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# THE YANCEY RECORD

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## Laughrun Clinic Will Have Formal Opening On Sunday

### Design and Equipment Are of Latest Type

The formal opening of the Laughrun Clinic here is planned for Sunday, February 8, Dr. Gus Laughrun has announced. The public is cordially invited to attend the opening.

The clinic building is located on west Main Street on the lot formerly known as the Buffalo lot. It is of brick, painted white, with red roof. It faces south and large corner windows and a semi-circular entrance with white columns add to the attractiveness of the exterior.

The interior has been planned not only with the idea of efficiency but of unusual beauty as well. The flooring throughout is of Terazzo, and instead of the conventional white each room is finished in a different color, and equipment and furnishings in each room are in different colors to harmonize with the wall finish.

The front reception room is attractively furnished in leather furniture, and from it the business office opens. Walls of this and of Dr. Laughrun's private office which adjoins are finished in random-width V grooved red and white oak paneling. In addition to these three rooms there are four treatment rooms, an X Ray room and a laboratory. A reception and treatment room for colored patients is provided. All rooms are connected by an inter communication system.

The equipment was all selected by Dr. Laughrun and part of it was specially built to his specifications. The X Ray and laboratory equipment is of the latest design and will provide facilities equal to that anywhere in this section of the country.

Dr. Laughrun is the son of Mrs. J. J. Laughrun and the late Mr. Laughrun of Burnsville. He received his B. S. degree at Carson-Newman College and attended Wake Forest Medical school for two years. He took his graduate work at the University of Louisville and his post graduate work at Tulane University. He was practicing in Forrest City, Ark., when he entered the army medical corps. He was chief surgeon of field hospitals for three years, both in the states and overseas.

Dr. Laughrun was given national recognition for his design of a collapsible surgical operating tent which was adopted by a number of field hospitals of the U. S. army.

For five years Dr. Laughrun operated the 35-bed hospital which he built in Forrest City, Ark. This hospital was awarded a national citation as one of the best small hospitals in the United States.

Dr. Laughrun was forced to sell the hospital because of ill health, and then spent five months in Florida before coming to Burnsville. He has been engaged in practice here since last

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## W.N.C. Mineral Offers Very Good Fireproofing Material

### Vermiculite Found in Several Counties

Greensboro. — Beneath the hills in nature's natural storehouse of wealth in western North Carolina, lies another valuable mineral, vermiculite, which may one day not only outline the Tar Heel state more prominently on the map, but also mean the more improbability of the recurrence of such disasters as the Winecoff and LaSalle Hotel fires of '47.

Vermiculite, the mineral dug from beneath the earth's crust as a foliated or flakelike form of mica, according to the steel construction industry's latest and most important development, is used for fireproofing of structural steel. So one of these days the nation's skyscrapers, great industrial plants and other structures built about skeletons of steel may be exclusively fireproofed with vermiculite.

Besides the sizable depos-

its in North Carolina and South Carolina, sources of vermiculite have been uncovered in fewer than a dozen portions of the globe. Elsewhere in North America, it is found only in Colorado and Montana.

In South Carolina, two mines near Greenville, Edmund E. Hanks, district engineer for American Institute of Steel Construction in Greensboro, believes are the only actively producing sources of the mineral east of the Mississippi.

In Yancey County In North Carolina, however, vermiculite lies untapped in at least six counties—Avery, Macon, Buncombe, Jackson, Transylvania and Yancey. One of the mining firms has central offices in Asheville, located strategically close to deposits of the mineral in western North Carolina.

None of the former means of protecting structural steel against intense heats has been as effective or as economical as the

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## FARM NOTES

Eight farmers of Yancey county produced 100 bushels or over of corn per acre during the 1947 season to be eligible for the state "100 Bushel Corn Club". Because of extreme weather conditions they were unable to attend the meeting in Asheville last week.

