

3 Accidents Investigated; None Injured

Despite the heavy national and state traffic death toll from 4 p.m. Friday until midnight Tuesday, Haywood County came through the Christmas holidays with a fairly good record with only three accidents reported — none involving injuries.

Patrolman W. R. Wooten reported two road mishaps, one Saturday night and one Sunday night. Saturday night's accident occurred on Dix Creek Road at 7:30 when a 1954 Oldsmobile, driven by Vincent M. Glance, 42, of Canton, ran off the road into Pigeon River. Finding a bright on the wheels after turning completely over. The water was about waist deep, the patrolman said, and had the car landed on the top, the driver would have been unable to free himself.

Damages to the car were estimated at \$400, but Glance was unhurt. No charges were made, Wooten said. Glance was traveling along on a narrow dirt road when the accident occurred.

The second accident took place at 7 p.m. Sunday near Singleton's Grocery on the Cruso Road, and involved a 1954 Chevrolet owned and operated by Miss Marie Jewell Evans, 24, of Route 2, Canton. Miss Evans, she said, stated she met a car on a curve, was blinded by the lights in the rain, hit the shoulder of the road and skidded. She swerved to the left side, hit a rock in the bank, then swerved right, hitting the bank again. Estimated damage to the car was \$300, but the driver was unhurt, and no charges were listed against her.

Patrolman Harold Dayton reported the third accident which took place at 12:30 a.m. Christmas, at Dellwood. This involved a 1950 Chevrolet being operated by Robert Dewey Stepp of Allens Creek. The car traveling along U.S. 19 ran off the left side of the road, throwing the driver out. The mishap resulted in damages to the car, which belonged to Stepp's father, of about \$300, but neither the driver nor the two occupants were injured. Mrs. Stepp and Vaughn Smith were in the car at the time.

Patrolman Dayton and Sheriff Campbell who investigated the mishap, cited Stepp for driving drunk, and a hearing has been set for Saturday at 2 p.m. before Justice of the Peace J. J. Ferguson.

While this safety record was set in this area, other sections were not so fortunate. In the state as a whole the holiday toll was listed at 31 highway fatalities, and the lives of 852 in the nation were claimed by accidental and violent deaths during the holiday period which ended Christmas at midnight.

Throughout Western North Carolina Counties served by Troop E, State Highway Patrol, highways were relatively safe over the long Christmas week end. The area listed but one dead, and 23 injured (See Accidents—Page 3)

Spotlight On Local Hospital For 1957 'Baby Derby'

A hospital seems like an unlikely place to hold a derby, but the first baby to be born at Haywood County Hospital after midnight Monday, December 31, will win The Mountaineer's 1957 Baby Derby and prizes from eight local business firms.

Last year the winner was Jimmy Holland, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Holland of Canton, who arrived at 3:14 a.m. Sunday, January 1, 1956.

The lucky 1957 winner will receive these prizes: A bottle sterilizer from Smith's Drug Store; a baby car seat from the Firestone Store; free transportation home for the baby and his mother in Crawford's ambulance; a bassinet from Belk-Hudson; 30 quarts of Biltmore Gold Medal homogenized milk; Holmes and Edward toy with juvenile silverplate from Kurt Gans, Jewellers; a gallon of Sprod Satin paint and a pure bristle brush, from Haywood Builders Supply Co., and year's subscription to The Mountaineer.

(See First Baby—Page 3)

COWARD REMAINS IN FAIR CONDITION

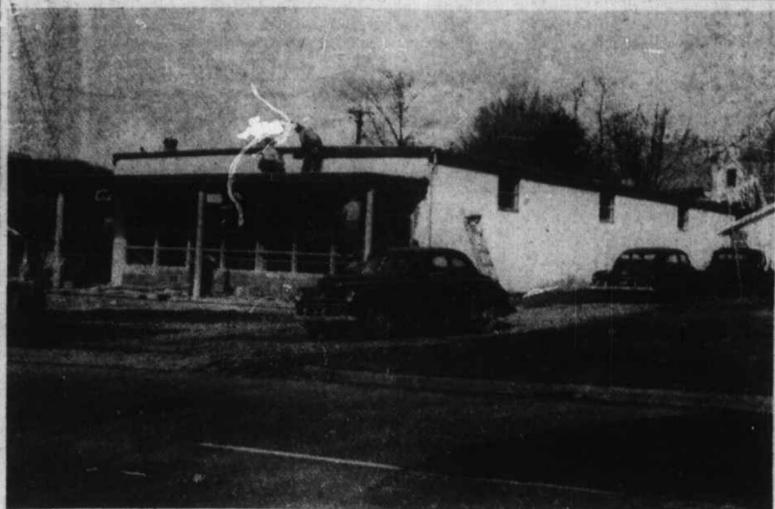
T. Marion Coward remains in a fair condition at the Haywood County Hospital where he has been a patient for several weeks. The 99-year-old Spring Creek farmer underwent an appendectomy several weeks ago.

