

## Postmaster In Avery To Face Federal Trial

### Western N. C. Man Is Charged With Tampering With WPA Checks.

Asheville, Sept. 15.—Joseph Pyatte, postmaster at Pyatte in Avery county, is being held on bond of \$500 charged with tampering with Government WPA and CCC checks.

Postmaster Pyatte was given a preliminary hearing before U. S. Commissioner Sandlin in Marion and ordered held for the next term of district court here.

The arrest of Pyatte followed an investigation made by A. E. Helmick of Asheville, a post office inspector, who charged Pyatte with rifling the mails, obtaining the checks and forging indorsements.

Mr. Helmick said Mr. Pyatte operated a small general store in connection with the fourth-class post office at Pyatte. On his books are a number of customers who receive Government checks from either the Works Progress Administration or the Civilian Conservation Corps and who reside in Pyatte community.

It was explained that when checks arrived for persons indebted to Mr. Pyatte, he opened the envelopes, indorsed the checks and cashed or banked them, giving the owners credit.

It was explained that if the checks more than covered the amount due for merchandise, the remaining funds were noted to the credit of patrons on anticipated purchases. Six or seven persons complained against Mr. Pyatte and one woman said she had not seen her checks in months.

The defendant explained at the hearing that he has been "crediting folks in his community since the WPA has been in effect," and that permission had been given him by Federal recipients of checks to cash them and apply to their accounts.

Mr. Helmick explained that "no verbal agreement stands good in any such case." He pointed out it was against the law for the postmaster-merchant to open the envelopes, and also a violation of Federal statutes for him to indorse the checks and cash or bank them to his credit. No verbal permission can be given any one relative to the handling of a government check, it was explained.

### FIRST MEETING OF NEBO P. T. A. TONIGHT

The Nebo Parent-Teacher Association will hold its first meeting of the year tonight at 7:30 in the school auditorium. Various committees have met to plan the work for this year, and reports from these committees will be heard. Some important school projects will be discussed; and all parents who are working for a better community and better advantages for their children are requested to attend. Entertainment numbers will be furnished by a high school chorus.

### PAGEANT AT DYSARTSVILLE

The pageant, "Heaven Bound," will be presented at the Dysartsville school auditorium Saturday evening, Sept. 23, at 7:30 by an all star negro cast. The proceeds will be used for the benefit of the school.

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- Octagon Soap (Giant) -- 6 for 25c
- Octagon Soap (Small) -- 10 for 23c
- Octagon Powder (Large) -- 6 for 25c
- Octagon Powder (Small) 10 for 23c
- Octagon Toilet ----- 4 for 19c
- Octagon Cleanser ----- 2 for 9c
- Octagon Granulated ----- 2 for 18c
- Crystal White Soap ----- 3 for 14c

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### LAWRENCE SIMS, FATHER OF MRS. A. J. HEWITT, DIES IN HENDERSONVILLE

Lawrence Pinkney Sims, 61, prominent Hendersonville citizen and father of Mrs. A. J. Hewitt of Marion, died suddenly Tuesday afternoon, September 12, after he had driven his car a block from his home in Hendersonville. Coroner J. F. Brooks said he apparently died of a heart attack.

Mr. Sims, a native of Spartanburg, S. C., had lived in Hendersonville most of the time for the past twenty years. At the time of his death he had wide real estate holdings in Spartanburg and vicinity and was also connected with realty interests in Henderson county.

Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon in Hendersonville with the Rev. Dr. D. E. Camak, pastor of the First Methodist church, officiating.

Surviving are the widow; three daughters, Mrs. A. J. Hewitt, Marion; Mrs. Hugh Clayton, Greer, S. C., and Miss Katherine Sims, Hendersonville; four sons, Thomas P., Florence, S. C.; Benjamin, Hendersonville; Nathan, Spartanburg, and Lawrence P. Sims, Jr., of Spartanburg, and one sister, Mrs. Blanche Sims Harris, of Spartanburg.

### MOUNTAIN FOLK CULTURE MAY BE WIPED OUT, FEAR

Waynesville, Sept. 16.—Rapidly nearing completion in the heart of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, America's newest playground, is a unique group of museum buildings which will hold special interest for Americans in years to come.

The museum, being established by the National Park Service, will house a cross section of the native culture of Western North Carolina's mountain folk, a highly individualistic band of people now being fast obliterated by the influx of tourists and visitors to the new National Park.

The Smokies Park, according to present plans, will be officially opened in October by President Roosevelt.

Following opening of the park and completion of the new \$35,000,000 Blue Ridge Parkway leading into it, tourists by the thousands will invade the formerly isolated mountain region and completely erase all signs of the culture that existed there for generations.

Anticipating this, Park Service officials have spent the past three years collecting tools, firearms, furniture, books and other accoutrements of mountain life that will give posterity a cross-section view of a true native American culture.

The collection will be housed in two museum buildings, one on the Tennessee side, the other on the North Carolina side of the park.

In addition, field exhibits consisting of groups of buildings—a house, barn, mill, etc.—will be established in the park. In these exhibits, mountain folk will continue to live and pursue their native arts and crafts.

The North Carolina section of the museum will also contain relics of the Indian civilization that once flourished in this section. Plans call for the reconstruction of an Indian village near the museum perhaps on the site of an authentic Indian mound.

The museum building will be located in the Mingo Creek area of the Smokies Park, itself the site of an old Indian camp. Mingo Mill that once stood at this point, has already been restored and will form a part of the exhibit group.

