

# 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

67th YEAR NO. 97 24 PAGES

Associated Press

WAYNESVILLE, N. C., THURSDAY AFTERNOON, DEC. 4, 1952

\$3.00 In Advance In Haywood and Jackson Counties

TODAY'S SMILE

"Today is the tomorrow  
you worried about yesterday."

Delights  
Of The  
News

**Delights Of The News**  
An Even  
morning?  
born December 5.  
for a surprise if they  
the National Bank  
the first for, is observ-  
anniversary on that  
officials want to  
persons born on Decem-  
and present them  
today gift.  
a matter of record, the  
the birthday will not  
the bank a gift.

**Disappointment**  
fans of this area took  
of the coaches in de-  
winner of the Blue  
ference with as much  
as the seasoned poli-  
election results.  
umping with the political  
were many disap-  
as well as some who were  
understand the final

**Life Ramps**  
THIS WEEK Maga-  
October 12 had a state-  
effect that people in  
North Carolina may be  
wear eating ramps will  
to be 100.  
wrong with that state-  
any person in these  
enjoyed one of those  
ramps... if you can get  
to ask.  
be that people who eat  
subjected to crowded  
And we've often heard  
living adds years  
of life span.

**ator For Telephone**  
ing Dies  
Entrekin, 65, of At-  
Haywood County Hospi-  
brief illness.

**Prizes Announced For Saturday's Trade Festival**  
Another big list of prizes has been announced for this Saturday's lucky winners in the Second Annual Trade Jubilee sponsored by the Waynesville Merchant's Association.

**17 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT**  
Christmas

**Stores Will Be Open Friday Night 'Til 9**  
Christmas shoppers were reminded today that all member stores of the Waynesville Merchants Association would be open tomorrow (Friday) night until nine o'clock.

**CLOUDY**  
Considerable cloudi-  
cool with light rain or  
Waynesville tempera-  
by the State Test

## Contract For Blue Ridge Parkway Project Awarded To Lenoir Building Firm

### Wins Contest



Billy Rogers of Maggie, a junior at St. John's School won first prize with his essay on democracy in a speech contest against five other entrants from various county schools. He received a \$50 bond and his recorded talk entered in the State contest. The event was broadcast over Station WHCC. (Mountaineer Photo). (See Other Picture Page 1, Sec. 2)

A contract for the grading and crushed stone surfacing of a three mile link in the Blue Ridge Parkway between Bridgers Camp Gap and Devil's Court House has been awarded to a Lenoir firm and work will begin immediately, according to Sam P. Weems, superintendent of the Parkway.

The firm, Clement Brothers, has 500 calendar days from the date of the contract award, November 21, in which to complete the job. That would put completion in the early spring of 1954.

A half million dollars was appropriated for the job in July, and it was announced at that time that the contract would probably be awarded in the fall.

The grading of the three-mile link will give a completely graded eleven-mile section of the Parkway from Wagon Road Gap to Beech Gap. Travelers may now get to Beech Gap by way of a state road going from Bethel to Lake Logan.

The completed section will make possible a scenic loop starting at Bethel, to Beech Gap via Lake Logan, thence along the Parkway to Wagon Road Gap, then back to Bethel via Highway 276.

Prior to the beginning of the war the grading of the link between Beech Gap to Devil's Court House, a distance of three miles, was completed, as was the five-mile section from Wagon Road Gap to Bridgers Camp Gap. Work was interrupted when the war began and work on the three mile section from Bridgers Camp Gap to Devil's Court House, though not forgotten, was temporarily postponed.

Efforts to get the final link graded were taken up in earnest soon after the war was over and last spring the North Carolina Park, Parkway and Forest Commission requested that funds be made available for the project. The appropriation of half million dollars was an outgrowth of that drive.

Because of weather conditions that usually prevail at the higher altitudes in this area, it is doubtful if much headway will be made on the new project before next spring. The contractors have said, however, that efforts would be made to clear much of the route and that work should be well underway by the middle of next summer.

## Baxter Undergoing Questioning In Lincoln County

Peter Franklin Baxter, the escaped North Carolina convict who was captured by Charleston (S.C.) officers earlier this week, is being interviewed by law officials today at a prison camp in Lincoln County in connection with several thefts that had been reported since his escape from the Pitt County prison camp in early October.

It is thought that Baxter might have been connected with a rash of robberies that broke out in Waynesville and the nearby area about two weeks ago. At that time a hardware store on Main Street was entered and a great deal of ammunition and guns was taken. Immediately after the theft was discovered police officials here theorized that Baxter might have been connected with the robbery. Not many hours after the hardware robbery a new automobile was taken from a dealer here, and that also was attributed possibly to either Baxter or men working with him.

