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CHRISTMAS!

# BLACK MOUNTAIN NEWS

YOUR COUNTY NEWSPAPER

## Weather

Date	High	Low	Prec.
Dec. 10	50	24	
Dec. 11	25	12	.03
Dec. 12	21	1	1 in. snow below zero
Dec. 13	46	3	
Dec. 14	57	27	
Dec. 15	62	36	

VOL. 13.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1957, BLACK MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA

8 PAGES TODAY

NO. 16.

## REFLECTIONS

By Gordon Greenwood

The James W. Inabinett family of College street, Black Mountain, had the unusual experience of eating watermelon from their garden on Dec. 1. They found the melon during the last week of October, pulled it and placed it in the dining room to ripen. It did and they report it was delicious when eaten.

—R—  
If someone were to pay you ten cents for every kind word you ever spoke about people, and collect five cents for every unkind word, would you be rich or poor?

Some folks don't have much to say, but you have to listen to them a long time to find out. A friend is a person who knocks before he enters, not after he has taken leave. The very best way to kill time is to get busy and work it to death.

The boy who continues to pull on the oars doesn't have much time to rock the boat.

A shallow thinker seldom makes a deep impression.

—Canadian War Cry.

—R—  
During the last few months—since August and my short stay in the hospital—I've read two excellent books. One was a gift and the other I snatched from a sick friend's collection while he wasn't looking. But his wife caught me and I'll have to take it back.

They're both Civil War books, covering different fields. If you want a broader view, read Bruce Catton's "This Hallowed Ground," the story of the Union side of the war. A former newspaperman turned author, Mr. Catton covers every angle of the conflict, from Fort Sumter to the final surrender of Johnston in North Carolina.

He brings to light many little publicized facts and quotes freely from letters of the common soldiers, the men who did the fighting. Oddly enough when men of a division tore up a town in northern Alabama, the army regarded that as showing high morale. (The conception of high morale hasn't changed from the Civil War to World War II.)

It doesn't take much reading between the lines to see that Lee, Jackson, Longstreet, and many other southern generals, most of them graduates of West Point, gave the south the advantage in leadership. In fact it is amazing that the Union Army was able to fight at all. Until the coming of Grant, the Northern generals had seemed content to come out of a fight with Lee and not lose their entire army. They never pressed the advantage which they enjoyed in men and materials.

If you like history, you'll like reading the Union's side of the Civil War.

Book number 2 was JEB Stuart, the last Cavalier.

Barke Davis, also author of Gray Fox and They Called Him Stone-wall, has compiled a very interesting book on the life and exploits of a man described as "A courageous soldier, without parallel as a cavalry leader."

Stuart met and defeated some of the best of his day, and his rides around the Federal armies are familiar to all.

He failed Lee at Gettysburg. He swung around the Union Army, threatened Washington, and then sped on north into Pennsylvania, but didn't arrive at Gettysburg until the battle was all but over. When Stuart was killed near the end of the war at Yellow Tavern in May, 1864, the war still had almost a year to run, but the issue had already been decided. Lee and many others knew it but

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## Children's Gift Suggestions From Library

Still have a gap in a child's Christmas list?

Miss Ruby S. Hall, Black Mountain librarian, has a few suggestions for choice of gift books.

These representative titles were given: "Christmas Anna Angel," Sawyer; "Tree for Peter," Seredy; "Bosky Crystal," Stifter; "Birds' Christmas Carol," Wiggin; "Christ Carol," Dickens; "Why the Christmas Rang," Alden; "Christmas Shaped Like a Star," Frost; "Story of the Other Wise Man," Van Dyke; two collections of stories, "Told Under the Christmas Tree" and "Told Under the Stars and Stripes"; "Little Shepherd," Armour; "Visit from St. Nicholas," Moore; and two poetry collections, "Sing a Song of Seasons," and "Poems for Red Letter Days."

These represent only a few good items, most of them suitable for the lower grades or to be read to small children. "There are many others," Miss Hall added.



Mrs. Nina Wilson's grandson, Dale Brent Wilson (above right), of Anchorage, Alaska, where she recently visited. He is in the arms of a Matanuska maid at a summer festival parade.

Portage Glacier, left above, which Mrs. Wilson visited. She made the trip of about 40 miles from Anchorage over a narrow gravelled road, soon to be replaced by a modern thoroughfare.

