

Haywood Tax Rate Reduced 12c; Set At \$1.45

Three Explosion Victims Remain In Critical Condition

Truck Driver Died Saturday, Standard Oil Salvage Plant

Death Of Transport Truck Driver Brought Toll To Six From Tuesday's Blast

(9:30 Wednesday Night)

The condition of Lawrence L. ... chief of the fire department of Waynesville, who was seriously injured in the accident occurred at the bulk plant of Standard Oil Company here ... week remains critical, it was ... last night from hospital ...

... Walkup, truck driver, of ... was reported to ...

... condition of W. C. Fincher, ... of the Town of Waynesville, who was injured at the same ... was reported to be about the ...

... Kerley was called to the ... plant of the Standard Oil ... around 3 o'clock Tuesday ... morning of last week by the ... W. L. Hardin, Jr., commis- ... agent, asking him to come to ... plant at once as one of the ... had sprung a leak.

... Kerley left the city hall ... immediately, using a town car. ... arrival at the plant, he re- ... the gravity of the situation ... at the time of the explosion, it ... thought by Robt. Hugh Clark, ... fire chief, who arrived ... after that Kerley was near ... office at the plant when the ac- ...

... Kerley ran to the home of Gilbert ... a distance of about 400 ... with his clothing in flames. ... Reeves rushed him to the ... Wood County Hospital where ... since been a patient.

... Walkup, was one of the two ... drivers at the plant when ... explosion took place.

... Fincher, an employee of the ... lived near the plant, and had ... down to give assistance ... the blast occurred.

Year-Old Truck Driver Died Saturday

Thomas DeWitt Taylor, 27, of ... oil truck driver, who ... when a gasoline ... tank exploded at the bulk ... of the Standard Oil Compa- ... of New Jersey here, early ... morning, died at 8:10 ... Saturday morning in the ... Wood County Hospital.

... Taylor was the sixth per- ... to die as a result of the ex- ... His condition was critical ... the time he was taken to the ... for treatment.

... Taylor, who died of burns ... shock was a native of Nichols, ... the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ira ... He was employed by the ... of Transportation, com- ... of Gastonia. His truck was ... of four to deliver gasoline at ... plant here during the night ...

... the truck he had brought in had ... unloaded and he had expected ... start on his return trip to ... within a few min- ... when the explosion took place.

(Continued on page 7)

Over 700 Extra Copies Of Paper Sold Last Week

There was such a demand for ... of The Mountaineer last ... which carried details of the ... that more than 700 ex- ... copies were sold. Many of ... were mailed away to all ... of the country.

... the sale of the papers was hold- ... up even the first of this week. ... press was held in readiness, ... even on Friday several hun- ... additional copies had to be ...

Mrs. Linder Critically Reported To Be Slightly Improved

The condition of Mrs. W. H. ... who is a patient in the Mis- ... Hospital, in Asheville, was ... reported to be slightly improved ... last night. Mrs. Linder under- ... a major operation during the ... and has been critically ill.

Takes Over Newspaper Route



Although blind, Fred Vaughn has taken over the duties of delivering The Mountaineer in Hazelwood every Thursday to more than two hundred customers, and with the aid of his Seeing-Eye dog, "Dixie" is making his rounds with apparent ease.

Mr. Vaughn plans to use all the money made from the sale of his papers to make the monthly payments on "Dixie." Those who have carried the papers in Hazelwood heretofore, have credited customers for several weeks at a time, but Mr. Vaughn is not trying to keep a route book, and would prefer that all sales be cash. He plans to be at the upper factory every Thursday at noon, and the lower factory at quitting time, which will enable a lot of people to get their papers at those times.—Photo by Sherrill's Studio.

2 Defendants Draw Long Term Sentence

The joint minimum sentences of Frank Burnett and Walter Haley, (colored), who were tried in the July term of Superior court here last week before Judge F. Donald Phillips, totaled 67 years in state's prison.

Frank Burnett was held on two charges, kidnaping and assault with intent to rape. He pleaded guilty of the first charge and was sentenced from 20 to 30 years and on the latter count was given from 10 to 15 year in prison. The second sentence is not to start until the completion of the first.

Haley was given from 37 to 40 years in state's prison for burglary and larceny. It was brought out in the trial that he had entered the home of John Norris on the night of July 4th, when all the members of the family were asleep.

Brownlow Conard, charged with setting fire to the woods on the Waynesville watershed and dynamiting fish in the streams, was given 60 days on each count.

The case of Myrtle Cullins and her sister, Catherine Lenoir, (colored), charged with the murder of their father, Oscar Lenoir, was continued to the next term of criminal court. The case has been on the docket since November, 1941.

Owen Garrett, charged with involuntary manslaughter, was placed on probation for two years.

