

Merchants Prepared For Large Christmas Trade

Metal Toys, More Food, Clothing And Gift Goods Found On Shelves Now

While no official date was set by the Sylva Merchants Association for a Christmas opening, Sylva merchants have virtually completed plans for their own unofficial opening. Most of the stores have their stocks on display and their decorations up.

Anticipating a large demand for goods, they have been busy this fall and have secured a sizable amount of merchandise, in many cases substituting a new line for goods generally carried and unavailable at this time.

A great many articles not seen during the war years are making their reappearance on the shelves and it is the consensus of toy dealers that this year's toys are far superior to those of last year. The war influence is still seen in the construction of the toys; jeeps, invasion tanks, guns, planes and toys of this kind being predominant on the shelves. With the return of metal toys, the quality has advanced until there is little chance of them being destroyed the first week after Christmas.

Men's wearing apparel is being released in quantities enough that most men can expect to find at least one package under the tree.

Housewives, in their constant search for a variety of food, will find that groceries, long conspicuous by their absence, can now be found in small quantities. The meat situation, having eased up some, now permits a turkey or in some cases a ham. Fruits are plentiful and nuts are in sufficient quantity to allow some for every stocking.

Merchants are again asking that the "buy early" plan be observed as it allows them time to replenish depleted stocks.

State School Worker Will Be With Sylva Schools December 10

Miss Rosalie Andrews of Raleigh, North Carolina Educational Field Worker, will be in Sylva December 10, to hold a leadership school that will include all people of the teaching profession in the counties of Jackson, Haywood, Macon and Swain. The meeting will be held in the Elementary school building at 4 p. m., to adjourn later to the school cafeteria where dinner will be served.

All superintendents, principals, officers and committee chairmen of the local North Carolina Educational units are urged to attend.

Dr. and Mrs. A. S. Nichols are leaving today for Chester, S. C. to spend Thanksgiving with their daughter, Mrs. Odell Bankhead, and son, Dr. G. C. Nichols, and their families.

Plans Are Made To Launch Rural Development Program

A series of eleven district meetings will be held throughout North Carolina to discuss both the needs and the opportunities for rural industries in each section of the state, utilizing the raw materials in each county, as well as the surplus labor, and the available financial resources in each section of the state. The meeting which will cover the counties of Jackson, Swain, Graham, Macon, Cherokee and Clay will be held at Bryson City December 4 and will convene at 10:30 a. m. No meeting place as yet has been selected.

Each meeting will have a keynote speaker who will cover the subject of rural industries in general, and other prominent men have been selected to discuss such subjects as Forestry, Repair Services, Processing and Marketing of Agricultural Products, Livestock, Dairying and Poultry, and Minerals. The speakers are well qualified on the subjects they will discuss.

FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR BAND SEEKS TO COMPLETE FUND DRIVE

The committee for raising funds for the Sylva high school band is anxious to complete the drive as quickly as possible and is calling on the citizens and business establishments of the community who have not made their contributions to do so at once. The finance committee is composed of Dr. Roy Kirchberg, chairman; W. J. Fisher, Phil Stovall, R. U. Sutton, Charlie Reed and Harry Ferguson. Any one of this committee will be glad to receive your contribution.

Those who have made contributions to the band fund are: Ernest Lewis, Charlie Bumgarner, Sylva Tire Company, Harris Clay Company, Dillsboro and Sylva Power Company, Belk's Department store, A. J. Dills, David Karp, Roger Monteith, Rudy Hardy, Lawrence T. Reed, Ben Lessing, Sylva Pharmacy, Sossamon Furniture Company, Schulman's Department Store, Kirk-Davis Chevrolet Co., J. T. Bird, Campbell Electric Co., E. L. McKee, Sylva Laundry, Hale's Department Store, Hedden's Barber Shop, Velt's Cafe, Reece-Hampton Motor Co., Dr. Harold S. McGuire, W. C. Hennessee Lumber Co., Cannon Brothers, Chamber of Commerce, Frank G. Brown, Builders Supply and Lumber Co., J. E. Buckner, Massie Furniture Co., S. W. Enloe and Son, Jack Allison, Howard Allison, George Painter, Sylva Coal and Lumber Co., Moore's Cleaners, Hooper Motor Co., Cogdill Motor Company, Jackson County Board of Education, Dr. D. D. Hooper, Stovall 5 and 10 store, Buchanan Auto and Electric Co., Sylva Rotary Club, Sylva Woman's Club, Southern Lumber Company, and Dr. Roy Kirchberg.

