

THE WAYNESVILLE MOUNTAINEER

Volume XXXVIII Numbers 46-47

WAYNESVILLE, HAYWOOD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23-30, 1926.

\$2.00 a Year in Advance, \$2.50 if not so Paid

WRAP CAREFULLY AND BUY Christmas Seals



LEGEND OF THE POINSETTIA

Asheville Times.
Written by the late Mrs. J. C. Canty of Galveston, and contributed by her daughter, Mrs. A. M. Beville of Waynesville.

The writer is very much indebted to Mrs. Annie McIntosh Beville for contribution to this Department for the beautiful Legend of the Poinsettia which she has preserved for many years, it being a literary production of her mother, the late Mrs. Ruth M. Canty of Galveston. Mrs. Beville, who has been a resident of North Carolina for many years, herself a Georgian by birth, is greatly in love with things literary which pertain to the life of our own Southland. She inherited the taste for the beautiful in the world of language. She has given to this work several poems of considerable merit among her best being:

"The Violet," "Twilight Time," "When Autumn Struts Her Stuff."

For those who have been interested in the various songs, stories, poems and legends which have been deemed suitable material for this Department, I wish to express my appreciation to Mrs. Beville for these contributions and for the preservation of the beautiful Legend of the Poinsettia, which was discovered in 1828 by J. Robert Poinsett, himself a native of the Carolinas.

"Legend of the Poinsettia"
The plant in appearance is a mass of long, slender stems surrounded by large, blood red blooms.

The singular part about these apparently gorgeous flowers is that they are not flowers at all, but only the curl of leaves, that without rhyme or reason have suddenly taken to themselves a glory that comes why and how no man can say. The legend runneth thus:

Many long years ago, before the poinsettia received the name by which we know it as their Christmas flower, and attaining its perfection near the great feast of the nativity it is used in quantities to decorate the churches and chapels. Not always did the plant bear on its red-like canes heads of brilliant bloom, for once it was a common weed, having as a flower only little bunch of yellow pods that these days form the center of the splendid "Christmas rose."

The special Christmas-tide, at which the poinsettia received its crown of glory, was fast approaching and the faithful in all the land were preparing to pay homage to the nativity of Christ.

Every church had a nook where loving hands had built a crib and placed therein an image of an infant to make as realistic as possible the memory of the birth supernal.

All through the hours of this eve of the blessed day the streets of a Mexican town were filled with eager worshippers, who bore masses of fragrant flowers to deck the sacred edifices, children followed their elders, carrying their sweet offerings to lay before the crib. They could not give too much devotion to the Christ child, for was it not on his birthday that the good saint, patron of all children, came and brought gifts and joy to those who had been good, or tried to be, in the long year just gone? So many bright eyes and flushed, happy faces were there! But at the end of the town, where the street lost itself in the miserable, gloom where dwelt the very poor, one little heart was heavy with sorrow and two soft black eyes were dim with tears that would not be stayed.

Early in the day a little girl, poorly dressed, timidly entered a church and while she knelt she watched with eager eyes those who dressed the crib with the offerings

AGED MINISTER DIES SUDDENLY

Rev. John P. Yorboro, Father of Local Woman, Is Stricken With Heart Trouble.

Winlock (Wash.) News.

The Rev. John P. Yorboro, aged 74, father of Mrs. Ray Sweeney of Winlock, was stricken suddenly with heart trouble at his home at Napavine last Friday evening. The aged pastor died while preparing a sermon which he was to have preached Sunday. He had been a resident of Lewis county since 1904 and at one time was pastor of the local Baptist church. Since leaving here he had always been a frequent visitor. Mr. and Mrs. Yorboro celebrated their golden wedding anniversary two years ago. In addition to the widow six children survive, Marion Yorboro of Olympia, Mrs. Ed Boardman of Hoquiam, Mrs. Eddie Aldrich of Roseburg, Ore.; Mrs. Ray Sweeney of Winlock, Mrs. Carl Miller of Waynesville, N. C., and Mrs. B. M. Brown of Sylva N. C. One son died in youth.

John Pinkney Yorboro was born at Waynesville, N. C., November 5, 1853. He was married to Margaret Kilby on October 15, 1874. Mr. Yorboro had been a member of the Baptist church from the time he was 16 years old and he had been in the ministry for more than 40 years. His last regular pastorate was held in Arizona, where he went on account of the ill health of his wife. In later years he withdrew from active work. He was supply pastor at Gate, Wash., at the time of his death.

