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BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1961

## Traffic Moves Better

The establishment of parallel parking on West King and the directional markings on the pavement at the intersections has been the most effective step taken, in our opinion, to facilitate the flow of traffic in the congested business area.

Traffic moved along much more easily, it appeared to us, during the busy week end, than ever before, as motorists were able to move through town without appreciable interruption and make either the right or left turns from the proper lanes without confusion.

Perhaps some will find fault with the fact that parking space is further restricted by this move, but as a matter of fact, we'd just as well become accustomed to the fact that the Street can't contain all the automobiles, and that as a matter of fact, they weren't built in the first place with the notion of providing acres of storage space for motor vehicles, but for the movement of traffic. The development of off-street parking

lots of course, will be hastened.

One can't do all these things at once, but when it is possible, King should be widened to its 100 foot width on up by the courthouse, which would further help the traffic situation.

And with the extension of the 105 bypass through to 421, it would appear that there will be no further need for the through vans to barrel through the city as presently. If the trucks can be compelled to use the bypass this will tremendously improve the congestion. As a matter of fact they should be using the present bypass.

The old town, that is, from the branch west of Smithy's to the one which courses under the street just east of the Depot Street intersection, has a 100 foot street width. It would actually be good perhaps to have parallel parking on both sides of this stretch. What has been done is working mighty well.

## Sees Federal School Aid

Dr. Frank Graham has predicted that Federal aid to education will be an established fact within the next two years, and that such aid, coupled with Governor Sanford's school program could put North Carolina in the "forefront of the 50 states in education."

Dr. Graham, former President of the University of North Carolina, who spoke at an Education Day program at Warrington along with Governor Sanford, said, and perhaps rightfully so, that Federal assistance to education is a natural process in the development of democracy.

The Governor, who is promoting the most aggressive educational program since the days of Aycock, coupled a grim reminder of world problems with an admonition to students to do their homework and a request to parents to see that it is done.

"The school yard," said Sanford, "is as vital to the defense of America as is the military yard."

Continuing the Governor said:

"There has long been quality edu-

cation. In this State are located some of the best schools and the finest teachers in the nation and also some of the worst. The average is low and we cannot be satisfied until quality education is brought to every section of the State and North Carolina becomes an educational leader in the nation."

We like to hear the Governor speak out this way. To recognize that our system contains some of the worst schools and teachers in the country is good, and not only enhances the stature of the Governor, but serves to popularize his program as it develops.

The quality education program cannot be developed in a few short months or in a few years, as for that matter, and some of those who watch from the sidelines are impatient. Those who contend that the end result is only a teacher pay raise, fail to sense the Sanford aims to better the system, professionally and physically, and make it stand up with the best. That will take some time, but it can be done.

## Mr. Sam Smitten

There is a general feeling of shock, mixed with surprise, that the grand old gentleman of the House and of the Democratic party, Mr. Sam Rayburn, has been smitten, and that he likely won't be able to withstand the ravages of the disease with which he has been attacked.

The surprise of course comes from the fact that a man like Speaker Rayburn, who's always been the strong man physically and in matters where the gavel had to be banged with great authority in the National assemblies, could be suddenly disabled. We come to think of strong men as being beyond the reaches of physical infirmities, whereas, those who are often ill, are more or less regarded as vulnerable by the casual acquaintance.

Cousin Sam, as many of the grass roots politicians from the South used to refer to him, has been a great man in the National Legislature, and strong in the councils of his party.

Going to the House at about the same

time the Blue Ridge hills sent Congressman Robert L. Doughton to Washington, the two men, close personal friends, had much in common, regarding the call to Government service as something sort of sublime, and giving to the positions they held the last ounce of their devotion and of their genius and their physical strength.

Mr. Sam appeared ageless as he went about his duties and particularly on the occasions when he presided at the National conventions of his party. Ruling without fear or favor, grim-visaged and stern, he always acted positively, and was a past master at the art of parliamentary maneuver.

