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WAYNESVILLE, N. C., MONDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 18, 1955

\$3.50 In Advance In Haywood and Jackson Counties

TODAY'S SMILE
Two kinds of families are
likely to have a house full
of antique furniture: the
kind with money and the
kind with kids.

Pigeon Route Decision Delayed

Engineers Say Pigeon Route Superior; Asheville Joins In Opposing Road In Haywood

By W. C. Russ

A Buncombe and Asheville delegation today joined forces with Madison County in successfully getting a delayed decision on the North Carolina-Tennessee interstate highway.

The highway commission announced they were deferring their decision until later. No date was announced for the final decision to be made.

The three and one-half hour hearing was held in the Asheville City Auditorium today and the decision was announced at three o'clock.

The Asheville-Buncombe group was led by Mayor Earl W. Eller as chairman, Don Elias and John A. Goode in asking for a delay in the decision.

Chief Engineer W. H. Rogers, Jr., in a final statement just before the decision was announced said he favored the Pigeon River route which was a similar statement made before the luncheon recess by R. Getty Browning when he said he termed the Pigeon River route superior to any other to Tennessee.

Haywood and neighboring counties in presenting their claims for the Pigeon River Road were backed unanimously by Highway Engineers.

R. Getty Browning, chief locating engineer, told the audience of 2,500 that the Pigeon River Road is by far the superior route over the French Broad River Road.

"We are losing money every day that work is held up on the Pigeon River Road," Browning said.

Mr. Browning, in answer to the Madison County delegation, said, "Just a casual inspection of a route only leads to confusion; I have walked both routes, have studied at length both routes and am in a position to give an impartial report."

The chief engineer traced in minute detail the difficulties that would be encountered in building an inter-state highway down the French Broad River.

Those speaking this morning in behalf of the Pigeon River Road included Dave Felmet, reading the statement of D. Reeves Noland, former highway commissioner; Charles E. Ray, former chairman of the North Carolina Park Commission; Brandon Hodges, assistant secretary of Champion Paper and Fibre Company; Aaron Probst, industrialist of Haywood and Swain counties; Dr. Kelly Bennett, representative of Swain County; Senator William Medford and Harry Buchanan, commissioner of the 14th District.

Opponents of the Pigeon River Road, led by Asheville citizens including John A. Goode, former highway commissioner and Don Elias, pleaded with the commission that they delay a decision until an adequate survey of the Pigeon River Route can be made.

Elias said, "It is not urgent that the commission adopt any route," then modified his statement by saying he was for the best route. Goode was critical that a survey had not been completed down the river.

Speakers for Madison County included Calvin Edney, who also advocated a delay in a decision while Mrs. Harry B. Gittmore was chairman for the Madison group while Mayor Earl W. Eller of Asheville was chairman of the Buncombe County group.

Father Andrew Graves traced the history of this area from 1775 and termed the question as a regional "dispute".

A. E. Leake, Madison County attorney, in an effort to make a rebuttal to Haywood speakers blamed North Carolina for urging Tennessee to advocate the Pigeon River Route for the inter-state system. He was caustic in his remarks and at times showed signs of bitterness.

Charles E. Mashburn, attorney for three Madison County towns, was rather sarcastic toward Chairman Graham and ridiculed the Canton viaduct project. He termed Madison County as a "red-headed stepchild" and said the commission was trying to take away the French Broad River route which was Madison's "candy". Mashburn said: "We don't believe the commission can show justified reason for the Pigeon River Route."

Walter Haynes, Asheville lawyer, in an improprio remark, hit at two former highway commissioners — L. Dale Thrash and D. Reeves Noland, for delaying the French Broad survey.

W. H. Rogers, Jr., chief engineer of the highway department, told the hearing group this morning that the Pigeon River Route would cost about \$15 millions as compared with up to \$26 millions for the French Broad route. He read the letter from the Tennessee Highway Commission requesting that North Carolina join them in asking for the route through the Pigeon River gorge be placed on the interstate system.

Rogers said the French Broad route would necessitate construction of 40.6 miles as compared with only 24 miles down Pigeon River. He cited the requirement of a 260-foot right of way and said it would be a fully controlled highway—with all the earmarks of a toll road without the toll.

When Rogers showed the map from the Tennessee Commission with a red line through Pigeon (See Pigeon Route—Page 2)

Highway Record For 1955 In Haywood (TO DATE)

Killed . . . 0
Injured . . . 15
Accidents . . 46
Loss . . \$17,054

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

Sidelights Of Hearing

The lower floor of the auditorium at Asheville was well filled for the hearing by enthusiastic supporters of both proposed routes.

