

Forest Fires Burn 558 Acres In Past Week

Big Damage Done In Several Areas During Past Week

Dry Weather, High Winds, and Rush To Get Land Cleared, Increased Hazard.

High winds, together with possible carelessness on the part of some property owners in their rush to get spring clearing done, have caused considerable damage to certain timbered sections of Haywood county since Friday morning, according to R. E. Caldwell, fire warden, who reports six fires with a total of 558 acres burned in less than a week.

In addition to the six fires Mr. Caldwell also stated late last night that the fire which broke out on the state owned property adjoining the Park in the Big Creek sections, which made such inroads into the Park, was now under control.

More than 100 men are reported to have fought day and night before the fire, which was discovered on Monday, was extinguished yesterday. This fire did not come directly in the line of duty of the Haywood county fire warden, but was in the jurisdiction of the Park.

Mr. Caldwell and J. H. Beach, the latter, county smoke chaser, stated that the smoke from the fire was so dense that it was impossible for the watchers at the fire towers to estimate, even roughly, the extent of the damage in the Park.

The largest fire in the county was on Stevens Creek in the White Oak section, which was discovered around 4:10 Monday afternoon and was put out yesterday. A total of 400 acres is said to have been burned with at least 350 in timbered lands and the remainder in open country.

The fire was reported in quick (Continued on page 6)

Work Begun On Soco Gap-Cherokee Road

12-Mile Road Scheduled To Be Completed By June First, Contractors Say.

Work is being pushed forward on the Soco Gap-Cherokee highway, with plans to formally open it between June 1 and 15, it was learned from representatives of the contractor, Ralph E. Mills Company here yesterday.

Crushed stone has been placed on all of the 12 miles, except the last 8,400 feet from Soco Gap. Some 25 men are now at work on this last phase of the road work, and those in charge say about 50 men will be employed soon.

Actual surfacing is scheduled to begin about May first, and with favorable weather, the contractors plan to have the job completed by June first, or shortly thereafter.

The road is now open in dry weather.

The new highway goes near the famous Soco Gap falls and they can easily be seen from the road without getting out of the car.

The new highway is 12 miles in length, and is an extension of Highway No. 293.

Haywood Cattle To Be Sold At State Auction

Five head of Haywood Herefords will be offered at the annual state Hereford auction sale on April 17th, at Wilson.

Fifty animals, all from selected herds of the state, will be shown at ten o'clock, and sold at one on the 17th, Howard Clapp, county agent, said, in announcing the event, that if enough prospective Haywood buyers are interested he will drive down to the sale.

Animals from the herds of C. T. Francis, C. N. Allen, Roy S. Haynes and F. M. Davis will be sold. Mr. Francis is a director of the North Carolina Hereford Breeders' Association.

Laurie Domino, prize Hereford bull, owned by several Hereford cattlemen in Haywood, was featured in the advertisement of the American Hereford Journal for the April issue.

Harry Siler, of Gallup, N. M., a heating engineer, is spending several days here with his mother, Mrs. Emelyn Siler. Mr. Siler has been engaged in a number of defense projects.

"Bring Your Bible Day" Will Be Featured In County Churches Sun.

After setting an all-time high attendance record last Sunday, laymen and pastors of Haywood churches went forward this week with renewed effort to retain the record, and to promote "Bring-Your-Bible Day" next Sunday.

All churches reporting attendance records for Easter showed a decided gain. The First Baptist of Waynesville led all churches with a total of 919, with the Canton Baptist in second place with 833.

The 12 reporting churches had an attendance of 5,539. This is the highest during the 9-week go-to-church campaign.

Sunday morning the sermon subjects of the participating pastors will be "The Word of Life," while at evening, they will preach on "Ye Are of More Value Than Many Sparrows."

Several of the churches plan special features for their services Sunday, with the congregation using their Bibles.

"It is time that people carried their Bibles more. It is time that people read them more," one pastor said yesterday in discussing the plans for Sunday.

