

**Join Your Chamber of Commerce and Help Black Mtn. Grow**

# BLACK MOUNTAIN NEWS

YOUR COUNTY NEWSPAPER

## Weather

	High	Low	Prec.
Dec. 30	63	32	
Dec. 31	42	33	
Jan. 1	37	28	
Jan. 2	49	34	
Jan. 3	54	30	
Jan. 4	38	29	
Jan. 5	24	5	

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8 PAGES TODAY

NO. 19.

## REFLECTIONS

Gordon Greenwood

**Too Late For Christmas!**  
Before your gifts are all wrapped up  
And gayly ribbon tied,  
Oh, please remember to tuck in  
A lot of love inside.  
The gift itself may soon wear out,  
But love tucked in with care  
Can change it to a wondrous thing,  
An offering rich and rare.  
The gift itself may soon wear out,  
Its usefulness be past,  
But always you can be quite sure  
That love tucked in will last!  
—Selected.

**Colorado Neighbors!**  
A Christmas card from the C. W. Konrads in Loveland, Colo., brings greetings to their friends and the hint that they get homesick for North Carolina. "There is only one bad thing about leaving North Carolina—you get homesick." They write.

Although Mr. and Mrs. Konrad don't know it, they have some nice neighbors in Loveland that might help them forget about being homesick. They are Mr. and Mrs. Steve Wall, who moved there from Illinois several years ago and liked it so well that they are now considered native westerners.

If and when we make that long planned but much postponed trip to the west coast, we'll have to stay two days in Loveland instead of one. By invitation, of course.

We have also promised to go to Rockvale, Pueblo, and Denver for visits that have been hanging fire since 1944. I'm eager to go to Colorado. After hearing those folks brag on their state for so many years, I want to see if it lives up to advance notice. According to Max Woodcock, who drove a car out for the Konrads when they moved west, it does. He liked Colorado and said it looked prosperous.

**Honest Question!**  
Fortune Teller: "Prepare yourself—your husband is about to die a violent death."  
Wife: "Will I be acquainted?"  
What's the Score.

If you can keep your head when all others about you are losing theirs, you may not understand the situation or you may be just plain dumb.

**Seasonal Fruit!**  
Shortly before Christmas George Wagner of Blue Ridge road surprised Lib Dinwiddie and the News staff by bringing to the office a watermelon which he had grown in his garden. He cut the melon to let all see that it was ripe and first-class.

Yes, he grew it in his garden, but he pulled it last fall and had kept it until Dec. 23 in the furnace room at his home. That may start a fad around here that could see us inviting our neighbors in during the Christmas holidays for a watermelon cutting. That's not a bad idea.

—R—  
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## Southern Bell Proposal Would Lower Rates Here

The North Carolina Utilities Commission in an order issued Dec. 19, 1958, re-opened the rate adjustment case of Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph company, which has been pending before the commission for several months.

On April 25, 1958, Southern Bell filed with the Commission a proposal to extend the base rate areas for many exchanges and to reclassify exchanges, which had grown out of the rate groups in which they were placed in 1954, to their proper rate groups, in order to eliminate inequities and discriminations which had developed due to the rapid growth experienced in many localities.

Subsequently, Southern Bell filed tariffs with the commission on May 14 to become effective on Aug. 16, 1958. The hearing was held on the matter on June 25 and 26, and on July 31, 1958, the commission issued an order which prevented the tariffs' going into effect.

The cause was retained for further investigation, however, in order that the commission might ascertain the effect of reasonable base rate area extensions and for further investigation of the system of regrouping the exchanges as proposed by Southern Bell.

On Dec. 30, 1958, Southern Bell complied with the directive contained in the commission's order of Dec. 19, 1958, and filed notice of its intention to extend base rate areas in 53 exchanges. It also filed a proposed grouping of exchanges and a schedule of rates

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## st. nick came to town early to attend american legion children's party

—Photo by Ed DuPuy

The pictures above and at left show part of the action that highlighted the American Legion Children's Christmas party on Dec. 24 at the Black Mountain clubhouse.

In the top photo Arnold Jones, commander, in white shirt, extreme right, and Mrs. Lloyd Stinchcomb, second lady from right, president of the American Legion Auxiliary, are briefing the children on what's coming as Santa Claus points to the Christmas tree in the west end of the building.

Santa Claus had no trouble finding willing takers as he distributed the gift stockings and the fruit to the large crowd attending. The small boy in the left foreground cranes his neck to get a better look at just what he can expect when the line moves up so that it is his turn to shake hands and meet Santa personally.

Observers say it was one of the most successful parties of its kind staged here in many years.

