

THE WAYNESVILLE MOUNTAINEER

Published In The County Seat of Haywood County At The Eastern Entrance of The Great Smoky Mountains National Park

FIFTH YEAR NO. 49 WAYNESVILLE, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1939 \$1.50 In Advance In Haywood and Jackson Counties

Woman's Club Will Hold Their Annual Christmas Contest

Prizes Offered For Best Christmas Tree and Home Ground Decorations

Arrangement has been made of a Christmas tree and decorations contest, held annually by the American Home department of the Woman's Club.

Santa Claus Arrives In Town

Commissioners Draw Jury For January Term Of Civil Court At Monday Session

J. J. Ferguson Re-Elected Tax Collector Aide

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Park Travel Is Still Gaining Over Last Year

Visitors continue to trek their way into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park area. In November they numbered 22,043 and were riding in 8,027 vehicles, and represented an increase of five per cent over travel for November of 1938.

The visitors came from 46 states, the District of Columbia, Canal Zone, and Ontario, Canada. Forty-five per cent of the visitors were from other than the local states of North Carolina and Tennessee.

States in number of visitors ranked as follows: (1) Tennessee, (2) North Carolina, (3) Illinois, (4) Ohio, (5) Georgia, (6) Michigan.

The increase in number of visitors noted were distributed through the three checking stations and were proportionate among local and out-of-state travel. Travel for the year to date exceeds last travel year through November, 1938 by seven per cent.

Son Of Local Man Wins In Popular Song Contest

John C. Murphy, Jr., Wins In Contest Conducted By Radio Guide Magazine

At 5:30 Saturday afternoon, Eastern Standard time, Del Courtney's Orchestra will premiere a new song, that bids to become a popular hit of the current season, "I'm Playing 'Hide and Seek' With a Dream."

The song was written by John Carpenter Murphy, son of Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Murphy, of Waynesville, and has been declared as the winner of a first prize of \$200 in a recent popular song contest, which was conducted by the Radio Guide Magazine, published in Chicago.

The song is to be put on the air, phonographed, and issued in sheet form for bands and orchestras. The composer will receive royalties from these various forms in which the song is to be used.

The song is what musicians call an off-form song, in that it has a fifty-six bar chorus instead of the regular thirty-two bars. A famous example of such a composition is "Happy Days Are Here Again."

John Carpenter Murphy was born in Hickory on June 26, 1915. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina. At present he is arranger for the Johnnie Long Orchestra which is now playing at the William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh, Penn. The composer's sister, Miss Marguerite Murphy, who is a student at the Women's College of the University of North Carolina, suggested the name of the song.

The Radio Guide predicts that all listeners will get a big thrill from the song, which from all reports gives promise of a popularity run.

Singing Convention Will Meet Here On Sunday The Tenth

The Haywood County Singing convention will meet next Sunday at 10 o'clock at the court house here. H. A. Williams, chairman, has extended an invitation to all vocal groups in the county to attend and take part in the program of the day.

Mr. Williams hopes to make the Sunday meet the biggest affair of the entire year of the singing convention meetings.

Garbage Trucks Make Daily Trips

The street department has started a clean-up drive for the holidays, and the garbage trucks will make daily rounds, according to T. L. Bramlett, alderman in charge of streets.

All citizens are asked to place their garbage on the curb and the trucks will pick it up.

Mr. Bramlett also called attention to the need of raking all leaves up at this time as a precaution against fires.

List Of Worthy And Needy Families Being Compiled

Complying with the request of readers of The Mountaineer, The paper will again sponsor Christmas cheer for the needy families of this section in co-operation with the county welfare department and Salvation Army.

As of last year, beginning next week, the paper will carry descriptions of the 30 neediest cases that have come under the supervision of the county welfare department and the Salvation Army, which may be taken by either individuals or groups to supply their Christmas needs.

The cases will be numbered, with no names, but number in family, location of home, distance from Waynesville, and ages of children. Anyone desiring to take care of a certain number is asked to call 137 and it will be checked off the list to avoid duplication.

Around thirty families were supplied kith, not only Christmas cheer, but many of the necessities of life, last year, and in some cases were tied over the worst of the winter by this method of reaching them through the generosity of others.

Joe Liner Undergoes Operation At Haywood County Hospital

The condition of Joe Liner, who underwent an operation early Wednesday morning, at the Haywood County Hospital, was reported last night as satisfactory. Mr. Liner had a fairly comfortably day yesterday, it was learned.

Legion and Auxiliary Will Hold December Meeting On Monday

The Waynesville post of the American Legion and the Auxiliary will hold the regular monthly meetings on Monday night at 7:15 in their assembly rooms in the Legion home.

During the joint social hour Mrs. E. L. McGee and Mrs. Ada Palmer will serve as hostesses.