The attendance record for last Sunday will be found on page 4 of this issue.

Waynesville Man Gets Patent On Wooden Tire; Plant At Hazelwood



C. M. DICUS is shown here pointing to one of the wooden tires he manufactures at his plant in Hazelwood, as a means of overcoming inconveniences caused by the shortage of tires. Mr.



Dicus is showing a friend how the tire is constructed. Elmer Hendricks, Hazelwood merchant, is shown holding one of the wooden tires for a closeup side view.

Fifty-Six Draftees Leave Haywood Tuesday Morning

The largest crowd yet to assemble to bid the draftees goodbye was on hand early Tuesday morning when 56 men in the tenth draft from this area and the 25th order call by the government in the selective draft service, left here for Fort Bragg, induction center.

The draftees assembled at the office of the local draft board at 7 o'clock for their final instructions. T. L. Green, member of the board, spoke briefly to the men, pointing out the grave responsibility they assumed when they joined the armed forces. He stated that it was necessary for every man to do his duty now for his country and wished them personal success in their period of service.

Bob Caldwell was appointed leader of the group on the trip to Fort Bragg with Charles Camp named assistant leader.

After the men had received instructions they went across the street to the W.W.N.C. Cafe, where they were guests of the owner, Chres George, for coffee and cakes. (Continued on page 6)

News Bureau Head Predicts A Splendid Season For This Area

"A splendid tourist season for Western North Carolina," is the prediction of Charles Parker, head of the state news bureau, who spent the week-end here gathering data with which to answer letters that the state advertising department is receiving in large numbers.

Mr. Parker was accompanied by Mrs. Ruth Robinson, a member of the state news staff, who remained over to check tourist facilities that will be available this summer.

The department is having an increased number of inquiries for information on farm boarding houses. Because of the steady increase for information, the bureau is anxious that all managers of farm boarding houses list their places with them at their office in Raleigh.

Mr. Parker and Mrs. Robinson were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ray. During the day visits were made to several places of interest in and about the county.

Dorothy Richeson Elected President Presbyterian Group

Miss Dorothy Richeson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Richeson, was elected president of the Asheville Presbytery at the annual spring rally, which was held Monday night at the First Presbyterian church in Asheville.

Approximately 150 young people from the 12 churches in the Asheville Presbytery were present for the meeting.

Other officers elected were: Miss Sarah Reid, of Asheville, vice president; Miss Gail Fennet, of Asheville, secretary; Pat Reece, of Hendersonville, treasurer. Miss Martha Lee served as chairman of the nominating committee.

Mrs. T. D. Stevenson, missionary on furlough from China, who is spending the winter at Montreat, was the principal speaker.

Revival Started At Dellwood Methodist

Revival services started Sunday evening at the Dellwood Methodist church, and will continue until April 17, it was announced yesterday by Rev. L. C. Stevens, pastor.

Rev. G. M. Caiver is doing the preaching.

C. M. Dicus Gets Patent On Wooden Automobile Tire

Since the prospect of a tire shortage was announced, most people have had a great deal to say about the matter but have done little to remedy the situation. We have all been guilty more or less of reviewing the sacrifices and inconveniences to which we would be subjected.

On the other hand those of a mechanical turn all over the country have been busy with ideas and nimble fingers trying to create a substitute for rubber, or if not that devise some kind of a tire that would at least temporarily take the place of the rubber tire.

One local man, C. Mark Dicus, has tried to meet this challenge in the changing conditions brought about by the war. Mr. Dicus started immediately after the announcement of a rubber shortage to work out something that would tide the motorist over until the return of rubber on the market.

Mark Dicus is an ingenious person. As head of a wood manufacturing plant, the Woods Art Company of Hazelwood, he has designed and worked out dozens of articles that have gained popularity on the markets, and sold in orders of thousands.

With the uncertainty of how long the war will last and the apparent necessity that many who will not be considered as eligible by the rationing boards for new tires will actually suffer, Mr. Dicus felt the urge to create a tire that might prove to be a practical substitute for the easy and smooth (Continued on page 12)

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Lenny Nordeman announce the birth of a daughter, Catherine Diana, on April 1st.