In the House he will be sadly missed where he was a mighty General in guiding dissident Democrats into line when they wanted to stray. Doubtless this great leader will have the prayers of the country, as suggested by Mr. Kennedy. No one should mind saying one for Mr. Sam.

## Which Shoe On Other Foot?

(Christian Science Monitor)

We are indebted to Holiday magazine for the possibly bootless information that a Rome shoe manufacturer intends to make ladies' shoes that will fit either foot.

In the past there have been some lively discussions in our letters column about such international issues as ballet slippers and spike heels. From the tenor of these it might be gathered that many citizens are disturbed about the extension of the power of conformity into the field of footwear. Indeed it would seem the ultimate in conformity to have one's right shoe not only looking

like all other right shoes but looking like all left shoes as well. (Perish the thought that some bootery might try to make heels and toes interchangeable.)

However, we're more concerned for men than for women. Men have to march. And if some of them already have trouble telling their left foot from their right when the leading edges of their shoes look different, how are they ever going to manage with identical boots to port and starboard?

That shoe manufacturers' plan may be dextrous, but it's also slightly sinister.

## Complete Understanding



## From Early Democrat Files

### Sixty Years Ago

October 10, 1901.

Jailor Miller bought the E. M. Gragg property at Foscoe sold here Monday.

Mrs. L. N. Perkins of Lenoir is spending a few days at her old home near Boone.

Mr. W. L. Bryan has been suffering much of late from a severe attack of rheumatism.

Miss Nannie Rivers, who is teaching at Linville, was at home Sunday.

Miss Mary Farthing left this week for Lenoir, where she will enter school under Prof. Spainhour.

W. D. Clarke, Esq., has taken a position with Henkel Brothers and has gone to Statesville for the winter.

R. F. Ragan has rented the J. M. Moretz property in Boone, and will move to it at an early date.

The old roof on the Baptist Church in Boone was taken off last week and replaced by a new one, which was right badly needed.

Mr. Herman Wallace of the Wallace Brothers Co., of Statesville, was in town last week, selling our merchants their winter goods.

Newland and Watson of Blowing Rock are closing out their entire line of general merchandise.

Deputy Collectors Hayes and Hardin seized Enoch Potter's team and load of blockade whiskey near Gap Creek last week.

Moses Johnson and Thomas Greer are erecting a saw mill at the falls of Middle Fork, and will put in a grist mill in the near future. The water power owned by them is perhaps the best in the country.

Governor Aycock, with a company of ten State officials and personal friends, spent Tuesday night at the Blowing Rock Hotel.

### Thirty-Nine Years Ago

October 13, 1922.

Mr. T. J. Sullivan, familiarly known as "Uncle Tom," died last Wednesday evening at Valle Crucis almost without a moment's warning. He had been in his usual health and that night he walked from the home of Mr. D. F. Mast to that of Mr. W. W. Mast and was stricken within a few minutes after his arrival there. Mr. Sullivan came to Watauga from New York many years ago, and had worked at his trade as a painter in possibly every school district in the county.

Attorney T. E. Bingham has moved his office temporarily into the courthouse until his quarters in the new postoffice building can be completed.

Despite the heavy downpour of rain Monday, quite a delegation of Boone and other Watauga people attended the Sparks Show at Lenoir.

Mr. J. S. Stanbury left for Wilmington last Saturday to visit his son, Rev. W. A. Stanbury.

Mr. George Bradley, superintendent of road work on the Boone Trail in the Cove Creek section, was in town Sunday. Mr. Bradley is working east from Zionville with a good force of hands and teams, and within the past three weeks has excavated and put down a six-inch sand and gravel bed for a distance of 2 1/2 miles. A new crusher is on the way, and upon its arrival the work of putting six inches of crushed stone on the gravel will begin, which will evidently make a very satisfactory

### Fifteen Years Ago

October 10, 1946.

