

Blue Ridge Parkway Link Opens Aug. 12th

The new link of the Blue Ridge Parkway from Mt. Mitchell, highest peak in Eastern America, connecting directly with N. C. Highway 694 into Asheville and with U. S. 19 to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, will be opened to traffic August 12, according to announcement by Parkway Superintendent Sam P. Weems.

Due to the international situation, ceremonies marking the opening of the mountain-top drive all the way from the James River north of Roanoke, Va., to Asheville, have been postponed until June, 1951.

Until August 12, the Parkway will dead-end at Mt. Mitchell, and to reach Asheville it is necessary to detour via U. S. 70. After August 12 it will be a direct route between the Great Smokies and Roanoke, Va., by use of completed Parkway links and connecting scenic State and Federal highways.

The Parkway is already completed from Roanoke to the North Carolina line, and thence 60 miles to Deep Gap. There the motorist deviates to U. S. 421 for six miles to the next link, which is approximately six miles to the outskirts of Blowing Rock—the only large resort directly on the Parkway in North Carolina.

At Blowing Rock, U. S. forms the connecting link about 17 miles long. This is the famous Yonahlossee Trail, a famous scenic highway following the crest of the Blue Ridge. This converges with the Parkway again near Grandfather Mountain.

From this intersection, the Parkway proceeds past Mt. Mitchell, through Craggy Gardens, for a distance of 84 miles to the intersection of N. C.

Highway 694, only six miles into Asheville.

Thus, with excellent connecting links, the Parkway after August 12 will offer 167 miles of unbroken mountain-top driving from the Virginia line to Asheville.

From Asheville, U. S. 19 is the direct route to the Great Smokies. This crosses a new highway bridge through West Asheville and goes west via Canton, Waynesville, through Soco Gap to Cherokee. The distance from Asheville by this route to Cherokee, the entrance to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park on N. C. 107, is 53 miles. There are alternate routes with very little additional mileage, one being 19-A via Sylva.

Total distance via Parkway and connecting routes from the Virginia line to the Great Smoky Park is 220 miles, all good road and with tourist accommodations always within easy access. There are no billboards on the Parkway, and no commercial traffic is permitted.

This new section, between Mt. Mitchell and Asheville, about 30 miles long, traverses some of the most spectacular scenery on the Parkway. Much of the highway is above 5,000 feet, and the scenery is rugged. There are three vehicular tunnels on this stretch, and an access road branches off into a large parking area in Craggy Gardens, famous for its June rhododendron display.

When completed, the Parkway will link the Great Smoky Mountains and Shenandoah National Parks with 477 miles of mountain-top boulevard. Most of the uncompleted portion is west of Asheville in North Carolina, but this section is now bridged by U. S. 19—an excellent motor road, combining valley and mountain driving, and utilizing the new scenic highway through Soco Gap.

1,036,811 N. C. Motor Vehicles Registered First Half Of 1950

A total of 1,036,811 motor vehicles were registered in North Carolina during the first half of 1950, the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles has reported.

The figure is 118,407 above the 918,404 registered the same period last year.

Of the six-month total 1,014,508 were listed as trucks, trailers and autos and 22,303 as miscellaneous.

Mecklenburg County with 59,092 had the largest number of motor vehicles registered. Guilford was second with 57,389; Wake, third, with 49,897, and Forsyth, fourth, with 41,173.

Clay County listed the lowest registration, 782 and Tyrrell had 839.

MASSSES NEXT SUNDAY IN WINDSOR AND EDENTON

The Most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered Sunday, August 6, Feast of Christ's Transfiguration, at 8 A. M., in Duke of Windsor Hotel convention room, Windsor, and at 11 A. M., in St. Ann's Catholic Church, Edenton, each including sermon on "The Devil, An Enemy of the Church", Holy Communion, followed by Rosary for Peace, Sunday School, with confessions in Windsor 7:30 to 7:55 A. M., Edenton 10:30 to 10:55 A. M., stated Father McCourt, rector, who invites everybody to all Services. August 4 and 5, mass in Edenton at 7 A. M. Instruction and Inquirers' classes meet at rectory Fridays 8 P. M., to 8:45.

Vets Should Plan For School Terms

Veterans Administration has issued a round-up of rules and regulations that should help veterans plan ahead for GI Bill school terms next fall.

The round-up includes new procedures that were prepared under Public Law 610, signed July 13, 1950.

VA stressed that now is the time veterans should do their planning, because several weeks are required sometimes to get preliminaries out of the way.

Veterans who intend to go ahead this Fall with the same course at the same school they've previously attended need not contact VA at all. They should, however, make certain the school has room for them.

Those who want to continue in the same course but at a different school should obtain a Supplemental Certificate of Eligibility from VA. On the certificate, they must name the school and course. Then they present the certificate to the school at enrollment time.

Veterans who wish to make their first change from one general field of study to another (from law to engineering, for example) may do so simply by applying for a Supplemental Certificate of Eligibility from VA.

The same holds true for those who

completed or discontinued GI Bill training and now want to make a first change to a different general field.

"The Duplin Story" Proving Very Popular

According to reports reaching Kennansville, attendance at the 1950 mid-century production of "The Duplin Story" will far exceed that of last year. Inquiries have been received from New York, New Jersey, Washington City, Ohio, Alabama, Washington State, California, Georgia, Tennessee, Florida, Texas, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. A special bus will run from Kingstree, S. C., and Charleston. Two special car loads are coming from Hillsboro, Ohio. The Wilmington, Y. W. C. A., sent a special bus last year and have notified officials that they expect to send more buses this year.

Attendance last year was around 20,000. Indications to date are that 50,000 or more are expected to attend this year. Showing dates are September 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12.

Officials wanted to date the 1950 showing prior to Labor day, but it was virtually impossible due to school opening dates in Duplin.

Try The Weekly Classified Ads

Vets' Question Box

Q—If I apply for GI Bill training before the July 25, 1951, cut-off date, will I be able to start my course sometime after that date?

A—No. Under the law, you actually must be in training on that date. The exceptions are interruptions of training beyond your control, such as summer vacations, illnesses and the like.

Q—I am entitled to four years of education and training under the GI Bill. It is possible for me to take one year of high school and three years of college, if I start my high school course before July 25, 1951, the deadline date?

A—Yes, but you should apply to VA for a change of course before you graduate from high school.

Religious Education Week Sept. 24-Oct. 1

Forty-six million Protestants in the United States and Canada are called on to observe Religious Education Week, September 24-October 1, with the theme "Religious Teaching—Vital to the Nation."

Dr. Roy G. Ross, general secretary of the International Council of Religious Education, which sponsors the ob-

servance, issued the call. The I. C. R. E., represents 40 major Protestant denominations and more than 800 state and community councils of churches.

The need for greater efforts in religious teaching was cited by Dr. Ross in his call:

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