AAA Officials To Be Named Next Week

Fourteen farm meetings are scheduled in Haywood for next Wednesday and Thursday for the purpose of electing AAA committeemen.

Howard Clapp, county agent explained that only two days would be given for the meetings, and because of the short time, a large attendance is expected at each of the meeting places.

The schedule of meetings is as follows: Beaverdam, Beaverdam school, Wednesday, 8:30 a. m. Beaverdam, Chamber of Commerce, Wednesday, 11:00 a. m. Beaverdam, Canton high school, Wednesday, 2:30 p. m. Clyde, Clyde school, Thursday, (Continued from page 6)

Registrants In 3rd Registration To File Papers

Questionnaires are to be mailed out Monday to all registrants in the third registration under the selective draft service, according to a notice from the local draft board.

The questionnaires are to be returned within 10 days with information requested complete. They must be notarized before returning to the office.

In cases where anyone should need assistance in filling out the papers, they are advised to get in touch with J. R. Morgan, chairman of the advisory board, who will give any desired information.

Instructor In Red Cross First Aid Course Begins

Forty-four persons are taking the instructors training course in first aid which is being given under the auspices of the Haywood Red Cross Chapter, is was announced by Jack Messer, chairman of first aid in the local chapter.

James B. Hall, of Alexandria, Va., field representative of the American Red Cross, an experienced teacher, is instructing the group in the 30-hour course in first aid.

The course will extend over a two weeks period, with three hour classes, five nights a week. The first week will be devoted to the theory of first aid and the second week will be given over to working out definite problems and practicing teaching.

Due to the war emergency, all equipment used in the teaching will be of an improvised type. The NYA, under the direction of Mrs. Paul Walker, supervisor, is aiding the improvisation of equipment, it was learned from Mr. Hall, the instructor.

It is the policy of the national headquarters of the Red Cross to have classes in first aid not less than 35 nor more than 50.

The object of the course is to train instructors to teach first aid in Haywood county, according to Jack Messer, chairman of first aid in the local chapter.

COVERING HAYWOOD'S POLITICAL FRONTS

Hurst Burgin was appointed to the vacancy on the Haywood Hospital board of trustees by the resignation of James ...

Mr. Peden's successor will be named in the near future.

The board will be composed of seven members Democrats and two Republicans.

Mr. Long and Mr. Peden rendered a great service to Haywood County Hospital, constructive ideas and diligent attention to its interest. Mr. had served 15 years and Mr. 12 years, as members of hospital board.

P. Stillwell, prominent attorney of Sylva, will deliver the (Continued on page 12)

High School Band Give Public Concert On 10th

Waynesville township high school will give a concert on Monday night, April 10th, in the school auditorium, beginning at 8 o'clock.

It will be the first public concert given by the band under the direction of Miss Sarah Jane ...

Local Industry Wins U. S. Flag For Purchases

Janalaska Tannery of the Lawrence Company is the industrial plant in the county to win a flag from the U. S. Treasury in recognition of more than 90 per cent of employees purchasers of Defense Bonds. It was learned this week from Jonathan Woody, county man of civilian defense.

Paul Davis Will Address Rotarians

Paul Davis, president of the Chamber of Commerce, will address the Rotary Club Friday, giving a general outline of the program the organization will follow this year.

The directors of the Chamber of Commerce met last night to discuss more details of the year's work.

Work Of State Guard Here Makes An Impression On Inspecting Officer

The precision and ease with which the Waynesville State Guard company went through a two-hours of demonstrations drills and inspection on Tuesday night, made a profound impression on Lieutenant Colonel John T. Hill, of Fort Bragg.

The 45 men clicked off drill after drill and the armory scene resembled a three ring circus in action, as there wasn't a dull moment. The schedule of events prepared long in advance were followed to the minute.

Rookies and veterans alike, put (Continued on page 6)