

## Donnie's Missing Valentine Came Close To Ending The Party On Tearful Note

The perfect afternoon for Mrs. Alec Deal's East Franklin first grade Valentine party last Thursday was ending on a note of imperfection.

Manfully, six-year-old Donnie Seagle kept back the tears. But how his lips quivered when after all the Valentines had been pulled from the big red box at the front of the room and given out, Donnie was missing his.

Not that he didn't get any cards, for his schoolmates remembered him generously. But this was a very special one. This was the Valentine each first grader had worked hard on, carefully letter-

ing the message from the sample Mrs. Deal put on the blackboard: My heart for you, dear Mother With love is running over.

Twould take four hearts to hold it.

They're in this four leaf clover. All of the earlier gaiety of the afternoon was clouded for Donnie.

For the others, however, it was a real Valentine's Day. Mrs. Deal herself had set the tone. She wore a bright red knit dress and accented the effect with heart-shaped (red) earrings.

The room's decorations would have won any Valentine. On the boards were the drawings by Mrs.

Deal's students. On the new reading table were a large punch bowl and cups which she had brought from home. A cold, delicious, red punch, made by the teacher, had been in that bowl until 23 little Valentine makers were served.

Although Mrs. Deal wanted to do all the work for this party—"The P.T. A. has been so wonderful to our room; I didn't want them to do anything more for a while"—nevertheless, cookies were forthcoming from two of the mothers, Mrs. J. H. Fisher and Mrs. Bob S. Sloan.

There are things even dearer to the heart of Mrs. Deal than Val-

entines. Reading and numbers, for instance. She pointed out, with teacher's pride, that no time had been taken from those subjects for the children to make the pretty four-piece cards.

"We had an extra good reading lesson this morning," she said, beaming. A nicer Valentine, no teacher could receive.

The school buses were lining up outside, now. Within minutes, it would be time to go home.

What about Donnie's Valentine? Carefully, Mrs. Deal looked at each child's home-made card. Down the first row . . . Brenda Penland had her own. And Lowell Holland had his. Lynn Stamey, Steve Miller, Irene Elliott, and Dick Blaine, too.

Up and down the rows . . . to Eulene Greene, James Browning, Scotty Jacobs. Finally, only a

single student remained to be checked. Whose card did Clarabelle Dills have?

Not Donnie Seagle's, to be sure. She had Clarabelle Dills'.

The warning buzzer sounded and Kenny Seay cast an eager look toward the buses. Donnie looked at Mrs. Deal. Mrs. Deal looked about the room, going over each cupboard, each desk, every stack of books—everywhere she thought the missing Valentine might be.

To double check, she decided to look in her own desk. Maybe, in lifting the cards out of a drawer to put them in the class box, she'd left one.

Donnie's eyes followed his teacher to the desk, to the drawer handle, right into the drawer.

"That's mine! That's mine! Mrs.

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### Presbyterian Men's Club Changes Meet

The Men's Club of the Presbyterian Church will meet Wednesday of next week, instead of Tuesday, as customary.

The change in schedule is made to accommodate three speakers from Appalachia Synod, who will speak on work of men in the church. They are Dr. I. M. Ellis, chairman of Christian education for the synod; Ned Startzell, the

Deal! That's mine!" And the bell rang. And Mrs. Donald Seagle, of Holly Springs, surely had an extra special St. Valentine's Day.

synod's president of men of the church; and Dr. Quinn Constanitz, of Western Carolina College, Cullowhee.

A covered dish is to be brought and the meeting time is 7 p. m. at the church.

### Asheville Man Plans Talk At Snow Hill On Lord's Acre

Jack Waldrep, of Asheville, will be the speaker at Snow Hill Methodist Church Wednesday night, February 27th, at 7:30.

The Lord's Acre plan will be presented. The public is invited.



**Three Big Days--Thurs., Fri., Sat.**  
**FEBRUARY 21-22-23<sup>rd</sup>.** Register Here For 100 Silver Dollars To Be Given Away On Town Square Saturday, February 23rd at 4:30

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