Some food was stolen from the Crabtree Iron-Duff school and the Rock Hill school buildings during the same period of time.

It was learned here this morning that the officers in Lincoln County will question Baxter about the Haywood thefts.

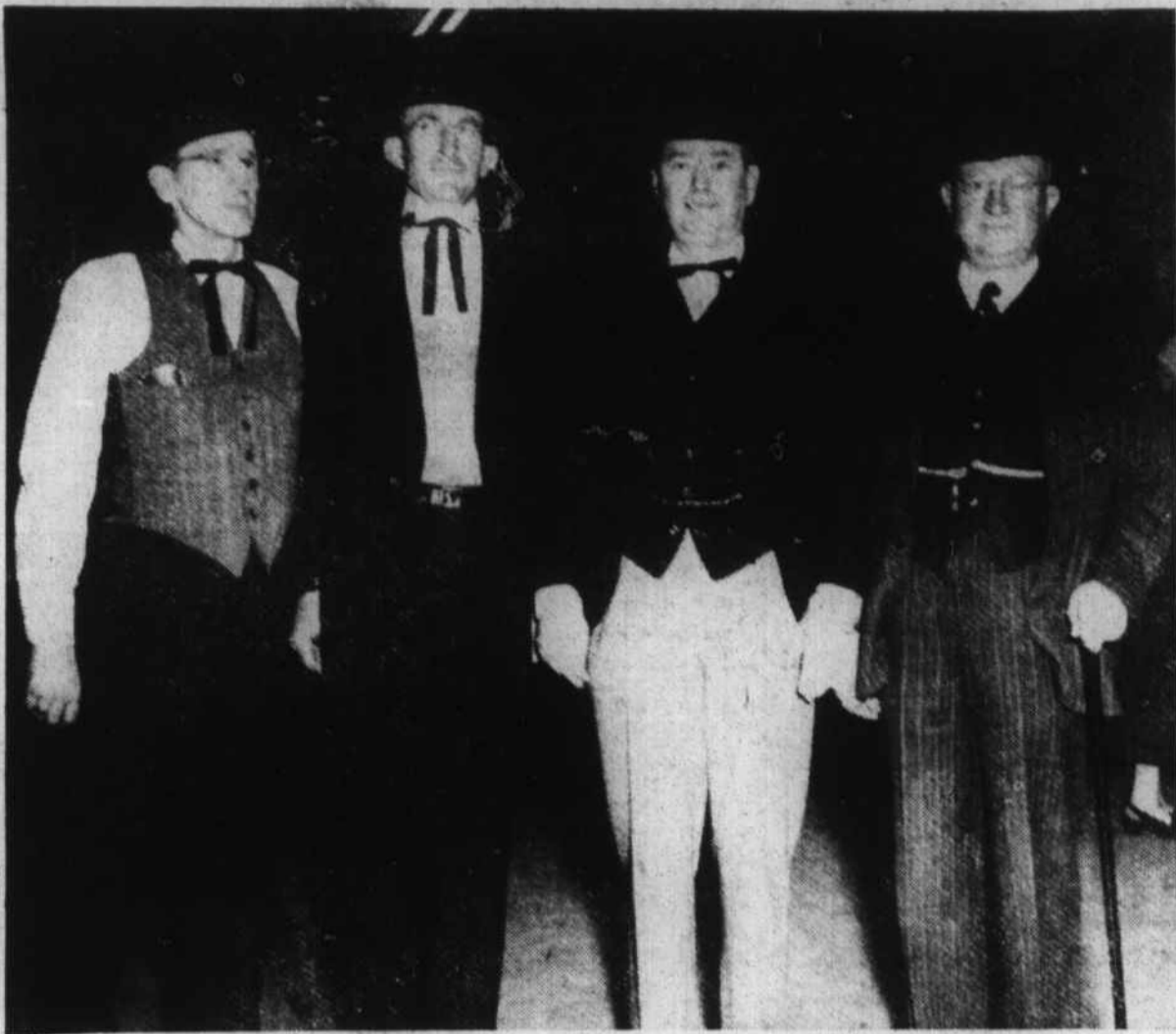
Baxter, who was one of the instigators and leaders of the prison riot that broke out in Central Prison in Raleigh this fall, was removed to the Lincoln County prison camp to avoid any possibility of further trouble in Central Prison.

The story of his capture in Charleston may be found elsewhere in the paper.

## MRS LEATHERWOOD REMAINS IN CRITICAL CONDITION

Mrs. Hugh Leatherwood remains in a critical condition at the Haywood County Hospital, where she has been a patient since Thanksgiving Day.

