

# THE WAYNESVILLE MOUNTAINEER

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## Along POLITICAL FRONTS

Editor's note—today marks the beginning of a weekly presentation of condensed political affairs of the county, state and nation. News of candidates and political action will be given each week.

From all appearances the 76th Congress which convened yesterday is going to be "the Congress little to do." With presidential and congressional elections in the offing, there is every prospect that the senators and representatives will know how to take advantage of the light calendar of legislative demands and to close their desks on a relatively short vacation in time for them to get on their campaigning tours.

On the other hands, after strenuous sessions of heavy deal legislative programs and financial economic problems, it is certain of course, whether the press will know how to act in having "its maw full of legislated business." This is particularly remarkable for a war-time Congress even in the sense of a congress meeting at a time when much of the rest of the world is at war, though the United States is not directly involved.

There is, of course, the possibility that an unexpected turn of events may throw some new major problem into the laps of Congress, but presently even the Russian attack on Finland and the extension of war to the Baltic has created any situation in which there is a call for significant amendment of the Neutrality law passed last session. The disposition may be to leave diplomatic negotiations, including negotiations in the Far East, in the hands of the President and State Department and to give the cash-and-carry policy a thorough trial.

First to go to the house yesterday was the report of the Dies committee, which has been investigating un-American activities, containing much of the information that has been made public from time to time during the investigation.

Two principal kinds of tax reduction have been put forward, but it has been intimated that President Roosevelt will leave the question of raising new taxes to lift the present \$45,000,000,000 deficit on the national debt up to Congress.

It is reported that the President has abandoned the so-called social medicine bill, and will advance a hospital-building program, largely in the south.

Other problems that will no doubt come in for their share of attention will be proposals to curb power of National Labor Relations Board; continuation of reciprocal tariff program; board enforcement of the national defense relief appropriation; and amendments to the wage act.

## N. C. West Begins Business Census In This County

### Clyde Man Started Business And Manufacturing Census Tuesday Morning

N. C. West, of Clyde, started taking the business and manufacturing census in Haywood on Tuesday morning, which is the first phase of the 1940 United States census.

Mr. West completed his 3-day course in Asheville, under Chas. Z. Flack, district supervisor, and Dan Tompkins, assistant supervisor of the 11th congressional district.

All information is confidential, and is only available to the census department, and cannot be obtained by any taxation agency, it was said.

"Mr. West demonstrated his ability to do the work in Haywood County, and we are asking for the co-operation of everyone in getting the records accurate," Mr. Tompkins said here this week.

The enumeration of population will begin in April, with the appointment of census workers for this work being announced in March.

## Two More Theatres Have Been Added To Massie Chain

### J. E. Massie Buys Theatre Equipment In Bryson City And Gatlinburg

"The public never realizes what goes on behind scenes of a moving picture. Trouble and responsibility start with the making of the picture in Hollywood, or wherever it is made, and continues until it is flashed on the screen in a theater," said J. E. Massie, owner of the Park and Pisgah Theatres, of Waynesville, the Lyric Theater, of Sylva, and recent purchaser of the "Bryson" in Bryson City, and the "Gatlinburg" Theater in Gatlinburg, Tenn.

"It may appear easy to the audience to run a movie theater, but looks are deceiving. Among other things the management never knows what the reaction of the public will be to a picture," continued Mr. Massie, to a representative of The Mountaineer yesterday in speaking of his newly acquired theatres.

"The Bryson" was bought from Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Sentney, who have been operating the theater in Bryson City, and who will be retained in connection with the Massie chain of theatres, and will reside in Waynesville, driving back and forth to the other theatres.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Massie have moved to Bryson City, the former the son of the owner, who will operate "The Bryson" with a seating capacity of 425.

The Gatlinburg Theater, which H. L. Sentney will operate, seats approximately 450.

Mr. Massie entered the moving picture field in November, 1926 when he bought the "Wayneswood" from W. R. Sherrill. Shortly after he acquired "The Capital," which later closed, concentrating his efforts locally on the Wayneswood.

