in answering alarms. Some time ago a law was passed prohibiting cars parking within one block of a fire and also that traffic should not follow closer than two blocks when a truck is on the way to a fire. At the last alarm the streets became so congested with the traffic one of the trucks could not reach the scene and the police expect to take drastic action if the driving public brings about a repetition of such a scene. It is necessary that the firemen have plenty of space in which to move the heavy hose through the street around the buildings that are in danger, and for this reason it is unlawful to park within a block of the scene of the fire. Next time the fire alarm is sounded those who violate the new regulations can be expected to answer for their carelessness before the Recorder's Court.

New Westfield Baptist Church To Be Dedicated in August

Corner stone services will be held at the new Baptist Church the second Sunday in August at 9 o'clock. The ministers to be present are: Rev. W. A. Simmons, pastor of the First Baptist Church, of Waverly, Iowa; Rev. E. G. Davis, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Mount Airy; Rev. C. C. Haymore of Mount Airy; Rev. Mr. Martin the pastor here and Dr. Tom Smith also of Westfield. Mr. Simmons will preach at the 11 o'clock service. The church will be completed this week ready for services.

The missionary society met Saturday with Mrs. Bessie Hunter. Wheat threshing is the order this week turning out better than expected and some crops are of excellent quality. Tom Cook averaged twenty-one bushels per acre.

Corn and tobacco are exceptionally fine and Irish potatoes were never better. The blackberry crop is a total failure. Plenty of beans in spite of the beetles.

Considerable talk about the dairy business in this locality, several letters from the west a very hopeful sign of prosperity the only thing will ever take us out of the tenant class no land owner rents his land to cattle raisers. Mr. John Lowe has some tenants and all raise corn and tobacco and but one makes butter to sell.

Mrs. Wall wife of Attorney Wall, of Danbury and small daughter visited Mrs. S. P. Christian several days last week. They together with Mrs. C. J. Galloway motored to Mount Airy on a shopping tour.

Mrs. R. T. Joyce is expected to return from a two weeks visit to Greensboro Tuesday.

Ararat News

Ararat, Va.—Earl Nance singing master of Bonville, is coming to Ararat to hold singing in August. Mr. Nance is now holding singing at Union Cross and he, wife and daughter Helen are teaching two lessons daily. He reports 100 scholars. The people of Ararat are looking forward when Mr. Nance arrives to begin the ten days singing at the Methodist Church.

Miss Reece Honors Her Guest

Miss Ruth Reece was hostess to a few of her friends Sunday afternoon in honor of her house guest Miss Elizabeth Folger, of Easley, S. C. The party motored to Roaring Gap Sunday afternoon, there a picnic supper was enjoyed the party returning in the evening.

AGENCY OF TWO POPULAR CARS CHANGED

B. & H. Service Station to Handle Dodge—Swanson Motor Company Gets Buick

Two important transactions were made this week in this city in automobile circles resulting in the change of the agency of both the Dodge and Buick. In the change the B. & H. Service Station becomes the agency for Dodges and are now remodeling their place of business at Main and Pine. The old stock room will be converted into a modern show room capable of holding five cars and a part of the storage room will be used as the stock room. The new agency expects to receive their first shipment of these cars ready for showing Saturday.

The transfer of the Dodge agency from Rierson-Joyce, Inc., was on account of this firm retiring from business in this city, and their location will be used by the new Buick Agency, Swanson Motor Co. Mr. Claud Swanson of Pilot Mountain, has purchased the agency and equipment of Rivers Motor Co., and now has on display in the Rierson-Joyce building on Moore Street a line of the newest model Buicks. In the transfer of the Buick agency Mr. Swanson retains the force employed by Mr. Rivers, including Sam Clingman, sales manager, and J. O. Damron, head mechanic. Paul S. Swanson, formerly with the S. P. U. Co., will have charge of the office work of the new agency. Mr. Rivers will no longer engage in the automobile business in this city, but has not announced just where he will locate.