Santa Claus came bounding into town ahead of time on Wednesday, Dec. 24, in time to attend the American Legion Children's Christmas party at the Black Mountain clubhouse, shake hands with each one present, and hand out stockings filled with nuts, candy, fruits, and other good things to eat. Just in case, Santa had several boxes of choice apples which he distributed.

The festivities got under way Wednesday morning when Arnold Jones, commander of the Wayside-McFee Post 129 of the American Legion, Frank Wade, M. E. Head, and other Legionnaires picked the children up at their homes and brought them to the clubhouse where a turkey dinner, complete with all the trimmings, was waiting, served by Mrs. H. E. Stinchcomb, president of the American Legion Auxiliary, and Auxiliary members.

Excitement was much in evidence as the children ate. Heads bobbed here and there and necks were strained to the limits as each child tried to be the first to see St. Nick. He was coming, they were sure, but no one knew when or from what direction. The crowd burst into loud cheers when he finally arrived. Although there was great excitement, the children lined up in an orderly fashion and marched by to receive their gifts.

Serving as master of ceremonies was the Rev. Wilbur Huneycutt, pastor of the Black Mountain First Baptist church. He led the group in the singing of Christmas carols. M. E. Head delivered the address of welcome and explained to the children that the American Legion is composed of men and women who have served their country in a time of national emergency or war.

"We wish to thank all those who contributed in any way to the great success of the party and to say to them that the American Legion and Auxiliary deeply appreciate all that they contributed. This includes our own members, shown in the picture above, and others were interested enough to contribute or to help but were unable to attend," Mr. Jones, the commander, said.

Approximately 100 were present for the party.

## Magazine Says C of C Here Is One Of State's Best

According to the Summer-Fall edition of the magazine, "Employment Security Commission of North Carolina," published in Raleigh, our Chamber of Commerce here in Black Mountain is one of the most active in the state.

It says also that the Chamber operates from a one-room office with the plain and simple address of "City Hall" and is running the Western Union office for the town and vicinity from this set up.

The article explains that there are only three paid employees, and that George E. Moray, who retired as a Lansing, Mich., postman is executive secretary and manages the combined office.

The main interests in the area, it is reported, are tourists and industry, although there are many retired people living here.

The story says that the Chamber of Commerce has an industrial committee which is working to bring more industry into the community.

## Varsity Grill Is Now Open

The Varsity Grill has reopened under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Atkins, Mrs. Agnes Butner and Mrs. Edna Sexton.

The Grill was formerly operated by John Collins. The new management invites their friends and the public to come in and visit with them.

## Kiwanis Club Ladies' Night To Be Jan. 15

The Black Mountain-Swannanoa Kiwanis club will observe Ladies' night on Thursday evening, Jan. 15, beginning at 7:30 at the Monte Vista hotel. There will be no luncheon meeting at noon on that day.

This will mark the second anniversary of the club here.

## B&P W Club Will Study Customs In Foreign Lands

Customs and descriptions of lands around the world will be outlined by members of the Business and Professional Women's club at their January meeting, Monday, Jan. 12, at 8 p.m. at the Monte Vista hotel with Miss Lilian Russell presiding.

The program will be under auspices of the legislative committee; Miss Pauline Tipton, chairman; Miss M. Sanchez Mott, Mrs. Carmen Bullock, and Dr. Mary Burch. Foreign flags formed decorations before each member's place at the club's annual United Nations dinner here during last October's national observance of "Business and Professional Women's Week." Each member at that time was asked to do a bit of research on the country of the flag represented at her dinner place, and to be prepared to give a three-minute talk on that nation on the occasion of the January meeting.

## Merchants Here Report Season Was A Good One

A Chamber of Commerce survey of merchants here shows that the Christmas season just closed was a good one. Some stores reported a drop in the sale of Christmas cards due to the increase in postal rates.

More people purchased practical gifts this year, and a large number said that they were doing their Christmas shopping at home instead of going out of town to trade.

One local merchant credited his extra large Christmas business to his advertising in the local paper and by mail.

The Postmaster, H. A. Kerlee, reported that the local mailing was 30 percent less than last year, while there was an increase in outgoing mail, both Christmas cards and parcel post.

David Ivey is ill with mumps.

## Beatrice Bailey Weds In Florida Ceremony

Mrs. Alma Bailey of Black Mountain announces the recent marriage of her daughter, Beatrice, to Robert Lee Watson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy L. Watson of Swannanoa and Orlando, Fla.

The wedding took place at the home of Mrs. W. D. Curry, Orlando, Fla. The Rev. Jerry D. Belchick, pastor of the Pine Hills church, performed the double ring ceremony before a background of white mums, gladioli, and palms.

The bride wore a blue lace dress with matching accessories and a corsage of pink carnations. Immediately following the ceremony a reception was held in the Curry home. Miss Glenda Scans and Mrs. C. C. Carpenter, Jr., assisted in serving. The table was overlaid with a white imported outwork cloth and was centered with an arrangement of white flowers and silver candelabra holding lighted candles.

