

KING STREET

BY
ROB RIVERS

NOTE: It was prestime when the news of the city council's action in banning carnival attractions was released, together with the information that no more gambling will be allowed at the show now going on. It was therefore impossible to redo this column and make it current. At any rate we wish to express appreciation to the people of the town, ministers and others, who took up the campaign, and for the prompt and praiseworthy manner in which our fine town officials accepted their responsibility. They cannot be commended too highly.

THE SEASON OF CARNIVALS is at hand, and the folks of the community are rather up in arms against this sort of entertainment. Last fall the Democrat took occasion to call the attention of the folks to the inherent evils of these road shows. . . . The reaction was one hundred percent favorable. . . . Until this good day letters of approval and words of praise are yet coming in for our position against the troupes. . . . Never in the three score years of the local newspaper's history has it been able to arouse such unanimous support of a civic position. . . . The people just don't want carnivals in the town—they have said so over and over. . . . yet one of these caravans unloading in the city Sunday and is going strong, with all the attractions to which we had previously objected.

THE MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION passed resolutions against carnivals, the Junior Order allowed as how it wouldn't be sponsoring any more of the shows, the American Legion changed its course, and despite its immediate need for some money, has turned down half a dozen carnivals this year. . . . but in spite of all the protest, the carnival is going on as usual with all its sordid aspects. Last week a man was killed at one of these attractions at Lenoir. He was a carnival worker—next time it may happen in Boone, and it could be your son who might raise a complaint when he found the deal was set against him at the gaming table. Caldwell officers closed the gambling devices, and the obscene shows before the tragedy. . . . The Chamber of Commerce, the Merchants Association, the Ministerial Association had joined together in a protest which bore fruit. . . . The folks figured it was their town, after all—not the property of a carnival of a government, but their own and they proceeded to set matters right. . . . we can do the same, and will. . . . if there is sincerity in our professions of religion, and if we have the regard we claim for the morals of our community, and the welfare of our youth.

MONDAY EVENING we took a quick trip through the carnival grounds to see what was going on. We had thought it would be different, maybe, from the kind we had seen before. . . . We had been told it was an up-and-up sort of performance—we had word from the police department that it would be right on the level. . . . but it was just the same old story. . . . the rows of gaming tables, where you left your money on the turn of a ball, where the untutored in the ways of the world, are taken for the proverbial "ride" and where those with the least financial resources are the ones who take the bait most every time.

AND ON DOWN the line we go, wondering just what ails the community—our community, if you please, the one we built—till we arrive at the entrance to the dancing show. We never miss one. . . . Curiosity spurs us on, perhaps, and our outlook isn't going to be changed in the least by any of the gyrations. . . . We watched the "little ladies" go through their steps. . . . the same old thing, except this time, there was a suggestion of clothing at a couple of spots, when the "strip tease" was completed. . . . Our companion was told by the man who "caught" the tickets, that it was "all off" in the former act. . . . "must be somebody here."

WELL, THERE YOU ARE. what are we going to do. (Continued on page four.)

AFTER CZECHOSLOVAKIA ESCAPE



Three high officials of the Slovak democratic party, who recently escaped from the Communists' regime in Czechoslovakia, state that oppression in that country is worse than it was under Hitler. The three officials are, left to right, Dr. Joseph Lettrich, former president of the Slovak council of the democratic party; Julius Lettrich, his brother, and Yan Ambrus, ex-commander of the Slovak air force. The trio is pictured alighting from an airplane in Washington.

Lenoir Carnival Is Scene Of Killing

Concession Operator Loses Life in Caldwell; Religious and Civic Groups Halt the Show; Reopened Without Illegal Concessions.

Lenoir, April 23—A concession operator was found dead at a carnival lot near here early today, and a ferriswheel operator was hunted in two states as officers probed possible foul play. W. E. (Bill) Taylor, employe of Harrison Shows, was found dying by fellow carnival workers. He was dead when an ambulance reached the scene. Sought in North Carolina and South Carolina is a carnival worker known as "Pee Wee." His description was broadcast over the police radio network. Taylor received a fractured skull and deep gash which Dr. Sheldon Fowler, a physician said probably was caused by a blow from a blunt instrument. Taylor had joined the show in Atlanta several weeks ago, carnival employes said. "Pee Wee" reportedly was well known in carnival circles. Sheriff George Greer and Coroner A. Horton Goble enlisted the aid of other officers in searching for "Pee Wee." The latter's wife reportedly lives in Columbia, S. C. The carnival opened here Monday. On Wednesday, following a protest by the Lenoir Ministerial association, the Chamber of Commerce and the merchants association, the show suspended operations for one day but was permitted to open its gates Thursday after Sheriff Greer had closed all booths except food concession stands and riding devices. It is scheduled to remain here through Saturday. Carnival employes said they knew nothing about Taylor's place of residence.