People began coming in by nine o'clock, and Haywood had people from every section of the county.

It appeared that Haywood had by far the largest delegation.

The hearing began six minutes late with Mayor Ellis opening the hearing and presenting Chairman A. H. Graham.

Graham was emphatic as to the purpose of the hearing, and allocated each side one hour of time.

Jonathan Woody, chairman for the Pigeon River Road, began at 10:25. His introduction brought a loud and long round of applause.

Ned Tucker, Executive Vice President Chamber of Commerce, worked all night getting the speeches typed in order that the members of the commission might have the typed copies for reference.

Mrs. Shirley Ray worked until three a.m.

The Chamber of Commerce office was literally moved over to the auditorium to carry on the vast details of typing.

Jennings Bryson, Chairman of the Jackson County Commissioners, was ill but sent in a resolution.

The Haywood delegation of more than 1000 was presented to the Commission.

The opponents of the Pigeon River Road were not presented as a body.

All of the interruption of speakers came from the Madison County delegation.

Memorial Trees Planted Along Highway 19A-23

Eighteen memorial pin oak trees have been replanted on Highway 19A-23 just east of Waynesville.

The trees were replanted by forces of the State Highway Commission last week to replace the ones cut down through error about a year or so ago.

The original Memorial Trees were planted by the Womens Club as a living memorial to the 18 Haywood young men who lost their lives in World War I.

Charter members of the club, and original sponsors of the project protested to the highway department and kept the issue alive until the new trees were planted.

The trees were planted on the property of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Fincher, under the supervision of A. H. Coggins. Mesh wire protection has been put around the base of the trees.

The garden clubs of the area are active participants in the program, and will place special emphasis on The Litterbug Campaign which began last week.

The committee has set Saturday as landscaping day, as well as for planting.

The community-wide clean-up committee is composed of Miss Elmer, chairman, T. E. Robinett, A. P. Ledbetter, W. C. Russ, Ken Fry, G. C. Ferguson, Miss Mary Cornwell, Mrs. Gladys Wright, Bill Burgin, Mrs. Wayne Deitz.

Mrs. Fred Allison, Mrs. J. L. Edwards, Mrs. J. A. Bowen, Mrs. F. E. Worthington, Mrs. Louise Liner, Mrs. Virgil Smith, and Mrs. David Hyatt.

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The annual package of Haywood ramps have arrived in Raleigh.

The ramps were sent to Thad Eure, secretary of State, and were from W. R. "Bill" Palmer, president of the North Carolina Friends of The Ramp Society, Inc.

Eure, a lifetime speaker of the annual convention, received the package, sniffed, and laughed: "Ramps," he announced. "I got a whole package of 'em."

The package was sent by mail from Canton, by Palmer to Eure to remind him that the organization will hold its annual convention and ramp feast in Haywood County May 8.

The package was too potent to be tolerated long. By the time Eure reached his office, his staff had moved the ramps out into the hall. From there, the ramps were moved out to the Capitol steps. Finally, they were plopped outside under a shrub.



THE FIRST STEP in the furnishing of additional equipment in the children's ward at Haywood County Hospital was taken by the Gamma Epsilon chapter of Beta Sigma Phi sorority at Canton at the Haywood County Hospital Tuesday when a baby bed was presented to the institution. Especially interested in the proceedings was the first occupant, of the new bed—Larry Triplett, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Triplett of Clyde. Standing from left to right are Miss Barbara Cabe, medical technician at the hospital and president of Beta Sigma Phi at Canton; Mrs. Ellen Freeman, superintendent of nurses, and club members Mrs. Louise Hemphill and Mrs. Frances Barlow. The baby bed was provided to the sorority at a discount by the Free Furniture Store of Canton.

(Mountaineer Photo.)

Community Cleanup Campaign Under Way

Waynesville, Bethel, Canton Divide Spelling Bee Honors

(See Picture on Page 2)

Haywood County Health Officer Dies In Asheville

Dr. S. W. Jabaut, Haywood County health officer since last September, died unexpectedly of a heart attack today in Memorial Mission Hospital, Asheville.

Dr. Jabaut went to Asheville to pick up the county's portion of Salk polio vaccine and to attend the hearing on the Pigeon River Road.

Central School PTA To Meet Tuesday Night

The PTA at Central Elementary School in Waynesville will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, it has been announced.

The program will include musical numbers by the Central Elementary Glee Club under the direction of Miss Peggy McCracken.

