Insurance Executive Enjoys County Climate, North Carolina Roads

T. T. Phillips, chairman of the board of the Gulf Life Insurance Company of Jacksonville, Fla., likes Haywood County's climate and scenery, North Carolina's highways and North Carolina's new law concerning motor vehicle liability insurance.

In fact, he enjoys the first of these so much he's been spending his vacations regularly at the Waynesville Country Club just about every summer since 1933.

More specifically, he enjoys the mountains and the climate right around Waynesville.

In an interview at the Country Club golf course, Mr. Phillips said he had come here July 15 for a three-week vacation.

With him are his wife and 3½-year-old grandson.

Mr. Phillips, who was born and raised in the flat country of Jacksonville, said he never visit the Smoky Mountains without regarding them as "one of the best in the books."

Briefly, the law is such that a person involved in his first auto accident causing more than $50 damage is liable to lose his driver's license and his auto registration.

After the first accident he is required to file proof of financial liability. The effect is to require carrying liability insurance.

He pointed out that the Florida legislature during its session this summer adopted this law in a less stringent form.

"The North Carolina law," he observed, "is much stricter."

Mr. Phillips praised North Carolina's highways, terming them among the finest in the nation.

And what a treat to the tourist, he added, they are all romantically marked. It means a great deal to the traveling.

In the conversation he expressed his approval of the projects of the Community Development Program which call for the erection of descriptive signs, the 2 Dos and Don'ts of the respective communities.

Mr. Phillips, who now enjoys health retired, said that he visits his office twice or three times a week to keep up and from settling in.

Besides having a thriving own large firm, he also was a prime force in the founding of the Southern Insurance Conference, which now has some 80 insurance firms in its membership. The Conference headquarters are at Richmond, Va.

During his vacation, besides playing golf and relaxing with his family, Mr. Phillips visited one of the Conference members, the Imperial Life Insurance Company, at Asheville.

Gene Autry Kept Busy Meeting His Admirers

By PATRICIA CLARY
United Press Staff Correspondent

HOLLYWOOD (UP) — Meeting the movie fans comes close to being a full-time job for Gene Autry.

Autry spends six months of the year making six pictures for Columbia. Instead of relaxing on a Hollywood estate or basking on the Riviera the other six months, Autry gets face-to-face with the fans.

"I'll have covered every town of size in every state before long," he said proudly. "I guess I'm the travelingest man in town."

Autry's rugged routine began early last year, when he decided that the only accurate way to find out what his public wanted was to talk to them personally.

He gathered about him a western variety show with 16 top performers and went on a tour of 11 southern states.

"We put on two shows a day in 46 cities that trip," Autry figured. "When I wasn't traveling or sleeping, I went out and talked to the people I met. Theater operators, movie critics, children in hospitals or just plain folks on the street.

"I tried to meet the folks who pay money to see western pictures to find out what they think about them."

The folks told him, too. They let him know what they approved of in western heroes, and exactly how he should behave on the screen.

The tour over, Autry flew back to Hollywood, made three pictures, and flew out to go up with residents of 12 midwest and eastern states. After another movie making session he toured more of the midwest.

After finishing "Cowtown" in Lone Pine, Cal., and "Sons of New Mexico," in Roswell, N. Mex., Autry started a summer tour of South Dakota, Washington, British Columbia, Oregon and northern California.

"By 1950," he said, "I'll have covered every one of the 48 states and most of Canada. I'll really have an idea then of what people want to see in pictures."

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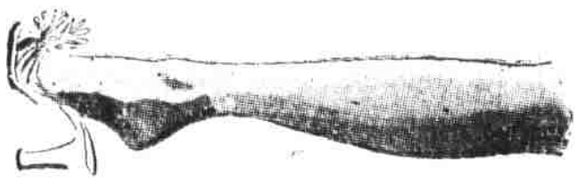

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