

You Can't Go Home Again, But It's Fun To Return To ASTC

By CLARK COX

It was a North Carolinian, Thomas Wolfe, who made famous the saying that "You can't go home again." And he was right, in ways that perhaps never occurred to him.

To most of those who have graduated from Appalachian State Teachers College, Boone has become a second home; and for this reason, the college year holds "Homecoming" ceremonies for those who wish to return and renew old acquaintances, familiarizing themselves anew with old sights and sounds of the town and the campus as they do so.

This weekend, Homecoming will again be observed at ASTC, and a number of special events have been planned for the entertainment of alumni—not the least of which are election of a Homecoming Queen and the annual Homecoming football game, this week against Carson-Newman at Conrad Stadium.

But the theme of this year's observance—"The Old and the New"—points out a sad fact about such observances.

The old and the new can never be reconciled; places—and people—change so quickly in the course of years and events that it becomes futile to attempt to hold on to things past.

This town, this campus, will be practically unrecognizable to members of the class who return to Boone for the first time to be specially recognized on the 25th anniversary of their graduation. And their classmates may prove to have changed even more.

But all this is as it should be. Progress cannot occur without a continual process of change; and people, too, cannot afford to stand still (even if they could) and let the rest of the world pass them by.

Progress and human growth—these two words summarize perhaps better than any others the changes which have been wrought during the past 25 years in the college and its alumni.

But it is nevertheless always refreshing to return to the scenes of one's college days, altered though they may be. By

doing so, graduates of the college can gain a clearer picture of the influences which have shaped subsequent events and — we hope — subsequent successes.

And Homecoming is a favorite time for reminiscing about situations and experiences which, although long past, can never be lost. These things have been crucial in shaping the lives and characters of the men and women who were yesterday's collegiates.

Besides, Homecoming is the perfect excuse for taking a short, long-overdue vacation from the stresses of everyday routine.

But our memory often plays tricks on us when we attempt to call back events and experiences from a quarter-century ago. We wonder how many 1938 graduates recall clearly the events which were shaping history in the world, the nation, and the state, and which were making their collegiate days the most fondly remembered ones of their lives.

We hope that the following notes help to jog their memor-

ies a bit, and entertain them as well as they relish "old times" with their cohorts.

The 1937 ASTC football team (the 1938 graduates were seniors that fall, remember) was a powerhouse, losing the Southern Small College Championship game by a touchdown only to Mississippi State Teachers College after an unscored-upon regular season. Senior members of the starting eleven were Rovie Jones Angell, James Connor Hawkins, Jacob Brenton Stines, Roy Harris Turbyfill, Jr., Earl William Henson, and Hal Buckner Farthing. The athletic director and football coach, was Pierce O. "Kidd" Brewer.

Senior class officers were: president, Dwayne Thompson; vice-president, Lucy Little; secretary, Nell McSwain; and treasurer, Ray Cline.

Hal Farthing, edited the school newspaper, The Appalachian; and Jack Gibbs was editor of the yearbook, the Rhododendron. Miss Daisy Williams was chosen May Queen that year.

A highlight for the Playcrafters, the college dramatic association, in 1938 was the smashing success of their production of "H.M.S. Pinafore."

The wrestling team enjoyed its sixth straight year of phenomenal success (the string of successful years still hasn't been broken), and good years were also enjoyed by the boys' and girls' basketball teams and the boxing and tennis teams.

The favorite campus dance of 1938 was something called the "Big Apple," and was perhaps denounced and defended as strongly as the twist is today.

A 71-apartment teacherage was in the works for the college, and construction began on a new \$50,000 boys dorm. A flurry of other building work was taking place, and campus sidewalks were undergoing extensive repair.

On the county level, a new post office was being built in Boone. Fighting between the "wets" and "drys" over the liquor sales issue had reached a peak. Rural electrification service was beginning to be a major topic of conversation. Roads in and around Boone were being widened and repaired in a program of major interest. And Robert L. Doughton gained his 15th term in the U. S. House of Representatives, representing Watauga and surrounding counties.

Statewide, all sorts of improvements were well under way as North Carolina made a belated entrance into the era of modernity under the strong leadership of Governor Clyde R. Hoey. The proposed new Blue Ridge Parkway was a ma-

ior topic of interest.

But in the nation and world, the news was mostly discouraging, if not downright bad. In Germany, a little man with a moustache was making a big and frightening noise; the rest of the world girded itself for the coming war which appeared to be just over the horizon, and everyone watched the newspapers anxiously for news of European affairs.

But in England, a portly cigar smoker was making it clear that his country was willing to fight Nazism to the finish; and in the U. S., FDR was already stirring up talk that he may run for an unprecedented third term as President.

The world lost its favorite entertainer in 1938, when the plane in which Will Rogers was riding went down in Alaska. The pilot of that plane was Wiley Post, (a world-famous man in his own field, that of aviation. Their deaths were mourned all over the world.

In baseball, the Yanks won their third straight World Series, beating an aging Dixie Dean and his Chicago Cub teammates in four straight games. And a rookie named Ted Williams was vying for attention with another youngster named DiMaggio.

All this happened in 1938—along with much, much more. Remember?

