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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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KING STREET BY ROB RIVERS

THERE ARE TIMES, when the folks who must get out each day and "hit the ball" come fair weather or foul, get just a bit tired, and occasionally take a look over their shoulder to "the good old days" . . . the days when the tempo of life was less exacting, when folks had little and wanted no great riches . . . when gasoline and automobiles and income tax, and fancy gadgets hadn't come around . . . when life was simple, work hard, and when the need of any great amount of money hadn't been felt . . . and when the whole scheme of living was far less complex than today . . . Those who like to take an occasional peek down the long road back, will no doubt enjoy a story in last week's "State" by E. E. Patton . . . Everybody ought to read the State, but since quite naturally everybody doesn't, we quote the story "I want to Go Back" in full:

I HAVE LIVED in the heat and dirt and smoke of this man-made town until I am ready to scream. I have heard the braying of horns and jackass politicians until I want to get back on the farm and hear the bray of a real simon-pure jackass. The change would be sweet music to my ears. Here the land is all livered with bricks and concrete and the hearts of many of the people are as hard and flinty as the sidewalks.

Yes, I want to go back to the country where the air is soft and pure, where the neighbors will come in and "set up" with the sick and help dig a grave and shovel the dirt on their departed friends, dropping a genuine tear of regret at their passing, where they go to meetin' and pitch the tune with a tunin' fork and sing through their noses with the spirit and fervor of the faithful. All church services were held at "early candlelight" if in the evening.

I want to trim the lamp wicks again and fill the lamps with oil, or ile, carried from a country store in a can with an Irish taster stuck in the spout . . . I want to eat some food cooked on the old step-stove—the old iron-witch stove—sweet taters baked in an oven on the "hath" over hickory and red oak coals. I want to see the small boy swing the fly brush to keep the pesky devils off the table. And right here, it might be said that a family rated according to the kind of a fly brush it had. The very poor used a limb cut from a mulberry tree; the middle class had one cut out of newspapers; the upper crust rich had one made of a peafowl's tail; that family rated, and rated high, brother.

I want to go back where all of the common every-day towels were made of salt sacks and where there was one "store" towel which was put out only when the preacher came. I want to see the man of the house take his table knife of chilled steel and whet it on his fork tines before he carved the sorb-belly that had been cooked with the beans. Did you ever eat any lye hominy or "shuck" beans? If not, you have never really lived; you have merely existed . . . I want to see the housewife reach into the salt gourd and get a pinch or two of salt to season the beans and taters. And who has not seen the "saft" soap put in a terrapin's shell, with grandpa's initials cut on the side?

Let's go into the big house and set by the fire and see the old-fashioned dog irons and the iron shovel and tongs, made in the country blacksmith shop. And did you ever see yer daddy heat the old shovel, on a bitter, cold day, and hold it in front of the old Seth Thomas clock to thaw out the frozen oil so the old timepiece could go on ticking off the hours? And do you remember the old sunmark on the back doorsill when they had no clock? There was no such thing as daylight saving time then; they got up at three o'clock in the morning and went to bed at seven unless it was apple butter makin' time; then they stayed up till around eight.

BUT THE PARLOR was the sacred place; there was there all the sparkin' was done; there was the bed the preacher slept (Continued on page 4)

MUSCOVITES AT ELECTION



When Signora Ida Einaudi, wife of President Luigi of Italy, gave her first official reception as Italy's first lady recently, Ambassador and Mrs. Michael Kostilev of the Soviet Union, were among the guests. They are shown, posing, while a king-size guard stands stiffly at salute.

Isaacs Named President Junior Commerce Body

AFL LEADER



Richard Gray, president of the building and construction trades union, A. F. L., who predicts that expiration of many fixed shop contracts in August will bring delay in the housing program unless the Taft-Hartley law's union shop election procedure is halted.

Kelly New Head Of Legion Post

Richard E. Kelly, was named commander of the Watauga Post, American Legion, at the meeting held last Friday evening. Other officers named were: Custer Wallace, first vice-commander; Lee Reynolds, second vice-commander; R. D. Hodges, Jr., third vice-commander; Fred M. Gragg, adjutant; Cleve Gross, finance officer; Lionel Ward, service officer; Wade E. Brown, guardianship; Jack Ward, Sergeant-at-Arms; Wilson Norris, Chaplain; Edwin Dougherty, historian; John H. Hollar, athletic officer.

Retiring officers include Wade E. Brown, Commander, and Joe Huffman, adjutant.