Local Teacher Attends St. Louis ACE Meeting
Mrs. Ron Davis, second grade teacher in the Demonstration School, regional chairman of the A. E. E. and recently elected vice-president of the state unit, has returned from St. Louis, Missouri, where she attended the Association for Childhood Education Study Conference for teachers April 19 to 23. Mrs. Davis, together with Mrs. Chapell Wilson, were among the 2000 delegates representing the United States and many foreign countries at the conference which featured the subject "Democratic Education—the Hope of the World."

BUSY STORK
Anadarko, Okla.—The stork recently kept Dr. John B. Miles, physician, as busy as a bee. In the space of 20 hours and 10 minutes, the doctor delivered six babies.

SECRET TARIFF EFFORT PLAYED BY DOUGHTON

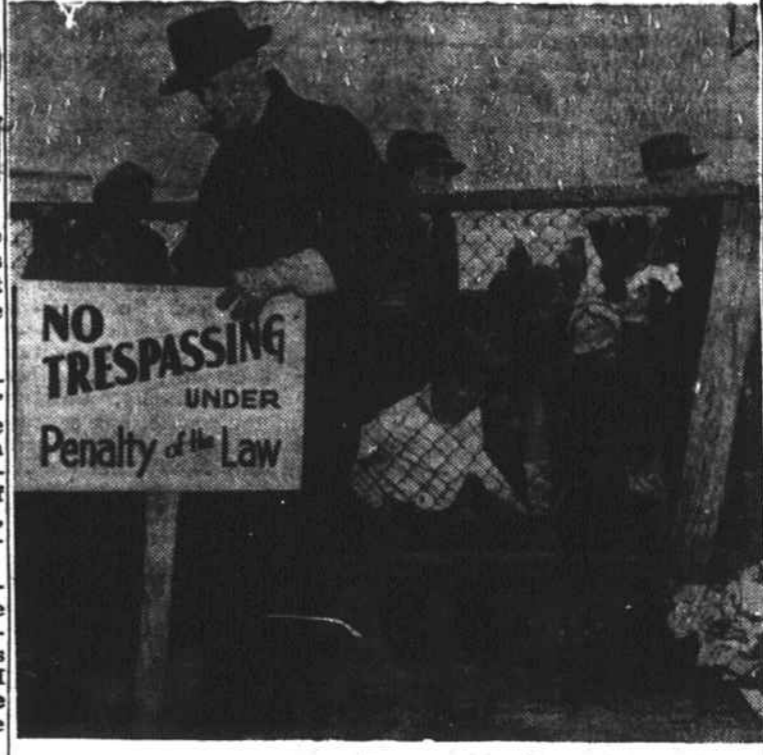
"Star Chamber Methods" Are Charged by Representative As Proposal to Have Secret Tariff Conferences Draw Ire Of Veteran Solon.

Washington—Procedures bordering on "star chamber methods" were charged by Representative Doughton, Democrat of North Carolina, today against a Republican decision to consider tariff legislation behind closed doors, with the public and the press excluded. In a formal statement Doughton, senior Democrat on the House ways and means committee, asked what the Republicans "have to hide." He added: "I think most people will agree that this is a dangerous departure from democratic processes." He voiced "grave fears" that "this may mean a return to the secrecy in which the Hawley-Smoot Tariff act was written behind closed doors, with high-tariff lobbyists for special interests."

The veteran lawmaker, who managed tariff legislation when Democrats controlled Congress, said he issued his statement on behalf of the Democratic members of the ways and means subcommittee on tariff and reciprocal trade.