B. C. Gortney of Green Mtn. produced a yield of 134.3 bushels; George V. Anglin, of Burnsville, 128 bushels; Ray Byrd of Burnsville Rt. 1, 120.7 bushels; Handy Bailey, Burnsville Rt. 1, 119.6 bushels; W. O. Briggs, Burnsville Rt. 1, 115.8 bushels; H. E. Duncan, Burnsville Star Rt. 115.1 bushels; Charles Riddle, Pensacola, 109.2 bushels; E. N. Stamey, Burnsville, 100.8 bushels.

All of the farmers grew U. S.-282 hybrid variety except Mr. Briggs who grew Holcombe Prolific hybrid.

Four other growers produced approximately 100 bushels but all records were not complete on these. The county average is approximately 35 bushels per acre.

Keen interest was shown by county farmers during the 1947 season, and plans are being made now to beat the past year's record during this year.

There are 17 fire line plowing units being operated by the North Carolina Division of Forestry and Parks, each unit representing a crawler tractor, a fire line plow, and a transport truck.

## HOME AGENTS NOTES

R. L. Miller, highway patrolman for Yancey county, will discuss "Safety on the Highway" at county 4H club meetings next week.

The following schedule of meetings has been announced: Monday, February 9, Burnsville Junior club at 1:00 a. m. and Bald Creek club at 10:30; Tuesday, February 10, Clearmont Junior club at 8:30 a. m. and Clearmont Senior club at 10:40.

Wednesday, February 11, Pensacola club at 9:00 a. m. and Bee Log club at 11:00 a. m.; Thursday, February 12, Harvard club at 8:45 a. m.; Celso club at 9:30 a. m.

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## Conference Planned

A conference for Mission Study teachers of Baptist Junior missionary organizations will be held at the Burnsville Baptist church on February 13 at 7:30.

Mrs. G. L. Hensley will lead the discussion for Sunbeam leaders, Miss Madge Carter for Junior teachers, Miss June Ayers for Intermediate teachers and Miss Laura Mae Hilliard for adult teachers.

The conference is being held in preparation for the Week of Prayer which will be observed in March.

Mrs. C. H. Morgan of Bee Log is recovering from an attack of pneumonia.

## Polio Drive Is Extended

The "March of Dimes" campaign in the state has been extended through February 14 because of adverse weather conditions, according to a telegram received by Mrs. Ernest Briggs, county chairman, from the state headquarters.

This additional time was given, the state officials said, as it was impossible in many sections for workers to contact individuals or business firms.

The quota for Yancey county was set this year at \$1720. Last year the quota was \$565 and approximately \$1500 was contributed. The increased quotas throughout the state were made

so that local chapters might have funds to aid in treatment of existing or future cases.

Mrs. Briggs has asked that anyone who wishes to contribute but who has not been contacted and who find that it is not convenient to see a worker, send his contribution directly to Fred Proffitt, treasurer.

The schools of the county are competing but no report has been made of contributions. It has been suggested that the additional time may be used by the schools to boost their contribution. Recognition will be given the school raising the largest amount.

## Pigeon Forge Pottery Develops Unusual Native Products

### Douglas Ferguson of Bald Creek Is Designer

The Pigeon Forge Pottery at Pigeon Forge, Tenn. has had nation wide publicity, and is of unusual interest to citizens of Yancey county as Douglas Ferguson, formerly of Bald Creek and a graduate of Mars Hill college, is designer for the unusual pottery made there.

This native industry was planned several years ago by Ernest W. Wilson, research engineer in ceramics for the Tennessee Valley Authority, and a world authority on clays, glazes and all types of pottery.

Douglas Ferguson was at that time a designer in

a ceramics laboratory at Norris, and he won Wilson's attention. Last year the pottery was opened with Ferguson as designer.

The Forge is located in a converted tobacco barn in the small town of Pigeon Forge which has a population of 227. It is located in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains near Sevierville, Tenn.

No prepared colors or dyes are used, but Ferguson paints his designs with different types of clay. The piece of pottery, therefore, is gray when it is put into the kiln but has as many colors as kinds of clay when the object is fired.