Interior of a native church at Eklutna, Alaska, left, below, among points of interest visited when she went to see her son and wife, both practicing attorneys in Anchorage.

## Local Visitor Finds Alaska Land of Color, Contrasts and High Prices

By Dorothy Mattison

Mrs. Nina Wilson, back in her Black Mountain home after a flying visit to her son, T. Stanton Wilson, and his family of Anchorage, Alaska, is glad she isn't doing her Christmas shopping there instead of here at home. Prices she reported, are about double there on many items, although, she concedes, wages, too, are higher than in the States.

How would you like to pay 45 cents a quart for milk? Or 45 cents for an ordinary loaf of bread? That's what her son's family has to pay, although Mrs. Wilson reported some "items are about the same as at home—men's clothing, for instance."

Mrs. Wilson visited in the late summer and fall, helping to celebrate while she was there the first birthday of her red-headed grandson, Dale Brent Wilson.

It was the season when the nights were almost as light as day, with the sun remaining visible almost the entire night. She found it strange indeed to see Anchorage, with a population of about 50,000, "quiet and asleep, with not a sound audible" in the "middle of a night that was as bright as day." Now the seasons are reversed, and it is the daylight hours which are at a minimum of about four hours.

## Nativity Scene Is Project of Jr. Woman's Club

The Junior Woman's club held its regular monthly dinner meeting Tuesday, Dec. 10, at the Monte Vista hotel.

In keeping with the season, Mrs. Harold Coburn very beautifully gave a Christmas story. Woodfin C. Rhodes added much to festive atmosphere when he presented his Octette in a program of Christmas carols.

Members voted to give baskets of food to four needy families in this vicinity at Christmas. Mrs. Chester Sobol reported that the club's Thanksgiving baskets were quite successful.

Gifts for patients at Western North Carolina sanatorium were brought to the meeting. Mrs. Leon Williams reported on the club's "Finer Carolina" project, "A Nativity Scene," on the lawn of the Methodist church.

Others present were Mrs. W. L. Wheelon, president, who presided; Mrs. Gregory Fox, Mrs. Richard Stone, Mrs. R. H. Heiser, Miss Alice Turner, Mrs. Howerton Price, Miss Marion Simons, Mrs. Ned Straehla, Mrs. John Bennett, Mrs. Woodfin C. Rhodes, and Mrs. Richard Putnam.

## SWANNAHOA FREE WILL BAPTIST PLAY SUNDAY

The annual Christmas play will be presented by the young people Sunday night, Dec. 22, at 7 p.m. at the Swannanoa Free Will Baptist church. On Tuesday night, Dec. 24, a film entitled, "Holy Night," will be shown. This is the first from a series of films called "Loving Christ." Visitors are cordially welcomed.

## HOSPITAL GIFT SHOP ENABLES PATIENTS TO REMEMBER FAMILIES

Families of every patient at U. S. Veterans' hospitals here will have a merrier Christmas because of the holiday project of the Department American Legion auxiliary. Sponsored by the department, with volunteers from various units serving as "shoppers", a Christmas gift shop is being conducted at the Swannanoa hospital division.

On record are the numbers, ages and sizes of the members of all patients' families. It is for them the volunteers choose gifts, without charge to the patients. These are dispatched each home in time for Christmas. No charge is made, either for gift or its wrapping in gay holiday papers and ribbons.

The gift shop was previously located at the Oteen division, but was moved to the Swannanoa hospital, and serves patients of both institutions.



Santa Claus arrived a week ahead of schedule to be present for pre-holiday exercises at Black Mountain Primary school. Pupils gathered in the school auditorium to sing carols and receive gifts of stockings prepared by the grade mothers for Santa's distribution just prior to dismissal of school until the day after New Year's. The gifts contained candy, puzzles, a whistle and other novelties.

## Legion Invites Community To Dec. 20 Jamboree

Plans for the American Legion pre-Christmas jamboree tomorrow (Friday, Dec. 20) at 7:30 p.m. at the Black Mountain Community clubhouse have been completed, according to Mrs. Joe Bullock, chairman of the arrangements committee.

The public is invited to participate with the Legion and the auxiliary by bringing a covered-dish. The sum of \$1 per person will be contributed for the building fund. Drinks will be furnished by the post. There will be a drawing for the steer which is to be given away that evening.

