

KING STREET

BY
ROB RIVERS

MOWING THE LAWN for the first time this season, and trying to recall if we had ever attended to this chore so early in the season . . . Don't seem to remember when the grass had become too long even before March went out . . . spending most of the time trying to rid the lawn of dandelions—both the blooms and the plants . . . the prolific little yellow flowers, which somehow are just about as unfavored as flies in the ointment.

DANDELIONS are essentially part of spring—like the robin, the budding trees and the refreshing showers . . . They shoot forth overnight from the yet frosty soil, and soon there is a multitude of the bright yellow flowers . . . rather pretty too, when you take a good look . . . but they have never been able to crash into society . . . they can't fellowship with the jonquils the tulips and the daffodils, they're just too tough to be admitted to the drawing room . . . so a continued attempt is made to banish this unruly little flower . . . but where one is cut, a dozen will come back to take its place . . . That's their trouble—too many of them . . . If they were rare, and hard to raise, we'd most likely be using them for the wedding bouquet at about seven-fifty each . . . Likewise should diamonds be found in abundance they would lose their value overnight and perhaps supply the aggregate for cement building blocks.

CHAMBER COMMERCE takes note of the housing shortage in city . . . seems that a lot of teachers who want to attend Appalachian College this summer can't due to the lack of rooms . . . One college official believes that five hundred houses could easily be filled with the teachers this summer, in addition to the dormitory space on the campus . . . President Wilcox of the C. of C. asks all the people of the town to spare a bedroom if possible . . . Those who have extra space should make it known, for every one of these summer students lost is a loss to the town, the college, and the student . . . We hope all those with a spare room will report the vacancy to Mr. Wilcox at once. The situation is rather critical.

THE TOWN WILL GROW and prosper in accordance with the growth of the college . . . so full cooperation is necessary for the welfare of both . . . The College begat the town . . . Without it Boone would have been just another county seat, rather than the most progressive little city in the area . . . It's the town's one big industry . . . its growth has been phenomenal . . . but until the new building program can be completed its immediate growth is going to depend upon our cooperation. That it will receive the full support of the town in the housing emergency, is a foregone conclusion.

ODDS AND ENDS . . . Lions putting finishing touches on annual home-talent minstrel show, being staged tonight at the Appalachian Theatre . . . event always draws capacity crowd . . . Proceeds go to aid the blind . . . Lions pursue a definite program for the benefit of the physically handicapped . . . No guess work when you lend them your support. Steam shovels, bull dozers, busy around the town, as spring building program gets started . . . Patrol cars speeding through town Saturday night, in pursuit of some offenders—sirens screaming . . . Kiddies playing in the branch alongside the Democrat office, having a gay time . . . Amos Wagner over from Sparta, chewing the rag with us for a minute or so . . . crowd of bobby-soxers and boy friends having a party . . . playing games, singing . . . gay as larks . . . kiddies nowadays make their elders look back on past years and feel ashamed . . . hob-nobbing with a lot of farmer friends on Saturday

MRS. ROY ADAMS of Sherwood, brings us some eggs . . . great big hen eggs of which any blue goose might well be proud each of the four containing two yolks, and a double serving of the other . . . Most everybody who has prowled around a bran yard, has at one time or another brought in one of these oversized specimens of hen fruit . . . but Mrs. Adams has hens of (Continued on page 4)

FINDS HELPING HAND



Still dazed from the March 19 tornado that destroyed his home in Bunker Hill, Ill. small Arthur Allen was one of the hundreds who found food and shelter at the Meissner school. At his left, sister Elizabeth, 18, and at the rear is another sister, Lavida, 10. All three escaped unscathed in the tornado that, according to Red Cross estimates, leveled 80 per cent of the town of 1,300. One hundred and fifty were injured and 13 died.

Parkway Facilities Available April 15

On April 15th, the recreational facilities of the Blue Ridge Parkway will be open for the use and enjoyment of the public.

Areas available this season include Smart View and Rocky Knob recreational areas in Virginia; Crabtree Meadows, The Bluffs and Cumberland Knob recreational areas in North Carolina.

At Bluff and Rocky Knob areas will be found trailer sites, camp grounds, large picnic areas, and many miles of foot trails. Crabtree Meadows, Smart View and Cumberland Knob areas have big picnic grounds with tables, fire places, trail shelters, foot trails and outstanding scenic attractions.

Fishing in Besin and Cove Creeks in the Bluffs and Gully Creek in the Cumberland Knob area will be open April 15. Attention of those desiring to fish the streams is called to the following regulations:

State fishing licenses are required. The creel limit, as well as the legal length of the fish shall be in conformance with the laws of the State.

