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BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 1963

Local Economic Horizon Cloudless

According to most local retailers the winter's business along the Street perhaps established a new record of sales volume. Most week ends the streets and shops were crowded, the exceptions being when snow and ice precluded travel in some sections. One merchant who normally does his biggest business in summertime reports his Saturday sales comparable to July and August of last year.

And the building program in the community is tremendous. Carl Fidler is building a new motel on Blowing Rock Road, D. M. Edmisten is enlarging his Oakwoods Motel; Stanley Harris and W. K. Sturdivant are building an apartment house on the old Sheriff Horton home lot above the courthouse; another is being built by Cecil Miller and Estel Wagner on Blowing Rock Road; the building program is continuing at the College; and there is a tremendous amount of home construction in the commun-

ity and over the county. At Blowing Rock the reports are that building is far ahead of usual, and some of those who had intended to start homes this spring, are having to defer their plans till late summer, since the builders can't get around to them earlier.

Tweetsie Railroad interests are to construct their golf course, club facilities and a number of houses at Shulls Mills this summer, Jack Norris and Associates have graded a new road to Howard's Knob for a residential development, and to enumerate the many building projects would be impossible.

That a record number of tourists will visit the area this summer and that there will be a burgeoning enrollment at ASTC summer school appear to be foregone conclusions. We don't recall a spring when the economic forecast in this section calls for so much fair weather.

Johnny Liked Cars ... And Speed

Johnny was a fine young man.

He studied hard, posted good grades and was considered a leader in high school. His parents, rightfully, were proud of him. And the neighbors still will tell you he was a "model" son.

But Johnny had a craving—a craving that prevails among thousands of Johnnys today. And among their parents, too.

You could almost call it a disease. Often it is fatal.

It was for Johnny.

Because Johnny liked to drive.

Fast.

Yes, speed killed Johnny. It killed nearly 13,000 other people in this country, too, according to a survey by The Travelers Insurance Companies.

Speed caught up with Johnny when he was returning from a high school prom. He approached a sharp curve at precisely 66 miles-an-hour.

They buried Johnny three days later.

And they buried the girl who had been his date for the evening.

Friends were shocked. Stunned neighbors poured out sympathy to the grief-stricken families.

Months have passed since the accident. But Johnny's father thinks often of his son.

Most of all his dad recalls the days before Johnny was old enough to hold a license ... those days when he was teaching Johnny to drive.

And his dad knows only too well who was responsible for Johnny's insatiable craving for speed.

Hospital Is Youth Career Center

The nation's hospitals are marking National Hospital Week, centered this year on the theme, "Today's Hospital—Career Center for America's Youth."

The hospital is, indeed, a career center, for it needs nearly every skill, profession, talent and trade. Some hospitals list more than 200 job classifications. Hospital employees include writers, artists, engineers, stenographers, librarians, carpenters and cooks, as well as the paramedical professional workers, such as nurses, therapists and technicians.

Even with more than a million and a half persons employed in the nation's 7,000 hospitals, there are serious shortages of personnel, particularly in the professional fields. The shortages will continue, and even grow as the population increases,

and as more people recognize the value of prompt medical care.

Hospitals offer many career opportunities for persons of all types—those with a sense of business, those with a desire to help their fellow man, those who work well with people, those who prefer the quiet of the laboratory or library, those who enjoy housekeeping, and those who like to teach. Whatever a person's interests, the hospital field has a position to match it.

The opportunity in the hospital is a unique one—a chance for a young person to do what he likes and does best, and at the same time contribute to the well being of his community.

We urge every young person as he looks to his future to consider the hospital as the center for his career.

Whitnel-Lenoir Highway To Be 4-Lane

(Lenoir News-Topic)

It was good news which Caldwell's Representative Earl H. Tate brought home with him from Raleigh today that the Whitnel-Lenoir highway—321—will be widened, improved and made into a four-lane highway.

Governor Terry Sanford notified Representative Tate of this project and also that a new bridge would be built over the Catawba River near Rhodhiss.

Through the years numerous traffic mishaps have taken place on the narrow stretch of highway between Whitnel and the Smith Crossroads circle. Much rock will have to be removed in one section where the shoulder of the road is narrow.

Because this is a heavily traveled road, not only for through traffic, but also for the ever growing Whit-

nel area and points beyond, the announcement of the improvements will be welcomed by many Lenoir area people.

Perhaps within a few years 321 can be dual-lane to Granite Falls and motorists can then have a safer and better way to reach Interstate 40 for points east and North. This congestion on the Whitnel-Granite Falls highway will be relieved some when the Lenoir-Taylorsville road is completed and future plans call for improvement of the Morganton-Wilkesboro road, via Lenoir, which will give an outlet to 421, Interstate 40 and Interstate 85 and points beyond.

It will take a good many years for this area to catch up because the road machinery moves slowly.

Worm Or Steel Spring?



