



MERRY
XMAS
TO
ALL!

The Skyland Post

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VOLUME 15, NO. 51

\$2.00 a Year in Ashe County

WEST JEFFERSON, N. C., THURSDAY, DEC. 20, 1945

\$2.50 a Year Out of County

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

County Shivers Under Blanket Of Snow; Coal Shortage Acute Here

Bitter Cold Weather And Lack Of Fuel Makes Winter Keenly Felt

Tuesday, Ashe 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 temperature, which dropped to two above zero in some sections, made the weather particularly uncomfortable.

The acute coal shortage here has added to the discomfort of many. Travel and weather conditions have also made it practically impossible to secure any additional wood.

Coal dealers report that under the present system of allotment, there appears little relief in sight unless fuel officials can allot more to this county.

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 travel on the highways and to date, no serious accidents have been reported.

Highway conditions made it necessary to close down most of the schools on Tuesday.

Annual Rotary Party Tonight

Rotarymen Will Be Special Guests; Christmas Program Is Planned

The Jeffersons Rotary Club will hold its annual Christmas party tonight when Rotarymen will be special guests.

There will be gifts, a tree, and the regular Christmas banquet meal as well as an entertaining program. In spite of the severe winter weather, a good attendance is expected.

John S. Jordan, Cale McMillan and Levern Johnson will be in charge of the program. In addition to regular Christmas features, there will also be humorous parts, the committee members said.

In the absence of the scheduled speaker, last week, a report was heard from Wade E. Eller in regard to the proposed hotel site. A number of possible locations have been referred to the finance committee, it was stated.

Roy Badger also reported of the possibilities of securing a hosiery mill, which he, W. G. Vannoy and Glenn Graybeal are investigating.

COMMUNION TO BE AT ST. MARY'S SUNDAY

It was announced this week that Christmas communion would be held Sunday, December 23, at 11:00 a. m., at the St. Mary's Episcopal church at Beaver Creek. The Rev. W. C. Leach will be in charge of the services.

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

The office of The Skyland Post will be closed on 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 3,900 subscribers and to around 19,500 readers. To all of them, along with merchants, we again say, "Merry Christmas."

Wounded Vets Are Sent Gifts For Christmas

Legion And Auxiliary And Other Groups Send Gift Packages To Hospitals

Wounded veterans, who will spend Christmas in hospitals, are to be remembered by Ashe county people this year. Members of the local American Legion Post and Auxiliary have packed 60 boxes that are to be distributed to them on Christmas.

The packages include assorted gifts such as toilet articles, books, games and other gifts that can be used and enjoyed. These packages were completed some time ago and have already been sent to a distributing center.

The West Jefferson Woman's club has sent a number of cartons of cigarettes to Moore General Hospital to be given to veterans.

Nathan's Creek School To Reopen After Holidays

Will Use Gymnasium And Churches For Remainder Of Session

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, a well as a hope that a new building could be erected soon.

Jack D. Miller Is Given Promotion

Jack D. Miller, son of Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, has recently been promoted to the rank of Chief Petty Officer.

Jack, who has been in the navy for sometime, is spending a few days here with his mother and his wife.

Veterans To Get Claims On Mon.

Beach Keller, Supervising Interviewer of the USES, states that owing to the heavy unemployed claims load in Ashe county, that an office will be maintained at the Courthouse, Monday and Tuesday of each week.

Monday's schedule: Registration of both new veterans and new U. C. claimants, job referrals, information and counseling service to veterans pertaining to on job training, trade schools, college, information concerning the G. I. Bill of Rights, Civil Service openings, and other jobs. All new veterans and new U. C. claimants should contact the USES on this day as no new claims will be taken on Tuesday.

Tuesday's schedule: Taking of continued claims for veterans and U. C. claimants, and job referrals.

Sincere Christmas Greetings To Everyone . . . Everywhere!



Sale Of Victory Bonds In County Short Of Quota

Urged As Christmas Gifts; Around \$20,000 Still Is Needed To Reach Goal

While the sale of E bonds in the Victory Loan Drive has shown a slight increase in the past few days, latest reports show that the county is still around \$20,000 short of the quota of \$127,000.00.

This month will officially end the drive and for that reason it is important for the remainder of the quota to be raised at once.

Parents and others are urged to give bonds for Christmas and those receiving money are urged to invest it in bonds before the month ends.

This is the first time Ashe has fallen this far behind on the quota and it is hoped that individuals as well as special workers will make an extra effort to raise the quota during the closing days.

Tobacco farmers are again asked to invest the returns of their crops in Victory Bonds.

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.

Ashe Turkeys Sold On Christmas Mart Bring Record Price

Extensions For Bus Routes Are Approved In Ashe

Inspected By Representative Of Highway Division Last Week

A number of proposed extensions for school bus routes in Ashe county, previously turned down because of the unsafe condition of the roads, were approved last week by D. J. Dark, representative of the Highway Safety Division, who, together with superintendent of schools, B. H. Duncan, made the inspections.

The approval of these extensions will cut down the distance a number of children were previously forced to walk, which

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Draft Board To Close Dec. 22-25

Mrs. Louis J. Yelanjian, chief clerk of the local draft board, has announced this week that the draft board will remain closed December 22 through December 25. Although usually closed on Saturday, the board will be open on Saturday, December 29, to make up the day lost in the holidays.

Snow Is General In Western N. C.

Snow, which blanketed Ashe 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 West Jefferson yesterday and reported a snow-covered highway throughout his trip. He pointed out that there was very little difference in temperature or the 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, 1946.

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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Col. Glenn Nye Completes Work

Colonel Glenn C. Nye, of the U. S. Army Air Forces, who has been spending a few days here with his mother, Mrs. F. C. Nye, has recently completed the course at the Naval War College, Newport, R. I.

He will report to his new assignment at Headquarters First Air Force, Mitchell Field, N. Y.

He accompanied his mother to Shelby this week, where she will spend sometime with her daughter, Mrs. Ben Suttle and Mr. Suttle.

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 Ashe and Alleghany 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

Ashe county is expected 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. Both the Northwestern and the First National Banks will also be closed for 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.

In spite of hampered travel conditions, because of the weather and shortages in many lines of merchandise, local merchants re-

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.

Both Jefferson and West Jefferson reported some of the biggest days in history on both 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 mailing to assure delivery, many packages are still being mailed here. Packages have been sent from Ashe 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.

Miss Waddell, 88, Died On Monday

Funeral service was held yesterday morning at 11:00 o'clock for Miss Melvina Waddell, 88, of Grassy Creek who died on Monday. Rev. Claude Eastridge was in charge of the service. Burial followed in the family cemetery.

The deceased is survived by three brothers: Joseph, Robert, and Eugene, and one sister, Mrs. Irvin Graham, of Grassy Creek.

SCHOOLS OBSERVING EXTRA HOLIDAYS

The weather man, dealing out heavy snow, is giving Ashe county schools extra holidays this year since most of them are getting nearly two weeks instead of one, as it was originally announced.

Nathan's Creek school was closed last week because the building was destroyed by fire and Grassy Creek was also closed because of sickness. The others were scheduled to operate this week, however, and only be closed all next week for the Christmas holidays. Because of travel conditions, Riverview closed on Monday and most of the others did likewise on Tuesday with a few exceptions and these closed yesterday.

All schools, including Nathan's Creek, are scheduled to reopen on Monday, December 31, provided weather makes travel conditions safe.