Weather

Mostly cloudy and mild with a little light rain or drizzle today, Friday, cloudy and mild.

Official Waynesville temperature as reported by the State Test Farm:

| Date | Max. | Min. | Pr. |
|---------|------|------|-----|
| Dec. 20 | 61 | 44 | |
| Dec. 21 | 67 | 56 | .04 |
| Dec. 22 | 61 | 51 | .59 |
| Dec. 23 | 64 | 52 | .46 |
| Dec. 24 | 65 | 51 | |
| Dec. 25 | 42 | 27 | .02 |
| Dec. 26 | 41 | 19 | |



NEAR COMPLETION is the new home of the Farmers Exchange on the Asheville road, owned and operated by C. D. "Shorty" Ketter. The new building will provide 4,000 square feet of space for the firm, which deals in seeds, fertilizer, insecticides, light hardware, and other items for the farm. The old building now occupied by Farmers Exchange will be torn down and the space used as a display lot by the Haywood Monument Co. (Mountaineer Photo.)

Most Employees Will Get Holiday New Year's Day

Commissioners Pondering County Building-Permit Act

Patient Wins \$500 In Diamonds

The thought of having to stay in the hospital over Christmas was not a very cheerful thought for Mrs. Annie Beasley, of Clyde, Route one, last Monday.

But she took the news graciously, and just before noon, there came more news, that made the time fly more quickly, and cheerfully. Mrs. Beasley was winner of \$500 in diamonds from Kurt Gans.

The event was staged by the jewelry firm prior to Christmas, and the winners were announced at 11 a.m. Monday, when representatives of the three communities — Mayor J. H. Way, Waynesville, Mayor Lawrence Davis, Hazelwood, and J. W. Fowler, Jr., Lake Junaluska, pulled the names of winners from the box.

Mrs. Beasley is taking treatment at the hospital, and her physician says she can go home in another day or so.

Mrs. Irving Leatherwood got \$300 in diamonds as second place winner and Mrs. W. N. Thomas, \$200 for the third place.

The damage was covered by insurance.

Fire Causes \$200 Damage At Grocery

Waynesville firemen made a run at 11:30 a.m. today to the Smoky Mountain Grocery, where a fire started from an overheated flue above the ceiling on the first floor.

Fire Chief Felix Stovall estimated damage at \$200, and said that firemen were on the scene a half hour.

The damage was covered by insurance.

Work Now Under Way Here On Elevated Rail Trestle

Concrete work on an elevated railway trestle, which will permit the simultaneous unloading of four freight cars, will be finished next week on the property of the Ready Mix Concrete Co., near the Recreation Center grounds.

After the concrete construction is completed, the Southern Railway Co. will begin work on the trestle, ties, and track for the unit.

The installation, which will be the only one of its kind in this area, is expected to be in operation by February. It will have 11 compartments in all.

Howard Page, plant manager for Ready Mix Concrete Co., said that the new trestle will be available for rent by the public, and should prove especially useful in unloading coal for the schools and hospitals, lime for farm supply houses, and sand and other building materials for contractors.

Scales also will be available at the site for the weighing of the contents of railway cars, he added.

Mr. Page estimated that the project will cost Ready Mix Concrete (See Trestle—Page 3)

ASC Taking Applications For New Burley Allotments

The Haywood County ASC office is now accepting applications for new burley allotments for 1957. A. W. Ferguson, office manager, announced today.

To be eligible for a new tobacco allotment, Mr. Ferguson said, a farmer must meet these requirements:

1. Applicant must have had two years experience out of the past five years in producing burley tobacco on a farm with an allotment.
2. Applicant must own farm.
3. Applicant must live on farm.
4. Applicant must be in charge of farming operations on his property.

5. Applicant must derive 50 percent of his income during 1957 from his farm.

6. Applicant must not own or operate any other farm with a burley tobacco allotment.

All applications for new allotments must be submitted to the ASC office by February 1, 1957.

Mr. Ferguson said that six persons applied for new allotments for the 1956 crop, but none was found eligible.