Dr. Weaver To Be Speaker At Farm-City Event

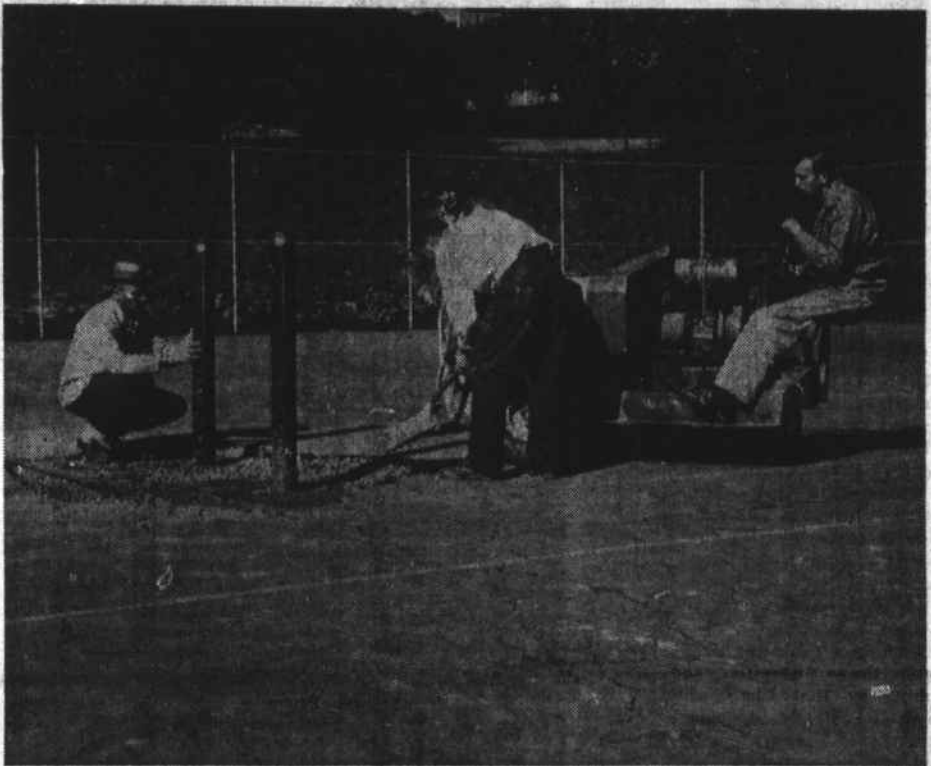
County Agent L. E. Tuckwiler has announced that the principal speaker on the program for the annual Farm-City Meeting, to be held at Cove Creek High School gymnasium November 14 at 6:30 p.m., will be Mr. David S. Weaver, Chairman of the North Carolina State Commission on Soil and Water Conservation.

The rest of the program has been only partially made out, according to Tuckwiler. The complete itinerary will be announced as soon as it is definitely decided upon.

The Farm-City Meeting is a highlight of the year for farmers, merchants, and business and professional people all over Watauga County. The annual event allows citizens in all types of work throughout the county to get together in a highly social atmosphere and talk over common problems.

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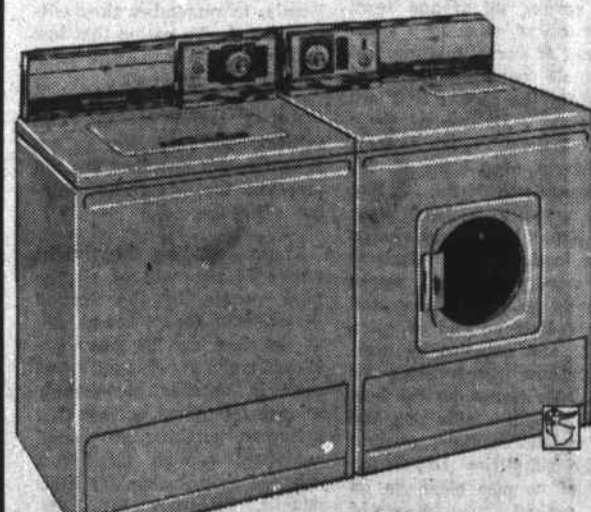
Face-Lifting

The tennis courts of Appalachian State Teachers College recently underwent renovation, and are now ready for use again. Courts near the boys dormitories and those

near the laundry were resurfaced with a special composition which is expected to last for several years, and the net supports were enlarged.



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The Sayings Of Josh Abrams . . .

By CLARK COX

You do somebody dirt, everybody in town knows about it inside of five minutes. But you do a good deed, them that does know about it looks at you like you wuz softheaded.

Muriel Ratliff wuz confined t'her room yestiddy by a swollen closet door.

Flem Myers, local moonshiner, wuz in the county jail last week on business.

"The higher you climb, the better the view." But they's a lot uv haze in the distance.

By the time a man learns to tie a bow tie, he's too old to wear one.

"All's well that ends well," but it don't hurt to start off right.

What this country's morale needs is more premature funeral orations an' less premature funerals.

Miss Orestina Brittle says she won't never marry, but I thought she wuz younger than that.

Judgin' character is simple: a man'll tell you about all uv his good qualities, an' the faults'll speak up fer themselves.

Theys as much authority in American homes as ever; but

A loyal dog is your assurance of having one friend.

Politeness is a virtue that seems to be on the wane these days.

now the kids has got most uv it.

Most things folks do is too silly to cry about an' too pitiful to laugh at.

Time cures all ills, but I sometimes git awful sick while waitin'.

A woman will give you her right age at two different times—when she's too young to know better, an' when she's too old to care.

If ever'body leaned the same way, the world would tip over.

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* Reg. T. M. of Chemstrand.



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