From Early Democrat Files

Sixty Years Ago April 23, 1903

George Presnell and family of Brushy Fork, left for the State of Washington this week.

Glad to learn that little Miss Maude, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John S. Williams, of New River is improving from a very severe illness.

Prof. W. M. Francum has moved to one of the houses on the farm of Mrs. Mattie Green, and Mr. Richard Minton and family have moved to the house vacated by him.

Quite a heavy snow storm in Watauga on last Wednesday, falling to a depth of 3 inches in some parts of the county. It was followed by a freeze and it is thought that the entire fruit crop is killed.

Messrs. E. S. and T. S. Coffey left Wednesday for Virginia, where they went to purchase some driving horses.

The amount received at the door for tickets to the concert on last Friday night amounted to nearly \$40.00. The same will be applied to the seats in the auditorium of the academy.

We were indeed pained to hear of the death of our old friend, J. A. Elliott, that oc-

curred at his home in Mt. City, Tenn., on last Sunday. He was attacked with grippe about a week before his death, which developed into pneumonia and his shattered constitution soon gave way and death was the result. Mr. Elliott was long a resident of Boone and was much admired by our people for his many sterling traits of character. It can truly be said of him that another good man has been gathered home.

The Governor has offered a reward of \$200 for the apprehension, arrest and delivery to the Sheriff of Watauga county of Boone Potter, who is now a fugitive from justice. His proclamation appears in another column.

Thirty-Nine Years Ago April 24, 1924

Mr. Ben Isaacs of Red Jacket, W. Va., has after an absence of several years with his family, moved back to his farm which adjoins that of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Isaacs on Vilas. His brother Chas. came back with him and is talking of moving back to his native county.

Just One Thing

By CARL GOERCH

AFTER ANOTHER

Interesting historical note: in 1784 the State of Franklin was formed in the Great Smokies area. A number of North Carolinians had a part in this. It existed for three years. One of the laws passed was that no doctor, preacher or lawyer could hold public office.

How old is Grandfather Mountain?

Some say it is one of the oldest in the world and once reached a great height. Certainly, it is composed largely of outcrops of very ancient igneous rocks, lava flow thrust up from below, and geologists say these rocks survived erosion which leveled the mountains around it. For a while it stood about 3,000 feet above a plateau which perhaps was 500 to 1,000 feet above the sea, and was thrust on up when the general level was raised by wrinkling of the earth's crust. Its forests have been called the "oldest in the world", already growing when the Blue Ridge was beneath the seas.

A bill was introduced in the General Assembly recently having to do with the cutting and hauling of more than two Christmas trees, which brought to mind a letter we received some time ago from Mrs. John Lee Smith of Goldsboro.

"You made mention last year about a family that was able to use the same tree for eight years. The story of the tree is as follows:

"It is dug from our back yard each year, brought into the house, placed in a wooden box filled with the same soil in which the tree has lived from season to season. It is decorated with lights, tinsel, etc., and

is watered every two days. At the end of the Yuletide season it is replaced in the same spot from which it was dug, and it remains there, apparently in healthful condition, until the next Christmas. It is pruned and trimmed in the same manner as other shrubs in our yard."

A little item from the Chapel Hill Weekly that has a lot of truth in it:

Jack Riley of the Carolina Power and Light Company and I were reminiscing about 1933 when we were graduated and looking for jobs in that depressed economic time.

Jack landed at Nashville. "And you know," he said, "where the courthouse is—where you can see almost everything that goes on in town. Well, there just wasn't any business there. You seldom saw anyone on the street; so the merchants used to open their store doors, walk across the courthouse lawn and talk about the big fish they caught or something they killed. Presently there'd come a Hoovercart down the street and all of them would watch to see where it was going to stop. Then, the merchant in front of whose store it stopped would get up and say to the other fellows, "Gee, me. Be back in a minute." And he'd go wait on the customer—a charge sale, at that—and soon return to his bench.

"No one had any money those days, but everybody seemed to get along well. It was different than it is now with everybody seeming to have a lot of money and still unsettled and unhappy. The reason? I think it was because all our troubles and problems then were domestic, right at home. Now we are fearful of everything all over the world."

KING STREET

BY ROB RIVERS

Today's Youth ... Escapes Politics

Springtime comes like it always did, and the youngsters frolic amongst the blossoms of the orchards, climb trees frilly with the delicate lace of the maple blossoms and race over lawns covered with the unwanted bright gold splashes of the dandelions, but there's something they are missing in nature's endless cycle of bud and of blossom and leafy twig, and subsequent fruit, and harvest and the dying again of the branch and the blade and the flower ... and that is the "through" of spring tonic our mothers used to ladle to chase away our happiness for a day or so when there was so much for a child to do and to see and to enjoy.