## Bank Officials Turn Back Pages Of Time



These four officials of The First National Bank played the role of bankers of the 1902 era this morning, as the bank began a three-day observance of their Golden Anniversary. On the left is Joe Davis, cashier; James T. Noland, vice-president; Jonathan Woody, president and a director; and J. H. Way, executive vice-president and also a director. Mr. Way has 43 years service with the institution, and this morning sported a gold headed cane along with his high hat. (Other pictures on pages four and five.) (Mountaineer Photo).

## Hundreds Visit First National Bank As Open House Staged As Part of 50th Anniversary

### Christmas As It Was In Haywood Sixty Years Ago

A special feature today recalls Christmas time in Haywood 60 years ago. The article was written by W. C. Medford, and deals of the factual account of Christmas events back 60 years ago. At a later date another similar article will appear in this newspaper, dealing with events of many years ago. The writer has spent much time gathering the facts for these articles.

### Three Youth Groups Meet At Bethel Church

The Youth of Bethel Methodist Church were hosts to the Youth of Morning Star and Long's Methodist churches at a joint meeting of the three groups last week.

The Morning Star group conducted an inspirational worship service. A large congregation composed of adults of the participating churches and the Intermediate group of Bethel church enjoyed the service.

At the conclusion of the service the group assembled for a social hour.

## Monthly Magazine Has Excellent Smokies Story

"The wildest, roughest and most spectacular region in Eastern America" . . . thus was described the Great Smoky Mountains by H. B. Teeter in the current issue of Coronet Magazine.

Teeter sketches the Smokies, known to the Indians of long ago as the "Unakas," as a veritable wonderland. "The Smokies are so high that they lean over at night to keep from bumping the stars," he quotes one mountaineer. And another native said: "I've seen the wind blow so hard a horse couldn't stand agin' it."

The many balds that have stumped experts for years also comes in for a bit of attention from Teeter. The balds, great meadows in the sky, are to be found no place else in the world. (The balds exist below tree level, but are treeless and have caused a great

### Tobacco Bringing Better Prices At Asheville Market

Farmers from Haywood County have been selling steadily at the Asheville tobacco warehouses since the market opened Monday and have been getting some of the top prices.

Frank Sorrells of Canton sold 2,574 pounds from an acre allotment Wednesday for \$1,545.94. His prices ranged from 23 cents to 69 cents for an average of 60 cents. Sales for the day averaged 53 cents as 345,000 pounds were sold.

Frozen tobacco brought as low as two cents a pound while the best lugs and smokers went for 70 cents.

During the first three days, average prices have been increasing slowly but steadily. Monday's sales averaged \$51.30, Tuesday, \$52.83, and Wednesday, \$53. The prices are about the same as those at other western North Carolina tobacco markets.

There was a large quantity of frozen, green, and wet tobacco in Wednesday's sales.

Business at The First National Bank was done in an atmosphere of 1902 this morning, as the institution turned back the hands of time in observance of their 50th anniversary. Today marked the first of the three days set aside for the Golden Anniversary event. Hundreds visited the bank this morning, and took their time looking at the displays, as well as the costumed employees. The same displays will be up Friday and Saturday.

The employees of the bank were costumed in outfits of the 1902 era, while the lobby was decorated with pictures, documents, and money of the past. Even furniture used in 1902 was on display.

As customers entered the bank this morning they were greeted by employees, and directed to the penny jar. Each person was given a penny, and those who drew a "lucky" penny got a \$5 bill for the coin. Those who drew a penny not listed, got to keep the coin for good luck.

In the center of the lobby was a barrel of candy, similar to the kind which was so popular in 1902. Everyone was asked to help themselves to the candy, and also golden delicious apples.

Officials of the bank mingled with the large crowds, including several classes of school children. At two desks bank personnel were kept busy burning names of patrons on wooden walking canes. The canes were square yardsticks. (See Bank—Page 8)

### Classroom Teachers Will Meet Monday

The Haywood County Classroom Teachers Association will meet in the cafeteria of the East Waynesville School Monday, December 8, at 7:30 p. m.

Mrs. Claude Rogers will preside and the program will be presented by Mrs. Carl Ratcliffe, county supervisor; Miss Edna Boyd of the Crabtree School, and Perry Plemons, principal of the Fines Creek School.

A social hour will follow the meeting and refreshments will be served.

### Executive Promotion Committee To Meet

The Executive Promotion Committee of the Haywood Baptist Association will meet next Thursday, December 11, at 7:30 p. m. at the First Baptist Church in Canton.

Thomas Erwin, chairman of the committee, requests that all members of the committee be present.

## New Hospital Wing In Use

### Work Started In Old Building, As Patients Moved Into New Wing

For the first time in 24 years the original 72 beds at the Haywood County Hospital are without a patient.

