

Around The Mt. Mitchell Forest Service District

By George Vitas, U. S. Forest Ranger

Last Friday we drove up to the top of Roan Mountain with Forest Supervisor, D. J. Morriss, Engineers Rudy Fairfax and J. W. Higdon and Alabama National Forest Supervisor, C. F. Burnham, for a final examination and approval of the new location of the proposed road which the U. S. Forest Service will build from Carvers Gap to the old hotel site on the Roan. All the road stakes are now in and as soon as the specifications are drawn up, the contract for the construction of this road will be opened for bids.

To the many attractions of Roan Mountain—hay-fever-free, unequalled view, beauty of its purple rhododendron, bald grass, moss spruce and fir, we'd like to add another. Did you know that you can take your hand and run it up and down those black-berry bushes on the Roan without getting a single brier in your skin? There just aren't any spines on those blackberry bushes atop the Roan!

The new highway construction job from Bakersville to the Carvers Gap on the Roan is progressing rapidly. Down at the lower reaches it is a beehive of activity with men and machinery moving amazing amounts of earth and rock every day. Great bulldozers, huge earth movers, diesel shovels and draglines have shattered the calm which you normally find in Little Rock Creek Valley. But one of these days, perhaps this winter, it will be serene in Little Rock Creek Valley once more and you'll be able to drive to the top of the mountain on a two-lane hard surfaced highway.

In this day, when we are used to so much talk of billions of dollars, it is hard to be impressed when hearing someone speak in terms of millions. However, Lee M. James of the Southern Forest Experiment Station has just completed an analysis which shows the importance of the forests to the economy of the Southern states. He found that the South's an-

Women Used As Spies

Two years ago, American scientists in the Middle East recorded effects of the first Soviet A-bomb tests. They were alerted weeks earlier, largely by reports from an American woman spy behind the Iron Curtain.

According to the May issue of Cosmopolitan magazine, the Central Intelligence Agency, our new world-wide espionage network, has scores of women operating abroad, several in the very shadow of the Kremlin.

The writer, a former O.

nual production of raw forest products—sawlogs, pulpwood, naval stores, etc.—is worth 1.1 billion dollars. Further manufacture of these products adds another \$1,990,000,000.00 to its value. But to North Carolinians, here is the most important part of Mr. James' findings: He reports that North Carolina leads all the 12 southern states in annual money-income from forest products with \$289,000,000.00. Next comes Georgia with \$276 million and Virginia is third with \$231 million. If the old saying that "money talks" is true, the forests of North Carolina are without question one of the solid foundations in the prosperity of the State.

While we are still using big figures, we'd like to mention a safety record of the U. S. Forest Service. Thus far, the employees of the Forest Service have driven 120,000,000 miles in the performance of their work during the past three years without a single fatal accident. The U. S. Government, as a whole, rates 12.5 fatalities per 100 million miles, so that on this basis the intensive Forest Service safety program has saved at least 12 lives in the past three years. When you consider the fact that much of this driving is over rough mountain roads in the West, East and South, it is double proof that, with an honest sincere effort, driving can be made safe!

S. S. officer, reveals for the first time the exploits of American women in the intelligence field. He quotes his chief as saying that, "In the face of extreme danger, O. S. S. women showed courage and ability on a par with any man's."

Mrs. Emmy Rado, says the article, achieved one of the biggest intelligence scoops of the war by extracting from a refugee detailed harbor information when our Army was planning the landings in North Africa.

"Artemis," whose real name is still a secret, is the 37-year-old American woman who was landed in Normandy by submarine, walked across France, personally led guerrilla sabotage bands, and blew up a bridge all by herself while a German truck convoy was crossing it. A hundred Nazi troops was killed.

Mrs. Dorothy Huston, called "the best American undercover agent of them all," cracked one of the most dangerous espionage rings in this country. It was made up of Polish refugees who had rented an apartment in New York. Mrs. Huston rented an adjoining apartment, casually made their acquaintance, and, within ten days, "had them spilling secrets all over the place."

"That women excel as intelligence agents is nothing new," says the article. "For five thousand years, every espionage service on earth has turned over to women the missions too delicate for its men to handle."

ANIMAL CIRCUS

The Don Robinson American-Congo Animal Circus coming to Burnsville Wednesday, May 23, will this year present the greatest collection of strange, odd and rare animals ever carried with any circus.

The Big Circus presents such outstanding acts as the Debelles, America's greatest teeter board act, outstanding acrobatic artists; tumblers, etc.; aerial acts with their death defying stunts; the smallest performing elephant in this county, Baby Tasco, 3 years old.

The bouncing trampoline acts with the funny clowns who really keep you in a roar of laughter.

The Circus this year features a show to keep you laughing.

The riding contest where local boys and girls are taught to be bareback riders. This you don't want to miss.

Educated ponies, dogs, goats, cats, elephants, Dynamite, the educated mule. Mary, the world's largest performing chimp, riding scooters, roller skating, actually rides a two-wheel bike. It's a scream.

The beautiful girls on the swinging ladders. You will see a goat ride a horse bareback and many, many other acts.

Among the side show features you will find the Big Gorilla, caged in a spec-

ially built cage.

Don Robinson also presents a special concert feature. The greatest laughing show of all times, The Doctor's Shop.

