

# THE NEWS-RECORD

NON-PARTISAN IN POLITICS

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## EDITORIAL

### THE HIGHWAY DECISION

The U. S. Bureau of Public Roads Friday approved the Pigeon River Route as part of the interstate highway system from North Carolina to Tennessee. North Carolina Highway Commission Chairman A. H. Graham says additional construction on the route may be undertaken soon.

After years of controversy over which route should be designated—the Pigeon or the French Broad—the matter now seems to be settled. We hope the officials who made the final decision have given both routes adequate consideration from all standpoints. We feel certain that those who will benefit by the Pigeon River Route are more than delighted over the decision.

We would also like to make it quite clear that the people along the French Broad Route are not and were not "against" the Pigeon River Route because of selfishness or lack of area progress. We were, and still are, of the opinion that such a highway could be built down the French Broad Route at considerably less cost and shorter mileage. Until the announcement was made last week, officials had told us that the cost would be "entirely too great" down the French Broad. Now, after the decision has been made they let it be known that the Pigeon River Route will cost \$33,774,883. They also have stated that the road constructed down the French Broad would have been \$33,520,609.

THEY HAVE DESIGNATED A ROAD WHICH WILL COST \$254,274 MORE THAN THE FRENCH BROAD.

North Carolina's cost for construction of the Pigeon River Route is estimated at \$17,849,720. North Carolina's construction cost down the French Broad Route is estimated at \$15,565,308.

THEY HAVE DESIGNATED A ROAD WHICH WILL COST NORTH CAROLINA \$2,284,412 MORE THAN THE FRENCH BROAD ROUTE.

The Pigeon River Route will be 81.37 miles in length as compared with 72.61 miles if the French Broad Route had been designated.

THEY HAVE DESIGNATED A ROAD WHICH WILL BE 9 MILES LONGER.

According to the highway officials, we were absolutely right in our arguments during the years of controversy. Factors other than cost and mileage caused engineers to give the nod to the Pigeon River route. Here is what Chief Engineer W. H. Rogers gave as the reasons for the choice. The Pigeon route would be "of greater value" when such factors as grades, alignment, generated traffic, elevation, service to the Smoky Mountains National Park and "over all value to the traveling public." He also said "time of construction" was an important factor. He said the Pigeon River Route can be built much quicker and get it ready for traffic much sooner.

We don't want to sound like "poor losers," but we do ask the public to weigh these factors against the cost and mileage factors and see why we were astounded at the decision of the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads.

If they had told us years ago that the cost and mileage didn't have anything to do with it and that the decision was going to be down the Pigeon regardless of what it cost the taxpayers, it would have saved a great deal of time, fact-finding, and expense.

We were told by State Highway officials that the French Broad Route was "practically impossible" for the highway. Now they finally say it could be built FOR LESS than the Pigeon River Route.

As far as the new highway leading people to the Smoky Mountains National Park on a "shortcut through North Carolina," we must admit that the Pigeon is the most logical route. In our opinion, however, the proposed new highway will channel people away from Asheville rather than to Asheville; will seriously hurt established tourist courts at Hot Springs and Asheville and will lessen the business in Madison and Buncombe Counties millions of dollars annually. Tourists coming from the north, headed for Florida, and other southern states can now "gas up" in Tennessee, enjoy a portion of North Carolina and the Smoky Mountains National Park and head right into Georgia, without spending a night or refilling with gasoline, if they choose.

We were under the wrong impression, it seems, as to designating the merits of the two routes. After all, it wasn't cost and mileage at all — it was "over all value to the traveling public."

We plead with the State Highway Department to let us have a better road from Asheville to the Tennessee line, via Marshall and Hot Springs. We, in Madison County, also believe we have beautiful scenery, adequate tourist facilities and are the direct gateway into Asheville—North Carolina's greatest tourist city.

We have no "axes to grind" with the fine people of Haywood County. They have long needed a highway to Tennessee. We congratulate them on their unified efforts in building the interstate highway and are glad that the road finally has been made. We are just a bit puzzled, however, as to the reasons for the final decision.

## MARS HILL

### HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB

The Home Demonstration Club met Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Grace Owen with Mrs. Hal Carter, co-hostess. Mrs. Ramsey's demonstration is to feature pictures and picture framing. A report will be given of the recent District Meeting held at Bald Creek, at which time Mrs. Alfred Huff was installed as president. There is to be a report also of the Western District planning meeting held at the Manor in Asheville.

### ON "THE HILL"

Mrs. Rosa Lee Redmon has gone to Miami, Fla., to spend some time with her daughter, Mrs. Boyd Ayers and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bennett and two children and Mr. Bennett's mother, Mrs. H. Bennett, all of Jacksonville, Fla., visited relatives here and at Beech Glen last week-end.

Mrs. E. W. Castelle and two little sons, of Aulander, are spending some time here with her mother, Mrs. K. B. Murray.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Edwards, who had been in St. Petersburg, Fla., for several months, returned last Friday to their home here. They were accompanied by their brother-in-law, Mr. H. B. Brown, who visited his parents here over the week-end.

Mrs. J. W. Tolley left Sunday to accompany her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Avery Tolley, of Asheville, on a trip to Florida.

Pvt. Hal Buckner left Monday to return to Fort Knox after a few days' final visit home before leaving for duty in Germany.

Other visitors home over the week-end were Miss Barbara Gail Anderson, from WOC, Cullowhee; Miss Patty Lou George, from Winston-Salem; and Mr. J. C. Ponder, from Winston-Salem.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Bryan, who spent the winter in Detroit with their children, have returned to their home here.