Chicago Visitors Spend Week-End In Route To Fla.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter D. Harris, Chicago, were the guests during the week-end of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Harris, at the Hotel LeFaine. Mr. Harris is president of the Business College, and of Gold-Harris School, also of Chicago. He and his wife were en route to Florida for a stay of two or more. Upon their return they will stop again at the Seawells.

Mr. and Mrs. Harris were accompanied by this section of the county and plan to make extensive visits here in the future.

MAN LOSES LICENSE

Mr. Mayes, of Clyde, had his license revoked in county court at Yadkinville, on charges of being drunk, according to word from the state highway department.

LOOKING OVER THE COUNTY—General Haywood GETS A FEW THINGS OF COUNTY-WIDE INTEREST OFF HIS MIND WITH LETTERS

Members of Motor Vehicles: More than three weeks, it will be a violation of the law to operate a vehicle on the highways with a 1940 license plate. Of you know that.

Apparently many did not know these tags can be bought for the same price now as on December 31st this year. Year after year, I have noticed the long line that had to wait for tags during the last minute rush, and some even waited until the first week in January, but waiting for what, I have never been able to figure out.

There is less chance for a mistake, and certainly a time saver, (Continued on page 2)

Santa Busy Here Visiting Schools; Mail Is Heavy

Will Visit All Schools In The County, Will Give Away Candy And Oranges

About the busiest man in all this section right now is Santa Claus.

Ever since his arrival last Saturday morning, via train, he has been as busy as could be, making his rounds to schools, to rural sections, and into Jackson County. Besides his personal visits, his mail is getting heavier, and he is required to spend considerable time poring over his letters, and completing his list.

A crowd of 500 were on hand Saturday morning to welcome him as he arrived on the train. His 25-foot red and white motor sleigh was parked nearby, and he lost no time after being greeted by Mayor Way in getting to his sleigh and joining a parade through the streets of Hazelwood and Waynesville and out to East Waynesville. On his arrival at the igloo, he went straight to work, passing out candy.

Children and grown-ups greeted the red-suited old man all along the route of the parade.

Today at one o'clock Santa will appear at the Crabtree school, and at 2 o'clock, will go to Fines Creek.

On Friday he will make his first appearance at 12:45 at the Maggie school, then at 1:30 at the Dellwood school. At 2:15 he will be at Rock Hill, and at 3 o'clock, he will be at the Lake Junaluska.

(Continued on page 8)



"You better be good—you better not cry; better not pout, and I'm telling you why, Santa Claus is in town." (1) Mayor Way was down at the train to greet Santa as he stepped off last Saturday morning. Standing right behind the Mayor is Oscar L. Briggs, who had charge of erecting Santa's motor sleigh, which is shown in picture No. 3. In No. 2, is part of the crowd awaiting the train. The large horns in the center belong to members of the high school band. No. 4, is one of the many happy children, who received candy at the igloo. And No. 5 is Santa himself, looking from the window of his igloo to see that every child had received some candy. No. 6 shows part of the crowd working up to the igloo. No. 7 is a partial view of the igloo in front of the court house as the crowd thinned out. The front of the motor sleigh can be seen. No. 8 was taken from the sleigh just as Santa made his way to the igloo.

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(Continued on page 8)

J. J. Ferguson Re-Elected Tax Collector Aide

Commissioners Draw Jury For January Term Of Civil Court At Monday Session

J. J. Ferguson was re-elected for another term as assistant tax supervisor and collector, at the meeting of the county board of commissioners, which was held here on Monday. This will make the fourth term that Mr. Ferguson has served in this capacity.

Annual statements of the county affairs as prepared by Chas. C. Francis, register of deeds and clerk of the county board of commissioners, were ordered posted on the bulletin board in the main entrance of the court house.

A number of releases were granted in cases of tax penalties, and one county road project was approved.

A jury was drawn for the January term of civil court which will convene here on the 8th with Judge J. A. Rousseau presiding.

The following were drawn for the first week: Allen Rathbone, Waynesville; John Trague, Beavertown; J. C. Burrell, Waynesville; Sheridan Coward, Waynesville; R. T. Green, Fines Creek; Ira H. Cogburn, East Fork; F. Frank Wells, Pigeon; Ben P. Walker, Waynesville; Thomas Yarborough, White Oak; Isaac M. Grogan, East Fork; Charlie A. Stamey, Beavertown.

J. H. Cathey, Beavertown; Phil Schaefer, Beavertown; Tom S. Freeman, Waynesville; William H. Blanton, Waynesville; O. Yorke, Beavertown; Edward Green, Clyde; Lawrence Walker, Waynesville; Herman P. Presaley, Pigeon; Grover Hooks, Iron Duff; Avery Peek, Pigeon; J. N. Brookshire, Beavertown; and Van C. Wells, of Pigeon.