Other cases disposed of included: Fred Price, for bastardy, was given a six months sentence; Howard Warren, for driving drunk, was sentenced to 90 days on the roads; Buster Carey, (colored), for larceny of automobile, from three to five years on the roads.

Lena Mehaffey for keeping a disorderly house, was given six months suspended sentence on good behavior for two years; Nannie B. Mull charged with forgery was sentenced to six months.

Kirk Turpin, for violation of the prohibition law, was given 30 days; Vernon Ewart, for larceny and ... (Continued on page 7)

Haywood Sites Inspected For State Test Farm

A committee headed by W. Kerr Scott, state commissioner of agriculture and other officials, spent Tuesday in the county. The purpose of the visit was to make a tour of inspection of farms in this area in view of selecting the site for a mountain experiment station or test farm.

The station, which is to be located at some point in Western North Carolina, will be under the supervision of the state department of agriculture and will in the main experiment with beef cattle and sheep, it was learned from the county farm agent's office.

No information was given as to the possible choice of the proposed experiment station, but the members of the committee spoke highly of the many advantages the farms of this immediate area had to offer for such work.

In company with Mr. Scott were: ... (Continued on page 7)

17 Baptist Churches In County Report Substantial Progress During Revivals

Progress was reported from each of the 17 participating Haywood Baptist churches in the county-wide revival which has been conducted in the churches during the past ten days.

A few churches held a weeks meeting, closing last Sunday, while most continued through last night, and several will go through Sunday, according to Rev. Frank Leatherwood, moderator of the Haywood Baptist Association.

At a meeting of pastors and representatives of the 17 churches here Monday, Rev. Mr. Leatherwood reported an excellent spirit of fellowship, and an unusual spirit of interest.

All churches reported some gains in membership, mostly by conversions. Some churches reported as many as 20 additions. Several of the churches were just beginning to stress this phase of the revival on Monday night, it was reported.

The revivals were held under the supervision of the State Mis- ... (Continued on page 7)

Cannery Plans to Pack 600,000 Lbs. Beans

County Schools Open Fall Term On August 3rd

The schools of Fines Creek, Crabtree and the Bethel district, the latter including Cruso, Cecil, Spring Hill and Bethel are scheduled to open for the fall term on Monday, August 3rd, it was learned yesterday from Jack Messer, county superintendent of education.

Between now and the opening day there are still some teacher vacancies to be filled, as a number of those elected have gone into other work.

The Waynesville township schools will begin the 1942-43 session on Monday, August 31st, according to Mr. Messer.

Sixty-Seven Men Scheduled to Leave Here Friday, 31st

The following sixty-seven men are scheduled to leave this area on Friday, 31st, for induction at Fort Jackson, according to the local draft board.

They make up the largest group yet to leave the Waynesville area under the selective draft service. Under the new ruling the government is asking that no farewell ceremonies take place when they leave on Friday as they go to camp for an examination that was formerly made locally and in some cases there is doubt about whether or not the men will be accepted for active service.

The men accepted will be given an opportunity to return home for a two weeks furlough and on their second departure a program will be sponsored by one or more patriotic and civic groups.

The hour set for the special buses to leave here on Friday, 31st, is at 11:10. Prior to departure the men will assemble in the draft office on the third floor of the court house for instructions.

In the group leaving will be five volunteers, Derry Medford, Sylvester Dock Mull, John Kelly, and Ben Howell Kirkpatrick.

Others are: Robert Hall, Hurley Goodwin Brown, Clarence Jones Hyatt, Walter Houston Plemmons, Floyd Wilson Davis, Johnnie Max Fish, Carter Thomas Boone, John Boone Reeves, Robert Lee Underwood, Eugene Henry, Thomas Stringfield Franklin, James Zebulon Vance Rogers, John Ebid Bramlett, Arthur Haze Franklin, Lloyd George Jones, Grady Reeves Noland, Arthur White.

Joseph Harold Sisk, Woodrow Wilson Underwood, Willis Shelton, Alfred Clark Arrington, Wallace Roderick Robinson, Charles Roy Frady, Robert Daniel Fisher, William Wayne Wright, Glenn Green, John Gordon Reeves, John Henry Parker, Rufus Haskell Davis, James Robert Wyatt, Robert E. Lee Parton, John Riley Wyatt. ... (Continued on page 7)

War Bond Sales In Haywood Are Satisfactory

The war bond drive in Haywood was progressing satisfactorily for the first half of the month, according to Charlie Ray, county chairman last night. All indications were that the quota of \$63,800 would be reached.

Mr. Ray announced that a supper meeting of those in charge of the drive in the county, would be held at Lake Logan Tuesday at six-thirty. About 25 people are expected to attend, with about half from Canton and the others from Waynesville.