Last Thursday, Thanksgiving day, they were all moved from the old wing into the new five-story wing while the original section of the hospital is being remodeled. This work is expected to take about three months and when finished both wings will be much alike in appearance. The job of repainting and installing new furniture started Tuesday.

Biggest changes in the old wing will be in the X-ray department, which will have two new machines, one of them portable. The two operating rooms will be remodeled and converted into delivery rooms which means that all operations will be performed in the new section.

The part of the hospital that is being remodeled has not been deserted entirely, however. The various administrative offices are still in use, including the telephone or information office, and incoming and outgoing patients will continue to check in at the desk.

Although it has not been announced formally, the transfer of the patients and remodeling of the old wing mean that the new, three-quarter million dollar wing is officially open, although it had been originally scheduled to be ready for patients by Jan. 1, or possibly Dec. 15. As a result, 55 more beds on the top three floors have been added to the hospital's facilities for a total of 127.

On the bottom floors are the equipment. The kitchen is in the basement and an operating suite occupy the ground floor. Included in the suite are three operating rooms, a cystoscopic room, a fracture and splint room, emergency room, and central sterilization.

The most modern dietary department in the State is also in this wing. Hospital heating has been transferred from the old wing and the plant for the entire building is in the new section.

Minor work will continue about another year before the hospital is completely finished, but for most practical purposes—at least as far as patients are concerned—the Haywood County Hospital has completed its expansion to the point where it can meet the increased demands of the past years.

### Reservoir Bids To Be Opened Today By Board

Sealed bids for construction of an auxiliary reservoir in Waynesville will be opened at the regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen this afternoon.

The reservoir will be located on top of the hill where the filter plant stands.

It was understood that four or five bids had been received for construction of the reservoir.

### Faulty Stoves Start Two Fires Last Monday

Damage to two homes in Waynesville within the space of an hour was attributed to faulty stoves and flues Monday. Fire Chief Clem Fitzgerald said this morning.

One fire was discovered Monday afternoon about 5:30 on Oakdale Road. The blaze, caused by a stove flue, caused about \$25 damage.

The other fire was reported about an hour later. It occurred in an apartment on Main Street and was caused by a faulty stove. Damage was confined to the stove.

### Local WAF Officer Squadron Adjutant

Second Lieutenant Mary Lucia Allison has recently been assigned as adjutant of the 1907th AAC Squadron at March Air Force Base, Calif.

This is the first assignment of Lieut. Allison and she holds the distinction of being the first WAF officer to be assigned to this squadron.

She is a graduate of the University of California at Los Angeles with a Bachelor of Arts in History, and a former teacher.

### New Manager



Edward M. Marks of Brevard assumed the position of manager of the Strand Theatre in Waynesville effective December 1. It has been announced by officials of Fenton Theatres, Inc.

Marks, a native of Forest City, has had 13 years' experience in the operation of motion picture theatres and is at present owner and operator of the Brevard Drive-In Theatre in Brevard.

"During the coming year many of Hollywood's finest motion pictures will be exhibited at the Strand Theatre," he said. "We will make every effort to bring to the people of Haywood County the very best in screen entertainment."

The new manager and his wife, the former Jean Monteth of Sylva, will make their home in Brevard for the present.

### Christmas Seal Sales Here Are Behind Last Year

Returns from Christmas Seal letters mailed to residents of the Waynesville-Hazelwood area are somewhat behind last year's returns at the same date, A. J. Fancher, treasurer of the Tuberculosis Committee, said this week.

"Although these early returns are somewhat behind last year's, we believe and hope that the public response to the Christmas Seal Sale will be as generous as in past years," he said.

The Christmas Seal Sale will be carried on by the Tuberculosis Committee until December 25. "When we use Christmas Seals on our greeting cards and gift packages we know that we are making a gift of health to ourselves, to our neighbors, and to the whole community," Mr. Fancher said.

### Christmas Lights To Be Turned On Dec. 13

Christmas lights decorating Main Street in Waynesville will be turned on December 13, officials said today.

The lights will be turned on each night through the Christmas season.

Workmen began stringing them across the main thoroughfare of town this week and should have the job completed shortly.

### Five Men From County Join Navy In November

The Navy Recruiting Substation at Asheville has announced that five Haywood County men enlisted in the Navy during November.

They were Billy G. Burgess and Fred Coward, both of Waynesville, and Weldon F. Brooks, Amos C. Worley, and James A. Davis, all of Canton.

### Highway Record For 1952 In Haywood (To Date)

Injured . . . 45  
Killed . . . 5

(This information compiled from Records of State Highway Patrol.)

STORES HERE OPEN WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON AND FRIDAY NIGHT