Across the country, great differences are noted in the ravages of the diseases, which poses a greater threat to life than do cancer and all accidents combined. New (See Heart Disease—Page 3)

D. R. NOLAND IMPROVING

D. Reeves Noland, who has been a patient in the Memorial Mission Hospital for several weeks, continues to improve.

Ivy Hill, Albert Siler, Jonathan Creek, Mrs. Fred Allison; Pigeon, Mrs. David Edwards; White Oak, Mrs. Francis Teague; Waynesville, Mrs. Ruth Kelly and Mrs. Bob Williams; Beaverdam, Vaughn Byers, Marie Smathers and Fred Williams.

The safe-driving pledge was sent to North Carolina drivers in the envelope containing 1957 license renewal cards, mailed recently from Raleigh.

In a message to the state's driver, the pledge reads:

1. Share the road with others and drive with consideration and courtesy.
2. Be a defensive driver, seeking beforehand to determine accident-making situations, even of another's making and avoid them.
3. Observe the letter and spirit of traffic laws and regulations.

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Late Spurt Sends Christmas Buying Up Higher Than '55, Survey Shows

Local Bank Deposits Set New Record

Bank deposits, and confidential reports from merchants in several lines of business, indicated that Christmas business here was on a par with last year, and several instances much better.

Jonathan H. Woody, president of The First National Bank at noon said, the total deposits of the bank were the largest for this period than at any time in the 52 years of the institution.

"Businessmen and farmers seem happier," the bank executive said. "For the majority of firms, business this year showed an increase over last year. The deposits from Christmas business is indicative of the business trend here of continuing good," he explained.

A. D. Harrison, president of the Merchants Association, said the sudden spurt in the last four days of the holiday shopping season brought the volume of business up to last year's total, and in instances put it ahead of the 1955 figure.

Merchants attributed some of the "slow" shopping at first due to the unseasonably warm weather—which had a marked effect upon clothing sales — and also that many farmers waited until just before Christmas to sell their burley, due to the dry spell in early September.

Several merchants told The Mountaineer today that their firms set new records for sales during the holidays. One or two said the best day in their history was last Saturday, while others said Monday sales were tops.

Most of the business firms today were preparing for their annual after-Christmas sales, while others were engaged in taking inventory.

The Post Office and Express Company had heavy business during the holidays, with more fruit being shipped in from Florida than ever before, it was pointed out.

Seven highway projects were completed in Haywood during November, according to Commissioner Harry Buchanan of the 14th Division.

In Haywood, the following two 14 to 16-foot wide roads and their lengths were graded and paved with traffic-bound macadam: Dutch Cove Extension, 0.45 mile; the Crawford Road, 1.4 miles. Other roads, 14 feet wide, were strengthened with additional stone as follows: Incinerator Road, 0.5 mile; Hyatt Creek Circle, 0.2 mile; Laurel Drive, 0.5 mile; Stamey Cove Road, 0.5 mile; and Worley Cove Road, 0.2 mile.

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ART SHEPARD'S RESTAURANT on North Main St., Waynesville, will have 900 more square feet of floor space when this additional room, to be called "The Embers," is completed sometime in February. The new unit will specialize in steaks, and will seat 90 people. (Mountaineer Photo.)

Seven Highway Jobs Completed Here Last Month

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Shepard's Have \$10,000 Expansion Program Started

Rotarians Add \$438 To Student Loan Fund Plan

Rotarians added \$438 to their student loan fund Friday, as individuals made contributions to the fund.

There are now three students in college on loans granted by the club. The special committee announced they have several applications for loans from students here.

The project was started last year, and present indications are that the program will continue to grow as more and more contributions are made.

Fire Levels Cody Home Near Canton

The home of Charles Cody with all the furnishings was destroyed in an early evening blaze Wednesday. The six-room dwelling located near the North Canton Baptist Church burned to the ground while neighbors who rushed to the scene could only stand by.

The Clyde Fire Department answered the call about 8 o'clock but the building had already collapsed when they reached the scene.

Cody was living alone in the frame building, and was away from home at the time. Two neighbor boys were the first to discover the blaze, and gave the alarm.

W. B. Lee, another neighbor, sighted the blaze about the same time. (See Fire Levels—Page 3)

Patrol Urges Drivers Sign, Obey Traffic Safety Pledge

The four Haywood County officers of the State Highway Patrol urged county drivers today to sign and return Governor Hodges' safe-driving pledge, and then obey its resolutions all through the year of 1957.

The pledge reads:

1. Share the road with others and drive with consideration and courtesy.
2. Be a defensive driver, seeking beforehand to determine accident-making situations, even of another's making and avoid them.
3. Observe the letter and spirit of traffic laws and regulations.

The safe-driving pledge was sent to North Carolina drivers in the envelope containing 1957 license renewal cards, mailed recently from Raleigh.