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BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JULY 25, 1963

Shoppers Sometimes Thwarted

During the recent July sales in Boone, a number of shoppers referred to their inability to find parking places, and therefore had to forego visiting their favorite stores during the seasonal price concessions.

Some time ago a lady was heard to remark: "I had rather trade with Mr. . . . than any place in town. But since I can seldom find parking space, find it difficult."

Such expressions as these pinpoint the crowded conditions in the shopping district. Boone is not alone in this traffic plight, other towns are in the same shape, to be sure, as residents continually point out. But Boone is the only traffic-tangled municipality with whose problems we have to deal.

For a great many years it has been contended that business people should keep their cars at home during peak hours so that the visitors

to the city would be able to use the limited parking and patronize the stores of the local merchants. Most of the business people, we think, are doing this, which is certainly in the nature of self-interest as well as the public good.

Continued plugging at the truck traffic, and insistence on the bypass being used would certainly help the movement of the traffic through the town. This is especially important since there is only one lane each way. And some off-street parking would help tremendously, and might be profitable, if equipped with three-hour meters. But the problem of adequate space bobs up.

The police Department, we think is working well with the traffic, and has succeeded in slowing it down to a degree. This work should continue. But what the business district most needs is a place for its customers to park.

Proposed Parkway Extension

The action of the Department of the Interior and the Department of Commerce in recommending the extension of the Blue Ridge Parkway from a point south of Asheville to Cartersville, Georgia, a short distance north of Atlanta is hailed by Senator Jordan as offering "tremendous opportunities for us in North Carolina to greatly improve and expand our tourist industry."

Such an extension, of course, would bring the Parkway into the metropolitan area of Atlanta and connect it with the part of the Interstate Highway System that leads to the Gulf Coast and the Southwest. Heretofore the majority of the out-of-State tourists who have visited the Parkway regions of North Carolina have come from the population centers of the east.

The Blue Ridge Parkway has become one of the Nation's major

sightseeing attractions, and more and more interest is being developed in the coastal vacation areas of the State, also. Each year, North Carolina people are realizing more and more the desirability of further developing our already important tourist industry. It is one of our top sources of income and we are most fortunate to have excellent combinations of natural resources that lend themselves unusually well to the tourist industry.

Only within the past few weeks, it is pointed out by Senator Jordan, the public recreation areas adjoining the W. Kerr Scott Reservoir in Wilkes county were opened, and it was found immediately that the facilities were inadequate from the time they opened. On July 4 alone, about 2,500 people visited the recreation areas around the reservoir.

Carolina Crime Rate Jumps

North Carolina's major crime rate increased 6.2 per cent during last year, the FBI said in a statement released last Thursday.

The annual Index of Crime said the number of offenses in North Carolina was up 1,972 over the report for 1961. For the South Atlantic region, the rate of major crime jumped 5.3 per cent during 1962.

Offenses included in the FBI index are murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and auto theft.

In this State increases were shown over 1961 in every category except murder and non-negligent manslaughter, where the total dropped from 401 to 353.

State totals in the other categories, with the 1961 totals bracketed, were:

Forcible rape 352 (327); robbery 786 (653); aggravated assault 7,864 (7,725); burglary 13,606 (12,478); larceny of \$50 and over 7,144 (6,742), and auto theft 3,911 (3,718).

Break Down Of Spending

(Biblical Recorder)

The average American, according to latest figures, spends \$6.23 a day. Here is the breakdown on his spending. Food, \$1.06; taxes, 79c; household operation, 71c; housing, 66c; transportation, 60c; clothing, 52c; medical, 31c; recreation, 31c; alcoholic beverages, 15c; tobacco, 11c; religious and welfare, 7c; savings, 38c; all other, 56c. (Source, Quarterly Review). The inequities stand out glaringly. Can you imagine a nation

spending more than twice as much on alcoholic beverages as on all religious and welfare causes combined? Or spending 11c for tobacco every time 7c is spent on these worthy projects? Percentage-wise, each of us gives only 1.1 per cent of our income to these worthy causes. Little wonder so many families have financial difficulties with a spending ratio like this.

GRAND RIGHT AND LEFT



From Early Democrat Files

Sixty Years Ago

July 23, 1903.

Mr. C. M. McKesson, son of the Hon. C. F. McKesson, of Morganton, was killed on the Southern at midnight of the 14th inst. He was acting as flagman at the time of his death. An awkward step, a fall, and young McKesson was crushed beneath the train.

The list of casualties from celebrating the 4th of July is much larger this year than usual. It would be well if the people would quit so much foolery, and celebrate the day in a patriotic, civil way, and much pleasure should be derived from this day by all who are patriotically inclined, if it were but done in the right way.

Rev. B. F. Hargett is conducting a series of meetings at White Spring church this week.

Mrs. J. F. Spainhour and children, of Morganton, are the guests of Mrs. E. S. Coffey.

