

With best wishes for the Holiday Season

Among good people everywhere there exists a longing for peace, understanding and good will.

For, from good will comes forbearance — The Golden Rule. A better way of life comes from understanding.

This Christmas season is a good time for all men to renew the realization that all relationships are based upon our faith in God and our fellowman. Through such faith, and through this faith alone, are we assured freedom without fear, tolerance without tyranny — democracy and lasting peace.

In this spirit of good fellowship, we wish our good friends, neighbors and co-workers

A Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year!



MATHIESON CHEMICAL CORPORATION

Saltville,

Virginia

Saltville Enjoys One of Best Years in Its History

By Mrs. Charles Barker
January
 The town of Saltville, especially the sports fans, were very excited when Mr. and Mrs. William Anderson became the parents of twin boys Jan. 6. Bill is a member of the Saltville Alkali team. Five draftees in the Saltville area left for the armed forces

Jan. 15. They were Ronald Kenneth Doane, Charles Jackson Brinkley, Willie Ellis Jr., Paul Rudolph Doane and Roy Steven Pauley. Miss Sara Diaz Gandia, a Spanish teacher, began her work at Saltville High School Jan. 26. She is a native of Puerto Rico. She replaced Mrs. John Baker, who resigned.

During this month Mose L. Bunts was named assistant mayor of the town, filling out the unexpired term of the late Charles E. Wiley. The appointment was made at a meeting of the town council. Mr. Bunts is a retired Mathieson employee and was superintendent over the shops during his employment. He has lived in Saltville for about 40 years.

February
 All State Band was held in Bluefield Feb. 6, 7 and 8. The Saltville High School Band was represented by nine band members. The largest sum ever to be given for Saltville for the fight against polio was given this year, being \$2,133. During this month two draftees, Sanders Davidson and Jack Clint Toibert, were called into the armed forces. Pfc. Mary F. Groseclose, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. F. K. Groseclose, joined the Woman's Army Corps this year. She is presently stationed at Ford Lee. Pfc. Groseclose was a member of the Wesleyan Service Guild, of the Madam Russell Methodist Church in Saltville, the Pythian Sisters, the Methodist church and the Saltville Preston Chapter UDC.

March
 Three draftees left during this month for the armed forces. They were Franklin Johnson Hunt, Bobbie Lee Collins and Shirley Franklin Taylor. The night of March 17 the building fund committee received pledges for \$27,586 toward

the sum of \$60,000 for the remodeling of the Madam Russell Methodist Church. This church is one of the oldest in Southwest Virginia. James Archie Buchanan, postmaster for 15 years at Saltville, died in a Marion hospital March 30. He was born in Rich Valley Dec. 14, 1891. He married the former Mary Agnes Gas and was educated at Emory and Henry College and at VPI. He was a member of William King Lodge AP and AM, a member of the Rich Valley Presbyterian Church, the Kiwanis Club and the Smyth County School Board, serving in the Rich Valley district. Charles DeBusk is acting postmaster at the present time.

April
 Miss Phyllis Chapman, daughter of Paul Charman, was chosen Miss Saltville High School, and Miss Carol Ivey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Ivey was chosen Miss Saltville Elementary School in a beauty pageant held in the high school auditorium April 17. During the month Roy Arlen Taylor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy F. Taylor, entered the armed forces.

May
 P. A. Coverston, one of Saltville's oldest citizens died at the Thomas K. McKee Hospital. Mr. Coverston came to Saltville in the early nineties as an independent building contractor. In 1894 he began his connections with the Mathieson Alkali Works, with which he was associated until his retirement in 1937. Among his first local building projects were the general store and homes for a number of officials of the company. He was one of the two oldest Masons in Smyth County. He played a leading part in building the Madam Russell Methodist Church. He was a member of the Kiwanis Club, the local school board, the town council and later was mayor of the town for several terms. Two Saltville men received their degrees from VPI, Blacksburg. Ralph Bolden Colley Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Colley, received his degree in chemical engineering, and Harry Maurice Routh, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Routh, received his in business administration.

June
 Approximately 2,500 attended the Fourth of July celebration for Mathieson Employees and their families. Lowell Thomas "Jimmy" Poore, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Poore, was killed in action while serving in Korea. He attended Saltville High School. Two Saltville men were drafted into the armed forces this month. They were Earnest William Arnold and Essie William Taylor. August 26 was a red letter day in Saltville. Gamma globulin shots were given to 2,068 children under 10 years of age. The opening of school was postponed from Sept. 3 until Sept. 9. The annual outing of the employees of the Mathieson Chemical Corporation and their families was also held in this month. Mrs. Ruth Terry was crowned Miss Mathieson at the event.

September
 James Vernon Chapman was drafted into the army during this month. Word was received in this month by his family that M-Sgt. Clarence A. D. Cardwell had been released from a prison



POOCH PAYING — It'll happen again late in January. Dog owners must pay for the privilege of keeping the animals. Above is a scene taken the county treasurer's office on the last day for paying taxes for pooches last January. Dog owners lined up on out in the hall in order not to have a penalty added to their usual tax.

camp in Korea, where he was taken prisoner in November, 1951. He arrived home the latter part of October.

October
 Among the Smyth draftees leaving for service this month were Billie Robert Clark, Robert Eugene Gates and Burton Eugene Bise.

November
 David Arthur Woodward and Robert Lawrence Hogston were among the draftees sent from the Saltville area in November. The Saltville High School Band was one of the three bands from Smyth County chosen to participate at the annual Shrine game between VMI and William and Mary Nov. 7 at Roanoke. The band received an excellent rating at the annual band festival held in Bristol this year.

Bargain Days were held in Saltville for the first time Nov. 8 and 9. All of the merchants stated that it was a success.

Dr. Thomas K. McKee was named this year as the top practitioner in Virginia when the Southwest Virginia Medical Society met in Roanoke. Dr. McKee has practiced medicine in this area for over 50 years. His office is located near the location of the old Mathieson hospital.

Saltville Community Chest drive was very successful, the amount collected being above the quota. A number of new homes have been erected in Saltville this year. They include Claude Cuddy, Bill Knight, Sanders Bryant, George Cannon, Preston DeBord, Milton Dobbins, and Edd Maiden's trailer home.

All the homes on Buckeye Street have had baths installed. The houses on Smokey Row have had baths and some new rooms added. A part of the house occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Claude Kestner was moved to its present location on the lot between the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Helton. The back portion was rebuilt. Enoch Frye has remodeled his home. The American Legion building is near completion. The custard stand, owned by Guy Wainwright, near the town hall, is a new addition to the town.

Frank Callihan has a used car lot and office on Smokey Row. Also there is a Mathieson loading platform nearby. Guy Cahill operates the confectionery formerly owned by Frank Sanders. A new road leading into town has been completed. It begins up from the railroad

crossing on the west end of town and joins with the road at the town hall. This road is an advantage to the town, and keeps traffic from becoming congested at the crossing.

The undefeated Saltville Shakers took the Southwest Virginia Regional title Nov. 20 by topping the Big Stone Gap Buccaneers in the championship ship tilt at Saltville. Jesse James coached the team, this being his first year at Saltville.

Saltville HD Club Helps Members, Others
 By Mrs. W. H. Driver
 As we think of our accomplishments of the past year in the Saltville Home Demonstration Club, we feel we have done many things to help ourselves as homemakers and to help other people. We have sent baskets of food to needy people, hemmed drapes for chest clinic, and for our community project we chose a needy family of five people and sent them food, clothing, medicine and some furniture until the father was able to return to work.

Our federation goal has been on "Safety", and our federation goal chairman has given helpful points all year on safety in our homes, on home grounds and on the highway. She has made us safety conscious by reminding us of things to do and not to do to avoid accidents. A write up on safety was sent to The Smyth County News.

Five meetings were held with our County Home Agent. Our club has sponsored a 4H Club under the very able leadership of one of our members and our county home agent, Miss Karle Bundy.

To raise money we sold dish cloths, shampoo and held an auction sale at one of our meetings. Our demonstrations have been very interesting and most helpful to all. Our members are more interested in the cooking demonstrations, and our cooking leaders have done a good job in showing us better ways of preparing foods. Next year, under our new president, we plan to increase our membership. The new year's work has been outlined and looks very interesting, and we invite more of our Saltville women to join our club.

Greetings

May the joys of the Season and all its friendly cheer brighten your home at Christmas and abide with you all through the year...This is our warm Holiday wish for you and yours.

THE D. R. HENDERSON FUNERAL HOME
 Saltville, Virginia

Greetings

AND BEST WISHES

TO OUR MANY FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS

JOHNSON'S 5-10-\$1 Store
 Saltville, Virginia

Season's Greetings

May the "Peace that passeth all understanding" enter into your heart at Christmas. In the spirit of Him, whose Natal Day we celebrate, may you find the hope, faith and courage to hold steadfast to the bright promise of a world in which peace and good will shall reign forevermore.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SALTVILLE
 MEMBER F. D. I. C.

Greetings of the SEASON

At this glad time of the year, we wish for you and yours: the Joy of giving, the Satisfaction of appreciation and the blessing of love.

Shannon Mutual Ins. Agency
 Saltville, Virginia

GREETINGS

May we add our very good wishes to the hosts of sparkling greetings fondly given and gladly accepted during this, the joyous Holiday Season of Good Will to All.

Mathieson Employees Association
 Saltville, Virginia

Greetings

From all of us to all of you— a Merry Holiday Season, filled to the brim with joys of the Yuletide.

Saltville Alkalies Baseball Club



SUCCESSFUL SEASON — Smyth's deer hunting is among the best in the East, with hunters flocking to the county by the hundreds during the season. The 1953 season was a record breaker, with 281 deer being bagged. Carl Vaught of Marion, upper left; A. P.

Taylor of Saltville, center, and Bruce Haulsee of Marion, lower right, were among the lucky hunters to bring back a prize. Haulsee was the luckiest of all. He made his kill just a few hundred yards away from home, at Attoway.

Main Street Ladies Aid Society Has 20 Members

By Mrs. French Frye
Thinking back through 12 whole months and trying to remember the biggest and most important news is very hard. The Main Street Ladies Aid Society of Saltville has 20 members who do a great work toward making our community a better place in which to live.

Meetings are held in members' homes once a month with one member responsible for a good religious program. Afterwards the hostess serves refreshments. At this time dues of a small amount are paid for the month. For extra money, we try to think of a plan to raise money, so this year we used the "waist measuring" plan. For every inch around the waist a penny, but all the members gave several more so this way we made a few extra dollars. Then, we have a Birthday Fund. Each member gives a penny for every year she is old. This is used for flowers, gifts to sick, and to buy a member of the society a birthday gift and card. This year the gift was a nice tea towel and card.

During the warm months we enjoyed several picnics, hamburger fries and a pot luck supper to which the husbands were invited.

The Ladies Aid took as their project this year the painting of the inside of the church and paid the entire amount. A fruit basket was sent a sick woman for Thanksgiving, and we plan to send a basket of fruits and Christmas goodies to a crippled man at Christmas.

For the December meeting we had a Christmas program, afterwards gifts were exchanged as each member drew a name of a member to buy her a gift.

As to our plans for a new year we want to endeavor to do greater things. First of all to try to get more women to enroll in the society and second to help where we are needed the most at all times.

One could not work with a more cooperative group of women as we have in our society, and we are trying our best to make the community in which we live a better place to live. We think our society was blessed the past year for no member moved out of the community, and we had no deaths of any of our members.

Eastern Star Is Organized In Saltville in June

By Mrs. W. J. Totten

On June 8, a new chapter of the Order of Eastern Star was instituted in the Masonic Temple, Saltville.

The officers installed to serve for 1953 and 1954 are, worthy matron, Mrs. Hazel Gentry; worthy patron, Roby Gillenwater; associate matron, Mrs. Peggy Haynes; associate patron, Allen Lewis Frye; secretary, Mrs. Hazel C. Frye; treasurer, Mrs. Elizabeth Totten; conductress, Mrs. Maxine

ject, and thanks to our sisters and brothers, we were 100 per cent.

Our grand chief of the grand jurisdiction of Virginia, Marie T. Gilliam, of Crewe made her official visit to us July 6 This was celebrated by having a picnic at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Enoch Frye. A good number of sisters and brothers attended.

Our district meeting was held in North Tazewell June 22 with Bannie Earnest, district grand chief, presiding. A large delegation from Russell Temple attended.

Russell Temple has a past chief's club, which is composed of 13 members. Mrs. Bartie Frye is the president meetings are held once a month at members' homes.

One of our members, Mary Frances Groseclose, is in the armed forces.

Meetings of Russell Temple are held bi-monthly, the first and third Monday nights at 7:30 p. m. at the Pythian Hall.

Saltville Baptist Church Has One of Its Best Years

By Mrs. J. H. Moore

The Saltville Baptist Church has enjoyed one of its best years during 1953.

Under the leadership of the pastor, the Rev. Edgar A. Valiant, there has been an increase in membership of 20 per cent.

In cooperation with the Presbyterians, who worship in the same building, a Baldwin electronic organ has been installed.

The Woman's Missionary Society has been active, with increased membership, greater interest, and participation in more service projects, among them being a large amount of clothing sent to Korea.

The young people's organizations, the Girls' Auxiliary and Sunbeams, have also been active.

Luroy Krumwiede, Sunday School superintendent, had led in establishment of a Cradle Roll. At one church service a special dedication of the Cradle Roll babies was observed.

Plans for the future include greater stress on missions and systematic giving and more help for state Baptist institutions, such as the Baptist Hospital in Lynchburg, the Baptist Orphanage in Salem and the Virginia Baptist Home for the Aged in Culpeper.

Alice Brannon Heads Pythian Sisters in '53

By Peggy Haynes

Russell Temple No. 27, Pythian Sisters, has progressed this year under the leadership of our most excellent chief, Alice Brannon. Through our combined efforts we have tried to promote Pythianism and stress the principles for which we stand. We have given to all civic drives. Not forgetting our little boys and girls at the Hines Memorial Pythian Home at Bedford, we have given to them on various occasions. This year a new dormitory has been built there. Our grand chief asked that each member contribute to this worthy project,

Associated Charities In Saltville Gets Formal Organization

By M. L. Bunits

Since its beginning in the early nineteen twenties until a few months ago the direction and management of the Saltville Associated Charities has been largely a one-man job, and I happened to be the man selected. The splendid cooperation I have received from the people of this community, both in money and in support, has made possible the splendid work that has been done.

In former years it was my responsibility to raise by solicitation the necessary funds to meet the charity needs of the community.

Four years ago the Saltville Associated Charities became a member of the Saltville Community Chest, and since that time all necessary funds have been provided by the annual "Red Feather Campaign."

In 1953 it was determined that the Saltville Associated Charities should be given a more formal organization in order that it could be maintained as a permanent organization regardless of the vicissitudes of life. Hence, a constitution and by-laws were duly adopted and a five-man board was selected to direct the policies of the organization. This board also elects the officers, and for the current year I am serving as chairman of the board, and F. F. Buchanan is serving as secretary-treasurer. We feel that the formal organization adopted in 1953 is an important step toward insuring the continued usefulness of the Saltville Associated Charities.

During the current year relief has been extended to 120 families and this has involved disbursements in excess of \$1,500.



BAILEY'S JEWELRY
Saltville, Va.



GREETINGS OF THE
Season
AND BEST WISHES FOR
THE
New Year
MODEL FURNITURE
CO.
Saltville, Virginia



To all our friends we wish all the good things that this

glorious time of year can bring.
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
HARPER'S CONFECTIONERY
GEORGE LITTLE, Mgr.
Saltville, Virginia



Greetings
No Christmas would be complete for us without an expression of the warm feeling that we have for our many loyal and appreciative friends. A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.
SALTVILLE
RECREATION CENTER
Saltville, Virginia

Henderson; associate conductress, Mrs. Della Farris; chaplain, Mrs. Carrie Peeples; marshal, Mrs. Geneva Rector; organist, Mrs. Lucille Asbury; Ada, Miss Helen Callihan; Ruth, Mrs. Dorothy Gillenwater; Esther, Miss Zella Haynes; Martha, Mrs. Salona Vernon; Electa, Mrs. Robbie Rogers; warder, Miss Alice Davis; sentinel, Roland P. ler; pages, Mrs. Leah Comer and Mrs. Lena Smith. The Chapter now has membership of 53 members, 40 of whom are charter members.



To wish you Merry Christmas Cheer and every Joy throughout the Christmas Season.

HAYDEN'S MOTOR CO.
Saltville, Virginia

Season's Greetings

May happiness and good health be yours throughout this Christmas season.



WEBB'S FLOWERS
Saltville, Va.

Peace and Happiness for Christmas

May this Holy Season bring to our many friends all the rich blessings that will make for happiness and joy throughout the year.