The funeral was held Sunday afternoon from the local Baptist church, with Rev. A. J. Pierce, local pastor, and Rev. J. T. Cowly of Napavine assisting, and with the Rev. Mr. Godwin of Chehalis preaching the funeral sermon. Funeral arrangements were in charge of Cattermoles of this city, with burial in the local cemetery.

Among those visiting Asheville last Thursday were: Mesdames W. L. Hardin, S. T. Neal, C. M. Dicus, J. R. Thomas, J. P. Dicus, E. L. Withers, Mrs. Thackston, R. H. Blackwell, T. L. Gwynn, J. H. Way, Jr., Bess Penny, Misses Jean West, Jane Love Mitchell and Diana Black.



Mrs. E. L. McKee, of Sylva, President of the North Carolina Federation of Women's Club Buying the First Christmas Seals in the 1926 Campaign from Her Little Niece, Alice Dills Weaver.

The annual sale of Christmas Seals has enlisted always the interest and hearty co-operation of North Carolina Club Women. The approaching Yuletide season brings again the opportunity of taking an active part in the splendid work which the Christmas Seal represents. Indeed, the 1926 campaign holds a special appeal to women, as the work this year will be centralized on children.

Three hundred thousand undernourished school children in North Carolina, and each one of them a prey to and a carrier of every communi-

cable disease! This astounding fact arouses us to the necessity of immediate action. What a wonderful, what a blessed thing it is that through the Christmas Seal Sale we have at hand the means for relieving, in a large measure, this distressing situation.

Three-fourths of the proceeds from the sales are retained for local use, providing fresh milk and hot lunches for these school children in order that they may be brought up to the proper standards of health. The amount you have to spend on the children in your own community depends

solely on the gross amount of your contributions—in other words, upon your own faith.

Club women, this is a golden opportunity to serve those little ones, and in their name I urge you to put your best efforts into the 1926 campaign for the sale of Christmas seals.

GERTRUDE DILLS MCKEE,
President North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs,
Sylva, North Carolina,
December 2nd, 1926.

LETTERS TO SANTA CLAUS

Clyde, N. C., Dec. 14, 1926.

Dear Santa Claus:

I am a little girl nine years old and in the third grade.

I have been a good girl and helped my mama so maybe you will come to see me. I want a little doll bed and trunk and a toy stove, some candy, nuts, oranges, bananas and a pine apple.

Now Santa you must come in the front door as our chimney is too small for you to come down.

Your little girl,
BERTHA JANE TOWLES.

Waynesville, N. C., Dec. 13, 1926.

Dear Santa Claus:

I'm a little girl eight years old, going to school. I want you to bring me a big doll, set of dishes, a kitchen cabinet, a stove, doll bed and doll carriage, a ring, story book, candy, oranges, bananas. Bring anything else Santa you will bring. Don't forget the other little girls and boys. I will be good until you get here.

SAMMIE PENLAND.

Waynesville, N. C., Dec. 13, 1926.

Dear Santa Claus:

I'm a little girl four years old. I want you to please bring me a tricycle, doll and bed, dishes, kitchen cabinet, story books with A. B. C. on them, story book and don't forget my little baby sister, and don't forget we are at grandmother Penland's and fill her stocking, too.

I will be a good little girl.

LENA JOE FERGUSON.

Miss Nancy Crockett, a student at Montreat, is spending Christmas with her parents, Rev. and Mrs. S. R. Crockett.

RATCLIFF COVE CLIPPINGS

The year nineteen hundred and twenty-six is drawing to a close and goes down in history as a whole one of the prosperous years in decades. We have not been visited by any serious epidemics. The agricultural interests have been blessed with an abundant crop on all products of the farm and as condition as they now exist if the people will use good judgment and economy there is plenty stored away to carry them through another year without going somewhere else for their home supplies, thus enabling them to lay up something for a rainy day, and in case of emergency, it is true, some sections of our country have been visited by storms and floods, carrying much destruction of property and loss of life, while we as people of the mountain section through the well directed hand of an alwise providence, we have not been visited by any serious calamities. All of which we as a people should be thankful and render unto Him due reverence in recognizing His manifold blessings that He has granted unto us.

