

# THE WAYNESVILLE MOUNTAINEER



DON S. ELIAS is shown as he talked at the hearing on the interstate road Monday in Asheville. He was one of the Buncombe-Madison speakers advocating the highway commission delay a decision until later, saying, "it is not urgent to adopt any route."



JUST A PARTIAL VIEW of the huge crowd attending the hearing on the interstate road in Asheville Monday. This picture was made as the commissioners filed out on the stage. The section to the left in the auditorium is not shown here. (Mountaineer Photo).

## White Oak CDP Postpones Meeting Until April 25

The White Oak CDP has changed its community meeting from Saturday night, April 23, to Monday night, April 25, at 7:30. There will be an election of new officers for the coming year. The Haywood Electric Membership Corp. will have charge of the program and will show movies and slides on the use of electricity. Talks also will be given by the REA staff and T. C. Miller from Raleigh. There will be discussions and a question-and-answer session on any problems the CDP members have regarding their electric service. A door prize will be awarded. Both children and grownups will be eligible for the prize. Everyone is asked to be present and the ladies are to bring cookies and cool-ade to serve.



**VOTE FOR**  
**LEO BUCKNER, JR.**  
**FOR**  
**MAYOR**  
Town of Waynesville  
**YOUR VOTE**  
**AND SUPPORT**  
**WILL BE**  
**APPRECIATED.**

COMMISSIONERS whose districts were involved in the hearing over the interstate road down from North Carolina to Tennessee. On the left is John Snipes, of Marion, commissioner of the 14th district, which includes Buncombe and Madison counties. On the right, Commissioner Harry Buchanan, of Henderson, commissioner of the 14th district, which is made up of all counties west of the French Broad. They are shown on the platform after the hearing Monday. (Mountaineer Photo).

## Freedlander Says Private Synthetic Rubber Plants To Prevent Shortages

BATON ROUGE, La.—The Government turned over the first synthetic rubber plants to private companies today as the industry girded to meet the threat of a serious rubber shortage within five years. A. L. Freedlander, president of the Copolymer Corporation and head of Dayton Rubber Company, said between \$200,000,000 and \$300,000,000 possibly would be spent by the rubber industry in expanding existing facilities and for new plant construction within the next few years.

He said, "The answer is immediate planning for the extra facilities and their completion before 1960. Even if started now, it would require at least two years to complete projected facilities." By 1960, he estimated this country will be using 1,500,000 to 1,800,000 long tons of rubber a year, which could be as much as 40 per cent more than in 1950. This would be almost half the rubber consumed in the world. In 1954, this country used some 1,233,000 long tons of all kinds of rubber, including latex.

to get into commercial cold rubber production. Cold rubber has proven superior over the best natural rubber for passenger tire treads and many other uses. To prove their ability to produce to skeptical Government officials, the Copolymer group of companies posted a \$1,000,000 performance bond for their cooperative venture in 1942. Mr. Freedlander, along with several other rubber executives, conceived the idea for a group effort by smaller tire companies, enlisted their support and activated interest by the Government shortly after Pearl Harbor.

plants to their owners by the four-man disposal commission, headed by Holman D. Pettibone, chairman, who made a brief talk. Col. Hulings pointed out the law provided for a possible five-day closedown period during the transfer. However, the demand for synthetic rubber is so pressing, the Government officials and the new owners agreed to make the transfer a mere formality and to continue production at peak.

## Cataloochee To Play Host To Trail Riders

Mile High Cataloochee Ranch will be headquarters for 10 days of trail riding sponsored by the American Forestry Association May 25-June 4. Daily trail rides and a three-day pack trip into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park will be offered to 20 riders, men and women. The 10-day horseback vacation is timed to coincide with the spring blooming of wild-flowers and blossoming trees in the Great Smokies Park, as it has been during the past 19 years.

el Students  
ive 3-Act  
edy Tonight

In the cast are Wilda Grogan, Jack Wilson, Doris Johnson, Harold Queen, Helen McCracken, Louise Cooke, Billy Connor, Carroll Mease, Judy Blazer, Janet Foster, Joe Bob Fish, Clyde Metcalf, Terry Sellars, Jerry Pressley, Carroll Messer, Harold Tant, Rex Metcalf, Ray Warren, Billy Heathery, Boyd Shipman, Daryl Gant, Tommy Lanning, Martha Plem-

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Mr. Freedlander noted rubber consumption is increasing rapidly as the Rubber Facilities Disposal Commission officially turned over two plants here to Copolymer and an adjoining one to Esso Standard Oil Company. "If we tapped every rubber tree and produced every pound of synthetic rubber we could get from existing plants, we still would not be able to meet foreseeable demands."

mons, Barbara Henson, Frances Henson, Gay Parker, James Fore, Eugene Shepard. The play is under the direction of Miss Nancy Medford, Mrs. Rufus Pannell and J. M. Carver.

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Only brief ceremonies marked the actual turning over of the Copolymer and Esso Standard Oil

At present, the U. S. is consuming rubber approximately in these proportions: 60 per cent synthetic, 40 per cent natural. In a crisis, studies indicate even an 80-20 ratio might be possible, Mr. Freedlander added.

He noted, in this connection, the U. S. Government has a substantial strategic stockpile of natural rubber.

In the event of another major conflict, the U. S. probably will have to depend even more on synthetic rubber than in World War II. The industrialist pointed out 90 per cent of the world's natural rubber supply comes from Malaya, Indo-China, Thailand, Ceylon and Burma, areas which most certainly will be isolated from the free world by the Communists.

High praise was given the disposal commission by Mr. Freedlander for its efficient handling of the rubber disposal program.

"The industry," he said, "owes its thanks and appreciation for the excellent way the commission has dealt with this vital problem. It represents truly the functioning of our free enterprise system for the good of all and for best protection of these vital assets."

As a privately operated concern, Copolymer's seven member firms will carry on much the same as they did for the Government. Of the 24 facilities operated on behalf of the U. S., the Baton Rouge plants have been among the most efficient. The two Copolymer plants are under the direction of Col. C. M. Hulings, former operating manager who recently was elevated to executive vice president for private operation. Copolymer received national recognition as being the first

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### THIS WEEK'S BEST SELLERS

FICTION  
Sincerely, Willis Wayde, John P. Marquand.  
The View from Pompey's Head, Hamilton Basso.  
No Time For Sergeants, Mac Hyman.  
Bonjour Tristesse, Françoise Sagan.  
Love Is Eternal, Irving Stone.  
NONFICTION  
Gertrude Lawrence as Mrs. A. Richard Aldrich.  
The Power of Positive Thinking, Norman Vincent Peale.  
Gift From the Sea, Anne Morrow Lindbergh.  
To the One I Love Best, Ludwig Bemelmans.  
The Day Lincoln Was Shot, Jim Bishop.

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