FRYE FUNERAL HOME
PHONE 4452
Saltville, Virginia

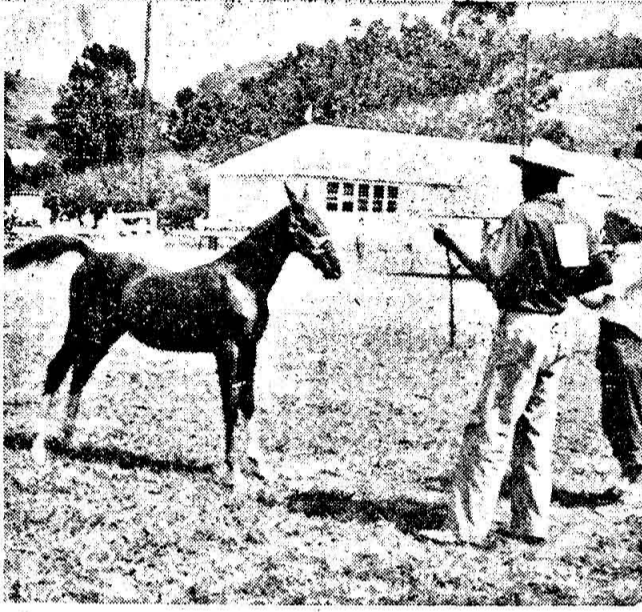


Greetings
May you find good cheer, peace and happiness at Christmas time. These are our sincere wishes for all our friends who have made this Christmas such a wonderful one for us.
THE NATIONAL BANK
OF CHILHOWIE

Funk Makes Report For Commonwealth's Attorney Office

By Charles H. Funk
 In my opinion, the year 1953, so far as prosecutions and other matters concerning the Commonwealth's Attorney's office is concerned, is about the same as it has been for the last several years. Most of the cases tried are disposed of in the Trial Justice Court. They consist of more or less minor infractions of the law and non-support and domestic relations cases. I believe, as a whole, the situation has improved some over last year.
 With the increase of motor vehicle travel it is only natural that violations involving the operation of motor vehicles increase from year to year. Many of those involved in these cases are non-residents. We had one fatal accident in this county during the year in which the driver has been indicted for manslaughter and the case will probably be tried in the February term, 1954.
 We all should be thankful that so far Smyth County

seems to have a better record for having fewer murder cases than some of the adjoining counties. In 1953 we had one murder case involving the killing of a four year old child by his uncle. The defendant entered a plea of guilty and was sentenced to serve 30 years in the state prison. This is the second murder case we have had in the county during the last six years. All of us connected with the law enforcement hope and pray that we will not have a greater number during the next six years.
 Far over 50 per cent of the cases where indictments are made before the Grand Jury are terminated on pleas of guilty. The Court and the Commonwealth's Attorney feel that where a reasonable and just punishment can be had on a plea of guilty that it is far better than going to the expense of a trial, and which in many instances results in a lesser verdict than can be had on a plea of guilty.
 Our enforcement officers, consisting of the state police, the sheriff's department and the various municipal police forces in the county, are all very alert and in my mind very



RICH VALLEY FAIR — Late summer means fair time to Rich Valley folks and 1953 was no exception. The polo epidemic cut down attendance, but didn't dampen the quality of the big horse show in the valley, one of Southwest Virginia's best. The top picture shows Jimmy Hayden with one of his prize horses. Hayden took five first places in the show. Judy Ellis' colt, "Miss Cindy," is shown in the lower picture.

Adwolfe HD Club Has Benefited Its Members Greatly

By Mrs. King Dye
 The Adwolfe Home Demonstration Club has enjoyed a prosperous year. Its members and their family life have been enriched, been made healthier, happier and more prosperous through our club achievements.
 Early in the year our club members met and planned their 1953 gardens. These plans included preparation of soil, quantities and varieties of vegetables. Seeds were ordered from a reliable seed company. Due to early planting and careful cultivation most members reported an ample supply of vegetables for canning and table use regardless of the extremely dry season. Three demonstrations taught ways of preparing food.
 Studying the many new clothing materials on the market today and their care has enabled club members to dress themselves and their families much more attractively and economically. These materials have also found many useful places in the home as curtains, slip covers, etc.
 Many homemakers profited by learning how to clean and care for floors, walls, windows and furniture, as well as how to make minor repairs.
 We choose footstools for our handicraft project. Ten walnut and maple frames were ordered and were finished with a woven fiber seat. The seats were shellacked and the frames treated with hot linseed oil and wax. They were very attractive and useful.
 During the year one family installed a bath room; three homes were remodeled, and the outside appearance of another home was greatly improved with cement steps, walk and porch.
 For the past two years our club has worked with the local PTA on improvements for the Adwolfe school. Many improvements have already been made. The school grounds enlarged and funds have been secured for more work in the near future.
 Our club's achievements for 1953 have not all been temporal. Like former years, by meeting each month in the homes and school, working together for a better way of life for our neighbors and ourselves, we feel the Adwolfe community becomes a better place in which to live.

mbia." Incidentally the past grand master is a former Smyth Countian.
 Three of our members attended the grand lodge session held in Richmond in the spring at this meeting the Decoration of Chivalry was conferred upon Miss Katherine Oakes. This is the highest honor a lodge can bestow on one of their members. Mrs. Anna Snider has been appointed as district deputy president to serve her lodge in this office for the term of one year. Five members attended the district meeting held in Lynchburg in October, at this meeting Miss Gladys Williams was appointed to the place of conductor for district No. 4.
 A certificate of perfection in the unwritten work of our order has been presented to six members. The degree has been conferred upon eight candidates this year.
 We are looking forward to a successful year in 1954. Mrs. Louise Catron has been elected to serve as noble grand this next year.

world situation as it is, if we are to keep our American way of life, it is upon the shoulders of our youth that this responsibility lies. Remember the men of Smyth County of tomorrow are the youth of today.
 For the past year Troop 95 has been very busy. They participated in the spring camporee and carried away a blue ribbon for camping skill. The scoutmaster and the cubmaster attended with the troop. Troop 95 was also represented at Camp Powhatan with 12 attending. During this week many merit badges were earned, and the troop received the good camping award. Senior Scout David Bonham was the leader during the week. Many other camping trips were enjoyed at Hungry Mother State Park.
 Troop 95 has participated in many community projects, including, Scout Week, March of Dimes, Get Out and Vote Campaign, Diabetes Clinic and are presently in the process of collecting clothes, food and toys for the needy families for this Christmas. The Boy Scouts are also attaching tags to Christmas trees sold in Chulhowie, pointing out the fire hazard and making suggestions on how to install trees so that a Christmas tree will not be turned into a Christmas tragedy.
 Troop 95 has increased its enrollment over 12 Scouts. Every Scout has earned a promotion, with possibly two or three exceptions. There have been over 36 merit badges earned.
 Troop 95 held a Court of Honor Oct. 26 at the Chulhowie High School, and over 50 people attended. Members of Troop 96 from Marion were present.
 Troop 95 wants to take this opportunity to say thanks to the citizens of the Chulhowie community for their loyal support for the past year, including the Lions Club, Jaycees, Chamber of Commerce, and a special thanks to C. N. Grever, for the use of this building which is the but we call our home every Monday night. During the coming year we

the members of Troop 95 By Scouts of America pledge ourselves anew to the Scout oath, which is "On my honor I will do my duty to God and my country, and to obey the Scout laws, to help other people at all times, and to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight."
 We sincerely believe that you citizens of Smyth County will want to join with us in this dedication and remember that the youth of today is our most valuable resource, yea, even to the Atom bomb.



Merry Christmas
 May you have a Merry Christmas and a wealth of all the things that the finest season can bring you

LONE STAR SERV. STA.
 A. H. McMahan, Opr.
 Hwy. 11-W., Marion

MERRY CHRISTMAS

THE CEDARS MOTEL & RESTAURANT
 Mr. & Mrs. McRae Cole
 Hwy. 11-W., Marion



May your every wish for the Holiday Season be realized — that's our wish for you.
BURL THOMAS FARM BUREAU Insurance Companies
 Chulhowie Va.



May the Season's friendly cheer, Fill your heart with abounding joy To last throughout the coming New Year.
BOARDWINE'S
 THE PLACE TO GO FOR BRANDS YOU KNOW
 Saltville, Virginia

Merry Christmas

The past year was a very pleasant one for us and we sincerely appreciate all you have done to make it so. May your every wish be fulfilled to complete your happiness on this glad occasion, that's our Christmas wish for you and yours.

THE MATHIESON GENERAL STORES
 Saltville, Virginia

efficient. The police radio which was established several years ago has been one of the greatest contributions to efficiency in law enforcement that I know of in this and the surrounding counties.
 I feel that we have had a very successful year in law enforcement in Smyth County and I certainly hope that next year will be an improvement over this.

Marion Handle Mills Adds New Line in '53

By R. K. Killinger
 Marion Handle Mills continue to operate on about the same basis as during recent years, but the over-all demand for handles continues to decline. Much work formerly performed with hand tools has been eliminated by mechanical developments. This includes many coal mining, logging and earth moving operations.
 In handle manufacturing we, therefore, face a rather uncertain outlook for the future. However, during the year we developed and put on sale "Hickory Smoke Rings" and hope to make some progress with this items next year. We also hope to add additional new wood products to our lines. We believe, therefore, that our business will continue on a close-to-normal basis during 1954.

Marion Rebekah Lodge has had a successful year under the leadership of Miss Gladys Williams as noble grand and Mrs. Louise Catron as vice grand.
 We have been visited by members of the Abingdon, Wytheville and Lynchburg Lodges. We have been visited by our district president in joint session with Wytheville Lodge. We met in joint session with the Naomi Lodge at Friendship for the official visit of our assembly president. We were fortunate to have at one of our meetings a past grand master, and past grand patriarch of the District of Columbia and his wife who at present is president of the Rebekah Assembly of the District of Col-

Marion Rebekahs Have Good Year

By Geneva Gullion
 Marion Rebekah Lodge has had a successful year under the leadership of Miss Gladys Williams as noble grand and Mrs. Louise Catron as vice grand.
 We have been visited by members of the Abingdon, Wytheville and Lynchburg Lodges. We have been visited by our district president in joint session with Wytheville Lodge. We met in joint session with the Naomi Lodge at Friendship for the official visit of our assembly president. We were fortunate to have at one of our meetings a past grand master, and past grand patriarch of the District of Columbia and his wife who at present is president of the Rebekah Assembly of the District of Col-

Holy night

In the hush of a mid-night clear, the herald angels sang out to praise the new-born King. May His message of peace and good will lighten your heart and brighten your home this Christmas and all through the New Year.

Industrial Welding & Machine Co.
 Tanks & Steel Products
 Marco Buchanan
 Pearl Ave., Marion

GREETINGS

And Best Wishes to Everyone

May your Christmas be a merry one and may you recall all its happy memories throughout a bright New Year.

ARNOLD & CONNER MOTOR COMPANY
 Pendleton St. & Rt. 16, Marion

Merry Christmas

To everyone at Christmas time comes the joy of giving and receiving. It is our pleasure now to offer our sincerest wishes for a very cheerful Holiday to all our friends.

CITY DRUG COMPANY
T. & W. HOME FURNISHINGS
 Saltville, Va.

Chilhowie Town Council Plans Water System

By Mrs. Hilton Rector

Perhaps the most outstanding action taken by the Chilhowie Town Council during 1953 was the planning of a new workable water system. Chilhowie citizens have experienced recently difficulties due to the lack of an adequate water supply and are looking forward to the completion of the new \$85,000 filtration system that is being installed on the South Fork River. The Town officials presented the water plan with a view of the future growth and needs of the town. Another act of foresight by the town officials was the purchase of the Christian church property, in the center of town, which they plan to convert into a much needed through street and parking area. A considerable amount of road repair has also been done this year by the town, and there are now two regular garbage collections each month rather than the once a month collection of last year.

One of the most enthusiastic and beneficial organizations in town is the Junior Chamber of Commerce, which was organized early in 1953. The first president, Jack Williams, moved from town due to other employment and was succeeded by Sherman Norris. The Jaycees initiated into the community the Apple Festival, which they plan to make a yearly event. The festival proved to be a great success beginning with the showing of exhibits of all kinds in the school buildings, continuing with a tour of the Bonham apple orchard and packing plant and concluding the first day's events with a singing festival. The second day of the festival included a parade, the homecoming ballgame on the ball field at which time Joanne Spurgeon was crowned queen of the event and concluded with a square dance in the school auditorium. Proceeds from the festival went to the fund for lighting the local ball field — a \$12,000 project of the Jaycees. The Jaycees have been awarded the state first place award for club profit making, as a result of the successful Apple Festival.

A Garden Club was organized in Chilhowie early in December with Mrs. John DeBusk Jr. the first president. Active organizations in town, other than church affiliations, are the Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Volunteer Fire Department and the school organizations — the PTA and the Band Booster's Club. Blood donors have given to the blood bank, again under the leadership of Mrs. S. A. Cole, and for the first time, this year, there was a diabetes clinic in Chilhowie as in other Smyth County towns.

The Chilhowie Schools, with G. E. Copenhaver, principal, are progressing in many respects. The band and chorus, under the direction of Luroy Krumwiede, again excelled in

chase of the Christian church property, in the center of town, which they plan to convert into a much needed through street and parking area. A considerable amount of road repair has also been done this year by the town, and there are now two regular garbage collections each month rather than the once a month collection of last year.

One of the most enthusiastic and beneficial organizations in town is the Junior Chamber of Commerce, which was organized early in 1953. The first president, Jack Williams, moved from town due to other employment and was succeeded by Sherman Norris. The Jaycees initiated into the community the Apple Festival, which they plan to make a yearly event. The festival proved to be a great success beginning with the showing of exhibits of all kinds in the school buildings, continuing with a tour of the Bonham apple orchard and packing plant and concluding the first day's events with a singing festival. The second day of the festival included a parade, the homecoming ballgame on the ball field at which time Joanne Spurgeon was crowned queen of the event and concluded with a square dance in the school auditorium. Proceeds from the festival went to the fund for lighting the local ball field — a \$12,000 project of the Jaycees. The Jaycees have been awarded the state first place award for club profit making, as a result of the successful Apple Festival.

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YES, IT'S STILL '53 — Bill Taylor of Chilhowie went back to the old days with a couple of young steers. Beginning while the cattle were real young, he began training them to the yoke, as his father did years ago. Last spring he had them ready for exhibition, trained to work together and obey his commands. The modern tractor which has killed the art of training steers for farm work is shown in the background — a necessity for profitable farming in 1953.

2,380 Cases Are Heard in Trial Justice Court

By W. V. Birchfield

During the year closing June 30, a total of 2,380 cases were tried, consisting of 1,531 criminal, 701 civil and 148 juvenile and domestic relations cases in Smyth County Trial Justice Court.

A total of \$38,535.54 was collected and disbursed through the Trial Justice office.

This was received and disbursed to the following accounts: county revenue, \$3,691.40; state revenue, \$18,550.53; fees, clerk of circuit court, \$1,365; cash bonds, \$6,000; insuring justices, \$772; domestic relations cases, \$7,144; others, \$1,012.29.

The Court schedule is as follows:

All sessions of the Trial Justice Court are held in the Trial Justice Court Room at the court house. Court is held on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday of each week at 10 a. m. Criminal and civil cases are heard each day that court is held, and juvenile and domestic relations cases are heard during all days of each week.

B. L. Dickinson is substitute Trial Justice.

Best wishes for a 

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Chilhowie Service Station
Amoco Products - Batteries - Tires, etc.
Chilhowie, Virginia

 Greetings for CHRISTMAS

We'll go along with Santa in wishing a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to All.

Chilhowie Hardware & Appliance
Hwy. 11, Chilhowie

The Beauty of Christmas... lies in the thought that we live in the memory of our friends —



Season's Greetings to All


SOUTHERNAIRE RESTAURANT
Chilhowie, Virginia



It's Christmas

FOR NOW...FOR ALWAYS... may the joys of this Holiday Season surround you and yours, and may you dwell amid the blessings of peace, health goodwill and happiness...

CHILHOWIE FURNITURE CO.
and
WILLIAMS FUNERAL SERVICE
Chilhowie, Virginia



To wish you a Merry Christmas

CHILHOWIE MILLING CO.
&
CHILHOWIE MOTOR CO.

At this time there are three church buildings under construction in Chilhowie. We wonder if that isn't a record-breaker for any town the size of Chilhowie. The new churches will be for the Baptist, Christian and the Full Gospel denominations. The Baptist people sold their property, which has been in use over 50 years, to an individual in town and, as stated, the Christian



Greetings

As "it came upon a midnight clear," may the message of Peace and Good Will dwell in your heart at Christmas.

Maiden's Variety Store
Chilhowie, Virginia

Church property was bought by the Town of Chilhowie. The Full Gospel Church, which is located near the Town House Hosiery Plant, is a new denomination in town and has just recently been organized. Its first pastor is the Rev. James Olinger.

When one considers the progressive civic, educational and spiritual contributions and add to them the ultimate in friendship and neighborliness — one has Chilhowie for 1953 — a good place to live — and growing better each year!

Thompson IOOF Completes 103 Years in Marion
By Harry Lee Hester

As the year 1953 goes out, Thompson Lodge No. 88 has completed 103 years of activity in Marion.

We have maintained a membership of 80.

This year we had the privilege of being visited by the grand master, Oscar G. Ross, in a joint meeting with the IOOF Lodge at Sugar Grove. A nice dinner was served.

Our lodge hall has been redecorated inside and out, with a new roof put on also.

L. W. Stovall, one of our members, was appointed district deputy grand master of this district.

We have a very active branch of this order. The "Lookup Encampment" has been enjoyed by all members.

We have enjoyed the ladies branch of this order "The Rebekahs," which has been very helpful to the subordinate lodge.

Marion canton No. 3 IOOF the Uniform Military and Highest Branch of the order was transferred to Wytheville and was named Herbert L. Kent Memorial Canton No. 3, in honor of our beloved member and distinguished state officer of the IOOF lodge.

The newly elected Noble Grand and vice grand for the year 1954 will be B. Kent Testerman and W. J. Odum.



Greetings

CHILHOWIE FLORIST
Hwy. 11, Chilhowie, Va.




GREETINGS to All

May all the joy which comes from the true spirit of Christmas be yours through all the New Year.

BURKE'S
CLOTHING & SHOES
Chilhowie, Va.

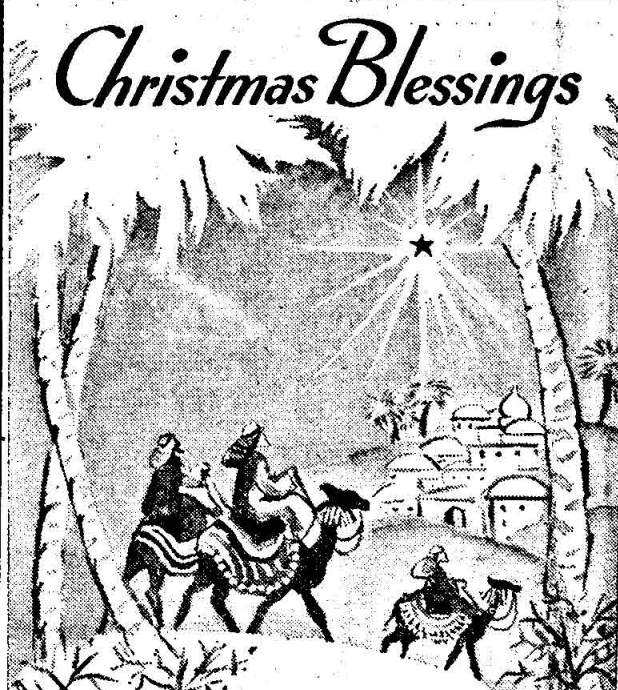
Merry Christmas

to Each of Our Good Friends and Customers



F. W. BERRY & SONS
THE COMPLETE DEPARTMENT STORE
Chilhowie, Va.

Christmas Blessings



Wherever the spirit of Christmas remains, there we find that peace and brotherly love can never be forced from the hearts of men.

