

**THE YANCEY RECORD**  
ESTABLISHED JULY, 1936

Editor ..... Mrs. C. R. Hamrick  
Managing Ed. .... Lee E. Edwards

Published Every Thursday By  
**YANCEY PUBLISHING CO.**  
A Partnership

Entered as second-class matter November 11th, 1936, at the Post Office, at Burnsville, North Carolina, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

**TYPHOID CLINICS BY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

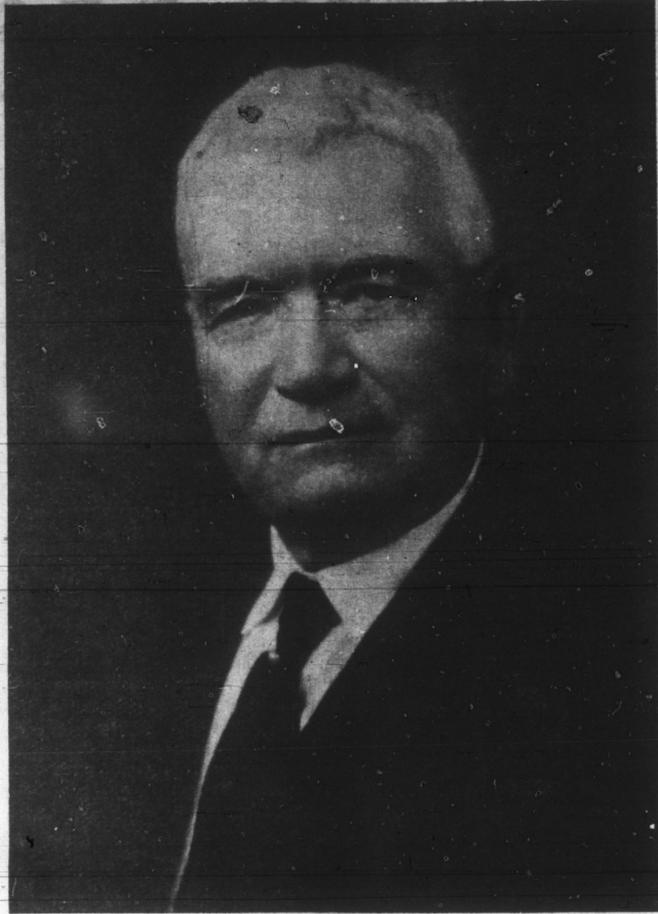
June 30, July 7  
SWISS—Post Office—9:30 to 10:30  
BALD CREEK—Proffitt's Store 10:30 to 12:30  
CANE RIVER—Bailey's Store, 2:00 to 3:00  
CANE RIVER—Mrs. Peterson's House, 3:30 to 4:30

July 1, July 8  
WINDOM—Gibson's Store, 9:30 to 10:30  
BOONFORD—Young's Chapel Church, 11:00 to 12:00  
MICAVILLE—Robinson's Store, 2:00 to 3:00  
NEWDALE—Post Office, 3:30 to 4:30

July 2, July 9  
PAINT GAP—Austin's Store, 9:30 to 10:30  
HORTON'S CREEK—England's Store, 11:00 to 12:00  
PHIPPS CREEK—Charlie Allen's house, 1:00 to 2:00  
BAKERS CREEK—School house, 2:30 to 3:00

July 3, July 10  
JACKS CREEK—Hensley's Store, 9:30 to 10:30  
CLEARMONT—Howell's Store, 11:00 to 12:30  
JACKS CREEK—Presbyterian Church, 1:30 to 2:30  
TOLEDO—Zion Baptist Church, 3:00 to 4:00

July 14, July 21  
BUSICK—Mt. Mitchell Baptist Church, 9:30 to 10:30  
SEVEN MILE RIDGE—Ballew's Store, 11:00 to 12:00  
CELO—Baptist Church, 1:00 to 2:00  
BOWDITCH—Mill Office, 2:30 to 3:30



*John Mitchell Lyon*

**JOHN MITCHELL LYON**

(By James Hutchins)

Western North Carolina abounds in many interesting, original and unique people. Such a person is Honorable John Mitchell Lyon, Burnsville, a member of a pioneer American family, many of whom have been business men, editors and publishers of newspapers, state legislators, generals, Congressmen and other notable public officials.