Sylva Observing Thanksgiving In Traditional Pay

Sylva and Jackson county are observing Thanksgiving Day today in the traditional way with the general suspension of business, in order that employers and employees alike can go visiting or spend the day with their families. Early morning worship services started the day, followed with the usual table banked high with turkey, or maybe chicken, and all the other food things to round out a big holiday meal. Turkeys were in much demand for today's meal as the price range was no higher, or if as high as some other meats, being the same as fat hens.

The annual football game between Sylva's Golden Hurricanes and Bryson City is to be played on the local field this afternoon at 2:30. A close game is expected between the two rivals of the gridiron.

Plans Are Made To Launch Rural Development Program

Such industries and services will create more jobs, increase the per capita earning power, raise the standard of living, decrease the exodus of labor from the state, utilize the available financial resources in the state, and thereby contribute to the stabilization of the farm population, and make North Carolina a much better balanced state from an economic standpoint.

Each of the eleven district meetings will be attended by representatives of all agencies that are primarily concerned with community development, by civic leaders, job officials, farm organizations, Chamber of Commerce. All individual citizens interested in community and county development are urged to attend. General plans for the series of meetings are being worked out through the Operating Committee, and the administration of the program is under the direction of the Rural Industries branch.

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Old Fashioned THANKSGIVING



Fall Over Cliff Is Fatal To Smith Boy

Cecil Clyde Smith, 16, was fatally injured Friday when he slipped and fell from a 150 foot cliff at Tuckaseegee, near the home of Will Smith. The accident occurred around 3:30 Thursday afternoon and he was brought to the C. J. Harris Hospital in Sylva but succumbed early Saturday morning. Death was attributed to a fractured skull.

It is reported that the boy, with his fourteen year old brother, Troy, and a cousin, Sammy Hunnicutt, had been playing at the cliff, when his foot slipped and he plunged over. His cousin remained with him, while his brother went to summons help. Dan Hunnicutt arrived at the scene twenty minutes later and found him unconscious.

Cecil, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher Smith of Ayden, N. C. was visiting with his parents and brother at Tuckaseegee. He was a native of Swain county, but had moved with his parents to Ayden four years ago. The body was taken to Ayden Sunday, where funeral services were held in the Baptist church. Burial was in the church cemetery.

In addition to his parents and brother he is survived by two sisters, Eva and Violet, also of Ayden.

Sylva FFA Department Paying For Truck By Collecting Scrap Paper

Mr. John Corbin, Agriculture Instructor of Sylva High school and the boys of his Future Farmers of America class have collected 10,000 pounds of scraps cardboard and heavy paper which they have sold to Mead Corporation to raise funds for carrying on the work of the department. The truck which the FFA class uses is being paid for in this way. Mr. Paul Ellis, general manager of Mead, a former FFA student himself, is fully in sympathy with the work the class is doing and has been most helpful in buying their scrap paper. This was started as an emergency project and proved so profitable that it is being carried on.

The class is now busy repairing chairs to assist in operation of the school.

Several of the members of the class are buying purebred animals; Fred McLean, Jr. recently purchased a purebred Guernsey bull from Clemson College. Allen Fisher and Morris Allison each purchased a purebred O. I. C. gilt for breeding purposes. The new truck is used to transport these animals and other similar activities with the department.

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"AN OLD FASHIONED Thanksgiving," we hope that is just what this day will be for all our readers and friends in Jackson county: Thanksgiving day is a designated for giving of thanks for the earth's abundance and the goodness of God. Our county and Nation have evidence of both as our crops have made big yields and God has blessed us all in so many ways. Yes, in sending the rain and sunshine to produce our crops, and in giving us good health and strength to make them and gather them into our barns and cribs. Now on this Day set aside to give thanks to God for these many blessings, we can sit down in peace and enjoy them with our families and friends.

No other land on earth has more reason to be thankful than does America... we are not faced with hunger, starvation, nakedness, pestilence.

