

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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R. C. RIVERS, JR., Publisher

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The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first objective should be to keep that right, and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without government, I should not hesitate a moment to choose the latter.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1951.

RURAL TELEPHONES

A campaign is now being launched in Watauga county by the Skyline Telephone Membership Corporation, seeking 575 people in the western section of Watauga county, who will sign on the dotted line for telephone service under the co-op plan, and we can think of no more worthy undertaking at this time.

Good roads, electric lines, rural mail routes, and other conveniences have contributed mightily to the satisfaction of living on the farm, and have enhanced the wealth of the people a great deal.

We believe that when the solicitors go around, they will be able to readily find the 575 farmers who will sign the agreement, and thus bring about an increased degree of well-being in the rural areas of the county.

WAR DEADLINE NEXT YEAR

Leo M. Cherne, noted political and economic analyst, down at Pinehurst the other day, told the members of the Southern Furniture Manufacturers Association that July 1952 is the deadline for World War III.

But that time, the speaker reasoned, the allied forces will be and ready able to resist attack, and said war production here is being stepped up with July 1952 the "readiness goal."

The economist estimates the Russians have seventy to one hundred missiles, while the United States has four to seven times that many, he guessed. However, only 100, he said would be needed to wipe out United States industry, while many more would be required to paralyze the widely dispersed Soviet industry.

With all this talking about when there's going to be a war, we've been hoping that the costly Korean campaign would be recognized by some soothsayer, who would in turn give us some idea as to when that phase of the Russo-American conflict might end.

HIGHER FARES

Those who still look to the railroads for passage when they go journeying, will likely be interested in the news that the ICC has granted Southern railroads a 10 per cent increase in passenger fares, in answer to the pleas of the carriers that they were necessary to enable the railroads "under honest and efficient management to provide adequate and efficient service."

We had been of the opinion that high rail fares had been the cause of the inroads of the buses and airplanes, and to one whose only experience in transportation comes from buying tickets, it would seem that further increases would move the rail lines even farther from effective competition with the faster modes of passenger travel.

BIBLE WEEK

National Bible Week is currently being observed under the sponsorship of the Laymen's National Committee, described as "a non-sectarian, and non-profit organization whose mission is to encourage belief and faith in God, daily reading of the Bible and religious education for all."

There is pretty general agreement in this area, at least, that a thorough knowledge of the Divine law is of paramount importance in these days of global uncertainty and fear.

Walter H. Judd, National Chairman of the Bible week, has this to say: "Because American pioneers had a firm belief in the spiritual fatherhood of God, they put first in their scale of values the freedom and dignity of individual man as a spiritual

being. As a result their political system released, for the first time, the creative capacities inherent in men everywhere. . . . We shall not live victoriously, either as individuals or as a nation, except as we come to know God and His eternal laws and love through eternal searching of the Scriptures."

PICKED UP...

HIGH WEST By R. Guy Swaringen in His Column "Community Comment," Stanly News and Press, Albemarle, N. C.

Seems like riding uphill—at least, more up than down—as you go to Boone, by way of Salisbury, and Statesville, and North Wilkesboro, and all the little towns in between. And once there, it is plain to see the way has been uphill. The elevation up between three thousand and four thousand, and most any variation, depending on which mountain you climb, or which gap you descend into.

Riding with Bob Agie, the movie man from Boone, one takes one's time, and gets there all together. Bob is no racer. But at that, the legal-rated trip takes only three hours, and it's a wonder more people don't go oftener. For the town of Boone has sunshine that can burn you red by day, and nights that make you snuggle under blankets. One man over there, a fertilizer salesman, said he could breathe more air in Boone. Of course, he may not actually breathe more air, but it may be better air. Anyway, this Mr. Jones and his wife rent a house there each summer, and when she isn't teaching in Statesville, she is going to school in Boone.

The Agies—Bob, Margaret, Mollie, Bobbie, Jimmie and Richard—live about two blocks from the Appalachian theater, and the Daniel Boone hotel, get cricks in their necks from looking up Howard's Knob, to the left, and can practically spit across their front porch, the road, and onto a farm that makes up their front yard. Owned by a lady said to be one of the best teachers in all the junior grades, and farmed by a Mr. Austin, who does his plowing with two fat horses, and keeps his dog thin as a rail so it will be in fine hurting fettle. You can look right over his house to his barn, several feet higher up, and on above that to cows grazing in the pasture. When they start down to the barn, they have to trot downhill, because their brakes won't hold them any longer. Mollie, Bobbie and Jimmie Agie go to school. Richard, aged four, goes to college. It's a fact. Over there at the college they have a nursery school, for the benefit of the students who are learning to teach, and they train a select and fortunate dozen youngsters to do everything for themselves, using miniature equipment built to fit their size.