The first member of this old-time family, about whom much is known and one of the most famous of the name, was Matthew Lyon. He came over from Wicklow county, Ireland, in 1759, and settled in the State of Connecticut. A few years later he moved to Vermont, where he founded the town of Fair Haven in the year 1783. His first wife was the grand niece of Colonel Ethan Allen, the hero of Ticonderoga; the second, the daughter of Thomas Chittenden, the first Governor of Vermont.

He led a company of soldiers and was with Colonel Ethan Allen in the battle of Haliburton, where he saved the Colonial troops from defeat, thus making a great contribution to American independence. He represented a district in Vermont in the National House of Representatives from 1797 to 1801 and cast the deciding vote to make Thomas Jefferson President of the United States. Next he went to Kentucky, where he set up the first printing office in the State. While there he represented a district in Congress for a period of eight years, earning the title of the Hampden of Congress. Afterwards he was appointed by President Monroe as factor of the Cherokee Indi-

ans in Arkansas. He died there, territorial delegate-elect to Congress.

Another incident of note was his indictment on a charge of libeling President John Adams. He was found guilty and fined one thousand dollars, which sum was later refunded by special Act of Congress. This event is one of the outstanding triumphs in the long struggle against arbitrary authority and for the freedom of the press.

The next member of the family in line of descent was James Lyon, teacher and newspaper publisher. He was the father of Mason R. Lyon, who was a Baptist minister, school teacher and publisher. His son, James Benjamin Risley Lyon, editor and publisher of The New Era paper of Greenville, Tennessee, was the father of the subject of this sketch.

Mr. J. M. Lyon was born in Greenville, Tennessee, August 13, 1860. He attended the public schools in Greenville, Tusculum College for two years, and Goodman's Business College. On leaving Goodman's Business College, he worked a short while for The Knoxville Journal.

This was not his first experience, however, as a printer, for he had worked in Greenville as a printer's devil since he was twelve or thirteen years of age during the months that school was not in session and in afternoons while he was in school.

Soon after leaving Knoxville he went to Mexia, Texas and here he worked for two years on The Mexia Ledger with Martin Dies, who later became Congressman for several terms, representing the same district as that now represented by his illustrious son who heads the famous Dies committee. Leaving Texas for a

brief period, he was called back to Groesbeck, Texas, to edit a paper for L. L. Foster, who was to be Speaker of the House in the Texas legislature and later to head the State College of Agriculture.

Greenville, however, held too many attractions for Mr. Lyon. So he came back, purchased The Greenville Democrat from his brother James, and edited it till 1903.

Many noted people are numbered among his acquaintances and friends. He well knew the great

Senator Bate, Governors Bob and Alf Taylor, and he was an intimate friend and neighbor of President Andrew Jackson and his two sons, Charles and Andrew, Jr.

During the year 1896 Mr. Lyon came to Burnsville where he stayed for a brief period and established the Black Mountain Eagle, the pioneer newspaper of Yancey County. Returning to Burnsville in 1897, where he has since resided and where he now lives, he resumed the editorship of The Eagle and continued in that position, but for a short period of suspension of publication, until the paper was merged with the Tri-County News in 1936.

Not only is Mr. Lyon our pioneer editor and publisher, he was Yancey County's first cashier of a bank, taking charge and opening the Bank of Yancey on January 5, 1905.

However, these activities did not absorb all of Mr. Lyon's time. He served the County for four years as Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, during which period of time much of the road system of the County was graded. In 1931 he was the County's representative in the General Assembly. Here his efforts were mainly directed toward the improvement of the public schools of the State. It is, moreover, worthy of note that he did not miss a roll-call while the Legislature was in session.