After the reception the couple left for a wedding trip to the east coast of Florida.

The bride is a 1957 graduate of Owen High school and was formerly employed in the law office of Richard B. Stone, mayor of Black Mountain. Mr. Watson was graduated from Black Mountain High school and spent four years in the U. S. Air Force. He is employed with the Security Service company. They will make their home with Mrs. Curry, Route 2, Box 51-A, Orlando.

Members of the immediate family and close friends attended the wedding and reception.

## BENEDICT SPEAKER AT ROTARY MEETING

John Benedict explained the rules governing classifications of membership at the regular meeting of the Swannanoa-Black Mountain Rotary club at the Monte Vista Monday at noon. President Ross Taylor presided.

Wilbur Ward had charge of the devotions.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Buckner of Swannanoa, have a daughter born Dec. 25 in St. Joseph's hospital.

## Beddingfield To Be Installed By Lions Club

Wade "Pappy" Morrow, that famous auctioneer, will do his bit at the annual white elephant sale to be conducted at the meeting of the Black Mountain Lions club Thursday evening at 6:30.

All Lions have been "invited" to bring their misfits from Christmas and anything else of value to be sold. Ties, shoes, socks, hats, coats, and electric razors will be welcomed.

O. B. Smith, chairman of the white cane sale, has requested that all members come prepared to make a final settlement of at least five memberships.

At the opening of the meeting, Roy A. Taylor, international counselor, will officially install Woodrow Beddingfield as president of the club for the remainder of the current year.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Jerry A. Chandler of Swannanoa Route 1, a son, Dec. 21 in Memorial Mission hospital.

## Good Progress Reported On FC Projects

Good progress was recorded in Black Mountain's "Finer Carolina" projects for 1958-59 during the past month, according to the December report of Chairman Max Woodcock, which was this week submitted to FC Supervisor Vivian Bushong for forwarding to the Raleigh FC headquarters of Carolina Power and Light company, sponsor of the program.

Project Number 1 (Construction of a permanent youth center under auspices of "Operation Youth" committees from the various civic clubs) saw ground-breaking and clearing of land for "framing in" the building and construction of a lighted baseball field begun on January 2, with several committee chairmen and a number of youth of the neighborhood of the Cragmont road site in attendance. These young people had been among those who spent several days of their school Yule vacation period at work clearing trees from the land. Most of the 15-acre site for the center has been cleared by a bull-dozer and driver furnished by T. K. Brown.

The sum of about \$3800 toward the \$7500 goal for the center has been raised, and efforts to complete the goal will be advanced in the next several weeks, Chairman R. C. Bowness reported.

Another FC project, this one under auspices of the Black Mountain PTA, calls for improvement of the local school grounds, and Harry Clarke, PTA president, stated that money for purchasing equipment for the playground has been appropriated and turned over to Principal Guy Burchfield for this purpose, and that bids have been received for erection of a fence in front of the play field of the school to minimize hazards.

A third project, establishment of a new playground on Laurel circle, under auspices of the Rotary club, has seen the leveling and clearing of the area. President Ross Taylor reported. He stated that it is the club's hope that local

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## Last Rites Held In Asheville For S. M. Stevens, 82

Last rites for Samuel M. Stevens, 82, of Stevens Hill, Oteen, father of Philip Stevens of Black Mountain, were held Wednesday, Dec. 24, in the chapel of Groce Funeral home, Asheville. The Rev. Henri Blanc officiated. Burial was in Gashes Creek cemetery.

Mr. Stevens died Monday, Dec. 22, at his home after suffering a heart attack. He was the retired owner and operator of S. M. Stevens Plumbing and Heating Co., having been in the plumbing business in Asheville for more than 50 years.

In addition to the widow, the former Miss Anna B. Hoppe, Mr. Stevens is survived by one daughter, Mrs. C. P. Johnson of Liberty, N. Y.; two other sons, Francis E. Stevens of the home and Carl E. Stevens of Asheville, and one sister, Mrs. Martha McCarthy of Asheville; eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

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Miss Shirley Ann Swann is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Johnson of Orlando, Fla., who announce her engagement to David Arnold Atkins, son of Mrs. Cline Atkins and the late Mr. Atkins of Black Mountain. A June wedding is planned.

## Miss Fortune Becomes Bride Of Waites Ward

In a beautiful and impressive ceremony Miss Mary Louise Fortune and Waites James Ward were united in marriage in the Friendship Presbyterian church Friday evening, Dec. 26. The Rev. C. R. Stegall, pastor of the church, and the Rev. G. B. Talbot, pastor of the Swannanoa Presbyterian church, performed the double ring ceremony before a background of greenery, floor baskets of white gladioli and mums, and candelabra holding lighted cathedral candles.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Fortune, Jr., of Black Mountain. Mr. Ward is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Ward of Swannanoa.