From 1935 to 1936 Mr. Massie operated "The Colonial," "The Strand," and for a short time, "The Imperial" in Canton.

In 1935 Mr. Massie built the Park Theatre, at a cost of \$45,000, and it is conceded to be the handsomest movie house west of Asheville.

The combined seating capacity of the theaters of the Massie chain now total something over 2,500.

IN LOOKING OVER THE COUNTY—

## General Haywood

GETS A FEW THINGS OF COUNTY-WIDE INTEREST OFF HIS MIND WITH LETTERS

Citizens of Haywood— Sunday marks the beginning of a 10-week campaign, inaugurated and sponsored by the churches of the county, known as Christ-centered Church Loyalty campaign.

The plan is not new. It has been tried, and has met with success in other towns in this and other states. The whole idea centers

## Finland's "Men in White" Holding Reds in Check



Resembling cowed monks, Finland's "men in white" are holding back the Russians in heavy offensive from the borders. The soldiers dress thus to camouflage themselves with the snow. These soldiers carry light machine guns, automatic pistols and travel on skis

## Death Claims J. Weld Seaver On Last Friday

### Well Known Civil Engineer, Had Been Resident Here For 35 Years

J. Weld Seaver, civil engineer, descendant of an old distinguished New England family, and resident of Waynesville for the past thirty-five years, died at 6 o'clock Friday in an Asheville hospital, following an illness of a few weeks.

Mr. Seaver was born in Boston on March the 9th, 1872, his family having been prominent in Massachusetts for generations.

He attended Harvard University, was a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and attended the New York Nautical school ship St. Mary's. He was a veteran of the Spanish-American War.

The early part of his professional career, as an engineer, was spent in Honduras and in the West Indies. Later his work took him into several of the Gulf states, with a number of long voyages on sailing ships in the vacation period.

In his early life he gained recognition as an amateur yachtsman.

## Chas. Underwood Opens New Wood Novelty Company

The Underwood Novelty Company, owned and operated by Charles Underwood, began operation recently, manufacturing a general line of inland wood novelties.

The new firm, occupies a new building, just this side of Lake Junaluska on Highway No. 23.

Mr. Underwood has been in the inland wood business for a number of years. He has designed many special articles that have sold on markets in every state in the union, and some foreign countries.

At present, eight men are employed, and a number of large orders have already been received, it was stated.

## Automatic Alarm

A fire alarm around 8 o'clock Tuesday morning sent its sinister notes ringing through the 3-degree air, and its sound arousing in the people's terror that always accompanies its shrill notes, but it gave no alarm whatsoever to the fire department in the town hall, for it was merely the alarm trying to alarm itself.

A stove pipe, which was held in place by a wire, fell on the cord that connects the fire knell.

## Mrs. D. D. Alley Is Named Head Of State Council

### Local Woman Will Direct Women's Activities In Celebration Of President's Birthday

Mrs. Doyle D. Alley has been appointed state chairman of the Women's Activities Council, which is part of the organization for the observance of the birthday of President Roosevelt.

Mrs. Alley states that she will work with Dr. J. R. Westmoreland, of Canton, who has been appointed Haywood County chairman for the celebration, as well as with the chairmen in the other counties of North Carolina.

Mrs. Alley was appointed by Arthur Carpenter, of Knoxville, Tenn., regional director of the organization for the celebration of the president's birthday.

The women's activity council will sponsor various activities to raise funds for the 1940 campaign against infantile paralysis.

Mrs. Alley leaves today for Washington, D. C., where she, with the other state chairmen, will meet for a conference to plan out the work. She will attend the dinner on Saturday night at the Willard Hotel honoring Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt. The President's wife will also receive the chairmen at the White House on the Women's Activities Council, for a discussion of the plans.

