

Grandfather Mountain Is Oldest In Appalachians

LINVILLE, July 27—(Special)—At least 140 millions years ago a great westerly movement of the crust of the earth in this area encountered an immovable section of that crust. The consequence was an upward crumpling such as would result if the free edge of a page of a book were moved horizontally toward the bound edge. In this process, Grandfather Mountain was born.

For years friends of the Grandfather have been applying superlatives to this ancestor of mountains: its complex geologic history, its magnificent and towering peaks, its incomparable view, its gorgeous flora and the exhilarating air at its top.

But there are other points which even the most casual observer must note that set Grandfather off from its fellow-peaks.

Scientists have recently asserted that during the Glacial Age the great ice mass came down only to what is now the northern border of the state of North Carolina. As it receded north, it carried seeds from the forests of Grandfather back over the barren areas of America, furnishing the seeding of our great northern forests.

Enthusiastic climbers have been amazed at the appearance of ravens, winging their way around the cliffs and bluffs of Grandfather. And a lucky few have climbed to the very top for a rare glimpse of the raven's nest.

It is also to be noted that Grandfather is the only mountain south of Canada where the snow birds build their homes. Snakes are never seen on the upper slopes.

A few miles along the Yonahlossee Trail which winds around the slopes of Grandfather are the bluffs from which can be seen the strange Brown Mountain lights which have intrigued and mystified scientists from all over the United States.

On clear nights, tiny lights twinkle and dance on the horizon, giving the appearance of some gay carnival scene in the distance.

Scientific groups have made numerous trips to the Grandfather region in an attempt to prove some one of the many theories advanced to account for this phenomenon but none have been successful.

The Grandfather Mountain is appropriately named. We are accustomed to call the Mississippi "Old

Man River" and "The Father of Waters." If we give venerable titles to that stream, we assuredly are using restraint when we choose no more venerable one than "Grandfather" when referring to a peak that has been rearing its majestic head to the high heavens for so many millions of years.

Of course there is a more obvious reason for the name. From some vantage points the top of the mountain forms a perfect profile of a bearded man in a reclining position and this undoubtedly is responsible for the name.

There are numerous peaks in the Blue Ridge that are a few hundred feet higher than the Grandfather, although Mt. Mitchell itself, the highest peak east of the Rockies, is only 747 feet taller.

However, the bold appearance of the long summit of Grandfather, the unusual rock formations, the wealth of its flora, and its dominance of the landscape of so large an area, make of it one of the most interesting and important peaks of the whole Appalachian system.

Leading Growers To Speak At Farm Week

Growers who have demonstrated on their own land how good farming practices build up the soil and increase farm income will be featured on the men's program for Farm and Home Week at State college, August 1-5.

These growers and extension specialists will point out the value of crop rotations in increasing crop yields and controlling insects and disease, tell how livestock aid in soil improvement and balancing the farm program, discuss the importance of good seed, and show the place of poultry in a good farm program.

An address Tuesday morning on "Where Are We Going in Southern Agriculture?" by J. A. Evans, of the Georgia extension service, and two talks Wednesday and Thursday morning by Dr. O. E. Baker, senior agricultural economist, U. S. department of agriculture, will be of special interest, said John W. Goodman, of State college, secretary of Farm and Home Week.

The only addresses to be delivered on an evening program will be given by Gov. and Mrs. Clyde R. Hoey on Thursday. The other evenings will be kept open for band music and recreation.

Lynn Ramsaw Edminster, of the U. S. department of state, will speak Tuesday morning on trade agreements with other countries and their importance in helping southern agriculture find a market for its surplus products.

Friday morning, representatives of various agricultural organizations will explain their programs for sponsoring agricultural legislation beneficial to the farmers.

The tours to be conducted in the afternoons will include visits to laboratories on the campus, the college animal husbandry farm, poultry farm, and tobacco experiment station, and to places of interest in the capital city.

Special Program For Women At Convention

The annual meeting of the N. C. Federation of Home Demonstration clubs on Thursday will head the list of activities for women at Farm and Home Week at State college, August 1-5.

Along with the transaction of business and the election of officers for the coming year, the federation will hear talks by prominent speakers, including Mrs. Clyde R. Hoey and Miss Grace E. Frysinger, of the U. S. department of agriculture.

Another outstanding program will be given Friday, honor day, when certificates are to be presented to women who will have completed attendance at their fourth annual women's short course. The main speaker for honor day will be Judge Lois Mary McBride, of the Alleghany county court, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Tuesday and Wednesday mornings the women will attend classes in foods and nutrition, food conservation and marketing, home management and house furnishings, health, clothing, parent education and child training, photography, recreation, horticulture, the niceties

View of Grandfather Mountain



Above is a view of Grandfather Mountain, in Avery county, oldest peak in the western hemisphere. Plans are under way to extend the present road to the first peak of the mountain.

of life, and getting the most out of books.

Discussions of freezer-lockers at the joint program for men and women Friday morning by extension specialists will be of particular interest to the women, said Miss Ruth Current, state home demonstration agent in charge of the women's program for the week.

Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons will be open for tours over the college campus and to points of interest in Raleigh. Also on Tuesday afternoon's program will be demonstrations on the use of herbs in cookery and on cake-decorating.

Each person coming to the convention can spend the week in a dormitory room for \$1. Meals will be served at moderate price in the college cafeteria.

State College Answers Timely Farm Questions

Q. Do tobacco stalks when plowed under have any beneficial effect upon the soil?

A. Green tobacco stalks, when plowed under, liberate a certain amount of plant food, but the greatest benefit from this practice comes from the destruction of insect pests. Suckers, which grow on stalks left standing in the field, furnish a breeding ground for millions of pests which in turn attack the crop the next season. All plants should be destroyed immediately after harvest and the stalks turned under to prevent the breeding and feeding of these insect pests.

Q. When should laying hens be culled from the flock?

A. It is sometimes stated that when egg production in a flock, especially in the summer months, falls below 30 per cent it is time for the entire flock to be handled. However, a more complete record than this is needed before it could apply to any flock. The price received for eggs, the cost of feed, and the feed cost per dozen eggs should be known before any intensive culling is done. Watch the flock for the early molters and dispose of them as soon as molt appears or when production ceases. The removal of these birds will take care of the culling problem until it is time to select breeding hens.

Q. What is the best time to cut lespedeza for hay?

A. Lespedeza should be cut when it attains a height of 15 inches, or when it is in full bloom, whichever occurs first. The usual dates for the Korean variety is from August 1 to September 1 and 15 days later for the other varieties. When July and August are dry and September wet, the main growth of the Common, Tennessee E6 and Kobe varieties will take place in September and it will pay to delay cutting until October 1 or later. If cut early, however, lespedeza will make enough second growth to reseed the land but it is seldom possible to remove both a hay crop and a seed crop the same year.

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