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POLLING PLACES ARE NAMED FOR A. A. COMMITTEE ELECTION

The annual election of the Jackson county committee will be held December 7th, and a schedule of polling places has been announced by D. C. Higdon, chairman of the county agricultural conservation (AAA) committee.

Farmers in each community will elect a committee of three farmers, plus two alternates, and at the same time, a farmer delegate to the county convention will be chosen. This man, with delegates from other communities, will elect a three-man county committee on Dec. 9th, 1946.

Nominating meetings will be held at 9 o'clock on the morning of Dec. 7th in the fifteen communities and the polls will be open from 9:30 a. m. until 5 p. m. for voting.

The fifteen communities and their voting places are as follows: Qualla township, Qualla school; Barkers Creek township, Lewis Davis store; Caney Fork township, Luther Phillips store; Canada township, Wolf Mountain Postoffice; River township, E. L. Lanning's store; Cullowhee township, Cullowhee postoffice; Sylva township, AAA office; Dillsboro township, Dillsboro Postoffice; Webster township, Paul Cowan's store; Scotts Creek township, W. O. Robinson's store; Greens Creek township, Savannah school; Savannah township,

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Cowan Funeral Held Tuesday

Funeral services for Lawrence D. Cowan, 76, who died at his home in Webster Sunday at 6:55 following an illness of several months, was held at the Webster Baptist church Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock with the Rev. W. N. Cook, Rev. F. N. Blankenship and Rev. Thad F. Deitz in charge of the rites.

The body was taken to the church at 1:30 and lay in state until the funeral hour. Burial followed in the Stillwell cemetery.

Mr. Cowan, a native of this county, was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cowan. He was long associated with the affairs of his community and was an active member of the Baptist church, of which he was chairman of the board of deacons. He had also served on the school board for a number of years.

Active pallbearers were Roy Paul, Dan and Claude Cowan, Roy Rhinehart, John Hyatt, Jr., Alvin and Bert Hyatt, all nephews of the deceased.

Honorary pallbearers were Dr. R. W. Kirchberg, Dr. Grover Wilkes, D. C. Higdon, V. G. Middleton, John H. Norris, Ernest Lewis, Ernest Penland, Sr., George Rogers, John B. Cunningham, Thad Farmer, A. J. Dills, J. E. Buckner, J. N. and W. H. Cowan, Ransom Cowan, E. P. and E. H. Stillwell, and Frank Allman.

Nieces of Mr. Cowan served as flower girls.

He is survived by the widow, Mrs. Roxie Hyatt Cowan; one daughter, Mildred, of Webster, and two sisters, Mrs. J. W. Kesterson of Jacksonville, Fla. and Mrs. W. R. Sherrill of Sylva.

Mrs. M. Zachary Passes In Washington

Mrs. D. D. Hooper received a message Tuesday morning informing her that her sister, Mrs. Maggie Zachary, had died in Everett, Washington Monday, November 25. Funeral services were held there on Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. Zachary was the daughter of the late Richard M. and Hicks Wilson. A native of Jackson county, she went to Washington more than forty years ago and has made her home there since, having made one trip back to her old home 29 years ago.

She is survived by two sons and two daughters, all living in Washington, one brother, J. H. Wilson, Sylva; and two sisters, Mrs. J. W. Keener and Mrs. D. D. Hooper, Sylva.

Mrs. E. E. Brown and Mrs. Theodore Dills spent Sunday in Forest City, visiting friends.

Survey Reveals Coal Supply Here Inadequate Under Normal Conditions

WORLD WAR 1 VET, HELD WEDNESDAY

Well-Known Pharmacist Passes Sunday Night At Veterans' Hospital

Funeral services for Dr. Gilbert K. Bess, 50, well-known Sylva pharmacist, who died suddenly Sunday night in the Veterans' hospital at Johnson City, Tenn., were held Wednesday morning at 11 o'clock in the Sylva Methodist church, of which he was a member. Rev. W. Q. Grigg, pastor, and Rev. C. M. Warren, pastor of the Sylva Baptist church, officiated.

Mr. Bess, a native of Virginia, came to Sylva 25 years ago and has since been connected with the Sylva Pharmacy, having bought an interest in the firm several years ago. He was a public-spirited citizen, always interested in all civic movements for the improvement of the town and county. He was a veteran of World War I.