The building will contain 10,000 to 12,000 square feet of floor space. Inside, seven dioramas will depict the historical development of the Western North Carolina section from peaceful Indian village life to the gradual encroachment of pioneer settlers.

Field exhibits will be established at Cades Cove, Cattaloochia, Sugarlands, and Meig's Post, all in the heart of the Park.

Already in the Park Service's collection are some priceless pieces; the gun that belonged to and reputedly was used to kill Chieftain Tsali when he sacrificed his life in order that his Cherokee Indian tribe might remain in their eastern home; old millstones that have been in use for two centuries or more; dishes, trays, utensils carved out of solid wood; waterwheels, spinning wheels, and many other primitive and rugged implements that reflect the atmosphere of pioneer days.

### WILL BUY N. C. POTATOES

Raleigh, Sept. 18.—Agriculture Commissioner W. Kerr Scott said today the Federal Surplus Commodities corporation had been "tentatively authorized" to buy 22 cars of sweet potatoes to relieve a "glutted market" in eastern North Carolina.

### MANY REQUESTS FOR AID STILL PENDING IN N. C. COUNTIES

(By A. Laurence Aydtlett)  
A total of 9,136 applications for public assistance were pending before the North Carolina county welfare boards on the first of August; 7,600 representing requests for old age assistance with 1,536 aid to dependent children cases completing the number, Nathan H. Yelton, director of public assistance division of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, said this week.

Lack of funds kept 1,786 needy aged on the pending lists and the same reason was assigned to dependent children cases. A total of 2,250 cases in both categories were held without investigation because of lack of staff time to complete necessary investigations before granting of assistance payments.

In McDowell county the total pending case load on the first of August was 54 cases, 47 being requests for old age assistance and 3 for aid to dependent children.

"North Carolina's public assistance program is going forward slowly but surely, and as funds become available in the counties, pending applications will receive due consideration," Yelton said.

"Beginning in January the federal government will pay one-half instead of one-third of the aid to dependent children grants and administrative costs and this automatically will release additional state and county funds for increased recipient rolls in this category," he explained.

### 11,332 FEDERAL WORKERS LIVE IN NORTH CAROLINA

Washington, Sept. 16.—The federal government with a total of 923,856 civil employees, has 11,332 on its payroll in North Carolina.

The Civil Service commission, in making these figures public, emphasized that they had no relation to the number of legal residents of the state employed by the government, some of whom may hold jobs in other states, many of them among the 101,401 federal employees in Washington.

North Carolina's population of 3,492,000 was 2.41 per cent of the estimated national total of 144,985,000 in 1937. The federal workers in the state constituted 1.23 per cent of the total government employment, and .32 per cent of the state's population.

Figures reported for neighboring states:

Virginia population 2,706,000 or 1.87 per cent of total; federal employees 21,729, or 2.35 per cent of total federal employment and .80 per cent of state's population.

South Carolina, population 1,875,000 or 1.19 per cent of total; federal employees 9,148, or .00 per cent of total federal employment, and .49 per cent of state's population.

Tennessee, population 2,895,000 or 1.99 per cent of total; federal employees 17,895, or 1.94 per cent of total federal employment, and .62 per cent of state's population.

### 189,325 ARE CERTIFIED TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE

Raleigh, Sept. 15.—A. E. Langston, director of the surplus commodities distribution division, said today that 189,325 persons in 40,995 cases had been certified to receive aid as of September 1 and that 32,047 cases got commodities during August.

Buncombe county had most persons certified, 9,022, and most cases, 1,702 with Durham next with 6,919 persons and 1,595 cases. District No. 2 had most cases, 11,828, including 52,618 persons getting relief, but district No. 4, had most persons, 60,961 in 11,438 cases.

### STATE PENAL DIVISION BUYS 324 N. C. STEERS

Raleigh, Sept. 18.—The state penal division purchased 324 steers on Western North Carolina markets last week and may buy others, Penal Superintendent Oscar Pitts said today. The cattle are being shipped to Caledonia prison farm for fattening before being resold.

Germany now has 1,816,200 and Italy 487,624 motor vehicles.

THE  
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### NORTH CAROLINA ROAD ACCIDENTS TAKE 82 LIVES

Raleigh, Sept. 16.—Highway accidents claimed the lives of 82 persons in North Carolina during the month of August, as compared with 60 in July and 84 in August, 1938, the Highway Safety Division reported today.

Total fatalities through August this year numbered 538, one more than for the same period last year.

Of the 82 fatalities, 15 were caused by speeding, 11 by reckless driving, nine by hit-and-run driving and five by cars running off the road. Sixteen were caused by drunk driving.

Of the 20 pedestrians killed, 10 were walking on the roadway, four were fatally injured in cities and 16 in rural areas.

### 3,550 STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED AT UNIVERSITY

Chapel Hill, Sept. 16.—A new record enrollment of approximately 3,550 students was set at the University of North Carolina today, and the total is expected to be around 3,600 before enrollment for credit is completed next Wednesday.

Last fall's total enrollment numbered 3,512, and there has been an increase each fall for the last several years.

More than 450 women students have enrolled so far, as compared with last fall's total of 348.

Two new dormitories for women have just been completed and are filled to capacity.

Russia is credited with having the largest fleet of submarines in the world.

**1940**

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**FOREWORD FOR 'FORTY**

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