Painter Blair has completed the first coats on the three buildings of the Professors Dougherty near the Academy.

The appearance of the pretty home of W. L. Bryan is being much improved by a thorough painting. The work is being done by T. J. Sullivan, of Vilas.

It is very poor economy to put half the price of a new court house on the old one in the way of repairs, and when completed have a second condition that is almost worse than the first. Yet the idea of trying to repair seems to be uppermost in the minds of some of our commissioners. Non-sense.

Mr. and Mrs. I. S. Rambo, of

Mountain City, Tenn., came over last week, and, with quite a number of young people, visited the Grandfather. Mr. Rambo returned Saturday, but left his wife and little son, Justin, who will remain here some days with relatives and friends.

The matter of a court house seems to be taking a rest just now, but we learn that our county fathers are seriously considering the little hint Judge Long threw out at the last term of court and it is hoped that they will take some steps at their August meeting.

Thirty-Nine Years Ago

July 24, 1924.

Work on the model school building at the A.T.S. is progressing nicely.

The farmers are now engaged in oat harvest and caring for the big hay crop. The weather somewhat against them, however.

Work is going forward on the bungalow of Dr. J. M. Hodges on Green Heights. Knapp, the painter, will finish the interior wood work in mahogany with grained hardwood floors.

A Ford roadster, the property of Hon. F. A. Linney, was stolen from the front of the court house during the movie show last Saturday night. Fortunately for Mr. Linney the gas was low in the tank and burned out on the road up Cove Creek, and the car was abandoned near the State line, and was recovered Sunday.

Mrs. Carson Sherwood of Bristol, Tenn. visited the home

of her brother Mr. W. W. Mast recently.

Mr. Vance C. Howell son of W. N. Howell is now attending one of the higher universities of learning in New York City. Vance has been climbing the ladder of knowledge for several years and seems to have his ideal stationed at the top.

Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Lenoir, J. F. Lenoir and Mrs. W. M. Lenoir all of Hogood, S. C. were visitors to relatives in Boone the first of the week. The Messrs. Lenoir are sons of the late Mrs. S. F. Lenoir, formerly Mrs. Alice Council of Boone. It is the first visit of the gentlemen to this section since early childhood, and they were delighted with their short stay. The people of the town were highly pleased to see them.

Regardless of the money stringency and the howl of hard times throughout the country, Boone is going steadily on with the biggest building campaign in her history. Every mechanic and every common laborer, so far as we know, find work in abundance here. Property is changing hands at a lively clip—in fact this chosen section has as yet been but little affected by the perplexing problem of finance that has so agitated the people throughout the United States.

Fifteen Years Ago

July 22, 1948.

Midshipman Carr C. (Jack) Whitener, RS, son of Dr. and Mrs. D. J. Whitener, has completed his first year at the U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., and is a member of the new third (sophomore) class. Whitener is presently on the Midshipman Summer Practice Cruise.

Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Gregg and son, Jeffery Allen, of Tuskegee, Alabama have been visiting the past ten days at the home of Mr. Gregg's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Allen Gregg. Mr. Gregg is manager of Carr Laundry and Dry Cleaners in Tuskegee, Ala.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Shirley announce the birth of a son, Bobby Guy, on July 5th at the Watauga Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Greer of Cleveland spent last week with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Greer of Mabel and Mrs. Margaret Perry of Silverstone.

Mr. and Mrs. George R. Martin of Gardner, Mass., are spending their vacation with Mrs. Martin's parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Watson of Boone.

Rev. and Mrs. Bynum Tri-vette of Sugar Grove announce the marriage of their daughter, Gladys Elaine, to Edward Darrell Berry, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Berry of Boone. The wedding took place in North Wilkesboro on July 2nd.

Mrs. Council Cooke is taking graduate work at the summer school of the University of Virginia.

Mrs. Beulah Coleman and son, Joseph, of Cleveland, Ohio spent last week with Mrs. Coleman's mother, Mrs. C. L. Elliott of Vilas.

Mrs. Robert A. Rahe of Portland, Oregon, who has spent the past six weeks with her mother, Mrs. Jack Mast of Sugar Grove, will return to her home this week.

KING STREET

BY ROB RIVERS

Popular Resort . . . Razed By Flames

Mystery Hill, popular stopping place for tourists on the heavily-traveled section of 321 between Boone and Blowing Rock, was the scene of a disastrous fire Sunday morning, and we deeply regret that Messrs Underdown and Stamey, owners of the structure, suffered this terrific loss . . . Only one building — the one in which water appears to run up hill, and the laws of gravity are thought to have been "repealed," was left standing.

OF CHIEF CONCERN to the owners is the fact that so many relics of the early day settlers in this area, which had been collected for their museum and which are irreplaceable, also went up in smoke . . . we shall hope that from the ashes will rise another office and museum building, so that the enterprising men who developed the place will soon be back in business again.