Rev. S. B. Moss is the new pastor of the Boone Methodist Church, it was revealed by Bishop Clare Purcell who read the appointments at the closing session of the Western North Carolina Methodist Conference in Asheville Monday.

A Hereford baby beef, owned by Fred Council of Boone, won the championship in the Junior Hereford department of the Atlantic Rural Exposition held in Richmond, Va., Tuesday.

The fourth annual Watauga Hereford breeders sale will be held Saturday, October 12th, at the Mountain Burley Warehouse No. 1 or 2.

Mr. Fred Gragg of Boone, inter-

viewer for the local office of the United States Employment Service, has resigned his position, effective as of October 4. Mr. Gragg's successor has not been named.

Dr. James Roderick Butler, 57, died at his home at Mountain City, Tenn., last Saturday after a long illness. Dr. Butler had been for 35 years a leading physician of Johnson county. He was the third "Dr. Jim" Butler of Johnson county, making a Dr. Jim Butler in the county for the past 85 consecutive years.

Mr. Walter C. Greene, local building contractor, has resumed work after an illness with pneumonia, following a fall at the Farmers Burley Warehouse. Mr. Greene fell through a skylight, suffering fractured ribs and other injuries.

## Just One Thing

By CARL GOERCH

### AFTER ANOTHER

As prospective candidates for the legislature are making up their minds as to whether to run next spring or not or as they plan their campaigns, they might make use of the following idea which originated with Fred R. Blevins up in Ashe county and was in the form of an advertisement in the Skyland Post back in 1942.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

March 29, 1942

To the Voters of Ashe County: Being as no one in any part of the county has asked me to run for a seat in the House of Representatives, and as a number of my friends have urgently requested me not to run, I hereby announce my candidacy for the House of Representatives. And being as my right honorable late Uncle Riley Blevins rode a plug mule and beat the late Hon. John Baker, who rode a fine saddle horse, for a seat in the House of Representatives, I therefore desire to follow in the footsteps of my illustrious Uncle. I propose to ride a bull and

to defeat anyone who runs against me.

Thanking everyone in advance for the support that I know I will receive, both in the primary and in the coming election; also the support of both Republicans and Democrats, I am,

Your next Representative,  
Fred R. Blevins,  
Son of the late Dr. Manley Blevins. Owner and manager of the "Lonesome Polecat Ranch."

From William B. Guthrie, of Durham: "The late Professor Horace Williams of Chapel Hill once asked this question on class—and if it ever has been answered, I never heard of it. Maybe some of the readers of your magazine can supply the answer."

"Q. If an irresistible ball should come in contact with an impenetrable surface, what would be the result?"

"A freshman answered: 'Professor, I think there would be hell to pay,' but I am sure there is a better answer than that."

## Uncle Pinkney

(MacKnight Syndicate)

### HIS PALAVARIN'S

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

It's gitting so I know more folks in the funeral columns of your paper than I do in the wedding announcements. I ain't concealing the fact that I've past the three-score milestone. I ain't like the wimmen this feller was writing about the other day. He said wimmen would go to "greater lengths to conceal their age than anything else." On account of this not being a very concealing generation fer wimmen, I'm pleased to note they got a little modesty in this direction.

But what I started out to say was I been in this troubled world a long time, including two world wars, two panics and several of their first and second cousins knowned today as depressions and recessions. Even a feller like me gits a little wisdom with the years and I figger, if you dig down to the grass roots of the situation in the world today, you got to come up with just one answer. People living under Communism ain't got nothing to fight fer and we have. That has got to

be the difference between us winning and them losing.

Fer instant, I was reading in the papers where Americans has kept piling up savings in Government bonds even during the unemployment. This report from the Treasury Department last week showed that at the end of June this year the holdings of these bonds was at a new high of \$44 billions. Sales of these bonds fer the first half of 1961 was 5 per cent ahead of last year and cashing in was the lowest in 6 year.

