

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

TODAY'S SMILE
A burly farmer with a healthy appetite ordered steak. The waiter brought a plate on which was a small portion of meat.
Farmer: "Yeah, that's the kind. Bring me some."

More People Than
Are Reading
The Mountaineer

YEAR NO. 97 14 PAGES Associated Press WAYNESVILLE, N. C., MONDAY AFTERNOON, DEC. 6, 1954 \$3.50 In Advance In Haywood and Jackson Counties

Men Saw Way To Freedom At Hazelwood Prison Camp



RENCE LEATHERWOOD, left, accepts the keys to the Clyde from Mark Kirkpatrick, chairman of the county board of education, during the formal dedication of the building Friday night. Other pictures and story on page one, section two. (Mountaineer Photo.)

State and county officers were carrying on today a diligent search for four prisoners who escaped from the State Prison Camp at Hazelwood early last night.

Seven prisoners escaped by sawing two bars in two, during the heavy rain storm, according to Capt. W. F. Swift, superintendent of the prison.

Three of the men, all felons, were picked up as they took a taxi to Canton. They have been returned to prison.

The four others were still at large at noon today, as officers linked them with the theft of a blue 1949 Chevrolet, owned by Carroll Hooper. The Hooper car was stolen in Hazelwood shortly after the prison break.

Supt. Swift said that the sawed bars were discovered in time to probably prevent others from making their escape into the heavy rain and dense fog.

"We were handicapped in the chase by the weather. The bloodhounds could not work under such conditions," the superintendent said.

Capt. Swift said it is not known whether the four still at large are together or "split-up" after getting outside the prison.

The prisoners, all Negroes and serving long terms, threw a sweat-er over the barbed wire atop the high fence, and crawled over.

Members of the Sheriff's Department, Highway patrol, police of Waynesville, Hazelwood and Canton joined in the hunt.

Bert H. Freeman, of Transylvania, supervisor of prisons, has arrived, as well as the superintendent of camps in Henderson and Transylvania counties, to participate in the hunts.

Some of the men were serving life terms, others 20 to 30 years, and others 15 to 20 years. One man with the lightest sentence of four years was among the three apprehended in Canton.

A wrecked car on Cowee mountain, reported today was checked by highway patrolmen, but had been removed before officers arrived at the scene.

The four still at large are: Otis Levi Ferguson, 28, serving 12 years from Mecklenburg for housebreaking and larceny.

Joseph Loft, 34, serving life for second degree burglary from Mecklenburg.

Noland West Jr., 39, serving four years for accessory to larceny from Forsyth.

Woodrow Moody, 30, serving 20 to 30 years from Rowan for housebreaking and larceny.

The three recaptured by Canton police in a taxi they had hired in Waynesville were serving terms for breaking and entering. They were John Strickland, 30, from Cumberland, 15-20 years; Leonard Moseley, 28, from Buncombe, 5-7 years; and James Edwards, 25, from Rockingham, 21 years.

Boosters Club Will Have Ladies Night Program Thursday

The Hazelwood Boosters Club will meet for the annual December ladies' night at the Hazelwood School, Thursday at seven o'clock.

Newly elected officers of the club will be installed at the time. Paul Bryson will succeed Richard N. Barber as president.

Police Have Lightest Weekend In Long Time

Arrests over the weekend were among the lightest on record for the Waynesville police. Seven arrests were made over the entire weekend with three on Saturday night.

Chief of Police Orville Noland said one was charged with driving drunk, and six face charges of public drunkenness.

Eight Haywood Officials Sworn Into Office For Four-Year Terms



COUNTY OFFICIALS took the oath of office for four-year terms this morning in the commissioners room, as a large number of friends looked on. Shown here, left to right: J. B. Siler, clerk of court, reading the oath; Faraday Green, chairman of the board,

Frank Medford, and Floyd Woody, commissioners; Dr. J. Frank Pate, coroner; Bryan M. Medford, tax collector; Fred Y. Campbell, sheriff and Jule Noland, register of Deeds. (Mountaineer Photo.)

Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Dicus Renamed

See other pictures of officials taking office on Pages 2 and 3.

Eight Haywood officials took the oath of office for 4-year terms here this morning, as a large group of friends and well-wishers looked on during the brief ceremony, with J. B. Siler, clerk of court, administering the oath.

The new board of commissioners, composed of Faraday Green, chairman Frank Medford and Floyd Woody, promptly re-named James Kirkpatrick as county auditor, and Mrs. J. B. Dicus as deputy tax collector.

The commissioners went into session, first handling the bonds for constables, and other routine matters. They were slated to name a county attorney, county home manager, and custodian of the court house, and a deputy tax collector in Beavertown.

Chairman Green said that he expected the board would be in session all day, getting familiar with a number of matters, and taking care of some routine details such as approving bonds of officials.

Those taking the oath and beginning terms this morning, in addition to the commissioners were: J. B. Siler, clerk of court, Dr. J. Frank Pate, coroner; Bryan D. Medford, tax collector, Fred Y. Campbell, sheriff, and Jule Noland, register of deeds.

