

Clinchfield Officials Conducting Investigation

Train Collision Fatal

A head-on collision between a Clinchfield mixed freight train and a southbound coal train took the lives of two men early Sunday morning in Green Mountain community. The fiery wreck tore up the track that parallels the Toe River. Both locomotives, consisting of ganged Diesel units, burst into flame after the collision and several cars from both trains were derailed.

Clinchfield Railroad and Mitchell County officials identified the victims as J. B. Hartsell, about 50, of Erwin, Tennessee, who was engineer on the northbound train; and Jerry M. Eller, 25, of Milligan, Tennessee, brakeman on the northbound train.

Frank Duncan of Erwin, engineer, and S. Leonard of Johnson City, Tennessee, fireman on the southbound train leaped from their cab and were not hurt. Clinchfield officials said the freight train, made up of about 60 empty cars, was headed toward Tennessee at about 35 miles per hour, and the southbound 136-car coal train was traveling at about 15 miles per hour.

The railroad is conducting an intensive investigation into the wreck, beginning at 10:00 a. m. Wednesday, October 28 in the road's general office, Erwin, Tennessee. The cause of the accident has apparently not been determined at this time.

Clinchfield officials said the accident was the first involving fatalities to a locomotive crew since the line shifted from steam to Diesel powered locomotives.

A total of nine Diesel propulsion units and 15 cars were derailed by the collision. A spokesman said three of the units burned and three others were destroyed. By Monday night, the other units had been re-tracked, and a temporary track had been laid parallel to the torn up section to permit trains to by-pass and equipment to work to re-track the derailed cars. The regular main track is expected to be restored to use by mid-week, a railroad spokesman said.



Photo by Craig Jenkins

Six Diesel Units Destroyed In Fatal Railroad Accident



Photo by Craig Jenkins

Fiery Head-On Train Collision Derails Nine Diesel Units And Fifteen Cars

School Board To Hear Spokesmen

There will be an open meeting of the Yancey County Board of Education on November 6, 1970 at 7:00 p. m. in the East Yancey High School Gymnasium.

At this meeting the Board

of Education will hear pros and cons for the long range and interim school plans. The Board of Education will hear a spokesman from each school district and will allot ten minutes per spokesman. Groups desiring to

be heard should contact the principal of the school in the district for the scheduling of an appointment.

The Board of Education desires that each spokesman confine their speech to the issue at hand because of time involved.

The meeting is open to the public. All citizens of Yancey County are invited to attend.

United Fund Honor Roll

Businesses And Offices
Where All Personnel Have Contributed

School Superintendent's Office
Department of Social Services

GIVE
THE UNITED WAY

Heart Screening To Begin In Yancey County Schools

Screening for heart murmurs in Yancey County school children will begin in November. A computerized heart scanner is to be used by volunteers to do the testing.

Sponsored by the North Caro-

lina Heart Association in cooperation with the Regional Medical Program, the project is aimed at discovering heart defects and referring children for treatment before serious damage can occur.

The tests will be made cost-free for children grades one through 12 and will be made only with parental permission.

Normally a doctor can determine whether a heart murmur signals a defect, or heart valves damages by rheumatic fever, when he hears it through a stethoscope, but some children see a doctor only once or twice before they reach first grade. By the time they reach junior high level, some students haven't been examined by a doctor in several years.

If a murmur is found, a second machine-test will be made. If the murmur is certified, a doctor will visit the school to diagnose the child's case.

Training and screening will be done at Burnsville Elementary School beginning November 16 and continuing for ten days.

4-H Council

The Yancey County 4-H Council will meet Thursday, October 29th at 4:00 p. m. in Room #3 of the Yancey County Courthouse. All council members are urged to attend.

Thanksgiving Retreat Set

Beginning Friday afternoon, November 20, and concluding after lunch on Sunday, November 22, there will be an Abundant Life Retreat at High Pastures. It will be a time of sharing, prayer, worship, fellowship... in short, church.

If you are drawn to this retreat and can come, just write a note telling who and how many and send it to Miss Elizabeth Motsinger, Route 2, Burnsville, N.C. 28714. High Pastures provides the rooms, sheets, pillows, towels and blankets for guests on a free-will offering basis. You will have a chance to help pay for the food... also to help prepare it.

Approximately 35 persons can be accommodated in the main lodge and cottages. There is a motel close by (The Mountain View Motel). Those already signed up include Dr. Robert Stapleton, Mrs. Stapleton, Miss Betty Motsinger and Joe Petree. Can you join us?