Mrs. Bullock asks that each lady bring a home-baked cake to be auctioned off to the highest bidder. She states that there will be games with "white elephants" for prizes.

"This is to be a community-wide rally in support of the Legion's building program", Mrs. Bullock stated, "and we wish everyone interested in this program to come and participate. Just remember the time: 6:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 20, at the Community clubhouse. Bring a covered-dish item and that white elephant you wish to dispose of."

## Oteen Resident Buys Former Wright Store

The store at 103 Cherry street, operated for about 30 years by J. N. Wright, has been purchased by W. H. Spann, formerly of Oteen and Raleigh, and is open for business with an expanded line of feed, fertilizers and groceries.

A Christmas line of plants, flowers and dried and other arrangements is also offered.

Mr. and Mrs. Spann are making their home on Oakland drive in Black Mountain at present. They formerly lived in Asheville. Mrs. Spann was before her marriage Julia Jackson of Asheville. Mr. Spann, who was schooled in Asheville, served in the Air Force during World War II and was for 22 months stationed in the Pacific. He was a warrant officer with the 5th Air Force. Until coming to Black Mountain to engage in business here, he was manager of the Howard Johnson Motor lodge in Raleigh.

## SUNSHINE SCHOOL HOLIDAY PARTY IS PLANNED FOR FRIDAY

The Sunshine school will hold its annual Christmas program Friday, Dec. 20, at 7 p.m. at the Monte Vista hotel. All friends and relatives are cordially invited to attend.

## BANKS WILL CLOSE FOR 2-DAY HOLIDAY

The Northwestern Bank, Black Mountain, and the Swannanoa Bank & Trust Co. will close on Dec. 26, as well as on Christmas day, in order that all employees may have a two-day holiday. The closing follows the proclamation of Governor Hodges designating the 26th as a banking holiday in North Carolina. The action was requested by the State Bankers' association.

## SERVICE CHRISTMAS EVE' AT ST. JAMES'

The midnight Eucharist will be observed at Saint James' Episcopal church Christmas Eve' at 11:30 p.m. The public is cordially invited to attend.

## Art Exhibit Displays Faculty Talent New Mercury

Several members of the Montreat college faculty exhibited oil paintings in the faculty art exhibit which opened last Wednesday afternoon in the library in Gaither hall to continue through Monday of this week.

None of the six artists contributing to the show are professionals. Some have had no instruction in painting, but began painting just for enjoyment.

Mrs. Katherine Anderson, wife of George A. Anderson, vice president of the college, started drawing with pencil as a girl. She received a box of oils from her father when she was 14. After carrying the oils around for several years in the hope of finding someone who might instruct her, she simply started painting.

Her favorite medium is oils, with portraits as a specialty. After her seven children are older, she hopes to study art. She paints at least one picture a year to stay in practice, but has let Bible study and writing poetry become her major hobbies at present.

Mrs. R. C. Anderson, honorary member of the board of trustees, studied art. Her home on Florida terrace is filled with many paintings, some too large to move. For the exhibit, she loaned "Under the Umbrella" and "Charlotte Corday" (1768-1793), French revolutionary heroine.

Mrs. Benjamin Dunford, a member of the music department faculty, studied art for a year while a student at Salem college. Only last year, Mrs. Dunford did her first painting. It was then she realized her hidden talent.

Another member of the music faculty, Allan Guy, started painting while in the army. He says, "One day while out walking in Denver, I saw a box of oils in a show window and decided to try painting to pass away some of the time on my hands in a boring situation—the army! I shelled a piece of cardboard and painted one of the boys in the barracks. It was fun, so I continued. I suppose I would be classed as a primitive, since I have had no instruction in drawing or painting."

Another example of how art and music go hand in hand is the work

## Lights To Go On Christmas Eve'

Black Mountain's new Mercury vapor lights in the downtown business section are due to be turned on at dusk on Christmas eve', if weather permits the completion of the work of installation, it was announced this week.

Mayor Richard B. Stone and the Town Board said in announcing the inception of the new system, "We feel that the new lighting system throughout the business district is a definite benefit to the merchants and citizens of the community." Carolina Light & Power company is installing the lights.