Legion Team In Another Victory

Coach John Hollar's boys won their fourth straight game of the season at Black Mountain last Thursday by a score of 10-2. Big Carl Cook fired his way into his fourth straight win and came through at bat with three booming triples.

This Thursday Boone takes on Newland at the College Field at 3 o'clock. The public is invited to come out and support the team.

Sgt. Hollifield Rites Next Friday

The body of Sgt. J. B. Hollifield, who was killed at Saipan July 9, 1944, will be returned to the home at Blowing Rock Friday and funeral services will be conducted at the Baptist church there Friday at 2 o'clock. Rev. Mr. Harris will be in charge of the rites. Full military honors will be conferred by the Blowing Rock Post of the American Legion. Interment will be in the Legion plot in the Blowing Rock cemetery.

Latin-American nations smile on Franco regime in Spain.

ALL STAR GAME MAIN EVENT OF SPORTS SEASON

Diamond Event on July 3 To Be Local Attraction of Holiday Period; Players to Be Picked From Ten Teams in Watauga County.

John Hollar, Watauga County Baseball League President announces plans for a county league all-star game to be played at the college field in Boone, July 3rd. The game which will pit the East against the West will give the fans a chance to see the cream of the crop in action all at once. The East teams of the county will consist of Bamboo, Blowing Rock, Oak Grove, Rich Mtn., and Elk. While the West will have Boone, Mabel, Ward's, Foscoe, and Cove Creek to pick from.

Each squad will have sixteen men on its roster and so divided that each team will be assured of at least two men on it. The two top teams in each division will have the privilege of furnishing five men each and the three low teams will be allowed two places each.

After the games on Saturday, June 26th, the league standings will be used to determine the places of the teams for the pickings. The team leading in the East and West respectively on this date will automatically furnish the managers for the all-star game.

Paul Hagaman Funeral Tuesday

Funeral services were conducted from the Boone Baptist Church Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock for staff Sergeant Paul D. Hagaman, 25, son of Mrs. Elsie Hagaman and the late Mr. Hagaman of Boone, who died of wounds received in a plane crash in India February 13, 1945.

Sgt. Hagaman had been in the army for two years at the time of the fatal accident, and was radio operator on a cargo plane. Rev. J. C. Canipe, Dr. W. G. Bond and Rev. E. F. Troutman, were in charge of the services, and members of the American Legion took part in the graveside rites in the city cemetery.

Sergeant Hagaman is survived by his mother; one sister, Mrs. W. F. Miller, Jr., and one brother, Mr. Ted Hagaman of Boone.

BRIEF NEWS

Holland warned of prospects of early rubber surplus.

Argentine declines to fix wheat price for Marshall Plan buying.

Communists are said to fear to attack Mukden, Manchuria.

World surplus of grains is indicated for 1948-49 crops.

CIO reports 400,000 members gained by drive in the South.

Outpost in Alaska is strengthened by the Army.

Defense work to "take up the slack" in metal plants.

Mail order and chain stores made best showing in 1947.

New Italian Government survives two Communist attacks.

Pre-military training ordered for Yugoslav boys and girls.

Russia halves Finland's remaining reparations bill.

"Liberation" army of 500,000 displaced persons proposed.

Australia gives \$800,000 wool to Poland; military use barred.

Salesmen oppose any rise in railroad fare rates.

Miss Suggs tops Miss Donald 1 up for British golf crown.

Washington reporters, polled, pick Vandenberg for President.

Brannan is sworn in as Secretary of Agriculture.

Reserve Review says U. S. industry absorbed war industries.

Clay hails rise in German trade; lays it to dollar exports.

Soviet dismantling 19 plants in zone, affecting 70,000 workers.

Marshall Field sees threat of "epidemic" of fear.

NEW HOUSING
The Commerce Department reports that the building boom continues with a total of 257,000 new housing units of permanent type started in the January-May period, topping the number in past year's first four months by 52,000. New starts in April were 90,000, up 20,000 from March.

HONORED IN RESEARCH



President Truman presents the medal for merit, with bronze Oak Leaf cluster, to Dr. Vannevar Bush, chairman of the research and development board, and Dr. James B. Conant, right, of the general advisory committee, U. S. atomic energy commission. The decorations were awarded to the scientists for their outstanding work in the field of atomic research.

Boone Schools to Open Summer Terms Tuesday

MAKES DENIAL



Rep. Vito Marcantonio (A.L.P., N.Y.) denied that he was following the "communist line" in opposing the anti-communist bill, Marcantonio, testifying on the Mundt-Nixon measure before the senate judiciary committee, said that U. S. communists "definitely are not under the influence of Moscow." He is shown above.