No bait fish, chubs or minnows live or dead, may be used in the Parkway waters. The Parkway does not charge for fishing, but those desiring to fish in the boundaries of the Parkway must first obtain a proper license therefor as required by the laws of the State wherein the stream in which they desire to fish is located.

Members of the Ranger forces will meet along the Parkway from the Virginia-North Carolina line to Blowing Rock, N. C., are District Ranger Anthony E. Stark and Park Ranger Roscoe Reeves, these men have their headquarters at Laurel Springs. During visits to the recreational areas on this section of the Parkway, Park Warden Lonnie E. Carico at Cumberland Knob, and Park Warden Clay F. Caudill at Bluffs will assist in making your stay pleasant.

Inquiries concerning the Parkway should be addressed to the Superintendent, Blue Ridge Parkway, P. O. Box 1710, Roanoke, Va.

Teachers To Meet Here Next Friday

The Watauga County Teachers Association will meet on Friday afternoon, and Mr. Redmond desires that the group assemble in the auditorium of Appalachian High School at 2:30 and from there to Winkler's Creek for a picnic.

Miss Kelley is in charge of refreshments and Miss Moore has recreation planned, including softball, relay races, etc. It is hoped that every member can be present.

Agricultural Shop to Open For Farmers

The agricultural shop at the Cove Creek High School will be open Monday nights, in order that the farmers of the county may do their repair work, says Robert G. Shipley, teacher of agriculture at the Cove Creek School.

Wataugans Make College Honors

H. R. Eggers, registrar of Appalachian State Teachers College has announced that 120 students made the honor roll at the college for the winter quarter recently ended. Honor roll students must have an average of "B" or better with no conditions or incompletes and no grades below "C." Watauga county students with honor roll rating, are as follows:

William Alexander, Shulls Mill; C. H. Blackburn, Boone; Rebekah Boone, Boone; W. S. Boone, of Boone; Margery Bradley, Vilas; Ruby Burleson, Valle Crucis; Betty Clawson, Boone; J. Carroll Cook, Boone; Robert Carl Day, Boone; James A. Dennis, Boone; Betty Jean Farthing, Boone; Mary Nell Farthing, Sugar Grove; William Garvey, Boone; Julian Gault, Boone; Eleene Goodnight, Boone; Frank Greer, Sugar Grove; Ted Hagaman, Boone; Johnny Hollar, Boone; Grace S. Joyce, Boone; Verdola Keller, Boone; Kent Robinson, Reese; Clara Mae Shepherd, Sugar Grove; James W. Sherwood, Sugar Grove; Thomas Ward, Sugar Grove.

Drivers Asked To Get Licenses

Motorists whose surnames begin with C or D have only until June 30th in which to secure a new driver's license, it is explained by W. R. Stansberry, of Jefferson, State license examiner. It is estimated that there are 150,000 drivers in North Carolina and so far only 28,000 of them have been re-licensed.

It is pointed out that if all these people wait until June to get licenses it will bring long waiting lines at the end of the period.

Any person in the C and D group who does not obtain a new license and who is caught driving on an old license after June 30th will be guilty of a misdemeanor. Only 175 of these drivers have been licensed in Watauga, it is said.

Spelling Bee Is Set For Friday

There will be a county-wide spelling bee Friday at 1 o'clock at the Appalachian High School. The event is under the sponsorship of the Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel.

District Junior Meeting Tuesday

The district meeting of the third district Junior Order, United American Mechanics, will be held at Elk Park Tuesday night April 13. All the members of Daniel Boone Council are urged to attend.

Reports of 50 per cent industrial mobilization in April discounted.

ROAD SAFETY IS TOPIC AT LIONS CLUB MEETING

Col. Rosser, Commissioner of Department Motor Vehicles Speaks To Lions Club Members at Dinner Last Night; Highway Fatality Figures.

Using as his subject, "saving lives through highway safety," Col. L. C. Rosser, Commissioner of the State Department of Motor Vehicles, spoke to the Lions Club last night, stressing the new laws which have been passed to promote highway safety and urging the aid of the public in combatting the dangers which came to the highways with the automobile age.

"In 1941," said Col. Rosser, "the peak year for highway fatalities, 1,286 persons were killed. Then came the war, and a 30 mile an hour speed limit, plus gasoline rationing, cut this figure for a while, but in 1946, highway accidents took 1,028 lives. For the first two months of this year, deaths from highway accidents are about half of what they were last year . . . so you see we are making progress, but still have a long way to go."

The Commissioner says that one of the most important jobs in the traffic safety program is how to arouse and translate public interest into a militant public opinion. Only the power of public opinion, he said, can assure the success of the program.