Juniors Play Rook

Miss Mary Jackson, youthful daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Jackson, was hostess to a group of friends Friday evening when rook was played at two tables. Appetizing refreshments were served after the playing.

Local Happenings in and About the City

Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Wolts and Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Bye spent the week end with Mrs. Wolts' mother, Mrs. H. C. Elliott in Catawba. Mrs. Bye was accompanied home by her sister Miss Emma Young, of Troutman.

Mrs. Cora Martin and Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Poindexter and son George of Winston-Salem spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Rothrock. Mrs. Martin remaining to spend a week here and at her country house at Ledonia.

Miss Icy Bowman returned to her home at The Hollow, Va., Sunday after a two weeks visit with friends at Kannapolis and Charlotte. She was accompanied home by Misses Eula Gogleman and Esther Hollowell, of Guilford College.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Lawson of New York, are en route to this city to visit his sisters Mrs. A. G. Trotter and Miss Lawson. Mrs. and Mrs. Lawson came by boat to Norfolk, Va., and will make the last lap of the journey by train.

Mrs. James H. Davis and children and sister Miss Bessie Stack spent the past week end in High Point with Mrs. Davis' mother Mrs. J. T. Goodrum, and was accompanied home by her niece Miss Frances Hegan, of Columbus, Ga.

Rev. and Mrs. S. A. Wanless, and neice, Miss Estelle Leonard, and Miss Ruth Brownitt expect to leave the latter part of this week in their car for a month vacation visiting in Detroit with Mrs. Wanless' brother, J. Edgar Earp and Mrs. Earp and in Chicago and Springfield, Ill., and points in Canada.—Macon Chronicle Herald July 21.

Prof. Joseph Warren, director of the Blowing Rock Band, spent Sunday with Mrs. Warren in this city and was accompanied by her back to Blowing Rock where they will spend the remainder of the summer. The Blowing Rock Band is composed of twenty-seven instruments and Prof. Warren is arranging their first public concert to be given about September 1st. The band is sponsored by the Business Men's Association of Blowing Rock, and the Chamber of Commerce of Boone, ten miles west of Blowing Rock, has purchased sixteen instruments and has engaged Prof. Warren to organize and instruct a band at Boone.

FREE BAND CONCERT A COMING ATTRACTION

Open Air Pythian Band Concert Main Street Tuesday Evening.

Next Tuesday, August 2nd, the Pythian Band of Winston-Salem will give a public open air concert in this city, on the Blue Ridge Inn block on Main Street which will be closed from 7 to 9:30 o'clock and under police protection, no cars may enter or leave the block in this time.

At 6:30 P. M. supper will be served to the visitors and members of the lodge in the lodge rooms in the Banner building. The concert starts promptly at 7:30 P. M. and the program will include a short address by Mr. James F. Brower, of Winston-Salem, Grand Chancellor of the Domain of North Carolina. G. E. Snow of this city will be master of ceremonies.

This is one of the many public programs put on by the local Pythians from time to time, in their effort to do their part to secure some of the best things for our thriving mountain town and there will be absolutely no cost to the public, you are invited to come and enjoy the music and speaking if you live in town or out. The Pythians are providing this treat for you and your friends and will be glad to have you come and enjoy it.

Returns From Western Trip

W. E. Matthews, of Pilot Mountain, returned to this county Friday from an extended trip to the western states going as far as Denver, Col., where he visited his great-uncle Joe M. Jackson. He reports that a part of the flood zone and says people back here can't realize the terrible conditions under which the victims are having to live following the flood. The are still planting corn where the water has receded. Further out in the west he found the wheat crop to be the best in years.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Will Lovill, Tuesday morning.

F. L. Smith, chief of police of North Wilkesboro is spending his vacation here with friends.

Troup 1 of the Boy Scouts left Tuesday for a camping trip at Dickerson's Ferry. Dr. P. W. Green will be the director of the camp.