That subcommittee is considering legislation to continue the Reciprocal Trade act, due to expire June 12. It will hold hearings behind closed doors for a week beginning May 3. On Friday it defeated, on a 5 to 4 party line vote, a motion by Doughton to open the proceedings to the public and the press. Subcommittee Chairman Gearhart, Republican of California, said long public hearings were (Continued on page 4)

FENCING OFF GOLD RUSH



Robert Mercure of South Orange, N. J., stakes out signs on his property in Highlands, N. J., where over 500 persons are combing the sands in search of pirate gold. Twenty-six gold coins, of 18th century vintage, have been unearthed to date.

DIRECTORS OF RECREATION ARE SELECTED

Recreation Committee Makes Definite Plans for Summer; Johnny Hollar and Donald Thompson Selected as Co-Directors of Project.

In an action expressing faith in the citizens and organizations of Boone, the local Recreation Commission has made definite plans for the summer. At a meeting on Wednesday evening, April 19, at the home of Rev. Jim McKeown, the commission selected Johnny Hollars of Boone and Donald Thompson of the faculty of Appalachian High School as co-directors of the summer project. Mr. Hollars has had previous experience directing such projects. He was director of a similar project on a much larger scale at Athens, Georgia, in 1946. Mr. Thompson is a director of athletics at the high school and demonstration school.

The funds necessary to finance the project have not been secured in full; however, the commission saw fit to proceed in the belief that the organizations and citizens of Boone will rally to assist the financing of the program. Plans are being made for a varied program to begin on June 1. This program is to provide recreation for young persons and for adults. The entire community will benefit through the program particularly as each person supports and participates. The commission will be happy to accept individual contributions from persons interested in this project. Such contributions may be made through any minister of Boone, or through any of the civic clubs, or business organizations, or may be made to the officers of the local commission.

Boone To Have New Phone Book

The Bell Telephone Co., continues to expand its services in the community and word now comes to the Democrat that the Perkinsville neighborhood will have service as soon as the lines can be completed. Mr. George, an official of the Bell Company, called the Democrat to say that with the many added phones in the community Boone is to have its own telephone directory, which will also include Blowing Rock. Lenoir had previously been included in the book used here. The public will be interested in knowing that the new directory will be published as soon as possible. There are now more than five hundred telephones in Boone and with the recent brisk demands for service, a large percentage of the phones aren't listed in the book.

Curb Market Plans To Be Made Soon

On Thursday, April 29th, there will be a meeting of all Home Demonstration women who are interested in selling on the Curb Market this summer. At this meeting, some very important business pertaining to the curb market will be discussed, among them the opening date of the market and the preparations necessary for this. It is hoped that all Watauga Home Demonstration women who are interested will attend this meeting to be held in the Grand Jury room at the courthouse on Thursday afternoon, April 29th at 2:00 p. m.

FREIGHT RATES

The Interstate Commerce Commission temporarily raised railroad freight rates on April 19. Increases were estimated to average about 4 per cent above present rates, with a yield to Class I railroads of \$300,000,000 a year in additional revenue. The recent raise is the third in the past seven months, with 10 per cent raise granted in October and 10 per cent in December. Rising labor costs are the basis for the railroads' request for increases.

SPENDING BOOST

The lower income tax withholding rates, which become effective May 1, will give a lift to retail business, according to the Department of Commerce, which predicts that the lower rates will mean a further boost in spendable income beyond the present rate of \$185,000,000,000 a year.

May Day Program Is Set For Saturday

FRANK BAIRD TO AID KERR SCOTT IN PRIMARY EFFORT

Mr. Frank Baird, prominent farmer and livestock raiser, of Valle Crucis, has been appointed Watauga county campaign manager for W. Kerr Scott, candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor. Mr. Scott will arrive in the county Friday to complete plans for his local organization. None of the other candidates in the State primary have announced local campaign plans.

MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN TO DOG

San Francisco—A stone memorial fountain is being built here to the memory of a black-and-brown mongrel dog, named Schultz, who was the mascot of the park police station for two years—until somebody fed him ground glass, which killed him. Engraved on the fountain are the words: "Drink to the memory of Schultz today. His friendliness to man did him betray."