Pallbearers were Tom Wilson, Sam Allison, Raymond Glenn, Felix Picklesimer, Hugh Monteith and Fred Hooper.

Flowerbearers were members of the Sunday school classes of the Methodist church.

The American Legion was in charge of the graveside rites.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Verona Hooper Bess; two daughters, Mrs. Leo Cowan and Miss Barbara Bess; a son, Gilbert, Jr., all of Sylva; two granddaughters; two brothers, Howard H. Bess of New York City, and O. L. Bess of Front, Va.

Sylva Students Are Getting Out School Paper

The students of the Sylva Central High school are taking keen interest in the publication of a monthly paper. Backed by Mr. Crawford's support, enthusiasm and regular front page articles, this infant paper has grown to an eleven page issue for November. Members of the Senior class in Sociology, with Douglas Jordan as editor, have worked hard to make it a creditable publication.

The stencils are being cut and the sheets are mimeographed by Miss Agnes Henson and her Business Education classes. All departments of the school work on this cooperative project. Reporters have been chosen from each home room and are doing an excellent job. Mrs. Donnahoe's new Art class contributes illustrations regularly and the comic strip is drawn by Ted Shepherd, a student in the eighth grade of the Elementary school.

Some communities in North Carolina are advertising for medical doctors, using the classified columns.

Clerk of Court Will Swear New Officials Into Office

Next Monday will see a change in several of the officer holders of Jackson county when those elected in the November 5th general election are sworn into office by Clerk of Court. The swearing in ceremony will be public, anyone wishing to attend is privileged to do so. There will be no frills to the occasion, however, as the Clerk reads the oath of office to them in-going officer holders and they swear to uphold the laws of the county, state and nation and to perform the duties required of them.

Those to take the oath are, the Clerk of Court, who takes the oath before the county Coroner, and he in turn administers the oath to Sheriff Griffin Middleton, Commissioner of Finance, Jennings A. Bryson, board members, Ed Fisher and M. V. Breedlove, Register of Deeds Glenn Hughes, Coroner C. W. Dills and Surveyor Roger Coward.

Belonged Strike Would Cause Suffering And Hardship Among People

A survey of the coal situation in Sylva reveals that only a few homes and business places have sufficient coal supplies to carry them through the winter. One coal dealer stated they had stopped booking orders before the strike began because of a large backlog of orders amounting to 185 tons or more, and now that the strike is on they do not expect to receive any more coal. This means that many homes and business places will soon be found without sufficient fuel to keep their places comfortable should the temperature take a sudden drop. The unseasonable warm weather is helping the situation at this time, but high temperatures are not likely to last much longer.

The coal dealers here informed a Herald representative that Sylva has not been allowed any more coal this winter than last, and that last year's allotment was far below the actual need. The demand is much greater this year as many new buildings have been constructed which require heat, as well as more families occupying the present homes.

The one bright spot in the picture is the fact that our main industries, Mead and Armour, have sufficient coal stock to carry them for some time, and they will be able to continue operation. Many industrial plants in the state and nation are facing shut-down due to lack of coal.

Mr. Moses, superintendent of Jackson county schools, says that all schools have enough coal to carry them through February or probably longer, depending on the severity of the weather.

Western Carolina Teachers College will be able to carry on for some time by careful use of its supply, officials stated this week.

How long the present coal strike will last no one knows. The Government and United Mine Union's boss, John L. Lewis, are sparring it out in Washington as this time as to the legality of the strike. However, this is not getting coal mined and some way must be found to get the nation's 400,000 miners back in the pits soon if real suffering and economic loss is to be averted.

ROGER JACOBS HURT IN FREAK ACCIDENT

Roger Jacobs, 22, of Sylva, is in the C. J. Harris hospital, following a severe knife wound in the abdomen, suffered in an accident while butchering hogs at Cullowhee last Friday.

It is reported that Jacobs and a friend were on a platform when his companion, who had placed a knife in his hip pocket, jumped. Jacobs jumped at about the same time and landed in such a manner that the protruding knife pierced the walls of his stomach.

MORE DOCTORS NEEDED

Medical experts declare that North Carolina's number one need is good health and that the problem demands immediate attention. More doctors must be had in rural areas, say the experts.