Col. Rosser spoke of the motor vehicle inspection law, providing that all vehicles must be inspected once during 1948 and twice a year thereafter. 20% of the fatal accidents, he averred, are caused by defective equipment. Referring to the criticism of the law, the speaker said: "When an inspection lane begins operation in your town on May 27th, be one of the first to take your car through the lane and help build up good public opinion toward the program in this section. Remember the law was passed solely to protect the lives and property of the motoring public of the State."

The driver re-examination program came in for discussion, the doubling of the Highway Patrol, and the stiffer penalties provided for speeders and drunken drivers.

Watauga Has Good Record

"I must admit," said Col. Rosser, "that Watauga county has one of the best traffic fatality records in the State. In 1947 you had over two and a half thousand vehicles registered here and during that year only three persons were reported killed in highway accidents. But even so, that was worse than in 1946 when only one person was killed in Watauga. Your county has a fine record and it is up to its citizens to continue to improve it."

Col. Rosser presented in some detail the plan for attack on traffic accidents as outlined in the Highway safety program, and said progress is being made, and said the ultimate success of the program depends on its support by the people.

"Highway safety," concluded the commissioner, "is a personal problem . . . your problem . . . in it lies a glorious opportunity for you . . . a tremendous challenge . . . and yes, a solemn duty!"

Rites Friday For Mrs. Kirkman

Mrs. Joe A. Kirkman, former Boone resident, died last Wednesday at the Davis hospital, Statesville, where she had been ill for a month.

Mrs. Kirkman, whose home was in the Monticello community of Iredell county, was a native of Surry county. She was 58 years old. Before her marriage she was Miss Lucy Saunders, daughter of the late Sam Saunders and Mrs. Saunders of Surry county.

Surviving are her husband; a son, Karl G. Kirkman of Statesville; four daughters: Miss Eva Kirkman of Thomasville; Mrs. L. D. Hagaman and Mrs. Dean Cook of Boone, and Mrs. W. H. Morrison, Jr., of Statesville.

Mrs. Kirkman was a member of the Front Street Baptist Church in Statesville.

Funeral services were held Friday afternoon from the home, conducted by the pastor, Rev. C. C. Holland, assisted by Rev. Chas. P. Bowles and Rev. Neil R. McGeachy, and interment was in Oakwood cemetery.

MacArthur says threat of American Reds prompted him to run.

CHECKING UP ON TAX VOTE



Senator Eugene Millikan, Rep., of Denver, Colo., chairman of the Senate finance committee is shown, left, with Senator Walter F. George, Democrat, of Vienna, Ga., as they went over the tally sheet of the GOP tax reduction bill. The Senate passed the bill, 78 to 11.

Recreation Program For Summer Sought

Cancer Fund Goal Is Set At \$300 Here

Watauga county last week launched its greatest drive for funds with which to fight cancer. The county has assumed a goal of \$300, as its share of the State's 200,000 campaign.

Mrs. Bert Ellis, County campaign chairman for the American Cancer Society, declared that she expected the local goal to be reached soon and believed Watauga county would go well over its quota by the end of the month.

"This is not a charity drive," the chairman pointed out. "On the contrary, it is a campaign which benefits alike every person in the community—old, and young, rich and poor—because cancer is no respecter of persons. Statistics show that cancer will strike one out of every two families."

The campaign chairman pointed out that funds raised here will be used to finance a three-fold attack on cancer through research to find the causes and cure for all types of cancer; through public education in the symptoms of early cancer and what to do about the disease if it strikes; and thru service to cancer patients.

YOUR DOLLAR enclosed in a sealed envelope may help save one of your loved ones. Mail your contribution NOW to "CANCER" Mrs. Lee Reynolds, Treasurer, Boone, N. C.

Farmers to Talk On Milk Prices

The Watauga County Farm Bureau is calling a meeting of all interested farmers of Watauga for Saturday, April 10, 1948, at the courthouse in Boone, at 10:30 a. m., to discuss the decline in milk prices.

Mr. George Coble, president of Coble Dairies, has been invited to attend this meeting. Mr. Greene, president of the Farm Bureau, says that F. R. Farnham, extension dairy specialist, has also been invited and is expected to attend.

Mrs. Tester Rites At Valle Crucis

Mrs. Julia Baird Tester, 83, of Banner Elk, RFD 1, died April 2 at Watauga Hospital. Funeral services were conducted at Holy Cross Episcopal Church Sunday afternoon by Rev. W. C. Leach, and burial was in Liberty cemetery, Matney.

Surviving are two sons and two daughters: Ransom Tester, Palmer Tester, Banner Elk; Mrs. Joe Lawrence, Banner Elk, and Mrs. Anna Reed, Jacksonville, Fla.