A joyous Christmas and a bountiful New Year to all!

TERRACE HEIGHTS FUNERAL HOME
Chilhowie, Virginia

Chilhowie Methodist Church Has Full Program for Year

By M. C. Phillippi, Jr.

The Chilhowie Methodist Church has an active WSCS with not only regular monthly programs but also four study books each year as well as special days like: Week of Prayer and Self-Denial, seminars, zone meetings. We have small, but active youth groups in both Tate's Chapel and Chilhowie Churches. They carry out a full program in their own age groups.

The Church in general will have two special occasions this year. First was the Spiritual Life Mission with exchange of pastors from Wytheville and Abingdon districts. During this time many pledged to: attend church regularly, observe grace at meals, conduct family worship, pray daily, tithe their income, invite others to Christ, accept responsibility in the work of the church, live daily for Christ.

The other is a series of special programs on Sunday evenings. November 29 was a feature length motion picture entitled "The Power of God"; December 6 the Collegians from Emory and Henry College gave us an evening of music and song. December 13 the Chilhowie High School Chorus, a colored quartet from Abingdon and others gave a program under the sponsorship of the elementary teachers of Chilhowie. December 20 our local choir presented a Cantata-Pageant entitled "The Shepherds". December 22 Tate's Chapel gave their regular Christmas program. December 27 there will be "Student Recognition Evening" for those in our section who are away in school.



MAKE WINNING EASY — Homecoming Day festivities in Smyth County High Schools are gala events. Chilhowie citizens this year added something new. The Jaycees put on a big Apple Festival during the week end, with hundreds of visitors. The bevy of beauties above were part of the parade, with Jo Ann Spurgeon, second from right, being crowned queen at the football game.

Women WMS In Saltville Study Missions

Church of God Women Work in Many Fields

By Miss Eula Lee Haynes

As we look over the work of the Woman's Missionary Society of the First Church of God in Saltville, we have found that there is yet much to be done to extend the knowledge of missions as far from home as possible. Enthusiasm is maintained if there is a variety of work for "variety is the spice of life." This year has been filled with a variety of interests.

Meetings are held bi-weekly with business and program meetings alternating. Occasionally a pot-luck supper with all the men of the church is enjoyed, at which time much business is transacted across the banquet table.

Our treasury has been sustained through the efforts of the members selling cards and wrapping paper, dish cloths and towels, and plastic articles such as the Woody-Woodpicker Tooth pick dispensers; serv-

ing the Lions Club regularly and other banquets occasionally. The "make-an-apron, buy-an-apron" project was also worked. Shampoo was sold to earn a coffee urn for the church kitchen.

At each meeting, a cake is baked and served at 10 cents per slice. This cake covers a hidden dime, and the finder brings the cake to the subsequent meeting, etc. It is lots of fun and adds money to the treasury too.

Several interesting things have been carried out this year to help locally as well as missions on the state and national level. We furnished first aid kits, bandages, and school supplies for the Linen Chest during the summer. These articles are taken on the mission field by our missionaries as they leave for their stations. We secured pounds of men's socks and made baby shirts for our African stations. During the state camp-meeting held in Saltville in August, the local missionary group helped in many ways: by donating coffee for the well-attended meeting (about 1,000 people) furnishing transportation and lodging for an aged couple from Eastern Virginia and paying the rental on three films shown during the week. We sent get well and sympathy cards, and also surprised the pastor's wife, in her prolonged illness, with a "sunshine box" which contained gifts to be opened one a day for several days. During the summer months, the society furnished fresh flowers for the sanctuary each Sunday.

We entertained a dramatic team from Anderson, Ind. — the Christian Thespians from Anderson College — who presented the drama entitled "The Miracle."

We pay \$10.00 per month to support a child at The Shelter in Cuttack, India (little Anupama Das, 11 years old). We had one visiting missionary during the year — Mrs. D. W. Patterson, from Mexico.

We did a little work on the parsonage, paid some on the church indebtedness and helped redecorate the church with Celotex.

The weight of parcels we sent overseas (to six different stations) during the year totals 225 pounds.

During the year, names were drawn at each meeting for a handkerchief shower; thus someone was showered at every meeting until the game went around.

Presently we are enjoying immensely our preparations for all the Wednesday evening services during December. These are for the entire church, since we are entering the fourth year of the advance in the Church of God (the theme, "The Missionary Church.") but

sponsored by the local missionary society. The Watch Night Service will climax our activities for the year, and we plan the year ahead to be as full of missionary zeal as possible.

The final project for the year by this group of untiring women is the sale of dinner plates with a picture of the Saltville First Church of God on the front of them. A complimentary plate will go to the six former pastors of this church.

The missionary work of the church is the very heart of the work, and we are trying to enlist every woman in the community for the cause of missions.

Preston Chapter, UDC, Is Active

By Mrs. W. J. Totten

The Saltville Preston Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy has had a very active year under the able leadership of Mrs. V. T. Rector Sr.

The group meets the second Wednesday afternoon of each month in the homes of the members. The meetings are opened in ritualistic form, with a historical program with group singing of the songs of the Old South. A social period was enjoyed at each meeting.

This year the programs



"Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

J. S. SNAVELY & COMPANY

Shoes and Clothing For All The Family
CHILHOWIE, VIRGINIA

To wish you every happiness
at Christmas time
and through the year ahead.

MILLER'S PLACE

Chilhowie, Virginia

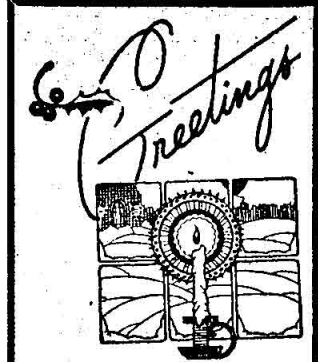


CHRISTMAS CHEER

Age-old, yet ever new, the true spirit of Christmas brings good cheer to every heart, new sparkle to every eye. May you and your loved ones experience, in fullest measure, all the joys of the season, and may its happiness spread its glow throughout the New Year.

Center Furniture Co.

"FURNITURE CENTER FOR THRIFTY BUYERS"
Center Bldg., Dial 3-8331, Marion



We send you these Christmas greetings because we are proud to call you our friend. We gratefully acknowledge your patronage in the past and hope that all joy possible be yours on this great occasion.

FRANK'S BARBER SHOP
Chilhowie

HOLIDAY Greetings

At this happy time we wish all our friends and neighbors a Merry Christmas, replete with all the season's joys!

PIONEER SERV. STA.
Chas. A. Blevins, Mgr.
7 MILE FORD, VA.

have been very interesting, and we feel we have gained much knowledge of our past leaders and their wives.

Guest speakers included Mrs. Charles W. Bishop of Roanoke, and Miss Jean Diggs of Saltville gave a program of music. Mrs. Jones, music teacher of Meadowview, gave a musical program with Misses Rebecca Dutton and Elizabeth Edmondson and Buddy Joe McNew during the year.

Another interesting program was sketches of chapters named for women of the state.

All of our objectives and obligations have been paid for the current year. An essay contest was sponsored in Glade Spring and Saltville schools. Miss Helen Williams of Saltville was the winner. The contest for next year will cover larger territory, including the Meadowview sixth and seventh grades. Miss Mary McNew will be in charge of the books and rules for the contest.

Five of the daughters attended a district meeting in Pearisburg in May. Mrs. Allison was a representative to the state convention held in Alexandria recently.

For the Memorial Day service the chapter combined with the American Legion and held services at the Hardy Roberts Memorial Swimming Pool. A parade, beginning at Saltville High School, led by the school band, was held. The band, directed by Luroy C. Krumwiede, and Gene Webb and daughter, Mary Jane, furnished music for this occasion. Eugene Worrell, publisher, of Bristol, Va.-Tenn., was guest speaker and gave a very interesting and instructive message on the early history of Saltville.

During the year flowers, gifts and cards were sent to members during sickness and distress. Food baskets were sent to the needy at Thanksgiving.

In September a very successful tea and bazaar was held at the home of our president, Mrs. Rector.

Our yearbook has been revised, places for meetings and leaders being added.

The December meeting will be in Glade Spring with Mrs. J. A. Williams. Our Christmas program is one of the highlights of the year.

We are looking forward to a very good new year.

At This Radiant Season of Good Cheer--

WHEN GOOD FELLOWSHIP AND KIND THOUGHTS ARE IN ABUNDANCE, WE SINCERELY EXTEND TO YOU OUR HOLIDAY GREETINGS.



BONHAM BROS.

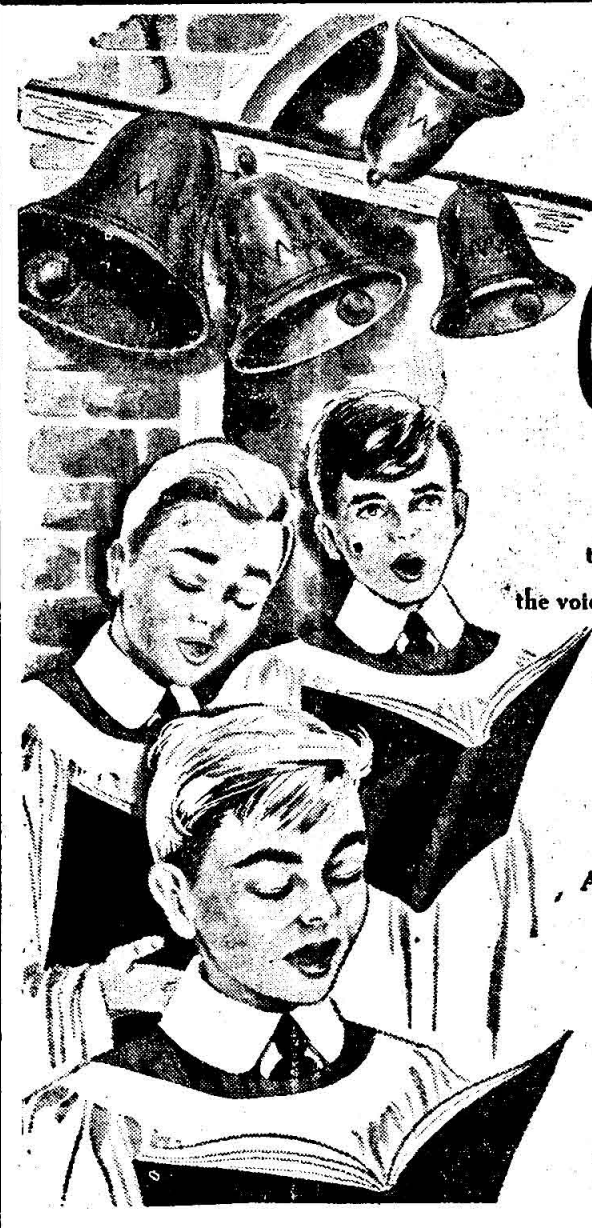
Chilhowie, Virginia



It is with unbounded pleasure that we extend to all our friends our sincerest wishes for a glorious holiday.

CENTRAL SERVICE STATION

Carmel French, Mgr.
Hwy. 11, Chilhowie



Season's Greetings

May the chiming of the joyous Christmas bells, the voices of the choir boys, bring to you again all the warmth of spirit and peace of heart of this glorious season. A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year to all!

Holston Motor Co. Inc.

Broad St., Marion

Broadford WSCS Serves And Grows

By Ferne Burnop

We of the Broadford Charge-wide WSCS feel that during this past year we have increased in spiritual stature and succeeded in being of some service to others.

Our activities during the year have been many and varied. Carol Johnson, a child from our area who is a patient in

the Blue Ridge Sanatorium, Charlottesville, received a baby doll from us last Christmas. Later in the year, we sent her pajamas and a hot water bottle.

An offering was sent to the WSCS Rally for Wesley Community House. Several boxes of materials were sent to Bethlehem Center for underprivileged children in Chattanooga, Tenn. We made a contribution to the drive to send dry milk to those living in places where that item is not available. Recently an offering was made to help Sgt. McKinnon make Christmas for Korean orphans more bountiful.

Last February, we of the WSCS met with the women of the Presbyterian church in Rich Valley to observe "World Day of Prayer."

During this year we have been very interested in missionary work in India. Dr. J. Stuart Staley, a returned medical missionary from India, gave us a challenging address on Indian life and problems. Also, this year we have continued helping a student in India. Our student is Padma Bheemappa, a Hindu Christian girl, who is student nurse at the Methodist Missionary Hospital in India, the Yadgiri Hospital. Our information about Padma and the hospital comes through Dr. Raleigh Pickard, who is in charge of the hospital and from whom we receive frequent letters. This year we have collected the \$50 student fund and enough money to send Padma a cardigan sweater and fountain pen for Christmas.

Through the Pickards, we have attempted to send some financial aid to the Muellers, an American couple who were caught behind "The Iron Curtain" in Berlin at the time Berlin was divided. This couple wishes to reach India and help in the hospital. So far they have been unsuccessful in getting from behind "The Iron Curtain."

Our knowledge of Malaya was increased through some interesting colorful slides presented by Mr. and Mrs. Gunnar Tellmann, who have a son, Gunner Jr., who is a missionary in that country. We sent a contribution to Gunner Jr. to aid him in his missionary work there.

Recently, we sponsored a "Small Country Fair" in Saltville at which baked goods and rummage contributed by the members were sold for the purpose of parsonage repairs.

Several members participated in an Officers' Training Day at the parsonage in August. We enjoyed a covered dish meal at noon.

Get well cards were sent to those who were ill during the year and as many visits were paid as possible.

Our WSCS holds its meeting on a rotating basis at each of the eight churches on the charge with a group from the hostess church being responsible for the next month's program. Among our officers elected in May were: president, Mrs. June DeBord; vice president, Mrs. Ralph Spence; secretary, Mrs. Claude Burnop; treasurer, Mrs. John Gwyn; secretary of spiritual life, Mrs. V. H. Neel; promotion secretary, Mrs. E. R. Neal; secretary, missionary education, Mrs. Stuart Neal; secretary Christian social relation and local church activities, Mrs. George Clear; secretary youth work, Mrs. L. M. Shuler; secretary children's work, Miss Madeline Gwyn; secretary student work, Mrs. John Brickley; secretary literature and publications, Mrs. Frank Surber; secretary, supplies, Mrs. Paul Necessary; secretary status of women, Mrs. Virginia Olinger. All of us realize that these officers need our full sup-

port, and there is a very cooperative spirit of all the members.

We consider this to have been a good and very successful year, but we face the future with high hopes that 1954 will see greater tokens of God's grace to us.

Methodist Men's Club Is Active In Saltville

By W. J. Totten

The Methodist Men's Club now only 18 months old has had a great measure of success and is showing excellent results in many phases of town activities.

This year there has been organized a Boy Scout troop which is being sponsored by the club under the leadership of L. D. Allison, scoutmaster, and Paul Wilson and Henry Tuggle, associates. John Northern is giving valuable assistance in sport activities.

The club held its second annual Ladies' Night Nov. 3 at which time the men of the club prepared and served a very appetizing and enjoyable meal.

The officers for year 1953-54 are as follows: A. J. Cahill, president; Paul Wilson, vice president; E. L. Cahill, secretary; L. S. Frye, treasurer.

We would like to extend to any men living in the community or vicinity of Saltville a cordial invitation to join us on the first Tuesday night in each month and have fellowship with us.

At this time we would also like to thank the editorial staff of the Smyth County News for all their kindness and consideration, space in paper they have granted to us in the past year. It is greatly appreciated by all the membership.

Marion AAUW Helps Forum

Members of the Smyth County Branch of the American Association of University Women together with the Marion Rotary Club and the Extension Division of the University of Virginia are sponsoring the Woodrow Wilson School of Foreign Affairs forums, which will feature four speakers on Asia and America relations with Asians.

The forums will be held during the winter months.

The local branch has about 30 members. Last Spring, the group was hostess to Dr. Winifred Helms, national status of women associate, when she spoke to members of AAUW from Wytheville, Abingdon, Bristol, Marion and Chilhowie at Marion College.

In the fall the state president met with a group of Smyth County members at a luncheon at Virginia House, telling of her trip to the International Association of University Women meeting this past summer.

The group meets the second Monday of each month at Marion College. Mrs. John R. Fenyk is president.

Three study groups meet monthly. They are international relations, fine arts and modern literature.

AAUW held its annual Christmas dinner at Marion High School Dec. 14 with a program on "Christmas in Other Lands." The group then heard the annual Christmas concert of the Marion High Chorus and Band.

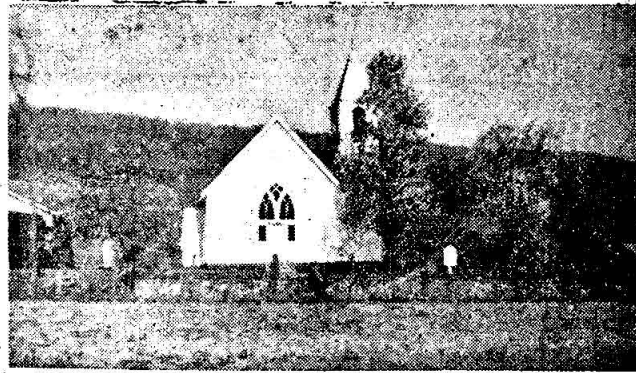
70 Belong To Marion Club

By Mrs. Philip Carlberg
The Marion Junior Woman's Club has an active membership of 70 members. This membership is divided into the following six departments: American home, public affairs and legislation, youth conservation, communications, education and fine arts and public welfare.

Its main project is youth conservation. In the past year the club sponsored Richard Chase, the folklorist and recreation director, to teach a 16 weeks' course at the Marion Community Center. Twenty people, sponsored by local clubs and churches, took the course and they in turn helped out with the teen-age parties which were sponsored from February until the summer months.

In addition to this youth work, the Junior Woman's Club donated \$25 to the High School Choral Club, \$100 for athletic equipment, sent boxes and letters monthly to a boy in Boy's Home. They also co-sponsored a girl to Girl's State and contributed \$50 for Civic Entertainment programs. The club also had a representative at the town council meetings concerning the fluoridation of water in Marion. The club members along with other civic clubs, aided with the G. G. shots administered in August and helped with the Community Chest Campaign this fall. They also kept a book for donations for the Red Cross.