Among the activities that Mrs. Alley will sponsor in this county and throughout the state will be the march of dimes, birthday greeting cards campaign, basketball games, dances, suppers and

## Schools To Open Monday Morning

Waynesville, Crabtree and Clyde schools will resume work next Monday morning, after being closed an extra week during the holidays because of an epidemic of flu.

Bethel and Fines Creek schools opened yesterday. School authorities reported the epidemic was now at a "satisfactory" point for re-opening the schools.

## \$10,000 Fire Loss Sustained By Mrs. Helen Matthews

### Plant Of Broadview Handcrafters' Completely Destroyed Early Thursday

Fire completely destroyed the plant, equipment and stock of Broadview Handcrafters' manufacturers of wood novelties, about 12:30 last Thursday morning. The loss was approximately \$10,000 according to Mrs. Helen C. Matthews, owner.

There was but little insurance carried on the plant, which was on the Matthews property on the Howell Mill road.

Plans are being made to continue the business, and work will be underway the latter part of this week, Mrs. Matthews said yesterday.

The cause of the fire is undetermined. When the blaze was discovered, it had too much headway for anything in the plant to be saved.

The plant had facilities for working 25 to 30 men, and was equipped to turn out many different designs of wood novelties.

## Ruth Turner Is Selected To Enter D. A. R. Contest

### An Outstanding Senior Wins In D. A. R. Pilgrimage Contest

Ruth Turner, member of the senior class of the Waynesville High school, and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Turner, has been selected to compete in the state Pilgrimage contest sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution, by the student body and approved by the faculty of the school.

The winner of the Pilgrimage contest conducted by the local Dorcas Bell Love chapter in Waynesville, and by other chapters in the state and throughout the United States, is one of the coveted honors for girls in senior classes of high schools.

Miss Turner has been an honor student in her entire school course. She has been active also in the various school organizations, taking a prominent part in the Glee Club, the Dramatic Club, and the Latin Club. She has also been outstanding in church work. She has held many offices both in school and in her church.

Miss Turner will compete with other state winners in towns where the contest is being sponsored by D. A. R. chapters. The final state winner will be given a week's trip to the National Congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which is held annually at Continental Hall, Washington, D. C., with all expenses paid.

## Decision Sought On Mountain Route Of Highway to Brevard

### First National Declares 12% Dividend For '39

The First National Bank, oldest and largest banking institution west of Asheville, enjoyed a prosperous year in 1939. The directors at a recent meeting declared a 12 per cent dividend and paid the officers and employees a bonus at Christmas. The total resources of the bank on December 31, were the largest in the history of the institution at this season of the year, slightly over a million dollars, reflecting a growth of approximately \$108,000.

## Church Loyalty Crusade To Start In County Sunday

### Thirty Churches In County Are Participating In 10-Weeks Campaign

Twenty-two pastors, representing some thirty Haywood County churches, will begin a concerted effort next Sunday to arouse the public to the necessity for Christian living and to seek a general religious awakening in this county.

The ten-week Christ-Centered Church Loyalty Crusade, led by ministers and active church members of the several denominations, is designed to enlist the entire membership of each participating church in regular church attendance, daily Bible reading and prayer.

All the co-operating pastors will preach on the same topic each Sunday through March 10. The themes for this Sunday are: "The Lordship of Christ," at the morning service, and "Revival Needed" at the evening service. Other pre-arranged subjects will be announced each week. The pastors are meeting for conference and fellowship each Tuesday noon in Waynesville during the Crusade.

The following pastors and churches are co-operating in this campaign:

- Canton Presbyterian church, Rev. George B. Hammond, pastor.
- Waynesville Presbyterian church, Rev. R. P. Walker, pastor.
- Hazelwood Presbyterian church, Rev. O. C. Landrum, pastor.
- First Baptist church, Canton, Dr. H. K. Masteller, pastor.
- First Baptist church, Waynesville, Rev. J. S. Hopkins, pastor.
- East Canton Baptist church, Rev. W. B. Sprinkle, pastor.
- West Canton Baptist church, Rev. Frank H. Leatherwood, pastor.
- North Canton Baptist church, Rev. O. F. Burnett, pastor.
- Hazelwood Baptist church, Rev. J. M. Woodard, pastor.
- Fines Creek Baptist church, Rev. R. P. McCracken, pastor.
- Allen's Creek Baptist church, Rev. Thomas Erwin, pastor.
- Barbersville Baptist church, Rev. Avery Peek, pastor.
- Ratcliff Cove Baptist church, Rev. O. F. Burnett, pastor.
- Central Methodist church, Canton, Rev. W. R. Kelly, pastor.
- First Methodist church, Canton, Rev. John F. Wyatt, pastor.
- First Methodist church, Waynesville, Rev. J. G. Huggin, Jr., pastor.
- Dellwood Methodist charge, Rev. C. O. Newell, pastor.
- Bethel Methodist charge, Rev. J. W. Blitch, pastor.
- Jonathan Methodist charge, Rev. J. D. Pyatt, pastor.
- Crabtree Methodist charge, Rev. William M. Neese, pastor.
- Long Chapel and Elizabeth Methodist charge, Rev. C. D. Brown, pastor.
- St. Andrew's Episcopal church, Canton, Rev. A. W. Taylor, rector. (See page five for more details.)

### \$64,000 WPA Project Of Widening Road To Bethel Being Held Up Pending Outcome

Work of widening Highway No. 284 from Waynesville to Bethel, from 12 to 20 feet for the 5 1/2 miles, as a \$64,000 WPA project, will not be started until the State Highway Commission reaches a decision regarding the routing of the highway from Cruso to Wagon Road Gap, it was learned by The Mountaineer yesterday from J. C. Walker, district engineer.

District WPA officials announced this week the approval of the project for widening the Bethel road from here, which would give employment to 188 men.

Mr. Walker said some of these men would be put to work at once on Highway No. 209, in completing the paving of the road from Rush Fork Gap to James' Store on Fines Creek, a distance of about two miles. The work on this project was held up recently due to controversy over prices charged for right-of-way.

The section of Highway No. 284 over which there has arisen a controversy over routes, is on the mountain end at Wagon Road Gap. A survey has been made up Hungry Creek, it is understood, would be about two miles less than the present route.

Detailed information concerning the two routes, and a comparison of figures as to distances, cost and grades, have been requested from the Highway Department, by this newspaper, but the answers had not been compiled yesterday noon.

It was also learned yesterday, that work is to begin soon on widening the highway from the city limits in East Waynesville to a point near the Ratcliff Cove road intersection. The contract was let some time ago to Mark Reed, Asheville contractor. The contract calls for widening the highway to 32 feet.

Storm lines, ranging from 18 inches to 42 inches will be placed from the hospital to the city limits in the project, it was said.

## Mercury Drops To 3 For Two Days

### Lake Junaluska And Richland Creek Frozen Over; Coldest Since 1937

For two consecutive mornings, the mercury here dropped to three degrees for the official reading, bringing about the coldest weather since 1937. The cold wave which hit here Monday night, kept the mercury down to 22 degrees for high reading Tuesday and it rose to only 33 for Wednesday's highest reading.

Lake Junaluska was frozen over, with the exception of one small place near the dam. Richland creek was frozen over except for a small channel.

The mill race at the laundry was drained Tuesday night after freezing over Monday night for the first time in three years.

The official average minimum for the week was 15.3 degrees with an average maximum of 35.3 degrees.

## New Law Firm Is Formed In Canton

Cogburn and Vrabel is the new law firm which was formed this week in Canton, in which Chester A. Cogburn and Wesley Vrabel have formed a partnership.

Mr. Vrabel is of New York since 1932 has practiced law. He is a graduate of the University of New School.

Mr. Cogburn be in Canton in 192 session of the G he served as district. Mr. Vrabel is of Mr. Cogburn.

## LOSES DRIVERS' LICENSE

Lawson Haney, of Waynesville route two had his drivers' license revoked after being convicted in Canton police court of driving drunk.