The new system will be permanently in use here, but at this particular season it will add to the holiday atmosphere provided by the Jaycees and Chamber of Commerce in erecting illuminated "Merry Christmas" signs at the entrances to the town on Highway 70, and red ribboned wreaths of greenery on light poles in the business section.

## No Christmas For Some If U. A. Gifts Short

Unless some additional United Appeal gifts are received immediately, prospects are that some families in this area will be without food and gifts for the holiday.

Seventy-five dollars are still missing from Black Mountain's Christmas Cheer Fund because of the failure, thus far, of enough United Appeal gifts to make the full allotment of \$300 needed for filling baskets for the holiday for needy families in this area.

The United Appeal of Buncombe county hopes to allot the full \$300 needed for the project, but to date has been able to furnish only \$225 of the needed amount. Consequently a special request has been issued asking that "everyone who has not yet given, please try to do so as soon as possible."

Because of the illness of Charles E. Spencer, co-chairman with Mayor Richard B. Stone of the Black Mountain United Appeal campaign, a request is made that all United Appeal gifts be turned in as soon as possible to Mr. Stone's office, 129 State street.

Turning in funds immediately is desirable, the announcement said, in order that the campaign for benefit of the Cheer Fund and others of the 32 agencies serving this area and sharing in the Appeal, may be brought to a close. Persons who have not yet made their contributions may do so at Mr. Stone's office and any volunteer campaigners who served as solicitors in the drive are urged to turn in their collections at once, if they have not previously done so.

## Turkey Shoot To Benefit A. L. Building Fund

The Waycaster McFee Post of the American Legion will sponsor another turkey shoot Saturday, Dec. 21. The shoot will start at 10 a.m. at the site of the proposed clubhouse and any profits will go into the Legion building fund.

The committee in charge is: Arnold Jones, Sherman Shell and W. R. Copeland. The site is on the Blue Ridge road on the old Dougherty property.

## JUNIOR ORDER'S PARTY ON DEC. 23

The Junior Order will hold a Christmas party, with an exchange of gifts by members, and a supper meeting on Monday, Dec. 23, at 7:00 p.m. at Junior Order hall. M. G. Morgan is counselor of the group.

## Pix Theater Closes Until Next Spring

For the first time in many years, the Black Mountain motion picture house, the Pix theater, has closed for the winter. It will re-open next spring.

Manager Albert J. Terrell said that this is the first time the theater has closed since before World War II.

## Five Rules For Happiness Given To Kiwanians

A. Fred Stimson, formerly of Southern Pines and now of Ridgecrest, addressed the last meeting of the Black Mountain-Swannanoa Kiwanis club on "How to Attain Real Happiness." Mr. Stimson is a past lieutenant governor of Kiwanis for the fourth district.

His formula for happiness was expressed as: learning to do something while you are young which you can do as long as you live; always doing something worthwhile, not just for material gain; evaluating what you really have and being thankful for it, for there are many who have less; being sure that you have a clear conscience in everything you do, for happiness comes only when there is peace within your own soul; one must have an abiding faith in a higher power—God.

Mr. Stimson gave several appropriate examples to show that financial security alone had failed to bring true happiness to older people with whom he had contact when he was a minister in a wealthy resort community.



Mr. and Mrs. Grover K. Barnhill of Norfolk, Va., formerly of Black Mountain, announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Margaret Elizabeth Barnhill, to Cadet Richard Newland Groves, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Newland Groves of Syracuse, N. Y.

## Cantata and Program Sunday At First Baptist

At the 11 a.m. service the pastor, Rev. W. A. Huneycutt, will present the Christmas message, "What Child is This?" at the First Baptist church, Sunday, Dec. 22.

On Sunday evening at 7:30 the church choir will present a cantata, "Love Transcending," by John W. Peterson. The choir is under the direction of Woodfin C. Rhodes. The accompanist is Mrs. E. V. Gouge. Soloists will be Mrs. Charles Smith, soprano; Mrs. W. A. Huneycutt, alto; Raymond K. Rhodes, tenor, and Charles S. Smith, bass. The public is cordially invited.

## CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AT FREE WILL CHURCH SCHEDULED DEC. 21

Hudgins Chapel Free Will Baptist church will hold its annual Christmas program on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Homer Atkins and Mrs. James Byrd are in charge. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.