The commissioners also renamed the board of trustees of the Haywood County Hospital, and they took the oath. A few minutes after taking the oath, they renamed Lee Davis as administrator of the institution. The trustees are: Spaldon Underwood, Loranzo Smathers and W. A. Bradley.

The constables who took the oath of office this morning included: A. F. Arrington, Waynesville; W. H. Scott, Canton; W. C. Sutton, Jonathan Creek, and Fanning Burgess, East Fork.

Fines Creek Man Loses \$315 In Asheville Alley

Hugh Ferguson of Fines Creek lost \$315 in cash in Asheville.

The details, according to a story in The Asheville Times, is as follows:

Hugh Ferguson of Fines Creek section of Haywood County flashed his roll of \$315 in a Lexington Avenue "beer joint" and so - - -

Here's Ferguson's story as revealed in a Police Department report yesterday:

"I was in some beer joint on Lexington Avenue and met a slim, blond-headed man who said he owned a farm and wanted to sell a bull calf.

"He said he would spend the night with me and we would go out to his farm this morning. Instead of going to the hotel with me, we somehow turned into a strange alley.

"And that's where he knocked me in the head and took my money."

Police are investigating.

Rogers, Cathey To Head MOD Drive In 1955

Max Rogers of Waynesville and Turner Cathey of Canton will head drives in their respective areas for the 1955 March of Dimes to raise money to carry the fight against crippling polio.

The fund-raising drive will begin in early January and continue throughout the month.

Mrs. Robert Winchester will serve as publicity chairman in the Waynesville area.

Hazelwood Lions Given Charter

Haywood's fifth Lions Club—Hazelwood—received their charter Friday night, as an audience of 100 gathered for the charter night dinner meeting in the Hazelwood school.

Rev. Earl H. Brendall, pastor of the First Methodist church, was the principal speaker, and chose as his subject, "Happiness". He stressed that one must have a willingness and a deep desire to be happy, and to attain this, must discard all envy and hate from the mind. The speaker brought out that utmost in happiness is found when one follows the principles of living as pointed out by Christ.

Rev. Mr. Brendall summed up his address by stressing the importance of living by the Golden Rule.

Toastmaster was Hugh Monteith of Sylva, International Lions counselor and former district governor.

Alston Broom of Asheville, district governor, presented the charter to Clyde Fisher, new club president, and Cline presented the traditional gong and gavel.

Singing was led by Charles Isley. The invocation was given by the Rev. John I. Kizer of Hazelwood.

Other new club officers are Ralph Summerrow, first vice president. (See Lions—Page 2)

Court Adjourned Thursday As Solicitor Became Ill

The November term of criminal court adjourned late Thursday afternoon, as solicitor Thad D. Bryson developed further trouble with his throat.

About 175 cases were cleared from the docket according to J. B. Siler, clerk of court. There were 325 on the docket when court convened here November 22. Court was in session seven days, having adjourned two days for Thanksgiving holidays in the first week.

Judge Walter T. Johnston, Jr., Winston-Salem presided during the session.

Sheriff Fred Y. Campbell has returned from taking two prisoners to State Prison—a man and a woman.

The next term of criminal court is set for February.

West Pigeon Is Third In District CDP Contest

Condition Set On Abandonment Of Freight Depot

Discontinuance of the Southern Railway's agency at Clyde was approved by the State Utilities Commission on the ground that the railway repair livestock-loading pens and reinstall weighing scales at Clyde.

The commission observed in the order that Clyde's mayor and the area's largest livestock shipper had complained about the "very poor condition" of the livestock pens and the "failure" of the Southern to make repairs.

The railroad will dismantle its present station there and erect a booth to handle less-than-carload freight shipments.

Clyde is one of the South's largest livestock shipping points.

2 Bethel Churches To Have Unified Yuletide Program

The Bethel Presbyterian Church and the Sonoma Missionary Baptist Church will join hands around a single Christmas tree this season, Henry Pope, student pastor of the Presbyterian church, announced today.

At a Sunday afternoon meeting, the Baptists decided to accept the Presbyterians' invitation to join them, this year in their annual Christmas Tree program.

The recently organized Baptist group has been meeting at the Presbyterian church for services on Sunday afternoons, since they do not yet have a church building of their own.

Rev. W. L. Duncan appointed L. J. Tatham to represent the Baptist church in a meeting with the Bethel Presbyterian Session, to work out final plans for the Christmas program.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hardin and their two children of Paducah, Ky. are spending a few days here after attending funeral services for Mr. Hardin's mother, Mrs. W. L. Hardin.

Carolinas YMCA Secretary Will Address Lions Club

George Simmons of Charlotte, interstate secretary YMCA in the two Carolinas, will discuss the Y's program at a meeting of the Waynesville Lions Club Thursday night, at Spaldon's.

He will be accompanied here by W. Thomas Reeves, president of the Champion YMCA at Canton; Jack Justice, general secretary of the Champion Y, and other Y board members.