Us Americans has not only got freedom of religion, speech, assembly, the ballot, and all them other freedoms, but we own the Government and the country, got plenty to eat and wear, and has got \$44 billion stored away fer a rainy day. People living under Communism ain't got nothing, and secretly they know it, and when the chips git down people ain't going to hang together and fight very long or very had fer somepun under which they ain't got no rights and in which they ain't got no stock.

## KING STREET

By ROB RIVERS

### Old Houses . . . Stir Memories

Houses, like people, take their rightful places in the march of progress, and in some cases the structures of wood or of brick or of stone have more encompassing histories than have men. . . . A man's age centers about one family,

while a house shelters many families, oftentimes, and if its ancient beams and ceiling planks could record the happenings and the conversations within its walls, a considerable part of the history of a community or even a region, might be readily available to those who follow on.



THE YELLOW HOUSE . . . two views. The North-western Bank stands on the left of where this building stood. Upper picture also shows east end of Blair Hotel.

In our references to the "yellow house," a structure which was a sort of landmark to many generations, we not only found out a little

more of the history of this building, but got a couple of snapshots from a person who was born within its walls. . . . Mrs. Margaret Coffey Rambo, member of a pioneer Boone family and daughter of Capt. Thomas J. Coffey and Mrs. Coffey, one of our good friends who lives in Mountain City. She sends along the pictures which are shown here, along with a highly-appreciated letter, which says:

"I was born there in 1875, however, my parents soon moved to the Hall house on the next street. On page 194 of Arthur's History of Watauga County you will see the house was built before the war between the States by Levi Hartley for his sons, Nathan and Samuel, for a whiskey saloon.

"My parents were married in 1866 and I suppose bought the house from the Hartleys. . . . Am so glad to send you the pictures and hope you can use them. . ."

Mrs. Rambo adds these cherished lines, "Wednesdays are 'red letter days' for me as my Watauga Democrat comes on that day."

But back to the yellow house. It seems Levi Hartley, who lived near Lenoir, never moved to Boone but that his sons carried on the rum business there till just before the Civil War.

Another whiskey saloon stood on what is now the Rivers lot, about the center of the front of the A & P parking area. . . . Soon after Boone was formed Jordan Council, Jr., built the old Rivers house, built another small house on the bank of the creek (just west of the Democrat building) and between the two, says Arthur, there was constructed a "small room for Solomon Crisp, where he later made boots and shoes and sold whiskey."

In a village so sparsely settled as Boone must have been before the Civil War, it seems strange that it would be profitable for two men to open a saloon here, but they evidently did all right. . . . From the sketchy history available, it seems that always there was at least one bar room available in Boone's early days, so that those who toiled at laying the foundations for the fine little city we now enjoy, could quiet their nerves or make whoopee whenever the notion struck.

There are others, no doubt, who have pictures of early-day Boone buildings, residences or stores, who might be willing to make us a loan of them. . . . The Democrat could establish an interesting feature along that line. Pictures would be returned, of course, undamaged.

\* \* \*

### The Rats . . . Dying To Get Caught

Mr. J. R. Gragg set a trap for some rats. . . . Next morning he found a family of four dead rodents in the flip trap. . . . On closer examination he found the "she rat," lying some distance away, also killed by the bang of the spring.

Bless you, we thank you department:

Mr. Stuart Brown of Route 2, fetches us a couple of tomatoes which weighed three and a half pounds.

H. L. Coffey also brings along a box of luscious home-grown tomatoes.

Grady Beach turns up with a big bunch of dahlias . . . blossoms of many colors . . . to cheer us.

And Fred and Jewel Mast came by the house with a half gallon Mason jar filled with bright, new cane molasses, the ideal condiment for bringing out the best in a well-buttered biscuit. . . . Molasses has a natural affinity for hot bread, and besides the "long-sweetening" used to contribute immensely to the social life of the countryside. . . . The 'lasses blin's and candy pullins fetched in the boys and girls for rollicking good times a few years back.