The number of chicks hatched by commercial hatcheries during February was the smallest for the month since 1941. Total output of chicks during the month was estimated at 95,777,000.

HOUSING NEEDS AT COLLEGE GET NOTICE C. OF C.

Number of Students to Come To Appalachian This Summer Limited Only by Room; Townspeople To Aid; Wilcox Re-Elected President.

Herman W. Wilcox was re-elected president of the Boone Chamber of Commerce at the meeting held last week, when the election of a secretary-treasurer by the board of directors was deferred to a later date.

W. H. Dameron was elected as vice-president; Russell D. Hodges, second vice-chairman and Alfred Adams, treasurer.

Directors named were: Wade E. Brown, Grady Farthing, Bob Agle, D. M. Edmisten and Joe Huffman.

The annual meeting heard reports by various Chamber of Commerce officials, and President Wilcox and Secretary Wade E. Brown were given rising votes of thanks for their services to the organization during the past year.

Prof. Chappell Wilson, of the Appalachian College faculty, was present, and reported on the serious housing situation with which the College is faced during the coming summer terms. The College is now conferring Master's degrees, which has considerably increased attendance prospects, and the State Board is requiring teachers to renew their certificates at this time. Thus, says Mr. Wilson the only thing that will limit attendance at the College this summer is housing. It was explained that each student expends an average of \$125 during a summer term in Boone, or \$125,000 total for the one thousand normally enrolled for the two six weeks period. Hence, it is of the greatest concern to the community that as many of these teachers as possible be accommodated in the town.

The housing situation on the local campus is so desperate that there is a prospect, says Mr. Wilson, that the overflow of students will have to be taken care of on the campus of some other state institution, as an emergency measure.

Mr. Wilson asked the Chamber of Commerce to have some sort of working agreement with the college to get the people of the town to make their extra rooms available to college students.

It was agreed that a meeting of townspeople will be held later to work out uniform rates for the students, and detailed plans will be made on how to list the available accommodations.

Mr. Bush of the Bush Transfer Co., appeared and told of the expanded local freight service his company contemplated, by securing franchises for local service from Boone to Elk Park, West Jefferson and North Wilkesboro.

Todd Citizen Dies Suddenly in Boone

Funeral services for Claude Ellis Graham, 67, Ashe county farmer, were held at Blackburn's Chapel last Thursday afternoon. Burial was in the family cemetery.

Mr. Graham, died suddenly in Boone, after making a trip to the local hospital for a physical examination. Death came as a result of a stroke, it was believed.

He is survived by the widow, Mrs. Sally Graham, and the following sons and daughters: Robert, of Warren, Ohio; Roger of Fredricksburg, Va.; Mrs. Irene Trice of Hampton, Va.; Mrs. Annie Keever of Todd; Mrs. Gertrude Howard of Orlando, Fla.; C. E. Graham, Jr., of Orlando, Fla.; and Andrew J. Graham, of the Navy, San Diego, Calif.

Roah Mitchell Is Taken By Death

Roah Mitchell, 73, of Valle Crucis, died Monday at the Watauga Hospital. Funeral services will be held Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Holy Cross church by Rev. Mr. Leach and burial will be in the church cemetery.

The widow, Mrs. Rettie Townsend Mitchell, survives, with two sons and four daughters: Gillis Mitchell, Valle Crucis; Adley Mitchell, Okanogan, Wash.; Mrs. Aggie Lawrence, Banner Elk; Mrs. Monroe Herman, Valle Crucis; Mrs. Lester Welch, Banner Elk; Mrs. Charles Carter, Lenoir.

AAA Seed Order Deadline May 1

No more orders for pasture grass seed will be issued after April 20, by the Watauga County AAA Committee, it was announced today by Ned Glenn, chairman. It is felt by the committee that the season for successful seeding of pastures will have closed by that time. All outstanding orders for pasture seeds should be presented to the vendors for delivery by that time.

Phosphate is now available to farmers who have not received their full amount of assistance in this material, seeds or lime. It may be had in 18, 19, 20 or 46% Farmers who intend to order lime this year should place their orders at once to insure delivery at the time wanted. The AAA office will be glad to talk over your conservation needs.

The minimum assistance for each farm is being established by the committee and will be mailed to each farmer in about ten days.

County Baseball League Planned

Plans are now being worked out for a county baseball league this summer, according to John Hollar.

All managers or others interested are asked to attend a meeting at the Gateway Cafe Saturday at 10:30 to lay plans for getting the sports project underway.

Puerto Rico seeks a \$2,000,000 RFC loan to prime industry.