

THE WAYNESVILLE MOUNTAINEER

Published Twice-A-Week In The County Seat of Haywood County At The Eastern Entrance Of The Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Published
Twice-a-Week
Every Tuesday
and Friday

No. 68 TWENTY PAGES United Press and Associated Press News WAYNESVILLE, N. C., FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 1948 \$3.00 In Advance In Haywood and Jackson Counties

Haywood Pupils Begin School Work Monday; Canton Later

School officials announced yesterday that all of Haywood's schools, with the exception of Canton district, would open for the 1948-49 season on Monday morning.

Jack Messer, superintendent of education, said that buses were sent out yesterday to Bethel, Crabtree and Fines Creek, and today buses will go to the Clyde and Waynesville schools. A total of 47 buses will be used this year, with 5 of them brand new.

Mr. Messer said that school would begin at the following hours on Monday:

| | |
|-------------|------|
| Clyde | 8:45 |
| Bethel | 8:45 |
| Crabtree | 8:45 |
| Fines Creek | 8:30 |
| Waynesville | 8:40 |

Plans are to have school until one o'clock for the first two days and then operate on the regular schedule of letting out at three.

Lunch rooms will open September 1st, Mr. Messer said.

M. H. Bowles, superintendent of the Waynesville district schools, said the Waynesville schools would operate on a full schedule on Tuesday. Already about 90 per cent of the high school students have registered, and the 7th grade will register on Monday.

Reckless Driving Hurts Pocketbook

In case you feel like taking a fling down the highway in the family jalopy, read this.

To prove that the local police court is not running a bargain basement in driving fines, check the price which one driver had to pay in court costs and fines for reckless driving.

\$172.50

Mayor J. H. Way took the motorist's money after local police had found him driving in an unimpaired manner.

Like everything else, court fines seem to have had a small touch of inflation.

No New Clue On Steading Whereabouts

Nothing new has developed on the whereabouts of Edgar Vernon Steading, 24-year-old local soda jerk, who has not been heard of since leaving a taxi at Lake Junaluska shortly after midnight last Friday.

Officers have continued their search of Lake Junaluska, feeling that the man might have jumped in the waters of the lake, after a note was found, addressed to "Mary," saying he was "leaving this world."

Rumors have been thick and fast about the missing man but officers said nothing new has developed on the case.

Chief of Police Max Cochran of Lake Junaluska said that plans to drain the 25-acre lake on Wednesday was halted because the muddy lake bottom would cause a health menace, and perhaps supply a breeding place for mosquitoes.

The lake has been constantly watched, and boatsmen have patrolled the edges throughout the day on a lookout for the man.

Lions To Extend Sight Program For Haywood Needy

The Waynesville Lions club, after a meeting last week, has decided to extend its program of sight conservation among the needy in Haywood county.

In addition to its present project, the club will contribute \$20 to \$35 each month to the eye clinic in Asheville. This clinic is owned and operated by sixteen Lions organizations in W. N. C.

Two members of the Asheville Lions visited the club at its last meeting and explained the program. The clinic has rent-free space in Asheville City Hall, with a full-time superintendent in charge. His salary is paid by the Lions Clubs. Competent surgeons and specialists are cooperating by giving medical attention and examinations to those who could not afford such measures.

Ninety people from Haywood county were given such aid last year. Under the expanded program, more needy persons will receive aid.

Farmers Inspect Test Farm Plots Of Tobacco Tues.

A tour through the tobacco experimental plots at the Mountain Test Farm will be held next Tuesday from 10 a. m. through noon.

Leading the tour will be Dr. Luther Shaw, who will explain the tobacco plots. This should be of interest to all tobacco growers in this section, according to the county agents office.

Laws Strict On School Bus Hazards

Highway Patrolman O. R. Roberts issued a special warning yesterday to all motorists, calling attention to hazards of driving near schools, and following the law in regard to school busses.

"During the past few weeks we have had a decided increase in highway accidents, resulting in both death and a number injured. Most of the accidents were due to reckless driving. Now that schools are opening in the county, all five Highway Patrolmen in Haywood have been given specific instructions to check in and near all schools during opening and closing hours.

"Motorists are especially warned that they must stop when a school bus stops, and all those who pass a stopped school bus will be subject to a heavy fine.