A general discussion will be had of future drives and continued sales in the county. For the past two months, Haywood has exceeded the quota.

Mr. Ray was particularly anxious that those who were responsible for inaugurating the 10 per cent payroll deduction plan in the industries of the county attend this meeting Tuesday.

Officers of Livestock Show To Meet Tonight

All officers of the Haywood County Livestock show have been called to meet tonight at the court house at 8:30 by Claude T. Francis, president.

Important matters relating to the show will be discussed and acted upon, Mr. Francis said, in urging that every member be present.

Barber Putting New Roof On Storage House; Was Destroyed By \$2,800 Blaze

Work is expected to start soon in replacing the roof on the refrigerated storage apple house at Barber's Orchard which was destroyed by fire several weeks ago, according to R. N. Barber, Jr., general manager.

The fire burned the roof of heavy timbers and sheet iron from the 31 by 105 foot stone building after sparks from defective wiring had ignited the woodwork.

The loss was placed at about \$2,800, and was not covered by in- ... (Continued on page 7)

Curtailment Of School Building Program Is Reason

Valuation Rises \$200,000 For New Total Of \$23,200,000. Old Rate Was \$1.57

The tax rate of Haywood county for the year 1942-43 has been set at \$1.45 per \$100 property valuation, which is 12 cents less than that of last year which was \$1.57, it was learned this week from T. J. Cathey, county auditor.

The 1942-43 budget appropriation of \$481,567.38 approved by county commissioners, is less than that of last year due to two reasons, according to Mr. Cathey.

This is the first time in a number of years that there has not been a school building program in the county amounting anywhere from \$35,000 to \$85,000.

The second reason pointed out by the county auditor is that taxable valuation is now up to \$23,200,000 which automatically lowers the rate in proportion. This is \$200,000 more than last year.

The county had an appropriation or an expenditure last year of \$567,605.90 which meant an expenditure of \$42,300 per month or about \$1,410 per day. Of this amount the county debt service took \$230,786.10.

The county debt service, outstanding as of June 30, 1942, is \$1,268,634.94. Of this amount \$62,500 for sinking fund bonds and there is now on deposit \$56,730.08 to apply on these bonds, it was learned from Mr. Cathey.

The largest fund set aside is that of the debt service at \$96,765, with the Haywood County Hospital coming second with \$70,660.

Other funds in total budget requirements are:

- General fund, \$37,600.
- Special fund, \$12,890.
- Poor fund, \$16,600.
- Building fund, \$7,882.67.
- Penalty fund, \$6,000.
- Capital outlay, \$5,431.46.
- Old age assistance, \$16,575.
- Aid to dependent children, \$5,766.25.
- Welfare department, \$13,500.

The school fund was divided as follows:

- Current expenses, \$38,756.58.
- Capital outlay, \$17,154.60.
- Debt service, \$115,572.82.
- Canton charter district, \$23,423.

Last Rites Held Friday For Rev. E. K. Whidden

Funeral services were held at 3:00 o'clock on Friday afternoon at Shady Grove Methodist church for Rev. E. K. Whidden, 74, retired Methodist minister, who died at 6:20 Thursday morning at the home of his son in Dellwood.

Rev. W. L. Hutchins, superintendent of the Waynesville district, and the Rev. Robbins, of Lake Junaluska, officiated. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Serving as pallbearers were: James Teague, W. Pless Boyd, Robert W. Howell, Glenn A. Boyd, Albert Jones, and Edmond Jones.

Rev. Whidden, a native of Florida, had been residing in this section for the past 19 years, and had served a number of charges in the Methodist church prior to his retirement.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Stella Norton Whidden; one son, Wilbur Whidden; two daughters, Mrs. E. M. Owens, of Waynesville, route 2, and Mrs. D. R. Morrison, of Montgomery, Ala.; five brothers; seven sisters; 19 grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

REA Will Hold Annual Meeting In Clyde, Aug. 17th

The annual meeting of the Cruso Mutual Electric Membership Corporation has been set for August 17th, at 10:30 at the Clyde high school building, it was learned here this week from James C. Moore, superintendent.

The annual reports and the election of officers for the coming year will feature the meeting.

The nominating committee has named the following from which the officers and directors will be chosen: Ira Cogburn, East Fork; L. N. Davis, Cecil; Mrs. E. B. Rickman, Pigeon; Carter Osborne, Clyde; W. P. Harris, Beaverdam; F. A. Justice, Crabtree; Roy B. Medford, Iron Duff; Chas. B. McCrary, Fines Creek; and Thomas Alexander, of Jonathan Creek and Maggie.

The law requires that the list ... (Continued on page 7)