

THE WAYNESVILLE MOUNTAINEER

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WAYNESVILLE, N. C., MONDAY AFTERNOON, DEC. 8, 1952

\$3.00 In Advance In Haywood and Jackson Counties

TODAY'S SMILE

The truth never hurts until you try stretching it. Then it's bound to snap back.

Town Is Modernizing Electric System

\$15,000 Is Being Spent On System

A modernization project that will, when completed, afford better service to Waynesville's electric power customers is now in progress and should be completed in the near future, G. C. Ferguson, town manager, said today.

Engineers are at work now making certain changes in power lines and transformers that will double the voltage available to Waynesville customers from 2,200 volts to 4,160 volts; almost double.

The cost of the project will be in the neighborhood of \$15,000. Ferguson said that the expenditures will mean an equal distribution of power all over town and would thereby afford much better service than has heretofore been available.

The project should pay for itself in a few years because of a more efficient use of the available power, town officials said.

During the past whenever a power failure hit a certain part of town it also caused a certain amount of power loss at other points. And most subscribers for electric power have noticed in years past that flickers would occasionally cause them trouble.

But such annoyances as that will be entirely done away with when the new transformer attachments are installed.

The town light department will do a \$90,300 business during the present fiscal year.

Claimed By Death



N. C. West, police court judge of Clyde, died suddenly early this morning. He suffered a heart attack.

Norval West Is Taken By Death At Clyde

Norval Chester West, 72, chairman of the Haywood County Welfare Board and Police Court judge at Clyde, died suddenly early this morning at his home in Clyde.

He was a native and life long resident of Haywood County.

Surviving are the wife, Mrs. Sue Ballard West; the mother, Mrs. Rosetta West of Clyde; one son, Jack West of Waynesville; one step-son, Rex Ballard of the home; two step-daughters, Mrs. John Bagwell of Asheville and Miss Evelyn Ballard of Kannapolis; two brothers, Homer West of Waynesville and Ben West of Asheville; one sister, Mrs. W. G. Smathers of Clyde; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Wells Funeral Home, Canton is in charge of arrangements which were incomplete this morning.

Lions Dime Board To Go In Operation Sat.

Merchants Group To Award Mercury Next Saturday

Waynesville shoppers who are participating in the Merchants Association second annual Trade Jubilee will have their chance at the brand-new Mercury which will be given away this coming Saturday, December 13, at the Waynesville High School athletic field. The event is scheduled to begin at 2 o'clock.

Prizes were awarded Saturday as follows: Bulova watch, Carolyn Davis of Hazelwood; portable typewriter, Margaret Phillips of Waynesville; bicycle, Nora Hall of Waynesville; and groceries, Mrs. Clark Edmonds of Hazelwood.

Officials of the Trade Jubilee urge that all people holding tickets to be on hand at the high school field Saturday when the Mercury is to be awarded.

Pearl Harbor Day Overshadowed By Ike's Korean Trip

President-elect Eisenhower's precedent setting trip to Korea, in which he fulfilled a campaign promise to get a first-hand look at the situation there, overshadowed what normally would have been the topic of conversation on December 7—the eleventh anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor by the Japanese, an action that drew the United States into World War II.

Most people remember that day 11 years ago. It was a quiet Sunday... most people were at home wrapping Christmas presents and addressing Christmas cards. The news of the outrageous bombing, which was flashed to the American people just after 2 o'clock, left most people shocked.

Enlistments the following week took many young men from this area.

Throughout the war and during the years after hostilities ended in 1945, December 7 was a day that was mostly talked about.

But things were different this year... there was still a war and many people were talking about it. President-elect Eisenhower, though he gave many people something to hold on to when he promised to visit the front lines in Korea, was careful to point out that such a war couldn't be stopped overnight by some sort of miracle.

Three Hurt In Two Auto Wrecks Here Early Sunday

Three persons were injured, and five others received minor cuts and bruises in two separate wrecks here early Sunday morning.

A Cadillac driven by Jerry Liner, Jr., left Highway No. 284 about a mile north of town, and was completely demolished. There were five in the vehicle at the time it hit a soft shoulder of the road and wrecked, according to Patrolman W. R. Wooten, investigating officer.

Patrolman Wooten said the driver was charged with reckless driving. The accident happened at 1:29 a.m.

About the same time, a 1949 Ford turned over on Highway 19A-23 between the two red lights in Hazelwood. Two Waynesville policemen, Francis Reece and A. P. Evans investigated, and said the vehicle had to be lifted off Roy Hampton, driver and owner of the car. Two occupants, Thurston Burnette and Louis Green suffered slight cuts and bruises. Hampton is still in the hospital, and his condition at noon was reported as good.

Officers said the investigation would continue when Hampton was able to talk.