A program of wedding music was presented by Miss Ann Walker, organist, and Miss Madeline Fortune, soloist, of Long Beach, Calif., aunt of the bride, who was unable to attend but sent a tape recording of "Because," "O Promise Me," and "The Lord's Prayer." The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a dress of lace over satin, with a finger-tip veil attached to a jeweled coronet. She carried a white Bible topped with a white orchid. Miss Esther Fortune was maid of honor and Melinda Fortune was junior bridesmaid. Both are sisters of the bride. They wore green antique taffeta dresses with matching headdresses and carried white Bibles topped with white carnations. Janet Ward was flower girl. Her dress was designed along the same lines as the dresses of the other attendants. Bryan Ward was ring bearer. They are children of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Ward of Swannanoa. W. A. Ward served as his son's best man. Ushers were Robert Pressley, Jr., Bryant Richert, Nelson Shepherd, and Wilbur Ward.

Following the ceremony a reception was held in the fellowship hall of the church. The couple with their parents and the mem-

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## Mrs. Dixon Dies At Home After Long Illness

May Faircloth Dixon, wife of Frank W. Dixon, died at her home here in Black Mountain on Dec. 24 after a lingering illness. Mrs. Dixon was born on June 1, 1880, in Green county near Snow Hill, N. C., the daughter of J. Bennett Faircloth and Fanny May Dixon. She was graduated from Woman's college in Greensboro and was the last member of her immediate family—two sisters and two brothers.

For generations the Faircloth-Dixon families have been quite prominent in the social, political, and religious life of Eastern North Carolina. When Mr. and Mrs. Dixon moved to western North Carolina in 1932, there was no Christian church in Black Mountain. They placed their membership in the First Christian church in Asheville and became quite active in its total program where Mr. Dixon served as an elder for many years.

It was largely due to the efforts of the Dixons that the Christian church here in Black Mountain was organized under the leadership of Dr. H. S. Hilley in 1950. Mrs. Dixon was the oldest charter member of the congregation for which her love and interest never lessened although she had to attend services during the past summer in a wheel chair.

Some friends instead of sending flowers have contributed to a memorial fund to be used toward the erection of the steeple on the church building, which was her last deep concern for the local work.

Resulting from the vision and dream of these consecrated per-

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## Swannanoa Camp Has First Dinner Meeting of Year

The Swannanoa Camp 970 and the Woodmen Women's Court 1146 held their first dinner meeting of the year at the Eagle hotel in Old Fort Saturday, Jan. 3, at 7 p.m.

Field Representative Joe S. Porcher welcomed the guests and members. The blessing was asked by Lester Miller. After a very fine dinner the camp officers for the new year and the commissioned officers of the Uniform Drill were recognized.

Members of the ladies court were Mrs. Mae M. Porcher, Mrs. Mary Greene, Mrs. Mattie Owensby, Miss Irene Owensby, Miss Christeen Owensby, and Mrs. Pearl Morgan. Due to illness Mrs. Vivian Gibson was not present.

The Swannanoa camp has made considerable growth during the year of 1958. The officers and members have been very active in several civic projects in the community—the Boys' Woodmen, Girls' Woodmen camps, the supplying equipment and beds for the Swannanoa Elementary school first aid room, P.T.A. and Community Council providing the nurse and cooperating greatly so that the children now for the first time have an up-to-date first aid room. A new Bell & Howell movie projector has been purchased by the local Woodmen camp for use in the boys' and girls' camps, which is very helpful in their program.

Mr. Porcher stated that orphanage program this year was very good. The children in every orphanage in North Carolina received a nice gift from the Woodmen of the World.

The Woodmen have spent a total of \$1221.00 during the year of 1958 in Swannanoa for civic and community benefits.

Officers for 1959 will be installed at the regular meeting on Jan. 8 at 7:00 p.m. All members are urged to attend.

The Woodmen organization welcomes requests for membership or any information on Fraternal Life Insurance. Ask a member.

## Music Committee Elects Rowland

Wade Rowland was elected chairman of the committee for music in the Swannanoa Valley schools at a meeting held recently.

The group expressed appreciation to Woodfin C. Rhodes and members of the chorus and band for the excellent concert given prior to the Christmas holidays.

Directors elected to serve with Mr. Rowland include: three year term, W. H. Noah; two year term, Woody Yates, and Carl Bowness; one year term, Mrs. C. C. Myers and Mrs. Roy Alexander. Other members are N. C. Shuford, Ralph Smith, Guy Burchfield, William J. Wright, Harry Clarke, and F. P. Higginbotham.



—Photo by Gragg