Roberts' Chapel Church Makes Rapid Strides



By June C. DeBord

The Roberts' Chapel Methodist Church in Broadford has made rapid strides in progress during the past two years.

Situated in the center of the Rich Valley area this little church has a history of fine art and women behind it.

At present it is experiencing a revival of interest and growth. The Sunday School attendance on a recent Sunday was 123. The Fifth Sunday offering, which goes to the Greeneville Orphanage, was \$72.00.

Marion Kiwanis Club Reports Good Year

By Thompson Davis

The achievement committee of the Marion Kiwanis Club reports one of the most active and successful years in its recent history, under the able leadership of President Emmett V. Richardson. The club has been active in many different community activities, in which it has not only enjoyed a great deal of fun and fellowship but feels it has also achieved no little usefulness.

The program of our 52 meetings have been varied, and thoroughly enjoyable. Average membership during the year was 92 with an attendance record of 83 per cent. The club's 20 committees have all showed healthy activity.

The club raised \$600 with its beauty contest and \$180 from the sale of peanuts on National Kids' Day, all of which was expended for charitable purposes.

A total of \$500 was contributed toward providing recreational facilities for the boys and girls of the community.

During the past year a new roof has been put on the church; the floor has been re-finished, and new light fixtures installed. The church has been painted inside and outside. A new communion table and altar set have been asked.

An invitation to "come and worship with us if you do not now attend church," is cordially issued by George W. Clear, superintendent of Sunday School, and the Rev. L. M. Shuler, pastor.

mittee met with the faculty of Marion High School and furnished material for vocational guidance to the students. Twenty-five members of the club served as counsellors in this program.

The agriculture and conservation committee held seven meetings during the year in nearby agricultural communities, at which a number of people from these communities were invited guests; four of these meetings were dinner meetings.

The committee on public and business affairs discussed plans for helping the aged in the community and arranged for

an expert from the State Board of Health to present the matter of fluoridation of the town water supply to the club. This committee also assisted in presenting the Arts and Crafts Exhibit and in raising funds for our new stadium and athletic field.

The committee on public and churches presented four programs during the year.

During the year, the club entertained the faculties of Marion College and Marion High, Intermediate and Grammar Schools, the Junior Band, the football team and several other groups.

As you enter into the spirit of the Christmas occasion, we hope you will take just a moment to accept our best wishes for the Season. It's been a pleasure to serve you and we invite your continued friendships.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Home & Auto Supply Co.
Opposite Post Office, Marion

Marion Television Service
515 Church St., Marion

MERRY Christmas
We greet our friends at this happy time and wish them well, now and always.
BROAD STREET TEA ROOM
WILL SHARP
Broad Street, Marion

a Merry Christmas
May hope and peace and above all good cheer be yours at this gala season, with a full measure of real happiness for you and yours.
KENT'S STORE, INC.
OPPOSITE COURTHOUSE, MARION

Greetings for Christmas
We would like each shining ornament on your Christmas tree to reflect joyous Season's Greetings and our best wishes for a very Happy New Year.
Laurel Spring Dairy
E. NEAL UMBARGER
Marion, Virginia

Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season
from YOUR CHEVROLET DEALER
MARION MOTOR CO., INC.
MAIN & PARK STREETS
MARION, VA.
DEALERS LICENSE NO. 15

Smyth Schools Try to Develop Pupils to Fullest



Christmas

On that blessed night, the world was hushed with wonder, and hope arose anew for all mankind . . . Christ the Saviour was born. Today, we pray for His guidance, that we may find peace in our hearts and renewed faith in a world in which men everywhere shall live in good will and understanding with one another.

BARNETT FUNERAL HOME
Marion, Virginia

By J. Leonard Mauck

We feel that any way you judge the young people of Smyth County they are above average and deserve the best that we can give them so the entire Smyth County school program is aimed at giving each child an opportunity to develop his capacities to the fullest extent.

The enrollment for the 1953-54 session shows an increase of 179 pupils over the 1952-53 school year. Most of this increase is in the first grade. The high school enrollment is 1,955, an increase of 25 pupils over last year. The elementary enrollment is 5,196, which is 154 more than last year. And there are more to come. The school census indicates that there will be almost 500 more pupils in the Smyth County schools in 1960 than at the present time.

The Teachers

The teachers of Smyth County are doing the best job possible and are intensely interested in the lives of the children under them. We have a total of 242 teachers in Smyth County. This is three more than we had a year ago. Of this number, 183 hold regular certificates issued by the State Department of Education. Many of our teachers are from Smyth County, but other counties in Virginia and other states are represented on our teaching staff. One hundred seventy teachers are from Smyth County; 42 are from other counties in Virginia, and 30 are from other states.

The teachers of Smyth County work and plan continuously to improve their methods so that each child can learn and develop at his maximum rate. About half of the teachers in the county have gone to summer school or taken extension classes during the past year.

The Program

In Smyth County, we believe that a school exists for the child. The worth of every teaching situation, the athletic program, school plays, clubs, etc., is measured in terms of how well they furnish the kind of experience which will produce normal, happy, well-adjusted children who are prepared to earn a living or prof-

it by further education. We believe in the fundamentals, and our schools stress the teaching of the three R's. We believe that character and personality development are important tasks for the school to consider. Many activities are planned with this dual purpose in mind.

The health of our children is considered of prime importance. In cooperation with the Smyth County Department of Health, children receive regular health examinations by physicians and nurses. Defects discovered which should be remedied are referred to parents, and an effort is made

to see that each defect is corrected. Health instruction and regular exercises are a vital part of the educational program. Our school lunch program is planned to provide from one third to one half of the day's nutritive requirements for the child. Children who cannot afford to pay the small charge of 20c per lunch are given the meal without charge.

School community canneries are operated at three of our high school centers. Many people take advantage of this service each year. One canner in Smyth County last year processed 15,364 No. 2 cans, 32,980 No. 6 cans and 355 No. 10 cans.

The Smyth County schools furnish library service to both children and adults from a central library. A bookmobile makes regular trips to schools and other places in the county. There were 19,135 volumes in the library on July 1. The total circulation for last year was 116,441.

The Physical Facilities

There are 27 schools in Smyth County. Twenty-one are strictly elementary schools. In this group are two one-teacher schools, three four-teacher schools, 10 two-teacher schools and six with six or more teachers. Five schools are combined elementary and high schools, and one school has high school pupils only. The smallest school in Smyth County is a one room elementary school with 13 pupils, and the largest is a combined high and elementary with an enrollment of 973. Twelve of the smaller schools are in wood buildings, all of which are old and in poor condition; three schools are in brick buildings which are old and fairly dilapidated, and the other 12 schools are housed in good brick buildings.

A fleet of 27 county-owned school busses, representing an investment of \$124,147, transport about 4,000 children who live beyond the legal walking distance to school. In the course of a year these busses will travel about 260,000 miles.

The physical facilities are improving each year. A new building was put into use in Marion this year, and we hope to have several others under construction in 1954. Two new busses were put into operation this year to provide better service for those who must use the school busses.

4-H Clubs Are Proud Of Achievements

By Miss Karle Bundy

The 1953 program of the Home Demonstration Clubs placed emphasis on wise buy-manship, foods, clothing, house furnishings, home management and safety.

More than 620 women and girls were assisted directly in these projects through organized club meetings. A total of 406 home visits were made by the home agent to give individual assistance. There were 609 office calls, 767 telephone calls, 378 bulletins distributed, and 41 radio broadcasts presented in carrying out the 1953 extension program by the home agent. Information was passed on to many others by club members, non club members and the local newspaper. Trained local volunteer leaders held 82 adult and 4-H meetings without the home agent. A total of 256 meetings were conducted by the agent.

Meetings were held on planning the home garden, and seeds were purchased cooperatively which resulted in a greater variety of vegetables planted and a cash saving to farm families. Better planned meals and preservation of food contributed to the health of the families. Wise selection and care of clothing, house furnishings and equipment contributed financially to better and happier families. Easier cleaning methods and better home management has given the home-

maker more time to participate in community work and to know her neighbors better. Families working together in their respective communities have created pride and appreciation in home ownership and developed better citizens.

Families have become safety conscious due to the county-wide safety program, stressing in the home, safety on the farm and safety on the highways. Discussions on safety at monthly meetings led to the removal of many accident hazards. Cooperation with the school and highway department promoted safety measures among the school children and on the highway.

A convenient kitchen and water in every home is a long-time goal. In a water system survey made in May to determine how many homes did not have running water, 440 families were contacted; 93 of these families had no running water in the home. Fifteen families have installed electric water pumps.

Project leaders have assumed more responsibilities in giving demonstrations. Four county-wide leader-training meetings were held. Two girls' 4-H clubs have been successfully carried on out of school under the leadership of home demonstration club members. A new 4-H club was organized out of school recently. Also one home demonstration club has been added to make a total of 13 organized home demonstration clubs and 17 4-H clubs in Smyth County.

Seventy-five pressure cooker gauges were tested for accuracy. More families are freezing foods as evidenced by the number of home freezers purchased and the number of telephone calls for bulletins and other information.

Six 4-H club members attended the State 4-H Short Course as compared to three last year. Eight women attended the Institute of Rural Affairs. Thirty-eight boys and girls attended the district 4-H camp as compared with 31 last year. Two attended the State Farm and Home Electric Congress in Richmond.

Home demonstration club members worked with other county organizations to promote charitable drives, community fairs and health clinics. One hundred drapes were made by home demonstration club members for the TB chest x-ray clinic.

Two achievement days were held with an attendance of approximately 250 people. These programs climaxed the year's work in the 4-H and home demonstration clubs, and awards were given to leaders and club members for outstanding achievements for 1953.

These programs acquainted the public with the county extension program. They gave club members an opportunity to meet new friends and gain inspiration for the new year ahead.

Season's Greetings
BILL SCOTT
THE CEDARS SERV. STA.
Rt. 11 - W. Marion, Va.

Merry Christmas
and all good wishes
for the
New Year

OVERBAY'S SERVICE STATION
COMMERCE & PENDLETON STS.
Marion, Virginia

and all good wishes for a
HAPPY HOLIDAY
TO OUR FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS

P. S. Rice Service Station
7 MILE FORD, VIRGINIA



Season's Greetings

Greeting our friends at Christmas time has become more than a habit with us. It is a manifestation of a deeply felt appreciation of the understanding and good will that we have been privileged to enjoy over these many years. And it is for this reason that we are so anxious now to extend to everyone our sincerest wishes for a most enjoyable Christmas and a very happy New Year.

MARION NATIONAL BANK
THE BANK WITH THE CHIME CLOCK
Marion, Virginia



May the old fashioned
Christmas spirit
of peace and joy embrace your
home this glorious
holiday season. And may the
richest gifts—health,
happiness and good will come
to you and your
dear ones.

Greetings
of the
SEASON

PASTEURIZED PRODUCTS
Shanklin Dairies
DIAL MILK
AT YOUR GROCER OR 3-6164 ICE CREAM

CHRISTMAS

GREETINGS

52 TIMES EACH YEAR...

We bring You THE SMYTH COUNTY NEWS

TODAY...

We Bring You Thanks For Your Friendship
and Loyal Support.

THE STAFF

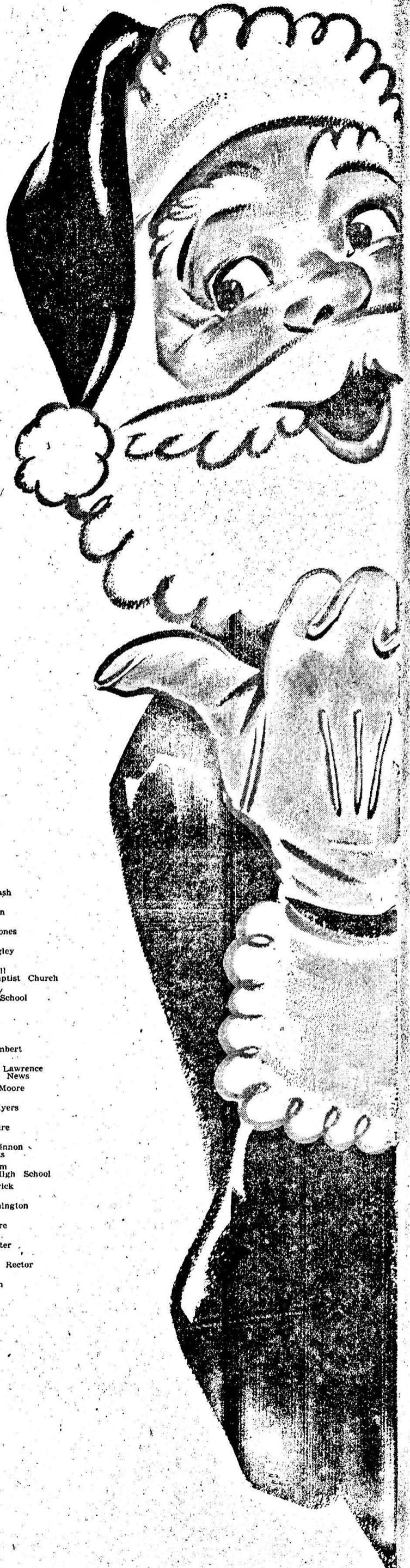
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OUR NEWSBOYS

Kenneth Blevins	Wade Greer
Bobby Campbell	Clifford Handy
Roger Copenhaver	Marvin Harrison
Sanford Dutton	George Helton
Charles Feeny	Edward Holmes
Garland Feeny	Harold Pruitt
Iris Feeny	Richard Simms
Joe Garretson	Glenn Sprinkle
Billy Greer	Kenneth Sprinkle
	Thomas Testerman

OUR CORRESPONDENTS

Mrs. W. E. Richmond Rural Retreat	Mrs. Charles S. Barker Saltville	Miss Thelma Hash South Fork
Miss Janet Roberts New Cove	Mrs. Barbara Harris Henrytown and Hill City	Mrs. S. C. Hutton Sugar Grove
Mrs. Earl Robinson Mt. Zion	Miss Doris Blise New Quarry and Oak Grove	Miss Ida Mae Jones Quarry
Miss Peggy Sawyers Staley-Rhea	Miss Malissa Bowman Cieghorn Valley	Mrs. Tom J. Kegley Nebo
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Miss Patsy Surber Beaver Creek	Mrs. D. C. Cox	Miss Elaine McKinnon Orchard Heights
Mrs. Claude Thomas Walker's Creek	Mrs. S. J. Cruey Horse Shoe Bend	Miss Arlene Odum Rich Valley High School
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Mrs. Harold Walker Seven Mile Ford	Miss Susie Gillespie Rich Valley	Miss Dottie Poore Perryville
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Mrs. W. Ray Anderson Furnace Hill	Mrs. Roy Greer Matson Drive	Mrs. Dewey Rich Piedmont
	Miss Betty Jean Groseclose Rural Retreat High School	



A Merry Christmas to Everyone!

SMYTH COUNTY NEWS

-- with which is combined *The Marion Democrat*

Martin Ross Auxiliary Works on Many Projects

By Mrs. Lena Roberts
The number two from the previous year.
The Martin-Ross Unit 346 American Legion Auxiliary. The January meeting was held at the home of Mrs. An. le 1953 with 41 members, raising Lee Barker with 20 members

To express CHRISTMAS Cheer properly one should have an appropriate setting. A CHRISTMAS TREE is always in order so here's one that we've made for you. On this tree we shall hang a lot of Good Wishes, Good Cheer and a sincere hope for your Health, Happiness and Prosperity.

The year just closing has been kind to us and we're indebted to you and to all who have contributed even remotely, to our success. We have tried very hard to be helpful to each and every one of our policyholders, and look forward eagerly to the coming of another year which will afford us further opportunity to serve. We feel that no business is a success unless it benefits everybody with whom it comes in contact and it is on such a platform that we have tried to build our friendships. Our most sincere wish to you and yours in this joyful season is a Very Merry Christmas, and a Happy, Prosperous New Year.

X X X
X X X
X X X
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X X X

Gills & Miles Insurance Agency

Over 43 Years Insurance Service

H. P. Gills — Mrs. H. P. Gills — Lenroy E. Asbury — Miss Phyllis Cullop

Marion,

Virginia

Greetings

Once more, with the approach of Christmas, we take time out to express to all our friends and patrons our deep appreciation for the confidence placed in us and for the loyalty shown us throughout the past year. It is our sincerest wish that your Holiday be filled with a glad spirit and good health.



Marion Vance Co.

INCORPORATED
Marion, Virginia

Saltville Vance Co., Inc.

Saltville

The Vance Co.

INCORPORATED
Chilhowie, Virginia

Saltville Vance Co., Inc.

Saltville

being present. Our correspondent for the Smyth County News from Sugar Grove was a visitor with us. We heard a fine report on "Legislative and National Security." We gave \$15.00 to the March of Dimes. At our February meeting we decided to get two books on "Communism in This County and Abroad" and dedicate them to our service men and wo-

men. For a while, we will add one a year to our school library.

We sponsored a girl in the beauty contest held in our community, and we sponsored a radio program from Bristol to raise funds to carry on our work.

In January we had the honor of entertaining jointly with Marion Unit 18, our district committeewomen — Mrs. Thomas Ely, Jonesville, and Mrs. Graham, Pulaski.

At our April meeting we voted \$25 to help a very needy family in the community.

Our May program consisted of a program held at the Baptist Church on Memorial Day honoring our war dead and deceased members. We also placed evergreen poppies in each cemetery where they are buried.

This year we sent Peggy Sue Slemp to Girl's State at Blacksburg.

The nominating committee presented a slate of officers the year '53-54 for election which was voted unanimously.

They were as follows:

President, Mrs. Lena Roberts; first vice president, Mrs. Ruth Ashlin; second vice president, Mrs. Bessie Calhoun; secretary, Mrs. Thelma Mabe; treasurer, Mrs. Marie Ward; chaplain, Mrs. Mary Pafford; sergeant-at-arms, Mrs. Bethel Currin, and historians, Mrs. Catherine Cox and Mrs. Thelma Scott.

In July we heard a very interesting report from Peggy Sue Slemp on her trip to Blacksburg to Girl's State.