A Neighbor . . . His Leave-Taking

Lionel Ward, perhaps the best known veterans' service officer in the State, whose tireless energies in behalf of those he has served, are so well known, went into the shadows of the long evening, leaving many friends to ponder his going . . . Lionel was a good friend of ours through the years . . . Generous, personable, and kind, he was one of the most appreciated visitors at the Democrat office, where he will be missed . . . Never too busy for a kind word, or an expression of appreciation for our efforts, his friendly interest in our welfare was even more appreciated than the considerable patronage he gave us . . . We shall remember Lionel as man who served his country with loyalty and diligence in war and in peace, and who, since he joined civilian ranks again, gave himself unstintingly to his job . . . Faithful to the trust imposed in him, he worked fruitfully and contributed generously to his country and to his fellowmen.

AND WE WERE GRIEVED when Dr. Wright, former eminent professor of mathematics at the College, laid aside mortality, in the continuing cycle of birth and death and of eternity . . . Dr. Wright had become an old-timer in the community, coming to Appalachian more than forty years ago, and establishing himself as an esteemed citizen . . . During his long residence here he contributed bountifully to the religious, educational, and public life of the community and of the county, and set an enviable example in useful and upstanding citizenship.

MR. CHARLIE CLAY, was another of those who passed into the sunset recently . . . He had been a prominent lumberman, farmer, county commissioner and outstanding citizen of his community and county, and his having lived here added impetus to all the good causes which have been promoted in the county.

DOCK RAGAN, whom we have known and liked down through the multiplying years, is another who has been absent from the ranks of the living . . . A good citizen, a hard-working man, a good father and neighbor was this man with whom we enjoyed fellowship for so long.

E. W. MORETZ, of Deep Gap was among those to fall recently as the Reaper's scythe seemed to cut a wider swath than common in the county . . . Mr. Moretz had reached the age of 90 years . . . A member of one of the county's oldest and most prominent families, he was a good man and will be missed by his many friends in this area.

Greetings From Far Away

Marshal Walters, of the College faculty, better known among his friends as Doc Walters, has been sending us some cards from here and there as he toured the Pacific . . . We've enjoyed these messages, from which we reprint some sentences:

"HONOLULU . . . DeGroat and I are trying to let people in the Pacific know about Boone. You should be here to help us! One thing California and Hawaii could teach us . . . all cars stop when any pedestrian is crossing a street."

"OKINAWA . . . Ten hours

from Hawaii here by Pan Am jet . . . Small world . . . First day we met Meise who was president of ASTC student body, now starting 14 months of Marine duty here. Also ran across two other Boone boys, (will get names later.)

"ANCHORAGE, ALASKA: Greetings from up north. Lots of snow . . . Quite a difference here from Okinawa, Korea and Japan . . . Should have been back in Boone yesterday (July 18), but no planes because of typhoons around Korea . . . Several million military and civilians in Pacific area now know about Boone."

Uncle Pinkney

HIS PALAVERIN'S

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

In case you forgot to mark it on your calendar, we got the big Buckle Decision coming up this month. You will recollect that back in 1961 the boys in the Pentagon discovered the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines was all gitting their belt buckles made in different colors.

The experts on such matters got together in a telephone booth and decided it would save the taxpayers a heap of money if all belt buckles were made to the same specifications. After a two-day conference, it was decided that all belt buckles would now be black.

In 1962 the experts decided the black buckles wasn't satisfactory, they was chipping around the edges. Natural, this caused a stir in the Pentagon and the Quartermaster Research Center was called in on the case. It was decided to conduct "exhaustive tests" in the matter and a service unit at Natick, Mass., was assigned to the belt buckle testing program. Last month it was announced that the belt buckle testing folks had been moving along real good, that all instruments was green, all systems go, and we could expect a decision sometime in July.

In the meantime, Senator Harry Byrd announces that all the testing has been going on, we have been stockpiling the four old type buckles, added a fifth to the stockpiling procedure, and that boys at Natick was also testing two new ones. He now estimates that we got enough belt buckles stockpiled to hold up the pants of ever man, woman, and child in the nation for the next half-century.

It will be interesting, Mister Editor, to git the final decision from the boys at Natick. If you hear the news afore I do, please drop me a post card, Zip number 260449, Social Security 243-48-8565, Internal Revenue Service 44-6005846.

The session at the country store Saturday night was routine. The fellers always starts out ever session by solving the problems they don't know nothing about first. Natural, most sessions begins with the wimmen folks. Clem Webster, that is our expert on these matters at local level, reported he come to town last Saturday to see how you folks was gitting along and he found the wimmen folks was gitting along without too much to wear.

Clem says it's a sight in this world the contraptions wimmen of today can rig up to put on fer summer. He allowed as how when he was a boy a girl stayed at home if she didn't have nothing to wear, but now she just puts on her shoes and comes to town anyhow. That being the case, I wouldn't doubt, Mister Editor, if all the fellers didn't come to town next Saturday.

Yours truly,
Uncle Pink