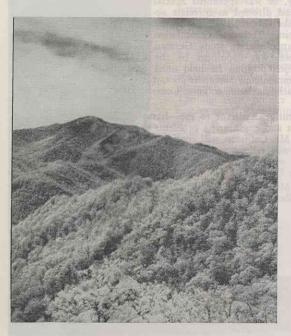


"Take a peek at a peak"—any peak in Western North Carolina or Transylvania County and ask your friends how high it is. Jot down the answers and see how many different ones you get.

For generations there has been much confusion and conflicting ideas concerning the height of the mountains in this area, and there has been conflicting information published from time to time. In Western North Carolina the Appalachian mountain chain reaches its culmination in both height and massiveness. There are 223 peaks that rise 5000 feet or more above sea level.



A breakdown of these peaks show that: 6 are 6,600 feet or over 6 are from 6,500 to 6,600 35 are from 6,000 to 6,500 55 are from 5,500 to 6,000 121 are from 5,000 to 5,500

In Transylvania County where the mountains begin to slope toward the rolling hills and flat lands of South Carolina, there are 11 peaks that reach an altitude of over 5,000 feet—Chestnut Bald, 6,040 feet; Devils Courthouse, 5,816 feet; Tennessee Bald, 5,622 feet; Rocky Knob, 5,400 feet; Fryingpan, 5,340 feet; Little Bald, 5,320 feet; Little Pisgah, 5,320 feet; Big Bald, 5,300 feet; Beech Knob, 5,180 feet; Pilot, 5,151 feet; Green Knob, 5,150 feet. Mt. Pisgah, which is near by but is in Haywood and Buncombe counties, is 5,721 feet.

The two highest peaks in Western North Carolina are both in Yancey County. Mount Mitchell, the highest peak in Eastern America, is 6,684 feet, and Black Brothers rises to 6,645 feet.

Many of the peaks have unusual names, such as: Cattail Peak, Potato Hill, Blackstock Knob, Old Black, Hallback, Watterrock Knob, Roan High Knob, Tricorner Knob, Yellow Face, Cold Mt., Bull Head, Commissary Hill, Pecks Corner, Lickstone Bald, Snake Mt., Snaggy Bald, Charley Bald, Little Sam Knob, Standing Indian, Snowball Mt., Beartown Mt., Wing Spring Bald, Charlie's Bunion, Fryingpan, Nibb's Knob, Sugar Mt., Little Haw Knob, Purchase Knob, Big Scaley, Beef Market Top.

Somewhere in the annals of time are hidden Continued on page 31