The Pottery specializes in fine gift ware and many unusual and rare glazes are in production. Mr. Ferguson creates his designs from native mountain objects such as flowers, animals, old stone ware churns butter molds and mountain characters. Many of his inspirations come from material in and around Bald Creek.

The ware is highly in demand because of its high quality and captivating beauty. Feldspar, flint and kaolin, all native to Western North Carolina, are used to make the fine pottery.

As another of the interesting native industries of this section, the development of the Pigeon Forge Pottery will be observed, and it is of particular interest that the designer of the beautiful and unusual pieces is from Yancey county.

## LEGION MEETING

Among the many matters of business disposed of at the meeting of the Earl Horton Post 122 of the American Legion on Tuesday night, January 27th, was the naming of the two buildings recently purchased by the Post.

The West building, formerly known as the Dining Hall, was named Legion Memorial building. The East building, which will be used for meetings at (Continued on back page)

## RAT CAMPAIGN

Yancey county will join other counties of the state in an intensive Rat Killing Campaign, on February 24.

The material to be used is ready prepared fortified Red Squill rat bait, prepared by U. S. Fish and Wild Life Service. This preparation is harmless to people and to domestic animals.

The cost of the Red Squill preparation is \$1.00 for a three pound package. Orders may be given to the

teachers of the county, the vocational agriculture teachers, county or home agent or to local stores. All orders should be sent in not later than Monday, February 9. The bait will be delivered on February 24.

The damage done by rats each year runs into millions of dollars and a thorough campaign can go far toward ending this needless waste.

Citizens of the county are urged to take part and to cooperate to make this a success.

## Plans Are Made For WCUNC Summer Classes Here

### Wide Variety of Subjects Offered

The Woman's College of the University of North Carolina will conduct extension classes in Burnsville again this year to continue the program which was begun last summer.

Frank W. Howell, superintendent of public instruction for Yancey county conferred with officials of the college last week and has announced tentative plans.

The work has been planned so that teachers in this and adjoining counties may take summer work here rather than attend college summer classes elsewhere.

**Drama Classes** In addition to the classes for teachers, the same courses in drama will be offered this summer and the Burnsville Playhouse will again be operated.

Cliff E. Clevenger who was business manager of the Playhouse last year, accompanied Mr. Howell to Greensboro and conferred with W. R. Taylor, director.

Plans were also discussed for band instruction and other courses to round out the summer study program.

There will be a twelve weeks session this summer instead of eight weeks. Classes will begin on July 5 and continue through August 27. Each course of instruction will be for a two weeks period.

Classes in a wide range of subjects will be offered, provided that there are a

minimum of 30 students who wish to take a subject. Mr. Howell was assured that there will be as many teachers from the college as are necessary to teach all classes for which there is sufficient enrollment.

### Subjects Offered

The following is a tentative list of subjects which will be offered provided there is adequate demand for each: Public school music, art, character education, reading, science in the 12 year program, child guidance, general curriculum construction, tests and measurements, teaching arithmetic, social studies in the elementary grades, problems in child development, home relationships, history and political science, sociology, general and educational psychology.

Undergraduate courses in English and American literature will be offered. The school last year was well attended and student-teachers were highly pleased with the curriculum offered and with the opportunity to attend summer classes here. Teachers from adjoining counties also attended.

The department of public instruction has issued a statement on information about renewal of certificates. If any teacher is in doubt whether or not she should attend summer classes to renew her certificate, she may contact the superintendent's office for information regarding this.



More than 2,000,000 members of the Boy Scouts of America will observe Boy Scout Week, Feb. 6th to 12th, marking the 38th anniversary of the organization. This year Boy Scouts are emphasizing conservation of food and natural resources, planting gardens, safety and fire prevention, home repairs and personal health check-up. Scouting promotes world peace through World Jamborees and practical help among 42 nations with 4,409,780 members. Through its World Friendship Fund of voluntary gifts the Boy Scouts of America helps Scouts overseas to rebuild their units. So far, more than 3,000 tons of equipment have been shipped. Above is the official poster marking the Scout birthday.