Mr. Lyon married Miss Mary Lewis, eldest child of Dr. O. M. Lewis of Burnsville. To them were born six children: three sons, Rhea, John P., and Ernest; and three daughters, Jessie, Ruth, and Lora Lee—all of whom are living.

At the age of almost 82 years, Mr. Lyon is hale, hearty, and unusually vigorous for a man of his age. He attributes his good health largely to the fact that he has sowed no wild oats, to regular and proper habits, to the maintenance of poise and serenity of mind, to right living,

and to the cultivation of an attitude of friendship and helpfulness toward his friends and neighbors.

After a busy, varied and strenuous life, Mr. Lyon has retired from active work. He lives with his children most of the time. He makes an annual visit to see his eighty-six year old brother, James—ex-editor, ex-publisher, poet, etc.—who lives at Jacksonville, Florida, and passes the time attending to his chickens, bees, pigeons, and flowers, and is styled the "philosopher" by his admiring neighbors.

Although he is in his eighties, Mr. Lyon is mentally alert and keenly interested in all questions affecting the public welfare. He keeps up with the war. Questioned as to the outcome of the conflict, he, being the good and consistent Presbyterian that he is, has unflinching faith not only in the final perseverance of the saints, but is sure that the principles of freedom, justice, democracy, and Christianity are "bound" to triumph.

**CANE RIVER NEWS**

Mr. and Mrs. John Hannon of Ramseytown were dinner guests of Jessie Radford Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Seth Laughrun of Mills River, Md. were visiting relatives here over the week end.

Wade Phoenix, the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Phoenix, is recovering from an appendix operation.

Mrs. J. J. Laughrun spent last week with her sister, Mrs. J. D. Shaw at Relief.

Mrs. L. E. part of Tenn. E. J. of Brevard the county ing up some of school graduates whom thought might like to attend the college next fall.

Will Phoenix of Durham visited his brother, T. H. Phoenix, over the week end. He made an interesting talk in Sunday school on prohibition.

**MY GOODNESS! THE PAINTER IS PAINTING RIGHT OVER THE WALLPAPER!**

**WHY NOT? HE'S USING KEM-TONE**

It's that new **SHERWIN-WILLIAMS Kem-Tone WALL FINISH**

It's the latest discovery in paint science... a paint that covers almost any interior surface, painted or unpainted; wallpapered; brick or cement! Ideal for quick, low-cost room painting. Investigate! See us.

Mix 1 gallon with water and make 1 1/2 gallons paint. Your cost, ready-to-apply, . . . . . per gal.

- Covers with One Coat!
- Dries in One Hour!
- It's Washable!
- 1 gal. Finishes Average Room!

**NEWEST PASTEL COLORS**

**IMAGINE Painting as EASY as this!**

**—THIN WITH PLAIN WATER! —PAINT ON ANY SURFACE! —USE JUST ONE COAT!**

**—AND IT'S DRY IN 1 HOUR!**

**THE NEW SHERWIN-WILLIAMS Kem-Tone FOR WALLS, CEILINGS AND OVER WALLPAPER!**

**IT'S WASHABLE!**

Briefly, this altogether new and different kind of paint—KEM-TONE—lets you paint any room, paint over any surface (including wallpaper), with a single coat of beautiful, flat paint that dries in an hour and may be washed with soap and water!

**\$2.98 Per Gallon**

**IN THE NEWEST, SMARTEST PASTEL COLORS!**

B. B. Penland & Son Lumber Company  
Burnsville, N. C.

**SHERWIN-WILLIAMS PAINTS**

**Advertising Notice**

FOR

**1941 TAXES**

The 1941 taxes on your property are overdue and delay means extra cost to you.

**PAY NOW AND SAVE**

Penalty and advertising costs

**DONALD BANKS**  
Tax Collector of Yancey County