Riding up and down the Blue Ridge Parkway, you notice how often you are not on a ridge, but threading between still higher ridges. However, there are moments. Moments when the hills spread out on either side, or both, and you wonder how much land would be there if it were smoothed and flattened. Not that it would be so lovely as in this beginning of autumn, when the little hills and the larger hills are just starting to dress themselves in their coats of many colors. Riding the ridges, you look far, far down, and wonder who lives in this or that tiny homestead, often with its thin thread of smoke climbing; for the sun leaves the dwellers in the valleys earlier than it leaves the heights, and the chill of evening falls. This Blue Ridge Parkway is one road where you read no commercial advertising, only the signs put there for your guidance by the builders—signs which it is wise to observe and obey, if you wish to stay on the highway and out of the gaps where you might easily plunge five hundred or a thousand feet before you stop, and never know if you did. And no trucks. It is just built—or rather, is in building—as part of the nation's playground, and long my it survive!

Boone has no railroad, but the college has a time-signal whistle that reminds of a train. Three long warehouses hold their periodic tobacco auctions. Fields roundabout grow cabbages like spaced row on row of soldiers, and apple orchards spill their red fruit on the ground to rot unheeded for lack of gatherers and markets. Heat for the winter comes in countless truckloads across the Tennessee and Virginia borders. And the hollows teem with busy, friendly folks who have ever a bright smile and kind word for the stranger in their midst.

SEEMS SOI Even a woodpecker owes his success to the fact that he uses his head.—W. O. W. Magazine. FEMALE GENIUS There are three things a woman can make out of nothing—a hat, a salad and a quarrel.—Calgary Herald. UNLESS Legally, the husband is head of the house and the pedestrian has the right-of-way. Both husband and pedestrian are fairly safe unless they try to exercise their rights.—Grit.

EASY Vacations are easy to plan: The boss tells you when and the wife tells you where.—Houghton Line. FIGHTIN' WORDS Eight of any ten girls don't have the right physical specifications, says a corset publication. Those are fighting words to eight of any ten boys.—Alexandria (Minn.) Echo.

IN BETWEEN he knows why a strapless evening gown is held A boy is at the in-between age in life when up, but doesn't know how.—Moberg Tribune. SILVER LINING For today's infant, life is safer in countless ways. For example, with \$10 worth of groceries at present prices, it is well nigh impossible to smother the baby in its go-cart.—From the Grand Rapids (Mich.) Press.

SHADOW ON THE WALL



Local Scouts Take Part in Jubilee

LARRY KLUTZ, Scribe Troop 98, B. S. A., participated in the Old Hickory District Jubilee held at Rendezvous Airport in Elkin October 5, 6, 7. Six scouts along with Mr. Jim Greene made the trip. They were Mark Hodges, Bill Edmisten, Dickie Hunt, Phil McGuire, A. C. Farthing and Robert Rosenbalm. A course in axmanship was offered with each Scout successfully passing all requirements being awarded a "Totin' Chip," a badge to be worn on the Scout uniform designating that the wearer has earned the right to carry his axe and knife at his side.

Local Scouts Take Part in Jubilee

On Tuesday, October 9, Troop 98 were guests of their sponsors, the Brotherhood of the First Baptist Church. A fine dinner was served. In return, Troop 98 entertained the brotherhood with a short program on the activities of the troop during the past year. Highlight of the program was the showing of colored pictures tak-

KING STREET

(Continued from page one.) understand, but the food couldn't have been any more delicious than that consumed by the newsmen at the Old Town Club, where the Journal was the host. The long trip through the cheering crowds. The large numbers of colored folks who offered their respects, and the largest flag seen flying from the home of a negro.

"THE PRESIDENT looks better to me—much better—close up, in the flesh than in the newsreels or the tv. He's a vibrant whole-souled gray-pated man, radiating good health and vigor, and one is impressed by his apparent sincerity and friendliness. The Executive, one of the country's best dressers, wore a blue suit, blue tie, and black shoes, and turned over the dirt for the start of Wake Forest's new college, with a skill acquired on a Missouri farm. He obligingly spaded up some more of the red soil, when a newsmen wanted a better shot. He's quite a guy, this "man from Independence," and while you may not agree with him, it's a kick to see him. . . . And he's

on the Washington trip in which the troops from Boone participated. Plans were discussed to build an addition to the present Scout hut which is too small to accommodate the three troops in Boone.

not likely, so most of the folks felt, to be easy to displace come next election time!

"American agriculture and American industry are integral parts of a powerful team. Neither can function effectively without continued help from the other," says Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan.

Cost of boll weevil application in North Carolina this year ranged from \$8 to \$20 per acre for the season.

FILM DEVELOPED 35 Overnight Service WESTBROOK PHOTO TODD, N. C.



Building? Remodeling? Make sure your architect or builder specifies a GENEVA Personalized Kitchen. Sleek simple lines... skilled craftsmanship... lasting quality... Craven Furniture Company

Large advertisement for Rexall Original 100c Sale. Features a grid of various products with prices, including Aspirin, Toothpaste, Quik-Bands, Whipped Creams, and many others. Includes the text 'AMERICA'S No. 1 SALE VALUES' and 'THURSDAY thru MONDAY OCT. 18-22'.

Advertisement for Boone Drug Company featuring 'MONEY SAVERS!' and various products like Mineral Oil, Beef, Wine and Iron Tonic, Panovite Capsules, and others. Includes the address 'Boone, N. C.' and phone number 'Phone 17'.