Nolan Turamyre has accepted a position as bookkeeper with the S. P. U. Co., succeeding Paul Swanson, who goes with the Swanson Motor Co.

When renewing his subscription to The News Wednesday B. Riggs, of Round Peak, reported a nice rain in that section Tuesday.

Rev. and Mrs. A. H. Marshall have moved into the bungalow on Cherry Street recently vacated by Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Dixon.

J. W. Walker of Faison, spent the first of the week in the city visiting his two daughters who have been here during the summer with their grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Dix and children left Tuesday for Nashville, Ga. They made the trip through the country and expect to be away about two weeks visiting Mr. Dix's father, J. M. Dix.

Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Turamyre spent the week end in Asheboro. In returning home Sunday afternoon as they were traveling between Pinehurst and Asheboro they counted 916 cars which they passed in one hour's time.

Bus service between Pulaski, Va., and Bluefield, W. Va., now makes it possible to leave Pulaski at 9:10 A. M. and reach Bluefield at 9:40 P. M. Coming south the bus leaves Bluefield at 1:40 P. M. and reaches Pulaski at 5:30 P. M. Railroad rates are charged for this service.

Every member of Rockford Street Methodist Church and Sunday School and their families are requested to meet at the church next Saturday at four o'clock P. M. bringing with them their picnic lunch and join with the school in their annual outing for a real good time.

Charles Crow, son of Mrs. Alice Haynes, of Danville, Kentucky, was drowned in Indian River, Ohio, last Saturday evening. He leaves a wife and one child and was about 23 years of age. He was a nephew of Mrs. C. E. Haynes of this city.

Orphanage Class To Give Concert

The singing class from the Oxford Orphanage will give its annual concert in this city Friday night, August 5th. The concert will be given in the hall of the members of Granite Lodge, under whose auspices the concert is given. The Broadway Theater has been secured for the occasion and an effort will be made to give the children the largest audience they have ever received in Mount Airy.

That Big Thumb Print on Your Paper

All readers of newspapers have no doubt heard of the imprint on paper left where the printer touched the paper with his inky thumb. Well The News has some new fellows in the shop and this week one of them while handling the papers left his thumb print on the edge of the papers, and what a thumb it is! Did you see it? But that thumb print came in very handy and at a most opportune time, for it happened to cover up a legal notice which was inserted in the paper by mistake, it therefore served to blot out the notice that was not intended to be published. The fellows have been cautioned to clean their thumbs a little better in handling papers in the future.

State Penalty For Special License

State officials have advised us to urge those who are required to purchase state privilege license to not delay the matter longer. After August 1st, a penalty of 20 per cent automatically goes on the price of these license, and soon thereafter special agents will be making a round of the state to see that all have secured the license.

Fiddlers' Convention at Pineapple

A Fiddlers' Convention will be held in the high school auditorium at Pineapple Saturday, July 30 at 8 P. M., when valuable prizes in money and articles will be given. Violins, banjos, guitars, band music and dancing are all on the program and all musicians and dancers in the state who wish to do so may enter the contest. Admission, 25 and 35c, with 25c extra for reserved seats. Proceeds for educational purposes.

Making It "Snappy"

Roberson and Edwards proprietors of Snappy Lunch, have installed a unique outfit for keeping bottled drinks cold. It is one of the latest inventions along that line and makes it so this concern can continue to live up to its name and serve soft drinks in the same "snappy" style that they do sandwiches and other good things to eat.

Mrs. Helcomb Entertains Club

Mrs. Hugh Helcomb entertained the Embroidery Club and their husbands Tuesday evening. The home was decorated very artistically with the season's flowers. Hearts were played at four tables, then the hostess assisted by Mesdames Luchen Wrenn, William Merritt and George Snow served a delicious ice course. Small tan note books with pencils attached were presented to each guest.