5 WTHS Baseball Players Escape Death In Accident

(See Picture on Page 8)

Five members of Waynesville High's baseball team escaped serious injury about 5 p.m. Friday when the 1941 Chevrolet in which they were riding plunged over a 25-foot embankment on N. C. 276 as the players were returning from a game at Bethel.

The only youth hospitalized was James Carver, a catcher, who suffered a broken ankle and was taken to Memorial Mission Hospital in Asheville.

Others in the car were: Johnny Edwards, center fielder, driver of the car; Mike Byrd, shortstop; George Mitchell, first-string pitcher, suffered a bruised back but was released from Haywood County Hospital after an examination; Don Ezell, center fielder, and Bill Grahl, 1954 graduate of WTHS.

Cpl. Pritchard H. Smith of the State Highway Patrol said that the accident occurred when Edwards, attempting to pass another car, ran his vehicle off the pavement on the left side of the highway. In cutting back to the right, the youth lost control of the car, which skidded across the road, through a fence and plunged over an embankment.

Cpl. Smith said the accident is still being investigated. Damage to the car was estimated at \$400.

Another traffic mishap investigated by the patrol involved cars driven by Eugene Reeves Kuykendall and Herman Dennis Israel, which collided on the Dutch Cove road at 9 p.m. Saturday.

Cpl. Smith said that Israel failed to stop after the accident, but was apprehended Sunday when his car was spotted in a funeral procession.

He was charged with hit-and-run. (See Baseball Players—Page 8)

Indications Show Better Season For '55 At Lake

"All indications point to a far better season than last year, which was excellent," James W. Fowler, superintendent of Lake Junaluska, said today.

"All apartments are already reserved for July and August. However, there are plenty of vacancies in the several hotels on the grounds for those months.

"We are having more applications for Camp Adventure this year than ever before, and letters are coming in about the lake program from a wide area even outside the nine Southern States. Many letters are from Pennsylvania and Ohio this year."

The Sunday School board has a full season of conferences at Shackelford Hall, the superintendent reported.

The gates of the dam of the Lake were closed Tuesday, and the 250-acre lake will soon be filled. The waters are to be restocked with bass and bream, but no spring fishing will be allowed.

Candidates File For Town Election

Candidates In Mayor's Race And For Alderman

Candidates have filed in Waynesville municipal election on the 3-member board of aldermen. The books closed Saturday 12:30, and shortly before, a furniture store owner, Mayor.

Afternoon Henry Clayton, a furniture company, filed for a place on the board of aldermen.

Three candidates for mayor are: Logan M. White, the 12th ward; Howard Howell "Bunt" Howell, the 11th ward; and re-election as a member of the board of aldermen.

Completing his fourth year as a member of the 3-man board of aldermen.

Three others have filed for board of alderman post, the total to seven there. Candidates are all employment Paper and Fibre.

They are: Bill Bryson, the 10th ward; Elmer "Red" Miller, the 9th ward; and Charles F. Stanley, incumbents, the 8th ward.

Logan M. White, as a slate on the ticket. "Independent" candidate on those just filed is T. A. Clark filed Saturday.

Prosecuting attorney of the Town of Canton. Brooks is the only candidate for mayor of Canton.

Candidates have filed in previously announced candidate: for mayor, Gerald W. Morgan, and Harry W. Morgan and Bruce W. Morgan.

Members of the present board of aldermen, Walter Chambers, Leston J. B. Martin; for judge, Larry Cagle, and Charles Lanning.

70 Attend Open Session Of AA Unit

Seventy persons attended the open meeting of the Waynesville chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous at the Grace Episcopal Church parish house Thursday night.

Among groups represented were the Haywood County Hospital, Nurses, Rotary, registered nurses, practical nurses, welfare department, sheriff's department, teachers and principals, medical profession, county officials, and other interested persons.

S. Kinion Proctor, Executive Director of the N. C. Rehabilitation Program outlined the state's \$300,000 program. Stressing community responsibility in the alcoholic problem, he urged that the public be educated to the latest scientific knowledge of alcoholism and treatment of the same.

Two out of town AA speakers gave testimonies as to their success in arresting their alcoholic problem through the AA program. Stating that they owed their sobriety and lives to AA, they were high in their praise of what AA had done for them.

A member of the local chapter presided as chairman and the whole chapter was encouraged by the good attendance and success of the meeting. Plans were tentatively (See AA Unit—Page 8)

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Waynesville temperature by the State Test

Max. Min. Pr. 71 54 30

73 40 50 37

84 39

WARM