For the second week the following were drawn: L. F. Birchfield, Cecil; Frank W. Cogburn, Beavertown; W. F. Nix, Beavertown; L. W. Curtis, Clyde; George M. West, Beavertown; Ralph Kuykendall, Ivy Hill; Seth C. Wood, Beavertown; Wallace W. Blackwell, Waynesville; Roy Rogers, Fines Creek; James B. Green, Fines Creek; Asbury Bradley, Ivy Hill; Homer West, Clyde; W. F. Fender, Beavertown; Spaulding Underwood, Waynesville; Gilbert Reeves, Waynesville; Will A. Hipps, Beavertown; M. A. Jenkins, White Oak; S. Pink Reeves, Jonathan Creek.

Unusual Sale Of Auto Licenses Is Being Made

Sales for the new 1940 automobile license plates are ahead of last year, which was an unusually heavy sales year, according to J. Dale Stentz, local manager of the Carolina Motor Club who is in charge of the sales, in the office of the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Stentz is urging the public to buy their plates early and avoid the last minute rush which comes around the Christmas holidays.

Death, in December, rides top speed on the nation's highways, although traffic volume decreases greatly, according to Mr. Stentz.

"While mileage figures for December are less than in any month from April until November, the traffic death total rises as much as 25 per cent," the motor club official declared.

Indicating that driving conditions are responsible for this increase, he pointed out that during December there are from three to four hours less daylight and pavements are often icy.

Company "H" Fights Off Air Raid On Waynesville

A guard in a khaki uniform is marching up and down in front of the Waynesville Armory this week, with the earnestness, steady tread, and vigilance of a soldier on wartime duty, but with a disarming expression that only a peace time guard could wear.

Company "H" of the 120th Infantry of the North Carolina National Guard are encamped at the Armory for one week beginning last Sunday and continuing through this Saturday.

Captain George Platt stood to a representative of The Mountaineer yesterday that all National Guards throughout the United States are engaged this week in similar regular field training.

It was pointed out that last summer instead of the usual month's encampment, the guards had only two weeks, and that military authorities considered the breaking up of the practice for the companies was more practical and beneficial from a standpoint of training than one long period.

Last night the company took part in an imaginary air raid, in which they had practice with the firing of 12 machine guns, returning to camp.

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State Engineer Here Inspecting Parkway Survey

Crew Of 25 Making Excellent Progress On Survey From Soco Gap To Ravensford

R. Getty Browning, chief locating engineer of the state highway department, was here yesterday making an inspection of the parkway survey which is now underway from Soco Gap to Ravensford.

The excellent weather has enabled the engineering crew to make rapid progress on the survey, Mr. Browning said. At present 25 men are at work on the project, about half of whom are Indians.

The approximate distance from Soco Gap to Ravensford over the proposed parkway route is 15 miles.

Mr. Browning said he expected to see the work of the 2.6 mile section that is underway at Beech Gap and the 5-mile section at Wagon Road Gap while on this trip.

Canton Jail In Better Condition Than Was Charged

Canton Officials Point Out That Grand Jury Was Misinformed

Officials of the town of Canton, in a signed statement yesterday, formally denied that the city jail was in the condition as presented to the grand jury during their recent investigation.

The statement, which bore the signature of Mayor J. Paul Murray and Aldermen C. Guy Hipps, C. J. McCracken, and C. L. Westmoreland, is as follows:

"We would like to make some corrections through your paper as to the grand jury report which was delivered to Judge J. Will Pless, Jr., of the Superior Court in Waynesville, North Carolina, November 24, 1939 and which appeared in the Asheville papers November 28. The jury reported that the Town jail was condemned in the following particulars: dirty, bug infested, unsanitary, only two cells, both white and negroes, male and female are kept in same cells and no janitor service.

"We like to make the following corrections: as to the cells; there are four, two compartment cells; as to the negroes and white, male and female being put in cells at same time, this has never been done and there is a partition between the male and female cells; as to the janitor service, we have always had a full time janitor; as to the jail being infested with bugs, we beg to advise that there are no bugs in the jail other than cock-roaches and they are liable to be anywhere. We will admit that the jail is not what it should be, but we have always made desperate efforts to keep it in a sanitary condition. We regret very much that the grand jury has been misinformed as to the manner in which it has been kept. At the time the members of the grand jury made their investigation the jail was empty. All prisoners had just been removed and for this reason we feel sure that someone misrepresented to them the manner in which female and male, negroes and whites are kept. We would like for any citizen to come and inspect the jail at anytime they wish, as we feel it is not as bad as the report indicated.

"We will assure the public that it will be kept sanitary at all times as in the past."