"Records show that more accidents happen to school children early in the season, as the pupils are often forgetful of the dangers of crossing streets and highways.

"The bus drivers have been given rigid instructions on safety measures, and the patrol will be constantly on duty to see that all violators are apprehended immediately."

Patrolman Roberts continued by saying, "We hope it will not be necessary to make any arrests for passing school busses or speeding in school zones."

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Haywood's New And Modern Bookmobile



This is the new Bookmobile recently received by the Haywood County Library. Shown at the wheel is Miss Margaret Johnson, librarian, who drove the unit in from Raleigh. The campaign to raise the \$3,100 for the Bookmobile was started last February, and the goal was reached by all civic groups throughout the county participating. This is a Mountaineer photograph by Ingram's Studio.

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Hazelwood Tax Rates To Remain At \$1.45; Budget Is Made For Next Year

Hazelwood's tax rate was set at \$1.45 per hundred dollar valuation for the coming year at a recent meeting of the town's officials.

Rudolph Carswell, town clerk and treasurer, stated that a breakdown of the tax levy would have 42c going to the debt service fund, 40c to the street fund and 60c to the general fund.

A poll tax of \$1 will be levied on every male eligible in Hazelwood. This, Mr. Carswell estimates, will net \$200.

Hazelwood will have a \$39,520 budget for the coming year, according to Treasurer Carswell. Of this total, \$11,145 will go into the general fund, \$7,450 into the street fund, \$13,903 into the water fund, and \$7,020 into the debt service fund.

From income other than taxes levied, Hazelwood officials expect to receive \$22,075. Water charges are due to bring in \$18,000 of this figure. Other expected sources of income are sewer charges, \$3,000; delinquent taxes, \$350; privilege taxes, \$275; intangible taxes, \$150.

The net amount to be received through taxes for the coming year is figured to be \$12,271, stated Mr. Carswell. This is the amount required to balance the budget, coupled with the non-spendable and unallocated surplus from June 30, 1948, of \$1,182.

Total valuation for Hazelwood is estimated to be \$2,750,000. The tax levy on 1948 is anticipated to bring the town \$13,442.50, with \$1,341.25 deducted from the same reserved for noncollectable taxes.

Power Will Be Off 3 Short Intervals On Carolina Lines

There will be three 15-minute interruptions of power on Sunday, Aug. 29th on Carolina Power and Light Company lines, it was announced yesterday by officials.

The interruptions will not affect Waynesville nor the REA lines. Radio Station WHCC will be affected however, it was said, since the transmitter is operated from Carolina Power lines.

The interruptions will be made at 9:30 to 9:45 a. m., and 1:45 to 2 p. m. and again from 3:45 to 4:00 p. m.

Work on transformers at the sub station necessitates the interruptions, officials said.

Local Men Testify In Asheville Court Case

Buncombe county's cleanup net swept into Haywood county Thursday when Superior Court Judge Zeh Y. Nettles called on several local people to testify in Asheville's war against gambling and vice.

Among the Haywood residents receiving subpoenas to appear before Judge Nettles were R. H. Chambers, Don Allen, D. D. McFarland, Don Brock, John Boyd and James R. Bradley, all of Hazelwood.

Judge Nettles, sitting as commissioner, presided in a "John Doe" hearing, was ready to listen to anybody who could shed any light on Asheville's rackets Thursday. That meant testimony from some 100 city and county officials, law enforcement agents, civic and business leaders, and people from the outlying areas who may have information on the flourishing Buncombe rackets. This last category brought the Haywood group into the court.

One Hazelwood resident, Earl R. Seruggs, former operator of the Seely & Spain, a drive-in on Highway 19A-23 toward Sylva, testified Thursday that he had a slot machine in his place. He said he was co-owner of the machine with a man named Morris or Norris, whose first name was David.

Seruggs told the court that he got the slot machine about a year ago.

Asks Parkway Commission To Shift Highway Funds From Soco To Wagon Gap

That the funds available for the Soco Gap-Black Camp road be transferred to the Wagon Gap-Beech Gap parkway section was suggested at a meeting of the North Carolina Parkway and Forests Commission at Linville Monday.