We are now entering into another Christmas holiday and we as a Christian nation should realize the great importance of this event when the greatest proclamation that was ever delivered to the human race, "Peace on Earth and good will to men" and we as a people should celebrate this event in a manner befitting the solemnity of the occasion, when the great sacrifice was made to redeem fallen humanity.

Congress has met in accordance to the requirements of the constitution. The president has sent in his annual message. While it does not meas-

ure up to the standard of some of his predecessors, he touches on most important questions and offers some timely suggestions which we think would be well for the Congress to seriously consider from a more partisan standpoint and quibble the time away in minor matters which would not benefit the people as a whole.

Sherely Francis was taken to the Meiwatner hospital at Asheville last week where he underwent a very serious operation of the head. It seemed for several days there was very little hope of his recovery, but at last report his chances were very hopeful.

Mr. Horace V. Francis who holds a position in the Government hospital at Oteen is spending a few days at home.

Wishing the Mountaineer and all its readers a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.
SAGE.

TUESDAY BRIDGE CLUB MET

Mrs. Margaret Holland was charming hostess to the Tuesday Bridge club at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Francis. The home was artistically decorated with holly wreaths at the windows and vases of holly and mistletoe. Attractive Christmas tallies were presented the guests.

After several progressions the prize was won by Mrs. J. Hayes Alley, which was a dainty handkerchief.

Mrs. Holland, assisted by her sister, Mrs. Penny, served a tempting salad course.

Those playing were: Mesdames J. Hayes Alley, John Swift, Jr., Margaret Holland, Tom Lee, Jr., Misses Elizabeth Smathers, Janie Reeves, Jane Love Mitchell and Dorothy Thomas.

MAIL EARLY AND BUY Christmas Seals



SOME SAFETY THOUGHTS FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

The Christmas season, that period of the year when joy and happiness should reign supreme and gladness never be dimmed by accident or adversity, is now knocking at our doors and will be here almost before we are ready for it.

At this time, before we enter into the preparation for the holidays and before the time we will be permitted to participate in the various Christmas-tide events it may be well for us to stop and think quietly just a minute or two over some simple rules for safety.

That Christmas Tree: Do not decorate it with flimsy material hung too near candles or lights. Don't decorate your tree with paper, cotton or any inflammable material. Use tinsel or other non-inflammable material for decorations and be sure to set the tree securely so that the children and even the "grown-ups" in reaching for things cannot tip it over.

Do not use cotton to represent snow. If you must have snow use powdered mica or asbestos fibre.

Do not use candles, where electricity can be substituted. Even with the use of electric batteries they would be far safer than the use of candles. If candles are used let only the utmost caution prevail. Do not permit children to light or re-light the candles. They frequently set fire to their clothing instead.

Don't leave the matches with reach of the children. Candles are meant to be lighted and if children can get matches they will experiment with them. They imitate their elders. Better caution "Dad" and "Brother" to be careful with cigar and cigarette stubs too.

Do not allow trees to remain inside of building after the holidays. The tree ignites readily when leaves and branches are dry. A large number of fires occur in January from this cause.

Do not use decorations near open gas jets or too near lights of any kind.

Examine the wiring which leads to lights used for decorative purposes. See to it that it is safe.

Let the home, church, school or store be warm, but look out for over heated stoves and pipes.

MRS. HANNAH ENTERTAINED

Mrs. William T. Hannah delightfully entertained at her home on Friday afternoon with three tables of bridge. The occasion being the celebration of her birthday. The home was beautiful in its decoration of white roses and potted plants.

At the conclusion of the game Mrs. Harry Hall was holder of high score and was presented an attractive card holder and trump indicator. Miss Sara Thomas was lucky in cutting the consolation and was awarded dainty handkerchiefs.

Mrs. Hannah served her guests with a delicious salad course with its accompaniments.

Those accepting Mrs. Hannah's hospitality were: Mesdames J. R. Thomas, M. H. Reeves, Harry Hall, Bell, Roy Francis, J. W. Scaver, Charles Shell, Misses Robina Miller, Sara Thomas, Grace Hipps, Edith Mangum and Dorothy Thomas.

WAYNESVILLE COUNTRY CLUB

The Waynesville Country Club membership is growing rapidly. Two new stalwarts are being built. New gravel roads from the State road up to the club house have just been completed.

A New Year's Eve party and old time barn dance or square dance will be one of the attractive features of the Yule Tide season.

Invitations are being mailed to many guests.

The invitations are by demand as admittance will be by card only.