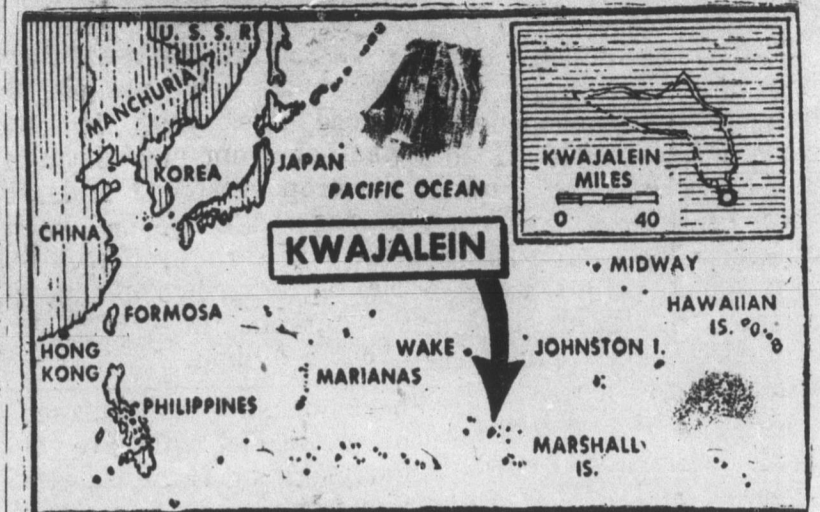
Special scenery is carried for this feature.

Clowns will keep you laughing from the time you enter the Big Tent until you leave. And all ages have been considered in this year's presentation.

Truly a great show. Don't miss it!

Matinee starts 2:30 p. m. Night show starts 8 p. m. Doors open one hour earlier. So everyone will have time to see the side show and the children can ride the ponies.

Hydrogen Bomb To Be Tested In Marshalls



Cleveland, Ohio—The atomic Energy Commission will conduct an experiment on Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands soon, according to reports. Washington sources say it may be the first test of a hydrogen bomb.

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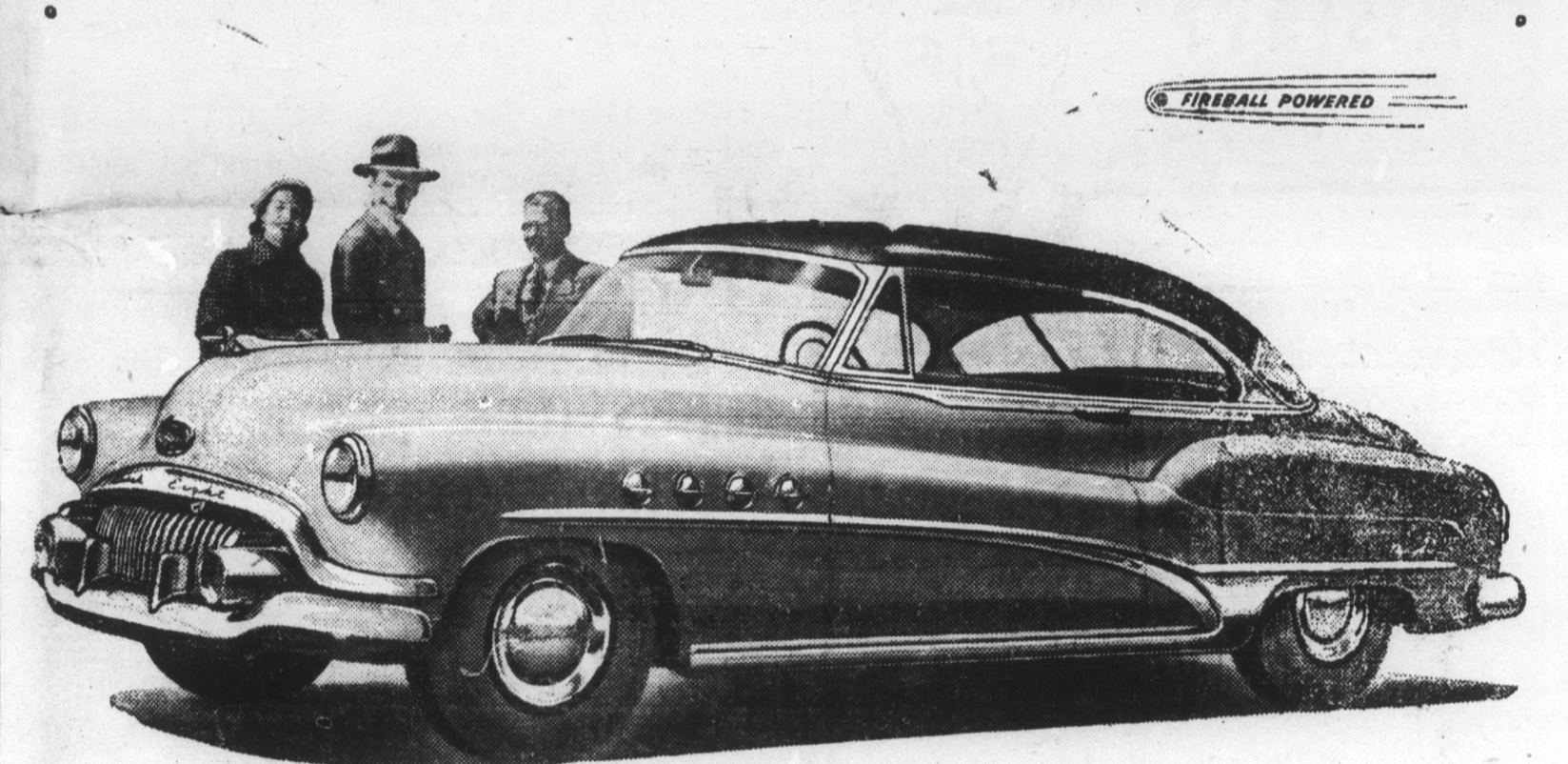
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