## HOT SPRINGS

A large number attended the dedication service of the Methodist Church Sunday afternoon. Dennis Church presented the church for dedication. Three members of the church were present: Rev. Mr. Green, pastor; Rev. Mr. Z. V. Anderson, also the present pastor, the Rev. Mr. Jack Alber, Out-of-town guests, Rev. and Mrs. R. N. Barber of Marshall; Judge and Mrs. Weaver of Asheville. The message was delivered by Dr. Fitzgerald, District Supervisor. The church was beautifully decorated with ferns, redbuds and gladioli.

The Friendship Club met with Mrs. Paul McFall and Mrs. E. B. Sumerel at the home of Mrs. Sumerel, Friday, April 13. Seventeen members were present. Plans were discussed for making linen for the clinic.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Moore of Marshall were visiting relatives here last week-end.

Miss Carolyn Puryear is a patient in a Newport, Tenn., hospital at this time.

Mr. and Mrs. John Gorenflo, Mr. Troy Harrison and Sydney Harrison visited Mr. and Mrs. Charles Foster and new son at Bluff City, Tenn., last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sumerel and family of White Pine, Tenn., were week-end visitors here.

Work has been started on decorating and remodeling a club house. This is a project of the Women's Civic Club.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Broyles and son of Asheville, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Hoke Reeves last Sunday. They also attended the dedication of the Methodist church.

The Young Adult Class of the Baptist Church attended a business meeting and social at the home of Mrs. J. C. Bridgeman last Saturday night. Fifteen members were present. Mrs. Bridgeman was assisted by Mrs. Kate Zuber.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Foster are spending this week in Asheville with their grandson, Bobby Foster, who underwent surgery last Sunday.

### Business Club Alumni

#### To Meet At Mars Hill Saturday

#### Hill Saturday

The Business Club Alumni Association of Mars Hill College will hold its 18th annual meeting at Mars Hill Saturday at 4:30 p. m.

After a business meeting, at the opening session, the former business honor students will have a banquet at 6:30 p. m., and a reception at 8 p. m.

Robert S. Wiggins, general sales representative of International Business Machines, will be the featured speaker at the

### MEMBER OF BEREA CHOIR



DONALD FOX

Donald Fox, son of Mr. and Mrs. Furman Fox of Route 1, Mars Hill, is a member of the Berea College Chapel Choir which goes to Washington, D. C., and will sing in the Constitution Hall with the Marine Band as an accompanist. The choir will also sing at several places on the road as well as this concert in Washington.

### With Our Boys In Service

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Andernach, Germany — Sergeant First Class Claude B. Dellinger, 36, whose wife, Marian, lives at 640 Cherry St., Hendersonville, is an artillery instructor with the German Training Assistance Group in Andernach, German.

Sergeant Dellinger is helping instruct basic trainees of the German Army in the use of U. S. equipment offered under the new Mutual Defense Assistance Program for Germany.

Dellinger, son of Mrs. Clara Dellinger Route 1, Alexander, entered the Army in 1940 and has been awarded the Purple Heart, Bronze Star Medal, and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal. The sergeant arrived overseas on this tour of duty in February 1955.

### ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED



MR. AND MRS. SAM LEDFORD of Waynesville, RFD 4, announce the engagement of their daughter, Virginia Dare, to Don Plemmons, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Plemmons of Spring Creek. A June wedding is planned.

—Cut Courtesy Citizen-Times

### Flats Of Spring Creek Church News

(Too Late For Last Week)

The Rev. Coleman Caldwell filled his regular appointment at church Sunday morning and remained until after Training Union Sunday night. We are having a nice attendance at our Training Union and all seem to take an interest in the studies. The cold weather and sickness have kept some from attending. We hope to see more attend as the weather gets better.

We were glad to have Miss Betty Fleming back in church Sunday. She returned recently from a hospital.

Mr. Jack Joyce made an interesting talk after the Training Union program. He spoke on the value of prayer.

### Schedule Of Home Demonstration Clubs in County

WEEK OF APRIL 23 - 28  
Monday, April 23—Ebbs Chapel.  
Tuesday, April 24 — Bull Creek—Mrs. Kyker; Mrs. Gay Merrill.  
Wednesday, April 25 — Walnut

Mrs. R. R. Ramsey.  
Thursday, April 26 — Hot Springs—Mrs. Bridgeman.  
Friday, April 27 — Forks of Ivy—Mrs. Cora Marshbanks.  
Saturday, April 28 — 4-H County Council — Court House.

Saturday, April 28 — District 4-H Club meeting at Clyde Erwin High School in Buncombe County.

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Nylon CURTAINS — criss-crossed — all Nylon Size 42x90 — SPECIAL **2.44**

One rack of Ladies' Summer DRESSES — Cotton and Nylon — values to 5.95 — broken sizes **2.44**

Ladies' Cotton SLIPS — sanforized — Sizes 33 to 44 **88c**

BARGAIN TABLE — Boys' SHIRTS, PANTS, Ladies' BLOUSES — Men's HOUSE SHOES Children's TENNIS SHOES, etc. **1.00**

Ladies' NYLON HOSE — first quality — new light shades — 51 or 60 gauge, 15 denier **67c**

Clearance on balance of Ladies Spring TOPPERS and SUITS — broken sizes, all one price **7.99**

One counter of Men's OXFORDS and LOAFERS Values to 8.95 — broken sizes **4.66**

COTTON PRINT — fast color — Buy several yards of this at a great saving **29c a yd.** Or 4 Yards for \$1.00

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