Enrollment At College Is 1,045

One thousand and forty-five students had registered for the first summer term at Appalachian State Teachers College up until noon yesterday, information from the office of Registrar H. R. Eggers indicated, and it was stated that registrations were virtually complete.

One hundred and ninety students were said to have enrolled in the newly-established graduate school.

All the space in the dormitories had been reserved well in advance of the opening of the term, and a number of students are being housed in the town. In spite of the housing shortage, it is said, relatively few students cancelled their reservations.

Home Agents to Hold School

Home Demonstration Agents from nine Western North Carolina counties will meet in Boone on Wednesday, June 16th, for an agents training school. Mrs. Pauline Hotchkiss, Western District Agent, Miss Nita Orr, extension home economist in food conservation, and Mr. Fred Sloan, extension program planning specialist, all from State College station, Raleigh, will be in charge of the one day meeting.

Agents are expected from the following counties for this meeting: Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Burke, McDowell, Madison, Mitchell, Yancey and Watauga.

WORLD GRAIN

The first estimate of the exportable world supplies of bread grains, wheat and rye, indicates for the first time since the war, a world surplus of grains above restricted needs. The estimate made by Dr. Julius Hirsch and Mrs. Erith Hirsch, economists, indicates that the volume of these grains available for export may amount to or be in excess of 920,000,000 bushels, with an effective demand under present policies of \$75,000,000 to 900,000,000.

R E A EXPANDS SERVICE AS NEW LINES FINISHED

High Voltage Transmission Line Finished into Boone; Bids Will Be Accepted on 500 Miles New Distribution Lines to Serve New Homes.

Just recently the Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation completed its 44,000 volt transmission line from Lenoir to Boone and put into service its new 1500 KW substation located just north of Boone on the West Jefferson highway. The completion of this work brings adequate electric power to all members in Watauga county and makes it possible to extend electric service to many more members who are now waiting to be connected. This new transmission line also provides adequate sources of power for the town of Boone. Should it become necessary, the Cooperative is now in position to furnish the town of Boone with all its power needs.

Within the next few weeks the Cooperative expects to call for bids for the construction of 500 miles of new distribution line to serve more than 1700 new consumers. The major portion of this construction will be in Ashe county although included in this contract will be 58 miles of new distribution line to serve more than 300 members in Watauga county. While this work will be done by contract, the Cooperative's crews located in Boone will be busily engaged in extending electric service to many more members. In the last 12 months the Cooperative extended electric service to more than 642 new members in Watauga county, bringing the number of members served in Watauga county to 2,322.

Father Mrs. Hunt Dies in Chicago

James C. Pyles, 59, father of Mrs. Guy Hunt of Boone, died suddenly in Chicago Wednesday of last week. A heart attack was said to have been the cause of his demise.

The body was returned to the old Home at Huntington, W. Va. where funeral services were held last Saturday, Rev. Elijah Stevens, Baptist minister, being in charge of the rites, and interment was in the cemetery there.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Hunt of this city, were present for the funeral. The widow survives, with two sons and two daughters: Robert, Utica, N. Y.; Jack, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. Tony Smid, New York, and Mrs. Guy Hunt of Boone.

Baseball League

Play in the county baseball league promises to reach its height this coming Saturday, as undefeated Boone (Bert's) takes on undefeated Bamboo in a crucial game at the college field at 2 o'clock. Both teams have come along this far with unblemished records and the game Saturday will undoubtedly determine the league leadership. According to John Hollar, League president, a record breaking crowd is expected to be on hand when these two fighting teams tangle. The game will be played the following day in case of rain.

In another affair, which should have a bearing on league standings, Blowing Rock goes to Wards to tangle with the league's pitcher who has chucked his team to six straight wins.

Last Saturday's results:
Elk 5, Mabel 2
Ward's 5, Oak Grove 4 (play-off)
Boone (Bert's) 6 0 1000
Bamboo 9, Blowing Rock 5
Foscoe 6, Cove Creek 3
This week's schedule, June 19:
Rich Mountain at Mabel; Blowing Rock at Ward's; Cove Creek at Elk; Foscoe at Oak Grove; Bamboo at Boone (Bert's)

League standings:

	W	L	%
Bamboo	6	0	1000
Boone (Bert's)	6	0	1000
Ward's	6	0	1000
Blowing Rock	4	2	667
Foscoe	4	2	667
Elk	1	5	167
Mabel	1	5	167
Cove Creek	1	5	167
Oak Grove	1	5	167
Rich Mountain	0	6	000