We sent \$10 for the entertainment of veterans and also \$10 to the gift shop.

Our membership drive is now on, and we are getting good cooperation from all.

We feel we have had a very successful year in our organization and we plan bigger things for the coming year.

Our December meeting was with Mrs. Talmadge Richardson and we exchanged gifts.



WHAT A WHOPPER — Smyth bear hunters had a big season in 1953, making a number of big kills. This whopping 400 pounder was knocked over in January over in Rich Valley. Wiley Powers put the finishing shot into the beast, shown above hanging in the Grant Lindsay yard near Marion.

Beta Sigma Phi Has Been Active For Three Years

By Mrs. Karl Ekstrom and Mrs. James Warren

Virginia Beta Eta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority is a non-academic sorority with the chapter in Marion being three years old. It was organized August 21, 1951, at the Lincoln Hotel by Miss Clyde Willis of the International office in Kansas, Mo.

During the year 1953, there has been an increase in membership of eight new members and one transferee. Six girls were initiated during the spring rushing season, and two were initiated during the fall rushing season with Mrs. Paul Fleming the transferee from Mot Hope, West Virginia.

During the year the cultural programs have been taken from the program book "Paths to Liveliness" and have dealt with the subjects of speech, prose, poetry, music, the dance, sculpture etc.

These programs have been led by various members and guest speakers.

The social calendar has included founder's day banquet, formal initiation, picnics costume parties. Miss Betty Little of the Beta Eta Chapter of Chilhowie was selected by the Marion Camera Club to be the Valentine Girl. Her picture will be entered in the international contest. Mrs. Gail Livesay was selected by vote as the Girl of the Year for the local chapter.

The projects of Virginia Beta Eta Chapter have been to clothe and pay for school lunches and bus tickets for a local school girl, helping to support Girl's Town in Texas, the endowment fund for worthy members, cancer research (international project), contribution of milk fund, Thanksgiving baskets to poor families, Christmas baskets, March of Dimes, Community Center, etc.

Plans are now being made to form a chapter in Abingdon.

Virginia Beta Eta Chapter of Marion is a young and growing organization with much to do.

We are learning by experience just what it takes to make a civic organization "tick."

Our Latin motto is "Vita Scientia Amicitia" which means "Life, Learning and Friendship." The official flower is the yellow rose and the colors are black and gold.

The officers of the local chapter are: director, Mrs. Karl W. Ekstrom; social sponsor, Mrs. James Croft; president, Mrs. Conley Johnson; vice-president, Mrs. Gail Livesay; recording secretary, Mrs. J. T. Wassum Jr.; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Paul Fleming; treasurer, Mrs. Edith Cave; extension officers, Mrs. Harry Hall and Miss Janet Catron.

Beta Sigma Phi means to us an opportunity to serve mankind through organized humanitarian projects. As a group we enter into local civic activities; new interests are created, there is lots of fun. We acquire more tolerance, a deeper appreciation for the finer things of life and an intensified will to master the art of living.

Our business and cultural meetings are held twice monthly from September through May. First we get down to

business and complete that phase of the meeting, then our program chairman takes over and we all have an opportunity to participate in these fine programs, but usually two or three do a particular program. In this manner we all have a chance to acquire poise and charm and gain confidence in appearing before a group.

On the more serious side we have our International Endowment Fund for the benefit of humanity. Our immediate project is support of two outstanding scientists in cancer research. Then there is the International Loan Fund for the benefit of Beta Sigma Phi. Local projects include clothing and supplying school lunch and bus tickets.

Our chapter rush semi-annually, and while Beta Sigma Phi is not exclusive it is selective, a pledge is admitted to

membership by invitation only. Membership in Beta Sigma Phi is wonderful, and we are happy to share our organization with fine young women who show an appreciation for the things which we enjoy in Beta Sigma Phi.

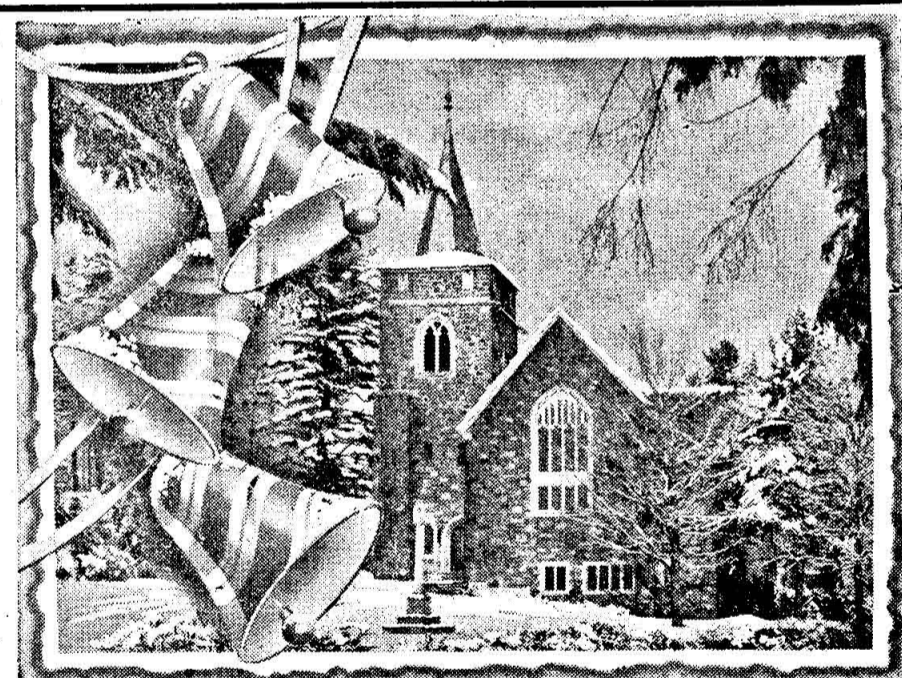
The Curtain is Raised on Another Season of Happiness

MERRY CHRISTMAS

TO EACH OF OUR MANY FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS

MARION EASY PAY TIRE STORE
Opposite Courthouse, Marion


BRODIE THOMPSON'S STORE
Opposite Post Office, Chilhowie



Season's Greetings

TINKLING BELLS, holly wreaths, winter scenes with evergreens; logs on hearth, candles bright, little faces beam delight... these, to us, are all warm reminders that a very special time is here... so a very special wish is due... May this Holiday Season bring you abounding stores of good cheer, peace and happiness.

Collins'
MARION, VA.



Christmas WISHES

A wealth of health, happiness and contentment are our wishes for all our friends and neighbors on this most joyous holiday.

Greenwood & Son
Electrical, Plumbing & Heating Contractors
Commerce St., Marion



SANTA CLAUS — Smyth citizens early in December paid high tribute to the belief that "I am my brother's keeper." With only a couple of days time, they donated 3,500 pounds of food, clothes and toys for a gigantic, community project to take care of 1,000 Korean war orphans. Sgt. Joseph R. McKinnon of Marion, with the Marines in Korea, wrote for help, and everyone responded. Boy Scouts are shown above helping sort the thousands of gifts.

Marion Jaycees List Achievements of Year

By Charles Martin Jr.
The Marion Junior Chamber of Commerce was organized in October of 1953 with 44 members at the first meeting. The Junior Chamber of Commerce is a service organization to the community and surrounding area in which it is organized. The projects that the Jaycees sponsor are for the betterment of the community.

The officers of the club are W. R. Hubble, president; Windell Beckner, first vice president; Joe Prater, second vice president; Don Thompson, secretary, and Sherman Musser, treasurer.

Park Playing Plagued by Polio Scare

By Randolph Odell
The 1953 season at Hungry Mother State Park was just a fair one in comparison with 1951 and 1952. The polio epidemic in that section during the last half of the season had a very detrimental effect on the attendance. Attendance at Hungry Mother during the 1953 season was 166,502 and in 1952, the attendance was 221,145. During 1953 there were 532 group picnics with 20 or more in each group. There were 1,663 tent and trailer overnight camping parties consisting of from two to six in each party. A great deal of maintenance work will have to be taken care of in the park before the 1954 season opens. Some of

this work has already been accomplished during the fall months, but it will continue to go on until the park opens next spring. We are expecting Hungry Mother State Park to have a great season in 1954.

TO WISH YOU
Greetings of the Season



And, may we add —
THANK YOU
For your Patronage

RIDDLE LEATHER SPECIALTIES
MARION

Joy at Christmas



Now is the time for all Good Holiday Wishes... may we wish to all our friends the best of health and joy for Christmas and the New Year.

Marion Sheet Metal Works
West Main St., Marion

Ebenezer Missionary Society Is Active

By Mrs. Alton French
The Women's Missionary Society of the Ebenezer Lutheran Church has had a splendid year under the leadership of Miss May Scherer, president, assisted by Mrs. Everett Repass, vice president; Mrs. Alton French, recording secretary; Mrs. Douglas Keller, treasurer; and Miss Virginia Meek, statistical secretary. The hymn of the society for the year has been "With One Accord We Come To Thee In Prayer and With One Accord We Labor In Thy Field." This has been the idea of the women as they have worked together in carrying out the aims of the society.

There have been no dues in the society. The offering has been, entirely free will and has amounted to larger returns than when they were assessed dues. A large part of the offering has been given as thank offerings.

The women of the society have just completed packing boxes to be sent for European Relief, under the leadership of

Marion Methodist WSCS Active Since 1885

By Mrs. Wythe Hull Jr. and Mrs. David Francis
Late in the nineteenth century women of the Southern Methodist Church in Marion began to feel the need for an organization through which they might promote the cause of missions. Under the direction of Mrs. E. E. Wiley, the first Foreign Missionary Society had its beginning about 1885 with Mrs. D. D. Hull as president. At that time the men of the church did not approve of a separate women's organization and so did not arrange to have the church heated for their meetings. Undaunted by this lack of support and heat, Mrs. Hull had a colored man who worked on her place drive her to the church taking with them coal and kindling to heat a small room for the first Foreign Missionary Society.

A few years later, around 1890, the Parsonage and Home Missionary Society was organized and, perhaps because of strong local appeal, had a much more rapid growth than did the Foreign Missionary Society. Soon these two groups decided to merge and, early in the twentieth century, they formed one active organization which was then called the "Woman's Missionary Society". The first president on the conference level was Mrs. J. W. Perry who now lives in Chattanooga, Tenn., and most of the organizational work with these early groups was carried out by Mrs. E. E. Wiley who also founded the Holston Methodist Home at Greenville, Tenn.

The Woman's Missionary Society grew steadily under the leadership and through the sacrificial service of many loyal women. Mrs. E. H. Henderson recalls that while she was district secretary in 1923, the membership of the society, then numbering 78 women, began to have additional monthly meetings in four smaller groups called "Circles". By this time the organization and general program of the society had developed and broadened to include much of the work

Marion Methodist WSCS Active Since 1885

mean the entertainment of several hundred delegates. The first week in Lent is set apart as a Week of Prayer and Self Denial. For the coming year programs for the daily meetings will be arranged by Mrs. J. D. Killinger, chairman of the program committee.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.



WHEELER'S
Plasterco, Virginia

BEST Christmas WISHES



Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year ...

... From All Of Us At Sears
Sears Catalog Sales Office
Anderson Bldg., W. Main St., Phone 3-8151, Marion

Noel



For now... for always... Joy to our friends and neighbors, Peace to our nation, Good Will to all.

Virginia Shoe Shop
Church St., Marion

Greetings

We're thinking of you, all our friends, and hoping that this happy Christmas season brings to you good cheer, good health and good fellowship. A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All.



MARION BOTTLING CO., Incorporated
Marion, Va.

Marion High School Makes Progress in 1953

Enrollment Is Increased For This Year

1953 includes data on the administration and organization curriculum and student projects. The enrollment at Marion High School is 811 compared with the 794 of last year. Of these 220 are eighth graders; 209, ninth graders; 153, tenth graders; 103, eleventh graders, and 123, twelfth graders. There

By Mary M. Sebastian

A picture of activities at Marion High School for the year



Greetings for

To all our friends we wish a Christmas that is a merry one in every way and a New Year that will be happy every day.

Service Dry Cleaners

Main Street, Marion, Va.

Season's *Greetings* and best wishes

ESSO SERVICENTER
Lanson Estep, Prop.
Main & Pendleton Sts., Marion



GREETINGS of the Season

May the happiness of the Holiday season, deepened and strengthened by the spiritual inspiration of the Christmas message; abide with you through all the days ahead. This is our warmest wish for you and yours, as through the soft silence of a Holy night, the shining wonder of Christmas once more dawns upon the World.

UNITED CLOTHING CO.
Mr. & Mrs. C. Davis Wassum
Center Bldg., Marion, Va.



ART SHOW — The three R's have expanded greatly in Smyth schools. One of the highlights of the school year is the annual Smyth Schools Music and Art Festival, with hundreds taking part. During the 1953 ex-

hibit last April, more than 2,000 visited the show at Marion High School; proud parents looking at the work of their children and equally proud children trying to get everyone to look at their work.

were 44 in summer school under the supervision of two teachers and the principal. Last year's graduating class consisted of 94. Thirty-eight of those are now in college, four in business school, 21 known to be working, and four known to be in military service, three in nursing school, and two in trade school.

Twelve students have transferred to other schools, and nine have dropped out of school during this school year. The cafeteria is serving an average of 540 hot lunches daily.

About 50 per cent of the student body is transported by nine busses.

FACULTY
Sixteen new teachers have been added this year to the high school faculty. One replacement has been made during this session.

In the industrial arts department is Howard Niswander of New Market.

Miss Betty Lou Greenwood of Marion and Miss Betty McConnell of Nickelsville have taken over the home economics department.

Mrs. Jerry Brillheart is the new director of girls' physical education and basketball coach. Assisting Mrs. Brillheart is Miss Barbara Maupin, who also teaches eighth grade social studies, English and geography.

Mrs. C. B. Stanley of Marion taught general business, bookkeeping and typing at the beginning of this session. Mrs. Donald Jones replaced her in October.

In the science field are three

new teachers: Mrs. Kermit Adkins of Chilhowie teaches chemistry and general science; Miss Charlotte Lyle of Johnson City, Tenn., teaches biology and general science, and Miss Mary Lou Hoge of Bluefield teaches eighth grade science.

Mrs. L. R. Hankins and Miss Martha Hull, both from Marion, are teaching eighth grade English and social studies.

Miss Louise Gray of Greeneville, Tenn., is teaching eighth grade mathematics.

A former teacher of Marion High, Al Mitchell, is back again this year teaching government and freshmen English.

Miss Kay Turpin of Wytheville is in charge of the art department. She teaches exploratory art, Art I and Art II and American History.

The new distributive education co-ordinator is Mrs. J. H. Dickenson of Marion.

D. L. Thompson, Marion, teaches one class of eighth grade math.

Masters' degrees were awarded to Miss Pauline Anderson and Charles Franzen during the summer session at the University of Virginia and University of Indiana respectively.

IMPROVEMENTS
Since January, 1953, a number of improvements have been added to Marion High School.

Not directly connected with the local high school, but beneficial to it, is the new stadium adjacent to the new grammar school. Marion's homecoming was climaxed Oct. 23 in the replacement for the old "Bowler Field." Eleven poles with 176 sealed beam lights and 1,500 watt bulbs light the field. The parking area will accommodate about 1,000 cars. When completed, it will seat 6,000 fans.

Since the beginning of the '53-'54 session, the school newspaper, the MARIONETTE, has been printed at the Smyth County News print shop. Heretofore, it was a mimeographed paper.

Other improvements include 525 new books in the library, a refinished gymnasium floor and improved aquariums in the biology department. Many of the classrooms were repainted, during the summer, and a number of the floors refinished.

Three courses of study are offered to meet the individual needs of Marion High School students. They are comm-

ercial, general citizenship and college preparatory.

Assembly is held once each week rotating through the periods. The students proceed by classes to the Auditorium each Thursday, when assembly is held.

Assembly programs are planned by a committee consisting of both students and the faculty. The programs are made up of two or more Southwest Assembly Programs, and clubs and classes present one program each during the year.

Speakers, music and quizzes make up other programs.

PLAYS
On the dramatic scene of MHS five plays were presented during 1953.

The one-act plays, one of which entered the county, district and state competition, were "Enter the Hero," "The Red Key" and "The Boor."

"Enter the Hero," a comedy starred Jean Rogers as Anne Carey and Bebe Birchfield as the younger sister, Ruth.

"The Red Key" was a mystery with Barbara Burnside as Helen, Leon Beville as Nicholas and Donna Boone as Karen.

"The Boor" starred Bobbie Lee Rankin as Helena Ovanora Popor, Ben Fulton as George Stephavitch Smiron and Billy Greenwood as Luke.

They were presented March 5, and the winner, "The Red Key," went to the district tournament at Tazewell March 14. It won. At the state meet in Charlottesville the play received a distinguished award. It was one of four which received this highest award.

"I Remember Mama," a story of the discouragement and triumphs of an immigrant family living in San Francisco at the turn of the century, was chosen by the senior committee as the senior production.

"I Remember Mama" was presented April 30 and May 1. In the leading roles were Shirley Shannon as Mama; Jean Rogers as Katrin, oldest daughter; Marie Blessing as Christine; Nellie Blackwell as Dagmar; Dan Thompson the son, and Papa, Eller Burton.

Bobbie Lee Rankin was student director.

The Junior class presented "Take Care of My Little Girl," a three-act play about college life, Dec. 4. Harriet Slomp played the lead.

Special Observances
Late in the spring in ob-

servance of Youth Week the Seniors visited all the offices in the court house and listened to a trial.

The annual Homecoming celebration was held the weekend of Oct. 22-24. Homecoming got off to a bang with the Varsity Show, "Show Business" Oct. 22.

Friday, an enthusiastic crowd turned out to see the parade consisting of 40 floats. The Literary and Forensic Club won the school trophy for the best float with the Junior Tri-Hi-Y Club running second.

The bon-fire and pep rally was held on the old athletic field before the game that night.

The Mighty Middlets of Abimdon beat the Scarlet Hurricane 20-6. This was the first game to be played on the new field with about 5,000 spectators.

Margaret Williams was crowned queen at halftime of the game. Her court was Ann Vernon, Carolyn Lambert, Sylvia Vernon and Peggy Jarret. Margaret and Peggy court reigned over the dance held in the gym that closed the Homecoming activities.