The suggestion was sounded by R. Getty Browning of Raleigh, chief locating engineer for the state highway and public works commission. The commission took no action upon the suggestion.

Mr. Browning said that work on the Soco Gap link of the parkway was being held up until congressional action could be made on the transfer of certain Cherokee Indian lands. He said that an agreement had been reached and a bill can be introduced soon after Congress convenes in January.

The meeting adopted a resolution to speed work on the construction of the Heintooga Ridge and Cades Cove roads in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. These projects have been approved by congress.

The meeting was attended by parkway officials from the western part of the state, Charles E. Ray

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3,200 Haywood Men Begin Draft Registration Monday

Brookmont Bought By R. V. Welch

The real estate auction sales conducted early this week by Penny Brothers here was one of the most successful this season, it was said yesterday.

The R. V. Welch farm, known as the Snake Farm on Allens Creek, consisting of 100 acres, sold for a total of \$42,249.80. Among the buyers were C. M. Stokes, Jr., of Jacksonville, who bought the house, Judge Anderson, also of Jacksonville, bought the barn, A. E. Whittle, of Savannah, Ga., bought acreage; T. A. Monk, of Bradenton, Fla., bought acreage; Clarence Muse, Waynesville, acreage; Henry Smith, Waynesville, acreage; and John Rider, also of Waynesville, acreage. Mr. Welch bought the farm about two years ago.

Later in the day Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Welch bought the Brookmont Motor Court in East Waynesville for \$56,500. The property was purchased from Mr. and Mrs. Everett McElroy, who bought it earlier this year from Dr. and Mrs. N. M. Medford.

Sheriff and Mrs. Welch are due to assume operation this week-end. Mr. and Mrs. McElroy will devote their time to their grocery business on the Dellwood road.

The 24-foot Main Street lot, across from the LeFaine Hotel was sold to Mrs. H. W. Burnette for \$300 per front foot. Mrs. Burnette said that plans were to build on the lot, but did not give any details as to when work would start, or the type building to be erected.

Needs Workers



CARLTON PEYTON, chairman of the local Boy Scout district, is concerned over the apparent lack of adult interest in Scouting in this end of the county. It is making a special plea for adult leaders who will assist in putting the Scout program on in this area. "We need women to lead Cub Scouts, as well as men to help with Scout troops," Mr. Peyton said, in a recent letter to the editor of The Mountaineer.

Mr. Peyton is inviting all interested Scouters to contact him, or attend the monthly court of honor in Clyde on September 20th.

Board Members To Serve Until Registration Period Is Completed

Some 3,200 Haywood county youths will find their way to the third floor of the county courthouse next week to sign up for the nation's peace-time draft act.

The draft board office will be open for the first registration at 1 p. m. Monday and will remain open until 4 p. m. On subsequent days it will open at 10 a. m. and stay open until 4 p. m. The hours on Saturday will be from 10 to 12.

Handling the registration of Haywood's draft-age men will be the original five-man draft board selected from this county a few weeks ago. Four of the board members had said earlier in the week that they would resign from their board duties because it "was impracticable to serve."

Tuesday the resigning members said they would "serve temporarily." As one member, W. A. Bradley of Hazelwood, said, "We'll handle the registration for them and then somebody else can take over."

The other resigning men from the board were Fred Campbell of Ivy Hill, Charles Duckett of Fines Creek and Lindon Robinson of Canton. The fifth member, Way Mease of Canton, told The Mountaineer Monday afternoon that he would remain on the board. No statement has been made by Mr. Mease since the other members' decision to serve temporarily was heard.

According to the temporary board members, a new unit will have to be named by governor Gregg Cherry.

Meanwhile, they were setting up the machinery to handle the flow of registrants next week. One clerk is supplied by the state, but this will not be sufficient to sign up the mass of draft-age men. A call has been made to the American Legion auxiliary unit here and the Veterans of Foreign War, auxiliary to help with the paperwork. Anyone else who will assist in the registration will be welcome, board officials say.

All men between 18 and 26 will be required to register. Some 235,000 North Carolinians are expected to sign up, but exemptions are expected to be very high because of military service and other reasons. Veterans with three or more months service will probably be counted out, but must register.