Mrs. Lewis Lamm Hostess

Mrs. Lewis Lamm gave a swimming party at White Oak Park swimming pool Friday evening in compliment of her house guest Miss Mary McLain, of Canton, Ga., about twenty couples being in attendance. A watermelon feast was enjoyed during the evening.

Friday afternoon Mrs. Lamm entertained her two table bridge club at her home on South Main Street with Miss Grace Roy and Mrs. Randall Sparger filling in for absent members. Dainty refreshments were served during the afternoon.

A Birthday Celebration

His children including Mrs. W. M. Johnson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Martin and family, of this city, and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Martin and children from Roanoke, Va., and other relatives from various points and a few of the older neighbors met at the home of Mr. John here last at the home of Mr. John to celebrate his 77th birthday. Among those present numbering about 75 was Mrs. Martin's only sister Mrs. Horton, of Virginia, aged eighty-seven years.

Local Contractors to Build Virginia Roads

Kirkman Bros. to Grade Wards Gap Road to Foot of Mountain.

On last Wednesday the county authorities of Carroll County let the contract to Kirkman Bros., of this city, for the grading of seven miles of road on the Wards Gap leading from the state line to the foot of the Orchard Gap. The contract price was \$14,884.63 for the grading. Work will begin immediately and be pushed to completion. At the same time contract was let for building the Green Brier road from Hillsville to Sylvania to a Pulaski concern for \$35,558. This road will give a connecting link with the nearest railroad station to Hillsville. The Wards Gap road will give an outlet to Mount Airy for a large territory in the Snake Creek and Laurel Fork section where quantities of produce are grown and must be brought to the Mount Airy markets.

Representatives of both companies were at Hillsville and stated that they would expect to employ local labor on the two jobs, thus furnishing employment to a large number of farmers who can work at spare times between their crop work.

It is stated that the county will have \$18,000 remaining to be spent on the Wards Gap and that the part to the foot of the mountain will be rock when it is graded. It was first planned to complete the road to the Danville Pike but later the money was divided with the Green Brier road and the completion of the Wards Gap road to the pike will have to wait until further appropriations can be secured. The money for this work is being supplied by the county and is a part of a fund that has been paid back to the county by the state on a former road debt where the county loaned the state money to build the Fancy Gap and Galax roads.

Mount Airy as an Example

S. P. U. Co. Magazine
The lead article in this month's Magazine is a keenly interesting story of what has happened in the progressive little city of Mount Airy during the first 12 months after the Southern Public Utilities Company purchased the electric distribution system of that town. The splendid record of development and growth which that town has enjoyed during these 12 months has been due not so much to the adequacy and high standard of electric service given as to the enterprise, alertness and capacity of the business men of the community. True, adequate electric service has made possible the further industrial growth, has stimulated the general growth of the community, but the new industrial and other development would not have come but for the efforts and spirit of the people of the town.

Mount Airy today has unusual potentialities for industrial and commercial growth. The business men of the town recognize these possibilities and their spirit, their aggressive ambition for their community, and their capacity and acumen as business men assure a continuous development which is going to make Mount Airy in the course of a few years an industrial and commercial center of outstanding proportions.

Family Reunion and Birthday Celebration

A reunion of the Blackburn family was held at the home of Lee Blackburn, near Lanesburg, Va., Sunday when relatives gathered from many points, about one hundred persons being present. Before dinner they visited the family graveyard and placed flowers on all the graves including that of Mrs. Lee Blackburn wife of the honoree. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Stewart and children, H. C. Blackburn, J. R. Blackburn and G. C. Blackburn and families, all of this city, Mrs. Darnell and son of Walnut Cove, and J. W. Monday and family of Roanoke, Va. Mr. Blackburn is 69 years old.

F. L. Smith has gone to the tobacco market at Belmont for a two months stay.

Mrs. Robert Garrison and children have returned to Raleigh after being the guest of Mrs. E. G. Smith.

Miss Nellie Smith of Pilot Mountain is visiting Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Davis this week.