CHANGE CAUSES ARREST

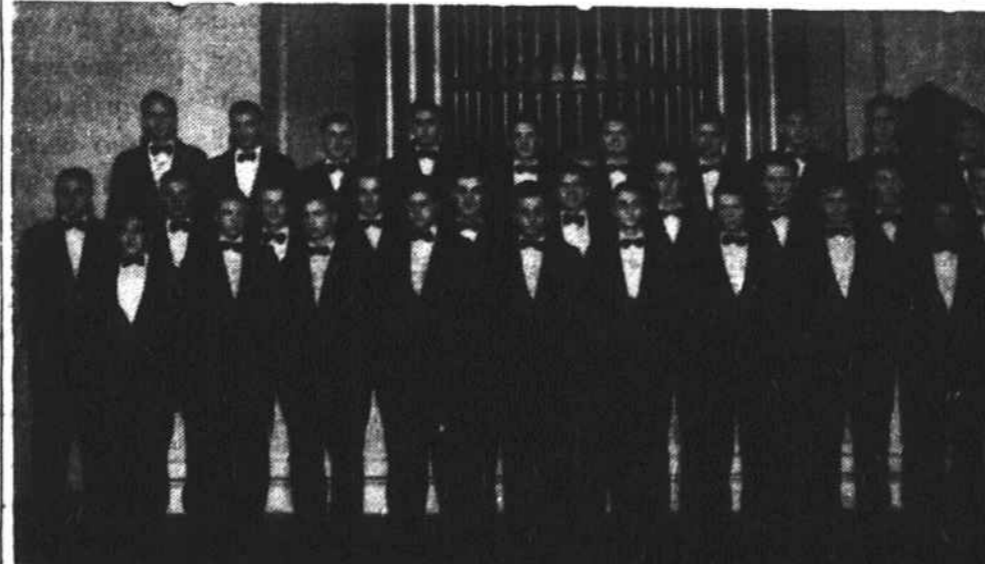
Indianapolis, Ind.—Philip Hoyt, 15, didn't notice when an 8-year-old pickpocket slipped a \$1 bill from his pocket and slipped out of a theater seat next to him. He did notice it, however, when the boy returned with candy and attempted to slip the change from the \$1 bill into his pocket. Hoyt called police and the boy admitted the theft.

BULLETIN!

CARNIVALS OUTLAWED

The city council in a special meeting Tuesday evening, passed an ordinance forbidding the operation of carnivals in the town in the future, and gave Police Chief Verne Greene orders to close the gaming tables and dancing show at the carnival now operating. The rides will be allowed to operate during the remainder of the week. Tuesday local ministers and many other citizens, joined in the campaign against these attractions, which the Democrat has been pursuing for several months, and the city council acted with courage and dispatch, in acting in line with the wishes of the overwhelming majority of our people.

NOTED GLEE CLUB TO APPEAR IN CITY TONIGHT



The Emory at Oxford Glee Club, which will appear April 29th at the Methodist church, Boone, was organized on the campus of Emory Junior college nineteen years ago by Virgil Y. C. Eady, now dean of that institution. It is composed of young men from five states Cuba and Canada. This group performs the choir each Sunday at Allen Memorial church, the college church in Oxford. In this capacity it has merited much attention in its helping to build a spirit of worship. During these nineteen years, this club has been singing in churches and schools throughout Georgia and adjacent territory, appearing at services, dedications, and conferences. It brings a program of varied nature, both sacred and secular, which is wide in appeal. Included are numbers from Palestrina, Bach Mendelssohn, Grieg, and other representatives composers. Emory clubs have distinguished themselves for years in this field. The club also studies sacred music and literature in its relationship to the worship service. This organization is one of the most widely travelled glee clubs of this area. Last season it covered more than 3,000 miles in concert tours. Its present season includes concerts in five southeastern states, visiting such cities as Atlanta, Montgomery, Mobile, Tampa, Pensacola, Jacksonville, and Greenville, S. C. The present director of the club is Arthur Steere, head of the department of Fine Arts of the college.

HOLLAR HEADS DIAMOND LEAGUE

John Hollars, local athlete, was elected president of the newly formed Watauga county baseball league at a meeting held at the Gateway Cafe Saturday morning, April 24. R. D. Hodges, Jr., was elected secretary-treasurer and will handle all of the records and bookkeeping. A board of directors for the league was chosen as follows: Roscoe Cook, Bamboo; John Combs, Mabel; Bill Lentz, Blowing Rock; Ben Ward, Valle Crucis; Bert Shroke, Boone. "The league," says Mr. Hollars, "should provide the county with much wholesome recreation both in participation and spectators interest this summer." A record field of twelve teams are expected to take to the field opening day which is May 8th.