Dates for the draft registration under the new National Selective Service Act have been set as follows:

1. Persons born in the year 1922 after August 30, 1922, shall be registered on Monday, August 30.
2. Persons born in the year 1923 shall be registered on Tuesday, August 31, or Wednesday, September 1.

(Continued on Page Two)

Final Rites To Be Held Today For Cpl. Best

Final rites for Cpl. Melvin Benton Best, who was killed in action Nov. 24, 1944, in the invasion of Leyte, arrived yesterday at Wells held this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in Morning Star Methodist church, Canton.

The Rev. C. R. Moss and the Rev. George Culbreth will officiate, and interment will be in Bon-A-Venture cemetery. Graveside rites will be in charge of members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Cpl. Best's remains, originally interred in a U. S. cemetery on Leyte, arrived yesterday at Wells funeral home, Canton.

Entering the army in February, 1943, he was sent overseas the following December and had served 10 months in New Guinea.

Surviving are the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Best of 31 Parkman avenue, West Asheville, the widow, Mrs. Dortha Sue Israel Best of Asheville; two sisters, Mrs. W. J. Sockaki and Mrs. Thomas Moore both of Asheville, and three brothers, Fred W. of New York City, Teah Sgt. Charles T., stationed in South Dakota and Jack L. of Asheville.

Death Here Was Suicide, Says Sheriff

Mrs. Ed L. Gilliams, wife of a Miami druggist, was found dead at a guest house here about six o'clock Wednesday, with an extension cord drawn tightly about her throat.

Dr. Frank Tate, coroner, conducted an inquest, and it was decided that the woman came to her death by her own hands. Dr. Tate said she was found half way in a room and the ball of the home where she had been staying for about three weeks.

The coroner and the woman had been dead about two hours when found.

Sheriff R. V. Welch on scene, the cord, and upon his own investigation, said he was satisfied that death was the result of her choking herself.

The coroner's jury impounded the body.

(Continued on page two)

Business Women Name Committees For Coming Year

Dr. Bruce Barber on Smathers, of Asheville, addressed the Business and Professional Women's Club at their annual monthly dinner meeting held Thursday night at the hotel.

Dr. Smathers who has been an outstanding member of the B. and P. W. Club, told the club of its obligations and responsibility to the community and what being a member has meant to her. She expressed the belief that "No Nation is Greater than its Women" which is a conviction grounded in her experience with the Business and Professional Women's Club.

She also pointed out to the club that they must work as a body, not as an individual. Quoting Dr. Smathers: "Alone we can do little. Separate we are kinds of weakness, but aggregated we become batteries of power. Unite, educate, organize."

(Continued on Page Two)

Junaluska Man Held For Theft Of S. C. Automobile

Gene Henry of Lake Junaluska, was bound over to Federal court by U. S. Commissioner W. H. Noland, under \$1,500 bond, on charges of stealing a car in Spartanburg and bringing it to North Carolina.

Two FBI men, together with Patrolman Lonnie Bishop, John Kerley, and Max Cochran, made the arrest. Evidence showed that the stolen car was brought here and later taken to Sylva, and left with two men, who became suspicious, and notified officers.

Paving Contracts For Roads In This Area Are Awarded

The highway commission yesterday awarded contracts to the Asheville Paving Company for \$55,765 for bituminous resurfacing of sections of No. 19 in Haywood and Buncombe counties.

Contracts were also awarded to the National Truck Service, Inc., of Asheville, for \$171,444 for bituminous surfacing of 4.23 miles on No. 19 and 23 from a point 550 yards east of the Haywood - Buncombe line east to end of Pole Creek bridge.

Singing, Picnic Slated At Canton Church Sunday

Sunday will be known as "Harvest Day" at Long's Methodist church at Canton, and a large program of special services, including quartet singing and a picnic style lunch, has been planned.

John J. Martin, program chairman, said that a large group of singers is expected. Quartets scheduled to sing are the Supt. J. family and the Champion quartet. Persons attending are requested to bring picnic lunch.

The pastor, the Rev. V. N. Allen, will deliver the regular 11 o'clock sermon. This will climax a week's revival services.

Highway Record For 1948 (To Date)

In Haywood
Killed 4
Injured . . . 30

(This information compiled from Records of