Two Men Die In Center Pigeon Fire



Thomas C. Abel and John W. Jenkins died in a fire early Sunday morning that destroyed a two-room building near the Abel Store in Center Pigeon. The fire was prevented from spreading to nearby houses by the prompt awakening of several families by Bob Riddle, who drove by shortly after the fire started. The garage shown here belongs to Mr. and Mrs. Wayne McDowell, who got their car out before the gasoline in the tank could become ignited. But they did not act too soon because the garage, attached to the building, caught fire three times.

(Mountaineer Photo.)

Thousands Attend 'Open House' Of First National During Anniversary Event

Between five and six thousand people visited The First National Bank during the three-day observance of the institutions 50 anniversary. For the first two days, the bank remained open until five o'clock in order to accommodate the hundreds who wanted to get in and see the exhibits of old pictures, documents, and the coins and bills on display.

The display of the \$10,000 bills attracted much attention, but it was hard to determine whether the display drew any more attention than the old pictures made about 50 years ago.

The 50-year costumes of the bank officials and employees added to the atmosphere of the occasion, and brought many comments from those who remember such costumes, and created curiosity among those who were of a later generation.

Hundreds of walking canes, together with several hundred corsets were given away. During (See Bank—Page 8)

Christmas Lights Turned On Here;

Christmas lights over the Main Streets of Waynesville and Hazelwood have been turned on and will remain on during the Christmas season each night.

Officials in Hazelwood turned the lights on in Hazelwood Friday night. Waynesville's were turned on Saturday night.

The giant evergreen tree just to the left of the front door of the Haywood County Court House is being decorated with lights today (Monday) by workmen and should be ready to add to the color of the Christmas season tonight.

There are lights located throughout the business districts in both the Waynesville and Hazelwood areas.

Funeral Services Held Today For Men Who Died In Center Pigeon Fire

Receive Degrees



LAWRENCE LEATHERWOOD



CARL RATCLIFFE

Funeral services for Thomas C. Abel, 62, and John W. Jenkins, 42, of Center Pigeon, who died early Sunday morning when fire completely destroyed the frame building in which they were sleeping, were held at 3 p. m. this afternoon.

Final rites for Abel were conducted at the Morning Star Methodist Church with the Rev. Asmond Maxwell and the Rev. George Ingle in charge. Burial followed in the church cemetery. Nephews served as pallbearers and nieces as flower girls.

He is survived by his wife, who was at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Nels Shurson of Eagle Grove, Iowa, at the time of the fire; three sons, Glenn of Rt. 2, Canton, Clem of Hazelwood, and Kenneth of Newport News, Va.; another daughter, Miss Edna Abel of Canton; two sisters, Mrs. Girdwood Smathers and Mrs. Charles Brannon of Canton; and three grandchildren.

Graveside services for Jenkins were held at the Clark Chapel Cemetery at Thickety by the Rev. R. R. Mehaffey. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lola Jones Jenkins; four daughters, Nancy, Nellie, Ruby, and Peggy, all of the home; one son, Richard, of the home; and his mother, Mrs. G. W. Jenkins of Spartanburg, S. C.

The fire broke out about 1:30 a. m. Sunday in a two-room dwelling that had formerly been a store. Abel, who lived there, was in charge of the building for the owner of the property, Guy Cogburn. The place burned in a few minutes and the bodies burned beyond recognition. Dr. J. Frank Pate, county coroner, said the deaths were caused by an unavoidable accident and no inquest would be held. He said the men evidently were overcome by smoke.

The fire was first noticed by Bob Riddle of near Canton, who is employed by the Southern Bell Telephone Co., as he was driving by the building. He awakened people in nearby homes and then tried unsuccessfully to get into the burning structure. By acting promptly in arousing nearby families, he undoubtedly prevented the spread of the blaze to other homes.

Police Arrest 14 On Drunk Charges

According to Chief of Police O. L. Noland there were 14 people arrested in Waynesville over the week-end and charged with public drunkenness. Those charged will be required to appear at court this week.

44-Pound Birthday Cake Cut At Bank Banquet



Six representatives of the shareholders and officials, cut the large gold 3-tier birthday cake as part of the 50th anniversary observance of The First National Bank. The banquet was held Friday night at the Towne House. Left to right: Mrs. W. T. Crawford, Mrs. T. O. Chafin, the first woman ever employed by the bank, Mrs. T. L. Gwyn, J. H. Way, executive vice president, with 43 years of service, Mrs. Harwell L. Boyd, Jr., and J. W. Ray, a director. (Mountaineer Photo.)

STORES HERE OPEN WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON AND FRIDAY NIGHT

Highway Record For 1952 In Haywood (To Date)

Injured . . . 48
Killed . . . 5

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

Delights Of The News

Hard Dig

Funeral Giver

Annie . . .

esville Man Winner With

ent Truman

son of Mr. and Mrs.

FAIR

Considerable cloud-

and rather windy.

Waynesville tempera-

plified by the State Test

Max.	Min.	Rainfall
48	27	...
48	37	...
62	26	...
62	21	...