Sulphur ... And Other Stuff

Molasses and sulphur used to be favored by the glham-clad angels who presided in the old kitchens, God rest them, and who aimed to have their children strong in body and in spirit and in zeal for rectitude, and who found no use for a physician when it was only the case of a puny kid. ... Castor oil was spooned in great quantities, and as a child we kindled some hopes when we heard that somebody had built an automobile which he found run better with the slick sickening oil of the bean in its crankcase. ... We felt sure the cars would eventually use it all. ... Later calomel came in vogue, and made one sick a couple of days, especially when it was chased in about 12 hours with a brimming glass of Epsom salts. ... And later on came a sort of iron tonic, mixed by the family physician. ... One had to take a dose before meals so the food wouldn't taste good, and one after he'd eaten, to find out whether or not he could hold his vittles.

And Spring ... 'Twas

Wormin' Time

But most of all we dreaded the visit of Aunt Eit Horton, with our portion of the Jerusalem Oak seed she had gathered so that all the neighbor kids could be wormed. ... They don't go for the worm theory of late, but in those days kids were infested, and the evil tasting seed of the weed, mixed with molasses, was the most positive remedy ever known. ... And sometimes when a youngster got ill doctored up, he felt too ill to enjoy going barefoot, or to dig worms for a fishing trip down Boone Creek. ... And when one stepped on a nail or on the broken fragments of a bottle, there were howls of anguish when the turpentine was poured on, and a soothing sense of well being when the salve, brewed from the buds of the balm of Gilead trees was applied. ... The home remedies, some of them, were rough on the system, but a heap of strong younguns who've grown into robust men and women would vow they would never have made it without the versatile mothers, who could start practicing the home healing arts with just a moment's notice.

Retires ... After 40 Years

Hooper Hendrix, veteran tobacco salesman, has retired from the American Snuff Co., after forty years spent with R. J. Reynolds, Taylor Brothers and the American. ... Mr. Hendrix, who says the tobacco people are the best people to work for he has ever known, has no active plans—just aims to stay around home and enjoy the freedom from business responsibility he has so richly earned. ... Our congratulations to Hooper on the completion of his business career, and we wish him well in the days ahead.

On The Melon ... Look Not

The quiz master on the tv show asked what president was linked to deep freeze scandals. ... The obvious answer was Harry Truman. ... And who with vicuna coats, oriental rugs and the like. ... The contestant guessed Dwight Eisenhower, might off. ... "And whose administration," said the man with the questions and the answers, "was caught up in the matter of two crates of cantaloupes?" ... No one answered, and that turned out to be John F. Kennedy. ... Now, all this didn't mean much to us, because we missed the matter of melons in the news of the

day. ... Actually we didn't know the President had ever had shady, toothsome tryst with the hot-climate delicacy of summertime. ... And it doesn't prove anything, so far as we know, unless it would that the Executive should never look upon the meat of the "mush melon" when it is gold, lest behind its honeyed sweetness there might be the poison-fang of the political serpent.

Uncle Pinkney

HIS PALAVERIN'S

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

Zeke Grubb's preacher come by the country store Saturday night, reported his joints was stiff from setting in on committee meetings all week. He told the fellers he read once where a camel was a horse that was put together by a committee, said he wouldn't doubt it none on account of they had committees in his Church that put some funny things together.

He said they now got 32 committees at his Church, one more than last year, reported they added a new one on account of they always wanted to show a increase for the year in everthing. The new one, he announced, was the Watchdog Committee, a addition suggested by the Bishop on account of the many underground movements in most churches today. He said they made Rufe Zinder's wife, the best head-hunter they got, chairman of this new Committee. It ain't even been sworn in official yet, he said, but they done uncovered two plots to git rid of the preacher, a plan fer changing the Choir, 30 cases of backbiting and one of backsliding. And he told the fellers confidential that he had a suspicion they was git-ting ready to tap his telephone.

Incidental, the good Parson ask the fellers if they was smoking more and enjoying it less, reported this topic was brung up Thursday night at the meeting of the Committee on Christian Living. Ellie Sanders, the solo singer in the Choir, was in charge of the program and Ellie claimed smoking wasn't no sin. She said the Lord put everthing here fer a purpose and she couldn't think of nothing to hacco good fer except smoking and chewing.

Hezekiah Adams claimed it was a sin and that if the Lord put everthing here fer a purpose, a man's nose wasn't put here fer a smoke stack.

But the big topic of the week, reported the Parson, come Tuesday night at the meeting of the Christian Education Committee. Big Slim brung up the subject of evolution, said he was hearing some schools was teaching that us humans come from monkeys. According to Big Slim, these folks was claiming that at one time they wasn't nothing but monkeys and they kept git-ting better and better till they turned into humans.

The Parson told the fellers he wasn't too shore we sprung from monkeys but it looked like the human race was zoing back to the monkeys. He said when God made man he was a pritty decent feller but he's been going backwards and git-ting worse all the time. He claimed he knowed a few men, from the way they was acting, that if they had a few fells you couldn't tell the difference.

The good Parson left a lifse early, said he had to take some bananas home to his six younguns.

Yours truly,
Uncle Pink

(MacKnight Syndicate)