The week of Nov. 28 was National FHA week. The initiation of the new members and the installation of the new officers was held during this week.

Open house was held for the parents Nov. 10 in observance of American Education Week. An assembly program was held in the auditorium with Dr. Victor S. Ambrister, dean of Emory and Henry College, as the guest speaker.

National Book Week was the week of Nov. 16-20. The Library Club had charge of the assembly program consisting of a panel discussion by the biology class and a quiz program with the English teachers participating. Charles Seaver, president of the Boy's Y Club, presented three books to Betty Dillman, president of the Library Club, to be put in the Library.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES
SCA — The student activities are under the organization of the Student Co-operative Association. The following officers head the student body this year: president, Bobby Simons; vice president, Lester Hall; secretary, Alice Jasik; treasurer, Morris Stephenson; reporter, Ann Vernon; sponsors, Miss Pauline Anderson and T. Marcus Gillespie.

These officers were elected by the student body by secret ballot. At least five nominees were listed after nominations were made by the student body.

CLUB ACHIEVEMENTS — many extra-curricular projects have been carried out during 1953. Through these varied activities the students learn further ways of working with each other and of accepting responsibility.

The SCA sent four delegates to the state convention in Fredericksburg. Fred Query was Marion's nominee for president of the State SCA. The group also attended the Holston District meeting at Galax Dec. 5.

The Tri-Hi-Y jointly with the Hi-Y sponsored the Hi-Y Christmas Dance, encouraged other schools to set up Y Clubs and sent several delegates to the Richmond. An outstanding project of these clubs this year has been its "Thought for the Week" posted on the bulletin boards in the MHS halls.

Different degrees of achievement were awarded in various fields of advancement during

the year to the Future Farmers of America. The club also took part in field trips and helped sponsor the annual Valentine Dance.


Future Homemakers projects were maintaining the snack bar, purchasing display letters and the annual Valentine Dance. (Continued on page 5)



MERRY CHRISTMAS

May this Christmas bring to you in rich abundance all the good things in life—and may they remain with you throughout the New Year.

CALHOUN OIL CO.
Cities Service Products
Marion, Virginia



Peace on Earth

MILLARDS' RADIO & RECORD SHOP
Temporary Location Jennings Farm Supply
After Jan. 1 Broad Street

Greetings

May your heart be light and your home be bright with every Christmas joy



DeLuxe Upholstering Co.
Commerce St., Phone 3-5964, Marion



Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year

... FROM YOUR **JOHN DEERE DEALER**

SMYTH FARM SUPPLY CO., INC.
Marion, Virginia

(Continued From Page 1)

for the school library, contributing money to the Choral Club for risers, keeping up a medicine cabinet and helping sponsor the Valentine Dance. This organization purchased considerable equipment for the Home Economics Department.

The Literary and Forensic Club took part in creative writing, poetry, short stories, spelling and public speaking contests. They presented an assembly program and won first prize on a float entered in the homecoming parade.

Each member of the Science Club had an individual project. Among the projects completed were: radio, highway safety, U. S. Fisheries, and Wildlife Service.

The annual projects of the senior chorus include the district music festival, a Christ-

mas concert, and assembly program and a spring concert.

This club also entertained various Marion civic clubs, sold football programs and sent delegates to the All-State Chorus in Martinsville.

The goal of the Stage Craft Club is to help in any production where it is needed. At the beginning of the '53-'54 session the club changed its name to the Industrial Arts Club.

Projects of the Beta Club included buying a flag for the school, selling stationery, having an assembly program for induction of new members and making Christmas baskets for needy families. They also sponsored the annual talent show and sent delegates to the Beta Club Convention in Richmond.

Operating a concession stand at home football games and helping in the library are projects of the Library Club.

The Future Business Leaders of America did clerical



ANOTHER STILL — Rising taxes and an increase in price for legal booze have put moonshiners back in business in this area, with officers knocking off a number of stills last year. Deputy Jim Richardson is shown above at a still discovered and torn up last August.

work on several civic projects, including the Kiwanis Club's project to obtain new uniforms for the football team, helping with the stadium drive, and the TB campaign.

The Varsity Club conducted a ticket sale during football season and sold programs at the basketball games. The chief work of this club is to encourage attendance and sportsmanship at the ball games.

The Band had a series of outdoor summer concerts and appeared at the football games. They performed in three parades, two spring concerts, entered in the district musical festival at Wytheville and sent four members to All-State Band. It also bolstered morale at the state basketball tournament.

Projects of the Hobby Club included sponsoring a hobby display in the school library, and purchasing a movie projector stand for the school.

SOCIALS

Winter Wonderland Dance

Franklin Murray and Helen Morgan, who were chosen King and Queen of the Winter Wonderland dance by the Hi-Y and Tri-Hi-Y clubs, reigned over the dance December 19, 1952, in the MHS gym.

VALENTINE DANCE — Atha Parker reigned as queen of the FHA Valentine dance on February 14.

Louise Blevins, Reba Catron, Peggy Cullop, Shirley Davis, Doris Kegley, and Molly Testerman were the members of the Queen's court.

JUNIOR-SENIOR PROM — The theme "Blue Moon" was carried out in the decorations, refreshments, at the Junior-Senior Prom, May 9.

During intermission Shirley Horne sang "Blue Moon" and several other popular tunes. She was accompanied by Doris Haza at the piano.

Blue and white crepe paper streamers set the dancing area apart from the rest of the gym. A ceiling of white cheese cloth spangled with silver stars touched off the large moon hanging above the orchestra. Small tables and floor lamps filled in the remaining floor space. Small archways, entwined with flowers, led the way to the dancing area.

The Homecoming Dance was held October 24 in the MHS gym.

The queen, who was chosen by the student body, was Margaret Williams. Her court was Peggy Jarret, Carolyn Lambert, Ann Vernon and Sylvia Vernon.

CLUB TRIPS FOR '53

In 1953, the students of Marion High School made several trips to attend conventions or

other activities. Some of these were:

February 6 — All-State Band West in Bluefield.

February 17 — Area DE meeting in Wytheville.

February 20-22 — All-State Chorus in Martinsville.

March 19-22 — State SCA convention at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg.

March 21 — District Choral Festival in Wytheville.

March 29 — District Six Band Festival in Wytheville.

April 9-12 — Model General Assembly for all Y clubs in Richmond.

April 10-12 — SIPA held in Lexington.

April 17-18 — Beta Club convention held in Richmond.

April 18 — District Literary and Forensic meet at Virginia High in Bristol.

May 2 — FHA Rally held in Lebanon.

May 5 — Library Club took a trip to the Kingsport Press in Kingsport, Tenn.

June 8-11 — FHA convention held in Radford.

July 12-18 — Girl's and Boy's State in Blacksburg.

October 16 — MHS Band attended the Band Festival in Bristol.

October 23 — FHA chapter of Smyth, Wythe and Scott Counties was held in Bristol.

November 7 — The MHS Band attended the Annual Shriners' Football game at Victory Stadium in Roanoke.

November 21 — District Y convention held in Wytheville.

December 7 — Holston district SCA convention in Galax.

SPORTS

Basketball season at Marion High School starts the first of December and lasts until the last of February. The boys team won 20 and lost only two games to Tazewell and Emory and Henry. In the District 7 Tournament at Bristol, they defeated Richlands 61-48; Graham 53-42, and Monaker 57-46 to bring home the district trophy.

At the Group II State Tournament at Blacksburg Coach Franzen's boys came through on the top side in games with William Fleming, 61-53; Harrisonburg, 61-59, and Clintwood, 56-52. As one Harrisonburg reporter expressed it, "The teams came down with scarlet fever, and Marion came home with a trophy."

The girls' team, coached by Miss Jean Pedigo and Mrs. John Yeago, closed the season with six wins and five losses.

The track team participated in the meets at Emory and Henry College; they won third place in the district meet.

The baseball team closed its early spring season with seven wins and four losses.

The 1953 Scarlet Hurricane closed the football season with seven losses and one win.

SPECIAL HONORS AND AWARDS

An abundance of honors and awards was bestowed upon Marion High School students during 1953.

"Clouds," a poem by Lester Hall, was published in the Annual Anthology of High School Poetry. He received his certificate of acceptance in assembly January 15.

Robert Young was selected to represent Southwest Virginia in the Boy Scouts' section of the inaugural parade for President Eisenhower, Jan. 30.

Bobbie Lee Rankin took first place honors in the poetry division of the 1952-53 Creative Writing Contest. This is an annual school-sponsored contest.

Marie Blessings and Helen Morgan took top honors in the short story and essay divisions.

The Marion High School cheerleaders, coached by Mrs. John Yeago, were honored in the November, 1953, issue of the Virginia Education Journal. Their picture symbolizing one of the popular football activities appeared on the cover of the magazine.

In the field of sports Marion gained the state's highest award in basketball. Completing

an almost perfect regular season, the Marion team went on to win the District 7 tournament at Bristol and the state tournament at Blacksburg.

Paul Eblen copped the "most outstanding player" award. He and Robert Hankins were placed on the all-state team. Jimmy Phipps was placed on the second all-state team.

At the District Track Meet at Emory May 2, Harold Lambert broke the district pole vaulting record by jumping 9 feet and 11 inches.

A "Distinguished" rating was given to the MHS representative at the district and state tournaments. "The Red Key," directed by Mack Sturgill, was one of four to receive this rating at Charlottesville.

The Marion High School Band received an excellent rating at the District Music Festival held at Wytheville March 28. Twenty-one bands participated. Under the national rating system Marion received an excellent rating at the band festival held in Bristol late in October.

The MARIONETTE, the school newspaper, received a first place award and the HURRICANE, the year book, rated in the achievement group at the Southern Inter-Scholastic Press Association Convention held April 9-11 in Lexington.

MHS had three first place runners in the district literary contest at Virginia High, Bristol, April 18. Benjamin Fulton won the boys' prose reading contest; Jean Rogers was first in girls' prose reading, and Bobbie Lee Rankin was first in girls' poetry reading.

In the spring the following senior awards were made: The Rotary Award went to Joyce Barr.

The Lions Club Award went to Mary Ann Ingram. Geraldine Jones and Charlene Wassum won the honor of valedictorian and salutatorian respectively.

The dedication of the Hurricane is made each year by the annual staff. In June the 1953 annual was dedicated to T. Marcus Gillespie, principal, for his interest and help in every phase of the Marion High School program.

An expression of special appreciation goes to a group of nine sophomores who helped compile this MHS history of 1953. They are Eleanor Cummings, Joe Gwyn, Joan Kalber, Mary Lee, Martha McDonald, Kenny Mink, Mary Elizabeth Petty, Lois Robbins and Nancy Sawyers.

Marion National Celebrates 50th Anniversary

By W. A. Wolfe

The Marion National Bank has been organized March 15, 1903, and opened for business on July 14, 1903, has celebrated its golden anniversary during 1953 and enjoyed one of the best years in the history of the bank.

Although economic conditions throughout the country have been somewhat retarded the total resources of the bank have exceeded \$6,400,000 during the year which is the largest in the history of the bank.

Loans and discounts are approximately \$2,200,000, which also is at an all-time high, and it may be of interest to the public to know our loans are strictly of a local nature, within a radius of 25 miles of the bank. It has been the policy of the Marion National Bank from the beginning to care for the needs of our local people. Many of our loans are on more or less of a moral nature, and our losses on this type of loan has been infinitesimal. On June 30 we increased our interest rate on savin's deposit from one to two percent which represents an additional expenditure of approximately \$17,000 annually.

Many homes have been constructed during the year and several new nearing completion. Our farmers have been forced to accept lower prices for their commodities while the prices of machinery, fertilizer and seeds have remained very high. Although we have not had normal rainfall the pastures have been near normal, until the fall season, and corn, potatoes, hay crops were good and for the most part our farmers have above the average feed storage for the winter use. The tobacco crop was good, and prospects are favorable for a good yield from the sale of this cash crop to our farmers. We are very optimistic for 1954 and have added machinery and new equipment to better care for the banking needs of the people of Smyth County. Our bank is constantly striving to meet conditions necessary to cope with the trend of the times and provide a well rounded banking service in keeping with a progressive community.

We wish to thank the people of Smyth County for their loyal support which alone accounts for any progress we may achieve. It is a pleasure to serve and work with the type of people we have in our community. We should like to take this opportunity to express our very best wishes to one and all for a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

St. John the Evangelist Church to Get New Organ

By Mrs. Edward Prose

During 1953 members of St. John Evangelist Catholic Church participated in many activities.

Several bundles of clothing and food were sent to Korea early in the year.

Annual picnic for the school children was held in June at Hungry Mother Park, together with the children from St. Mary's Catholic Church of Wytheville.

The schedule of masses was changed during the summer months to accommodate tourists in this area, making the masses at an earlier hour.

Annual Christmas Party was held for the children of the church.

The Ladies Altar and Rosary Society, which meets monthly, has been working hard all year toward the purchase of an organ for the church. Two of their biggest projects were a rummage sale, held in June, and the sale of Christmas cards which has been going on for several months. We expect to have the new organ for Christmas of this year.

The Holy Name Society, which includes the men of the parish, have plans for beautifying the grounds this coming year.

CHRISTMAS

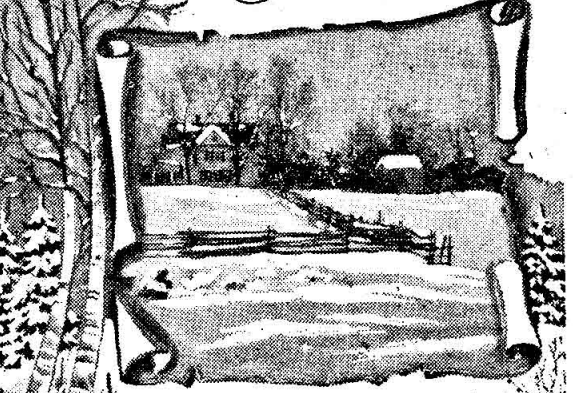
Wishes



Here's a cheerful little wish for all our friends. May your homes and hearts abound with holiday warmth, happiness and good fellowship.

Marion Bottled Gas Co. After Jan. 1 In Our New Location On Broad Street

Best Wishes



In the true spirit of this most joyous of holidays, we wish all our friends and neighbors a full measure of happiness, health and prosperity.

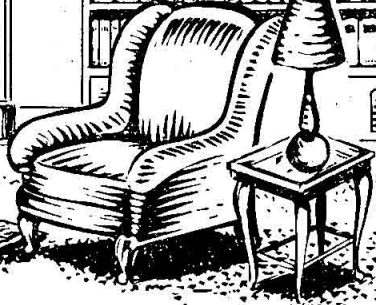
Petty-Pearcey Tire Co.

Commerce St., Marion, Va.

Unlimited of Christmas



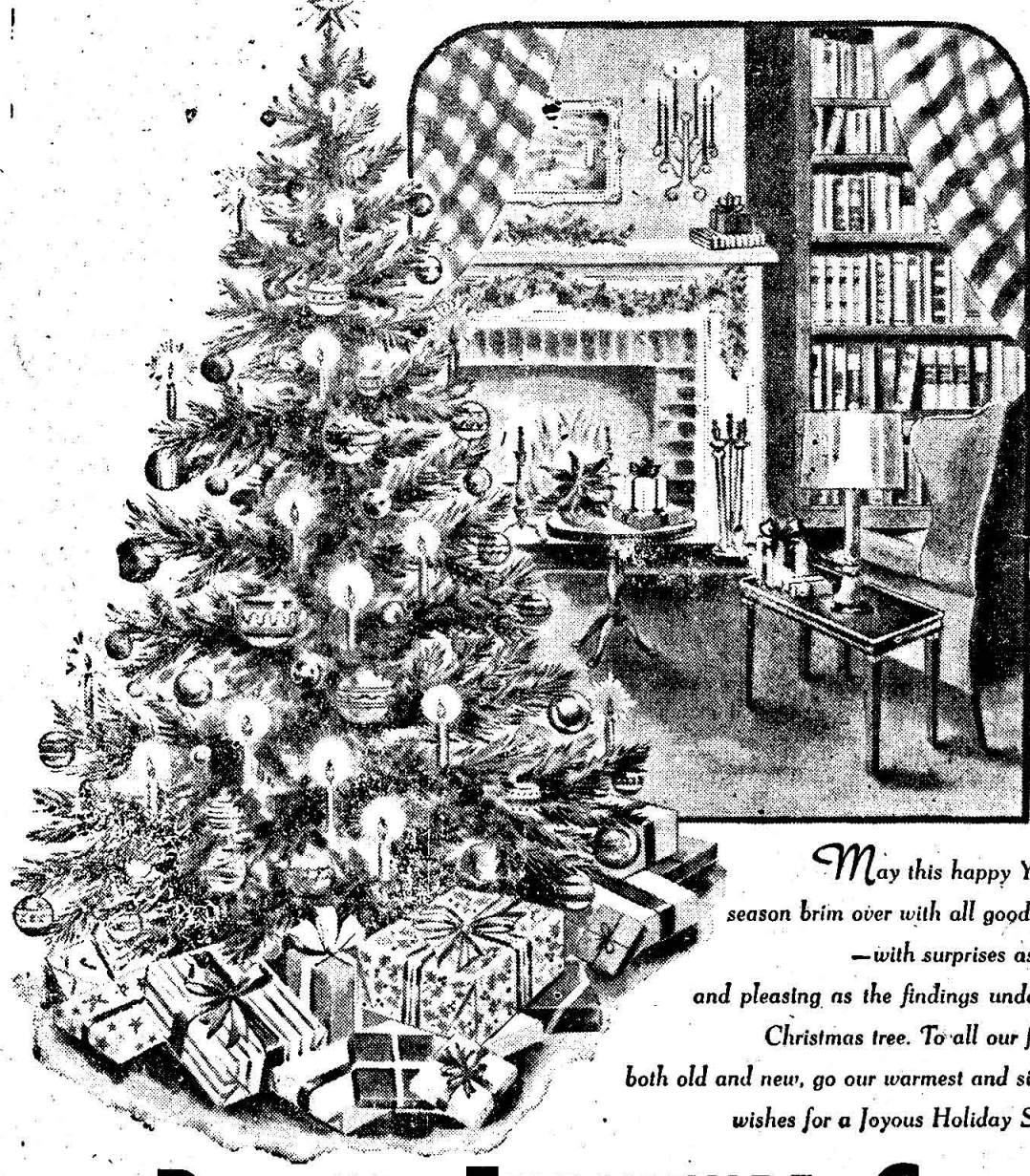
VOLUMES



Powell & Rector

RALPH POWELL & L. J. RECTOR Marion, Virginia

Warm Wishes at Christmas



May this happy Yuletide season brim over with all good things — with surprises as merry and pleasing as the findings under your Christmas tree. To all our friends, both old and new, go our warmest and sincerest wishes for a Joyous Holiday Season.