The Canton officials also plan to meet with members of the Waynesville Recreation Commission before the Lions meeting.

Crabtree Men's Burley Average Exceeds \$64

An average of more than \$64 for their burley tobacco crop was paid to two Crabtree growers on the Asheville markets last week.

Roy Clark reported the sale of 1,588 pounds of burley for \$1,020.34 — an average of \$64.20 per hundred.

His brother, Manson Clark, sold 2,050 pounds for \$1,322.76 or an average of \$64.50.

This year Roy had .75 acres in tobacco, while Manson had .725 acres.

Soil District Supervisor To Be Elected

Election of a new supervisor for the Haywood County Soil Conservation District is being held this week, Herschel Rogers, chairman of the board of supervisors has announced.

D. J. Boyd and J. R. Caldwell have been nominated by regular petition and their names appear on the ballot. Voters can also write in the name of any other choice they may have. The one receiving the most votes is elected to a three-year term to replace Jule Boyd, whose term expires December 31.

Any citizen of Haywood County who is eligible to vote in the general election is eligible to vote in this election. The voter must vote for only one person and he must also sign his ballot.

Ballot boxes are located at Farmer's Federation, Canton; Robert Messer's Store, Cecil; Pigeon Valley Store, Pigeon; Poston's Store, Cruso; Burgin's Store, Dellwood; Mark Ferguson's Store, Fines Creek; Ralph Boyd's Store, Jonathan Creek; Walter Ketter's Store, Lake Junaluska; Cline - Bradley Store, Hazelwood; Sam Ledford's Store, White Oak and Sutter's Store, Clyde.

65 From Here Go To Pick Florida Oranges

Sam Queen, Jr., left here over the weekend with 65 men to work in orange groves near Lakeland, Fla. Queen and Robert Sutton have a contract for harvesting oranges in the citrus belt.

Haywood Highlanders Will Meet Tonight

Haywood County Highlanders, tourist operator organization, will meet at 7 p.m. Monday at The Lodge, it has been announced.

President L. E. DeVous will be in charge of the meeting.

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ELECTED — A. L. Freedlander, president of the Rubber Manufacturers Association, Inc., at their recent meeting in New York.

Of Needy To Aid Yuletide Charity Program

Most churches clubs, and other groups in their program helping needy families at this time, the Haywood Welfare Department is making a list of all unmet needs on the agency's records.

Queen, welfare supervisor, urged that groups and individuals in the county utilize their resources as a clearing house to coordinate effort. The list will be completed by the end of the year.

Queen pointed out that by working with welfare workers, families will not receive aid from several different groups. The list will be completed by the end of the year.

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CCA Announces Plans For Distribution

Plans for distribution of clothing to the needy from the Clothing Closet in the courthouse, have been announced by the Clothing Closet Association.

Representatives of a number of groups in the county have been asked to serve as a committee to assist the distribution committee in locating needy families. The committee is composed of all ministers serving in the area, teachers in each school in the Waynesville district, a representative of each Community Development Program, and representatives of the American Red Cross, the Welfare Department and the Health Department.

The area to be served will include Waynesville, Hazelwood, Lake Junaluska, and the surrounding rural communities. Those in need of clothing are asked to contact a member of the above group.

The Clothing Closet will be open each Wednesday and Saturday morning from 9:30 until 12:30 o'clock.

Those who have clothes to donate to the closet or who wish to make cash donations for the purchase of new clothing are requested to contact Mrs. Cicero Hooper, chairman of collections, or to bring their donations to the Clothing Closet on the third floor of the court house.

The CCA expects to operate on permanent basis and will attempt to furnish warm clothing for needy adults as well as children.

Mrs. Roger Walker, president of the CCA, stated this morning that there is an urgent need for boys' clothing, size 10 to 12, especially warm jackets and girls' school clothing.

Mr. and Mrs. George B. Schmucker of Dellwood are planning to leave Wednesday for Miami, Florida where they will spend the winter.

'55 Farm Outlook Meeting To Be Held Tuesday

What's ahead for farmers in 1955 will be discussed by county agricultural leaders at an "outlook" meeting to be held at 3 p.m. Tuesday at the courthouse.

A team of specialists from N. C. State College will lead the discussion concerning compiled information on the future outlook for various agricultural enterprises.

Statistics to be presented have been gathered by both state and national agricultural authorities.

Special attention is expected to be paid to the forecast of the nation's livestock markets, where there is a far greater fluctuation of prices.

It has been announced previously that burley tobacco allotments will be cut next year an average of 10 percent.

Financial as well as agricultural leaders have been invited to attend the meeting Tuesday afternoon.

Help Fight TB

Max.	Min.	Pre.
52	29	—
40	13	—
53	13	—
49	25	—

Weather

Clear and cold with light snow likely today. Tuesday, cloudy with rain and cold.

Waynesville temperature recorded by the State Test Farm.

**Highway
Record For
1954
In Haywood
(TO DATE)
Killed 3
Injured 66**

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