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scouts, Dianne Warnan and Norma Sherrill, who helped distribute the poppies.

"The amount received was \$171.30. We thank you."

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Thanks Given For Poppy Aid

The following expression of appreciation, in connection with the recent Poppy Day, was issued by the local American Legion Auxiliary.

"The ladies of the American Legion, Watauga Post 130, wish to express our appreciation to the people of the county for their contribution on Poppy Day, May 24, and for wearing the poppy which is based upon our desire to keep forever bright the memory of those who gave their lives for America.

"The coins, dropped into the boxes, brings aid to war's living victims, the disabled veterans, and needy children of veterans.

"We also thank the two girl

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Elementary School News

Appalachian Elementary School was one of the schools chosen for the purpose of gathering data for the Youth Fitness Program on a nationwide basis. Mr. Harold M. Barrow, North Carolina Chairman for the program, recently sent the following letter to the administration of the school:

"I wish to thank you for permitting me to come into your school and to gather data for our Youth Fitness project. I have received wonderful cooperation and assistance from Mrs. Charles Graeber and you are to be complimented on such fine leadership in your school. You have a wonderful school and you have every

right to be proud of the work you and your teachers are doing."

Fourth Grade Program
Fourth grade pupils of Miss Clyde Goodman's class presented the assembly program on Friday morning in a stage setting symbolic of the spring season. The stage arrangement represented the classroom work of all the pupils, featuring paper sculpture, spatter prints, rhythmical design, original landscapes in pastels, portraying art and science, and original chalk sketches.

Lee Jackson was presented a class folder of congratulations for perfect attendance this year. Donnie Fidler read an original

poem which has recently been accepted for publication in "Wee Wisdom," a national magazine for children.

The group sang two songs directed by Mrs. Gaynelle Wilson. Pupils presenting the program were: Stevie Alvarez, James Caudill, Larry Cline, Jimmy Eller, Louis Farthing, Donnie Fidler, Robert Fitch, Lee Jackson, Tommy Kirk, Jeffery Mullinax, Keith McGuire, Larry Richardson, Mike Storie, David Surrey, Bobby Todd, Allan Wagner, Dan Maples, Mary Coffey, Carolyn Dyer, Linda Gragg, Linda Greene, Rita Johnson, Janice Lewis, Mary Darwin Marsh, Bonnie Teague, and Betty Watson.

Eighth Grade Graduation
Eighth grade graduation exercises will be held in the school auditorium on Saturday morning, May 31, at 9:45 o'clock.

Speeches on the theme, "Onward and Upward," will be given by Jane Norris, Jeanette Lyons, Ellene White, and Margaret Gragg. Frank Hagaman will present the devotions and Elaine Wagoner will read a poem. A class gift to the school will be presented by Ben Miller and Barbara Sherrill. Mary Hartley, David Dougherty, Tommy Creed, and Andy Stallings will present a cornet and trumpet quartet. "O Lord Most Holy" will be sung by Hilda Tuckwiller with Carolyn Coffey as accompanist. Awards from the Laurel Book Club will be presented to two students who have been outstanding in reading this year.

Mr. Earl Petrey, assistant principal, will make the citizenship awards. Mr. John Howell, principal, will present certificates of promotion. The professional and recreational will be played by Gwyn Michael and Wanda Lowman.

Hansel And Gretel
The members of the Children's Choir presented an adaptation of Humperdinck's opera, "Hansel and Gretel" in the auditorium May 20th. In order for the student body, parents, college classes, and other guests to attend, two performances were given.

Children participating were: David Norris, narrator; Palmer Blair, Jr., Hansel; Martha Stacy, Gretel; Diane Hagaman, Gertrude; Clarence Wilson, Peter; Rebecca Wright, witch; Craig Austin, sandman; Myra Davis, dew fairy. Cookie children were Johnny Coe, Mary Darwin Marsh, Eddy Isenhour, Janice Lewis, Sara Hagaman, Stacy Eggeson, Jennie Lou Robinson, Hilda Stokes, and Cheryl Morhouser. Angels were Guy Casey, J. B. Hodges, H. J. Cottrell, Donnie Fidler, Howard Williams, Larry Richardson, Louis Farthing, Nancy Robinson, Barbara Barnett, Linda Barnett, Margaret Derrick, David Surrey, Jimmy Marsh, and Gary Deitz.

The program was directed by Mrs. Gaynelle Wilson. She was assisted by Mr. Wofford Huskey, accompanist, and Mrs. Christine Sneed, stage manager. Mr. Huskey and Mrs. Sneed were student teachers in music during the spring quarter.

Chorus Sings At Church
The Elementary School Chorus was the guest choir at the Boone Presbyterian Church for the Sunday morning service on May 25th. They sang "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" by Beethoven, "Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones" by Kirchengesang, and "O Bone Jesu" by Palestrina. The Chorus is directed by Mrs. Gaynelle Wilson.

Class Trip
Friday, May 16, Mr. Day's eighth grade class went on a trip to Asheville. They visited many interesting places such as the Police Department, Fire Department, and the Asheville Citizen Times. After they had eaten lunch they went shopping. Then after that they spent the afternoon at the Bill-

Shepherd Dugger Wrote Uniquely, Classically

By ELYA ROTEN and KITTY ENNIS (Bobcat Tales)

Shepherd M. Dugger lived in a small cabin located on Beech Mountain overlooking the village of Banner Elk. He attended the University of North Carolina, and became superintendent of schools in Watauga County.

Mr. Dugger had the ability and ambition to be a writer. He published a book which cost \$800, and gave a mortgage on his property in Banner Elk to print it. The result was that he lost his property. At one time the Dugger family owned all or most of Banner Elk.

"The Balsam Groves of the Grandfather Mountain," written by Mr. Dugger, has become a collector's item and brings a premium considerably above the original price, which is believed to have been \$1.

In his writing Dugger makes rather frequent classical allusions, some of which would not be entirely familiar to the average college graduate today.

In his book, "War Trails of the Blue Ridge," he tells about the pioneer families of this area, the Banners, Von Canons, Duggers and others who settled Banner Elk and the surrounding area. There is also quite a bit about the founding of Lees-McRae.

The following is an excerpt from the above book.

"In 1905 the boy's department of the Lees-McRae Institute was at Plumtree, North Carolina, and the girls' department at Banner Elk was about as flourishing in numbers as it has ever been. Of evenings the lassies were paraded over the town, but were not allowed at any time to communicate in any way with the neighborhood lads, who clasped with them in the aspirations of young life. They were officered by a good lady chaperon who, according to reports at the time, looked to the boys and girls who disliked her discipline, about as civilized as a meat saw. Lording over these youngsters of inherited freedom only awakened in them a determined resistance which was obliged to conquer. When the lads saw their cherubim lassies

On their way back they had a picnic supper.

Those who participated in this trip were: Mr. Day, Mr. Andrew Yasinasac, Jimmy Agle, David Dougherty, Larry Gragg, Robert Johnson, Andy Stallings, Bob Cook, Bette Brown, Mary Hayes, Margaret Gragg, Eileen White, Marvella Corlette, Joyce Wilcox, Jeanette Lyons, Ann Edmisten, Judy Triplett, Tommy Greene, Ben Miller, Judy Houck, Jarel Dean Johnson, Lynn Winkler, Wanda Wilson, Carolyn Coffey, Doyle Lyons, Becky Hayworth, Wanda Lowman, Cecelia Tranis, and Eva Danay Erneston.




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