PORTER FURNITURE Co.

3 FLOORS OF FINE FURNITURE

Marion,

Virginia

Southwestern State Hospital Has 1,451 Patients

By Joseph R. Blalock

The Southwestern State Hospital receives the mentally ill from that section of Virginia west of Roanoke County, plus the white criminal insane from the whole state. The present census is 1,451. During the past year the population increased by 21 males and 32 females. There were during the year 314 admissions, 155 readmissions and 6 transfers from other Virginia Hospitals. This included 75 admissions to the Criminal Insane Department.

A state hospital is a special kind of community whose entire organizations is focused on making mentally sick people well and returning them to their home community. From his first hour everything that is done is intended to help forward recovery and return home. The section that first receives

the patient is the most important unit, and it is in this active treatment and reception center that facilities for special treatment are concentrated. With intensive treatment the recovery rate should be raised from 60 to 75 per cent.

This need was met with the completion of our new Rufus A. Morison Reception and Treatment Center. This was completed in May at a cost of \$1,223,539.49. A special dedication ceremony was held Sept. 3, in which Governor John S. Battle, General E. Walton Opie and others appeared on the program. The building was occupied by patients Sept. 26, and is now functioning in a very satisfactory manner. The capacity is 120 with 84 single rooms. The basement includes an admission suite, physiotherapy and occupational therapy units, kitchen, cafeteria, pharmacy,

lecture rooms, locker rooms, etc. The first floor provides offices, a medical library, a staff room and two wards. The second floor contains a special treatment section plus two wards. The third floor is designed for the more disturbed patients and includes isolation units and hydrotherapy sections.

During the year 863 patients received electroshock. Other treatments were insulin shock, psychotherapy, industrial and occupational therapy and pharmaceutical therapy. Sixty-two major and 55 minor surgical procedures were performed. This includes 13 transorbital lobotomy procedures by the consulting neurologist, Dr. Walter Freeman, and two pre-frontal lobotomies by one of our consulting neurosurgeons, Dr. W. A. Shaffer.

The annual chest x-ray sur-

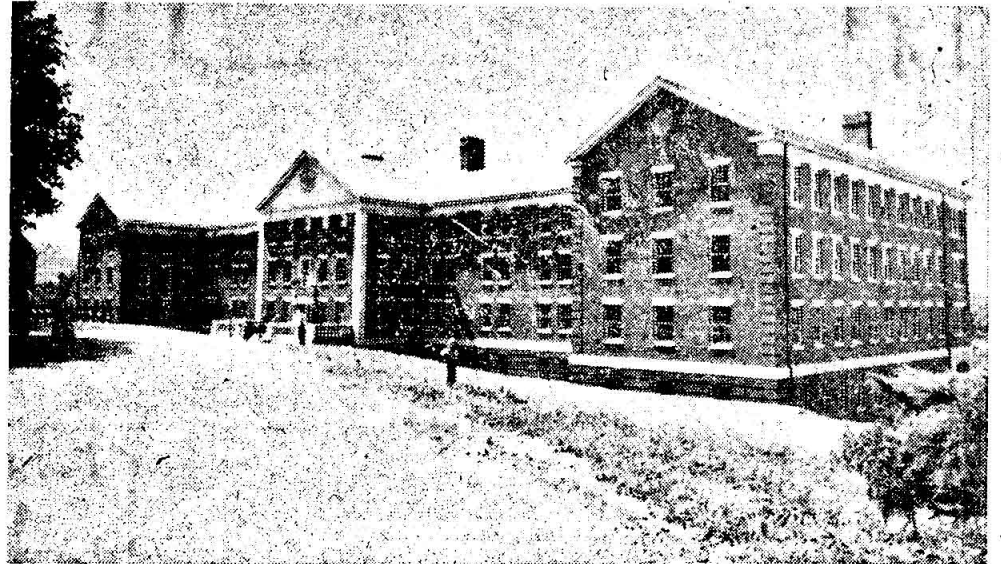
vey of hospital patients and employees was made in March by the Virginia State Department of Health. Of 1,390 films, 61 showed pathology. In our Electroencephalogram Department, under George J. Kirk, 161 patients were examined. These brain wave tracings were made routinely on all admission to the Criminal Insane Department, epileptics and on many other diagnostic problems, and these examinations are available on proper referral from physicians in the area. Dr. James B. Funkhouser is our consultant.

In the dental department, under Dr. J. E. Griffith, a total of 3,332 operative procedures were performed. The use of toothbrushes and dentifrice on the wards has received considerable attention.

The 115-hour psychiatric trainee course has been con-

tinued, and on Sept. 4, 1953, 26 received their certificates in a special ceremony in which Dr. Joseph E. Barrett, commissioner, Department of Mental Hygiene and Hospitals, was the speaker. During the past few months all of our male attendants have been wearing attractive white uniforms, complementing the dignified professional appearance of the female attendants who have long been in uniform.

The enlargement of the recreational program has been in effect during the past year under the recreational director. Activities include Friday night square dances, game and dance periods during the week in the auditorium, music and recreation on the wards, organization of parties, etc. In the spring of 1953 the game room in the basement of the Recreation Building was completed and

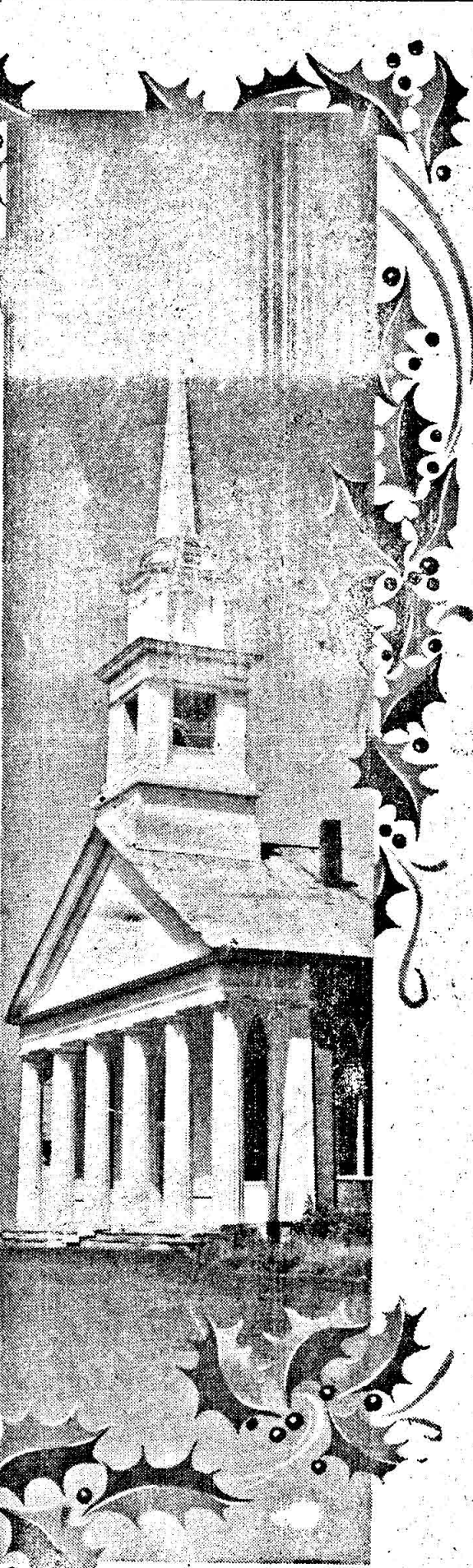


NEW HOSPITAL BUILDING — In keeping with the steady growth of better treatment for mental patients, resulting in a much higher percentage of cures, a new million dollar addition at Southwestern State Hospital was completed during 1953. The above building, one of the best equipped in the nation, was named the Rufus A. Morison Reception Center, honoring the Abingdon physician for his long service on the State Hospital Board.

Greetings
OF THE SEASON

What greater gift has been bestowed upon mankind than the capacity to revere anew the blessed spirit of this joyous season. In turn, the most precious gift we can extend our brothers is the bright example of Christian living enjoyed by those who cherish the spirit of Christmas in their hearts throughout the year...

A Joyous Christmas and A Happy Year to All



Seaver & Son

FUNERAL HOME

Since 1844,

Marion, Va.

put into operation. This includes two billiard tables, two ping pong tables, several card tables and a juke box. This completes a very desirable recreational unit consisting of a combined auditorium, church and gymnasium on the first floor, a patients' library with over 3,000 volumes, the patients' new game room and the hospital canteen, while adjacent to the Recreational Building to the rear is an enclosed area comprising two concrete tennis courts with provisions for shuffleboard, badminton and volleyball. Lighting has been installed, and during the summer the Friday evening square dances were held outside. During the year there were four visits to the Criminal Insane Building by chess teams from either Bristol, Va.-Tenn., or Kingsport Tenn. At least half of the Marion team was comprised of patients from the Criminal Building, the remainder being enthusiasts from town. The Marion team more than held its own.

The patients' library now contains 3,189 volumes and the medical library 659 volumes. We are indeed grateful to the many interested residents of the Town of Marion and other organizations for their enthusiastic assistance in the collection and donation of magazines. A great many calls are received from friends in town who bring up magazines or ask us to pick them up at their homes. Altogether during the year there were 15,779 books circulated and 10,698 magazines.

Religious services are held every Sunday afternoon, being conducted in rotation by ministers of Marion. The choir has developed amazingly under the direction of Mrs. Harry Kepler, volunteer choir director. Choir practice is held every Wednesday afternoon. Two hundred new hymn books were donated by a friend of the hospital.

There has been manifested during the year a very pronounced increase in the interest of the public in the hospital. The attendance at the dedication ceremony and the subsequent tour was most stimulating. The Junior Women's Clubs of Southwest Virginia have taken an interest in the needs of the hospital, particularly with reference to recreational equipment and supplies as a project. They have collected and donated playing cards, records, jigsaw puzzles, games and in addition have collected magazines and books. A large group of about 40 recently made a tour of the hospital, and previously smaller groups of this and other organizations have made pre-arranged tours.

During October and November, about 100 members of the General Assembly, in three groups, made tours of the hospital. This was made possible through a special appropriation at the last General Assembly whereby the members could tour the various state institutions and colleges to acquaint themselves by these visits with their needs.

We are particularly grateful to the churches in and near Marion who have provided parties, entertainment and refreshments for our patients; also for Christmas gifts that are sent into patients who would not otherwise receive gifts from relatives. Several hundred such gifts were received last Christmas from Junior Women's Clubs and churches in this area. The Marion Baptist Church has this year, as in past years, given two large parties, one at Easter and one at Thanksgiving, entertaining between 350 and 400 patients with games, prizes and serving refreshments for all; also one circle a month has given a ward party at which a program, entertainment and refreshments have been enjoyed.

Since July 1, every Thursday morning from 10 to 11 a. m. the Garden Lovers, those

patients interested in flowers, arrangements and gardening, meet under the sponsorship and guidance of the Marion Garden Club. They help plant, weed, and grow flowers, arrange flowers, both those they have grown and those given in containers and baskets, all contributed by the Garden Club. In these winter months artificial poinsettias are being made to be used with greens for Christmas decorations.

The next biennial budget as presented to the General Assembly requests a per diem allowance of \$2.68 per patient, as compared with the \$2.05 allowance for the biennium. To meet our most serious capital outlay, along with some other needs, we are requesting funds for a new Personnel Building with adequate provisions for

100 employees and for a new Criminal Insane Building with a capacity of 240. We are also asking for provisions for additional personnel.

The hospital again wishes to express its appreciation for the opportunity of submitting this report. Although this hospital serves Southwest Virginia and is a sizeable plant in itself, it is fortunate in being a member of this particular community. It is felt that the more the public knows about what is going on here, and the more it is concerned in the care of the mentally ill, the more it will understand our problems and demand standards of care that will bring about maximum recovery and release of our hospital beds. It is hoped that there will be many visitors on annual Hospital Day.

Merry Christmas
ROLAND'S RADIO REPAIR
Saltville, Virginia

Season's Greetings
AND ALL GOOD WISHES
FOR THE
New Year

WHEELER'S GARAGE
Charles V. & C. Vivian Wheeler
Cherry Street, Marion

A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS
May your heart rejoice anew in the message of the first Christmas... "on earth peace, good will toward men".
CATRON
FUNERAL HOME
Pendleton, St., Marion

Burlington Plants of Smyth Among Best in Nation

Equipment Is Most Modern For Knitting

By Emmet Atkins Jr.

In its plants at Marion and Chilhowie, Burlington Mills possesses an important asset in the operation of its Hosiery Division, a group of 14 plants of all sorts which enable it to claim the distinction of being the largest manufacturer of ladies' full-fashioned nylon hos-

tery in the world." In Marion since 1938 and in Chilhowie since 1940, Burlington Mills has thus long held a vital interest in the two communities; and in the Smyth County area. Although neither of the two plants was originally built by Burlington, the company acquired both of them shortly after their construction, and has continued to operate them since.

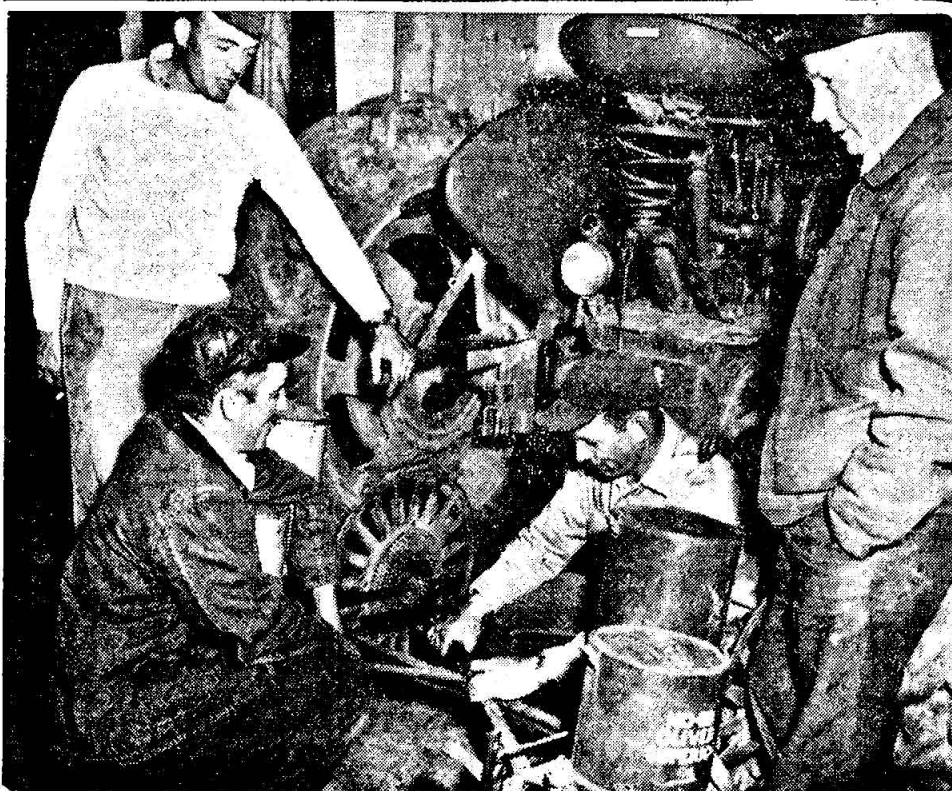
At both the Marion plant — originally known as the Royal Oak Plant — and at the Town House plant at Chilhowie, the company has carried out a continuing program of expansion and improvement. Under

Superintendent Forrest Deaton at Marion and Superintendent George Maust at Chilhowie, the physical facilities and manufacturing equipment of both plants have steadily been enlarged and improved.

Today, both the Marion and Chilhowie plants are models of industrial efficiency which at the same time provide the maximum in pleasant and comfortable working conditions for employees. Both plants include air conditioning, fluorescent lighting among their most up-to-date features, and both are arranged to provide the most efficient flow of production which is possible.

Combined employment at the two plants totals approximately 600 persons, and the annual payroll of both runs to approximately \$2,000,000. As knitting plants producing ladies' full-fashioned hosiery, the two units occupy an important place in Burlington Mills' family of 73 plants currently being operated in 43 domestic communities and three foreign countries, and employing the grand total of 34,000 people.

This year, Burlington Mills is celebrating its thirtieth anniversary having been founded in Burlington, N. C., in November of 1923. Since that year, the company has enjoyed steady growth, and today is one of the most outstanding, and most-diversified textile concerns in the United States, a standing to which the hosiery plants, and the loyal employees at Marion and Chilhowie, are contributing in no small degree.



FARM REPAIR SHOPS — Smyth County repair school, held at night at Sugar Grove. Schools continued to play an important role in community life, serving as meeting places, recreation centers and such, as well as seats of learning. Above is a shot of a farm

Merry Christmas



R. T. GREER & CO.

Marion, Virginia



GREETINGS

May the season's joys follow you throughout a happy New Year.

MARION CLOTHING COMPANY

MARION, VIRGINIA

Smyth County Red Cross Office Is Reopened in Fall

By Mrs. Thurston Culbert
The office of the Smyth County Chapter of the American Red Cross was reopened Nov. 16. Although it has been reopened only a short time, we are gratified at the number of servicemen and their families we have been able to help in times of distress.

The American Red Cross is the only means of contact between the servicemen and their families in emergencies. Whenever there are servicemen in any field of operation in peace or war, there is a Red Cross field operator available at all times. It is quite an experience to wire the Red Cross National Home Service in Washington that a servicemen in Korea is needed at home, get a wire back in a few hours stating that the emergency leave is granted and that the servicemen is en route. The servicemen arrives in the States in three days, flying weather permitting.

We also point with pride to the Red Cross Blood Program, under the able management of Bob Nelson and his willing and faithful volunteer doctors, nurses, nurses' aides and helpers. The importance of supporting the Red Cross was brought home to us last summer when Polio struck us with epidemic force. It was only through the Red Cross blood program that the Polio Foundation was able to make mass Gamma Globulin shots available. It was heart breaking to us who helped with the clinic to restrict shots to children under 10 years of age.

The Red Cross blood program also helps surely the local hospitals with their blood requirements.

In addition to the above mentioned provisions of the blood program, the Red Cross is far sighted in building up a reserve bank of blood to be used in civil defense. Unfortunately we Americans have to have a Pearl Harbor to alert us to the dangers that confront us. The saber rattling of Red China and Russia, and the fear that the first A bomb will be dropped on us should cause us to pause and reflect, that the American Red Cross is always present and ready to help in times of disaster.

The chairman of the Smyth County Red Cross is James Tindall; vice chairman, T. J. Wassum Jr., treasurer, Bill Groseclose, and chairman of the Blood Program, Robert Nelson. The office of the Smyth County Chapter of the Red Cross, located on the fourth floor of the Bank of Marion, is open Monday through Friday, 9 a. m. to 12 noon. It is our objective to make all the services the American Red Cross has to offer, effective and available to all in need of them. It is our hope that when the drive for funds is made in the spring the Red Cross will be well supported by the people of Smyth County.

The Red Cross and Smyth County are deeply indebted to Mrs. W. V. Birchfield Jr, Miss Fay Elledge and Mr. and Mrs. James Tindall for providing the County with the Red Cross Home Service during the long period when the Smyth County Chapter organization was inactive.

First Methodist Church Adds 134 Members in '53

By Dr. B. T. Sells

The First Methodist Church has made some progress in every department of its work during the year 1953. At this time our church has even 900 members. We have added 134 new members since January 1, 1953. We have had more than a normal growth in the Sunday morning and the Wednesday evening services. The Sunday evening service has shown some signs of increase in recent weeks.

Perhaps the most outstanding thing, in connection with our congregation, is our Prayer Meeting attendance. Concerning the attendance at this Prayer Meeting I would like to quote from an article written by J. Leonard Mauck, superintendent of Smyth County Schools. Mr. Mauck said, "Probably the largest crowd to attend a Prayer Meeting service in Marion was on hand for the service at the First Methodist Church, Marion, on Wednesday evening, November 25. More than 600 persons crowded the church auditorium and halls to overflow." A special and unique prayer meeting service conducted mainly by laymen, many of whom are teen-ages, has attracted wide attention and has an average of about 200 in attendance. Those who attended last Wednesday evening were thrilled by the service and expressed the opinion that it will be a stimulus to the regular service held each Wednesday evening.

Our Church School, with Gred J. Graybeal, superintendent, has an enrollment of more than 700. Mr. Graybeal has a staff of 58 officers and teachers, who direct the activities of the church school. During the year 1953 our school has had a fine spirit of co-operation and we are looking toward 1954 with confidence that we shall continue to grow both in numbers and efficiency.

The Official Board, with Dr. David Francis, chairman, has been doing a very good piece of work in guiding the temporal affairs of the church. Our increased budget is being met with greater ease than in former days. Several thousand dollars have been spent in improvements on church and parsonage properties.

The Woman's Society of Christian Service, with Mrs. David Francis, president, has some very forward looking plans for the future. This organization, with 254 members, will in the near future carry out plans that will make the organization more attractive and efficient. A more detailed account will appear in this issue of the Smyth County News.

The Youth Work, in the usual sense, is about average. However, we have two services in which the youth are very active, the morning worship service and the Wednesday evening service. Not long ago more than 90 young people joined in our Communion Service. And we frequently have more than 50 in the Wednesday evening service.

The church choir, under the leadership of H. Ted Russell, are giving the congregation some good music. The pastor

desires to express to these choirs this profound appreciation for their loyalty and hard work to bring good music to the First Methodist Church.

Our kindergarten program has improved each year. It is now a well organized part of our church activities. The kindergarten is controlled by a board of directors, with Robert S. Garnett chairman. We now have a capacity enrollment of 32, and a number on the waiting list in case of vacancies. Mrs. Grady Anderson and Mrs. George Kirk are the instructors.

We believe that in view of the growth in 1953, the strengthening of the various organizations and the fine spirit of our church, 1954 should be a great year in the life of the First Methodist Church.

Summit HD Club Has 17 Members

By Mrs. Fielden Irvin

The Summit Home Demonstration Club has had a very successful year. The club has

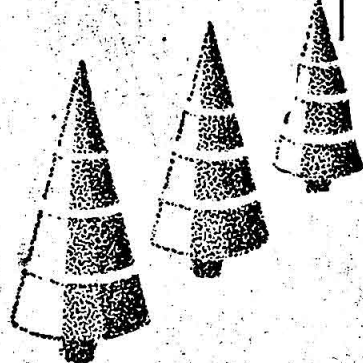
reached out into 17 different homes. There has been three new members secured in the club. Information has been given to 25 people other than members of the club. We have had auction sales to make money for the club; also we sold flavoring we had, and an all day meeting was held with Mrs. Wade Horne to etch trays. Miss Kerle Bundy gave demonstrations. The members were so pleased with the trays, we ordered aluminum to make more trays. We met without Miss Bundy for this meeting. We etched 69 trays in all.

There was 1,000 quarts of vegetables canned, 600 quarts of fruit canned, 350 quarts of meat canned and 225 pounds of vegetables frozen, 900 pounds of meat and 218 pounds of fruit frozen.

There were 200 dresses and 40 aprons made during the year. Eight walls and one floor refinished; three lawns were improved, six closets were built, one new house built, one new electric stove bought.

The club hopes to have more success in the coming year.

happy holidays



APPALACHIAN MANUFACTURING CORPORATION

Marion, Virginia

MERRY Christmas

The Yuletide season is a wonderful time. With it comes fun and laughter for the children, good cheer and pleasure for the grown-ups. May all the happiness that comes to you and your dear ones this Christmas continue throughout the New Year.

TRIANGLE Service Station
THE BUCHANAN BROTHERS
Main & Pendleton Sts. Marion

A Season's Greetings to All

May yours be a holiday overflowing with happiness and good cheer.

LINCOLN BUILDERS SUPPLY CO., INC.
Marion, Va.

JOYFUL Holiday Greetings

In the warm and cheerful atmosphere of this wonderful Christmas season when families are gathered together — when spirits are refreshed, hearts uplifted and all the world is suddenly full of smiling people — we want to offer to one and all our very best wishes for the happiest holiday you've ever enjoyed.

BURGESS - McNIEL FURNITURE CO.
South Church Street, Hotel Marion Bldg., Marion

Full Time Director Provided for Marion Recreation

Program for Youngsters Is Varied

By Jack L. Musten
1953 marks the first year that Marion has had a year round recreation program and much progress was made despite several unfavorable conditions which hindered the progress a great deal.

Plans for the year began to take shape early in February when the Recreation Commission began sending out feelers trying to locate a full time director. One reached down into North Carolina to Elon College and a fellow by the name of Jack Musten was approach-

ed, and he accepted the job. Jack made several trips to Marion to make friends, to learn the city and to draw up plans for the program for the coming summer. In drawing up the program plans, the Recreation Commission sought to do three things — to instruct, to promote and to improve recreation in Marion.

The first few weeks were experimental. A recreation survey had been made in all the schools and the results of this survey were put to use in the very beginning. Children of all ages had stated in which activities they desired to participate and the commission sought to provide as many of these activities as was possible. Many of the older boys and girls had already made plans for the summer, so the pro-

gram was centered around the younger children.

Baseball, which had been given an unsuccessful try in previous years, was given another chance. Lack of skilled adult cooperation hindered progress again this year. Four from 8 to 12 being allowed to participate, Staley-Rhea, Church Street, Iron Street and Lincoln Hill were the teams participating. Later in the summer Chilhowie joined the league, and some good competition was offered our youngsters by them. Plans for a big play-day festival, which was to include the champion game between Marion and Chilhowie, were taking shape when disaster struck and completely wrecked the baseball teams and almost all the other recrea-

tion activities: The polio epidemic took its toll of the recreation activities, and baseball seemed to be the hardest hit of all. Swimming each Tuesday and Thursday was one of the highlights also. Many children enjoyed the picnics and swimming trips. This was also wrecked by polio.

Slugging fists and red noses could be seen each Thursday night. The boxing programs were perhaps the most enjoyable and thrilling spectacles of the whole summer. The youngsters flocked to the arena to watch their best buddies gain or lose prestige in the art of fistcuffs or go into the act themselves.

Tiny tots could be seen enjoying their storybook hours which usually consisted reading a Bible story, a fairy tale and

a fantastic ghost story told by the director. Games were also played by these smaller children.

At night the older boys and girls came out to enjoy table tennis, badminton, horseshoes, shuffleboard, volleyball and numerous other games.

What could have been accomplished had the polio not struck? Would the program have died? Would it lose its momentum? Indications are that it would have continued to grow. Three weeks before the worst part of the epidemic total attendance was approximately 6,600 children. An estimated 3,000 more would have been a good average attendance for the summer.

The winter program was begun the first week in September with the bulk of activities



Friendship Circle of Matson Chapel Has Active Year

By Mrs. Goldie Overbey

During the year the Friendship Circle of Matson Chapel has sent cards to the sick people in the community and also has sent fruit baskets to each member that was sick. Sympathy cards were sent to families in the community in which a death occurred and flowers were sent to any of the family was a circle member.

In August the Blues entertained the Reds with a weiner roast at the home of Mrs. Grace Overbey, the Blues being the losing side.

The members and their guests enjoyed a pot luck supper in September at the home of Mrs. Grace Overbey.

This year the circle has met at the homes of Mrs. Jesse White, Mrs. Russell Elledge, Miss Ann Bowman, Mrs. Murlie Chaffin, Mrs. Kate White, Mrs. Grace Overbey, Mrs. Ruth Patton, Mrs. Lydia White.

Six members have been present at all meetings this year, and six new members have been taken in. The circle has had five visitors present this year.

At present a Christmas treat and a collection of food is being prepared for the Foster Falls Orphanage.

The December meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Jesse White, and the members exchanged Christmas gifts.

A DUD — Last April citizens of Atkins thought they saw a jet plane fall into an isolated, woody section. Officers, the Smyth Life Saving Crew and hundreds of others swarmed into the area, soon finding what they thought to be part of the wreckage. It turned out to be a fuel tank jettisoned by a F 86 pilot who had wandered too far afield and had to lighten up his load to get back home.

being directed toward the teen age groups. The plans were to have more social activities than were offered in the summer. Dances were held after football games, and a working and growing teen-age club is under way at this writing. Over 150 members are now in the club with many more expected as the year progresses. Dances and social meetings are being planned for the coming basketball season also.

Strong support from the Junior Women's Club and PTA indicate that recreation among the teen-agers is on the upward move.

Plans for the future! It is difficult to say. A recreation program can only be as strong as the people who support it. One commission or one person cannot accomplish too much but a unified town of hard workers can do a great deal.

With a full year of work behind the program, it should progress steadily. Plans for a well balanced baseball program, as well as plans for the other activities, will begin early enough to give it and the boys and girls who love to play a fair chance.

Some needs for the Marion Community in terms of recreation are playgrounds adequately supplied with the right equipment, tennis courts, baseball diamonds, softball fields and a skating rink, but most of all Marion needs more people who are interested in seeing their children grow mentally, physically and socially.

Troop 90 Members Are Active Scouts

By W. H. Campbell

Scouting came to America 43 years ago through the efforts of one man who was won to scouting by an unknown Scout in England doing his "good turn daily." There stands in England today a "bronze statue the inscription reads: "To the Unknown Scout whose faithfulness in the performance of the daily good turn brought the Scout movement to the United States of America."

So nearly a half century later Troop 90 with many more troops throughout the United States continues to keep scouting alive today.

At the beginning of the year the enrollment was 36 members; at the end of the year it was 30 members, this loss of six members was due to two transfers to other units, two Scouts moved from the area, and two quit due to difficulties in transportation to and from the meetings.

Twenty-five members of the troop spent at least 10 days and nights of overnight camping. Three members attended the National Jamboree in California. Two members took a week's cruise with the Navy off the coast of Virginia. Twenty-two members attended the Smyth-Wythe Camporee at Camp Moxley in May, and 22 spent a week at Camp Powhatan. Three cook outs were held during the year.

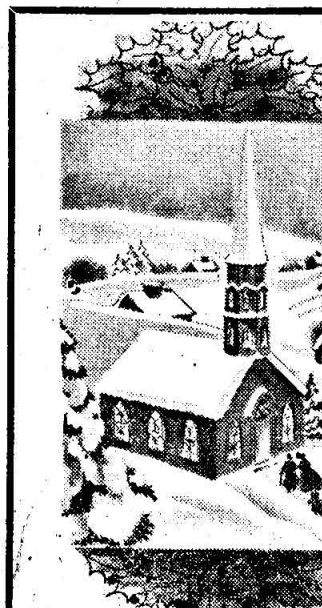
The troop assisted the game commission in stocking trout in Smyth County streams during the spring season. A total of 500 white pine seedlings were planted for the U. S. Forest Service. One mile of Appalachian Trail was maintained by the troop.

The troop assisted the VFW in their Poppy Sale in May, helped in distributing literature for the March of Dimes program and helped to sort Christ-

mas presents for Korean children.

The annual court of honor and parents night banquet was held in March. This is the outstanding event of the year and an attendance of over 100 enjoyed a good meal and planned program.

We hope that the year 1954 will serve us as well as did 1953.



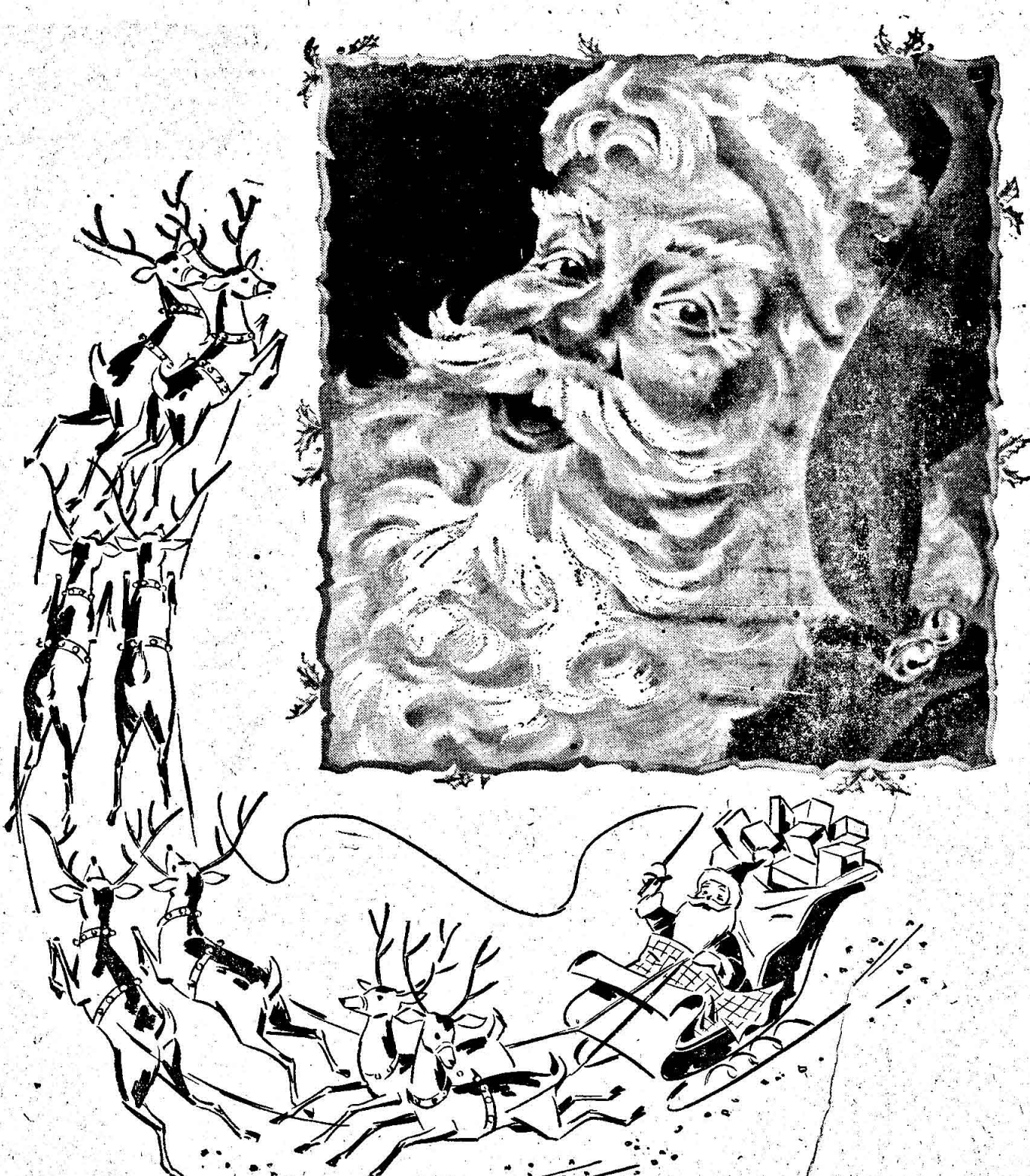
The loyalty of our many friends gives to us added confidence and much promise for the future. We wish a Joyful Christmas and Successful New Year to all.

UNITED INS. & REAL ESTATE AGENCY
Mr. & Mrs. Willis H. Wassum
Church St., Marion, Va.

O, come all ye faithful...

May the peace and happiness symbolized by the Star of Christmas remain with you throughout the Holiday Season.

WRIGHT MOTOR COMPANY
"The Friendly Shop"
Commerce St., Marion, Va.



Season's Greetings

With the approach of Christmas, our thoughts revert gratefully to those whose good will and confidence we have learned to treasure throughout the years. It is to these old friends and our many new ones that we wish to extend our warmest wishes for a cheerful and joyous Christmas—a happy and prosperous New Year.

Smyth County Motor Co.

INCORPORATED

FOR OVER 35 YEARS YOUR FORD DEALER

PENDLETON STREET,

MARION, VA.