

MORE ABOUT Weill

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of January, took KLM, which is the Royal Dutch Airline, from New York to Amsterdam, and arrived there in 14 hours after I left New York. With all the comforts you have today, you don't even realize that you are going over the ocean; and with all the eating and drinking, you don't have much time to sleep.

Leaving Waynesville, we had pretty good weather; but when I arrived in Holland, I got my first taste of European winter weather. I did not remember any more what winter is, since we are fortunate here in having such mild winters. But, I can tell you that in Switzerland I could not even go out of the hotel on account of the cold. It was about 22° below zero Centigrade, which means about 10° below Fahrenheit, and I thought very often of how comfortable we live with our oil heating and good living standards, as compared with the conditions over there. Most of the people still have stoves in their rooms and have to heat each room individually, and not very well, even then.

But, I didn't want to talk about the weather, but want to talk about Austria's liberation from the Communists. You all know that Austria was occupied by the four big powers since the end of the war. I have been in Austria many times in the last few years and have observed the Occupation Forces handling their affairs in Austria.

Austrians Unfriendly At First

In the beginning, the Austrian people were not very friendly with any of the occupation forces, but gradually they became very friendly, especially with the forces from the Western Hemisphere; and you could see many American and English soldiers invited to the homes of many of the Austrian people. As a consequence, many of the young soldiers were engaged to girls overseas and brought them back to their home country.

The Austrian people realized that the Marshall Plan and all the financial assistance of the Western Powers helped them in building back their bombed homes and industries; and slowly you could see that a real friendship was beginning to exist between the Austrian people and the American and Allied forces.

Quite different was the picture in the territory occupied by the Russians. Nothing was done, nothing was rebuilt, and a few of the good homes which were not bombed during the war were occupied by Russian forces. People could not say what they wanted, lived in constant fear of being transferred to Russia for saying something wrong, there was no free speech, and no free press.

The Western Powers tried in vain to induce Russia to free Austria, and most of the people in Austria believed that the Russians would stay forever.

**Ask No Contribution**  
In the last few years of their occupation, the American forces did not ask for any contribution for their Army. But, the Austrians had to pay Russia for all the requirements of their entire occupation force.

However, even more important, the Russians took over all of the oil fields in Austria, shipped the oil to Russia, and did not even pay anything for it. You can imagine that Austria was not able to recover financially; and only the Marshall Plan and our financial assistance helped them to overcome this situation.

In the Russian-occupied territory, the Communists had their own retail stores and would not buy anything from Austrian stores. They even imported and exported without paying any duties or taxes.

Suddenly, last summer, with the shift in Russian policy, the Austrian Chancellor was invited to come to Moscow. There they came to an agreement that Russia would withdraw from Austria, and furthermore return to Austria all their oil fields and refineries and all the factories in Russian hands at the time. Although the Austrians had to pay a big price for it, they were happy to learn that their country would be finally free.

The Americans were so surprised when they heard all this that they could hardly believe it—and from all the building which was going on in the American-occupied territory, you could see that they really had no idea of what was going to happen. Finally, in the Fall, all occupation forces left, and Austria was again a free country.

Austria was thankful for the assistance and help which they had received; and even in the Russian Occupation Zone, the population was 100% democratic, and the Communists did not even get 2% of all the votes.

Opera House Rebuilt

Austria started rapidly to rebuild. And, since it was always known as a land of music and culture, they started first with the Opera House, which is the largest and finest in the world. In November, they opened the doors for the first time; and thousands of visitors from all over the world came to see this beautiful building and listen to the beautiful music of the Opera.

When I arrived in Austria the end of January, I could really see a change in the attitude of the population, and I could realize what



TOP MAN AROUND THE COURTHOUSE Thursday was this Charlotte steeplejack, giving the flagpole on the courthouse lawn a fresh coat of aluminum paint. Noting The Mountaineer photographer at work, the steeplejack called down: "Come on up here; you'll get a much better picture."

### Episcopal Building Fund Reaches 84 Per Cent Of Goal In Whirlwind Campaign

The building fund of Grace Episcopal Church zoomed within \$12,000 of its \$75,000 goal as pledges were received during the past week to bring the total to \$63,000.

The sum represents the result of the canvass of residents and was pledged by 73 families within two weeks. Some \$13,000 in cash has been received and plans are to start the new building in early fall.

### Board of Elections

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Mrs. Hobart Hardin, Beaverdam No. 2—Joe Mease, John Chapman, Troy Ford, Mrs. Mae West. Beaverdam No. 3—Mrs. Logan White, Rufner Jones, W. L. Goolsby, Harry Hughes. Beaverdam No. 4—Mrs. Wade Rhea, Mrs. Tom Hipps, Mrs. Vincent Worley, Mrs. Mark Swain. Beaverdam No. 5—Fred Williams, Edwin Hyatt, Bill Battison, Mac Byers. Beaverdam No. 6—Mrs. Don Scroggs, V. H. Byers, Paul Bumgarner, Frank Campbell. Beaverdam No. 7—Mrs. Carolyn Plemmons, Girtwood Smathers, William Kyle, H. C. Crumley, Jr. Big Creek—Mac Caldwell, Mrs. Jack Redman, Crow Hopkins, Hollis Sutton. Cecil—Mrs. Howard Medford. Paul Woody, Larner Warren, Clyde Caldwell. Clyde—Mrs. Sara Brown, Massie Osborne, Marguerite Welch, Gilmer Carver. Crabtree—Gay Bradshaw, Hershell Rogers, R. M. Hawkins, Sr., Vinson Davis. East Fork—West A. Pless, Rex L. Pless, Morris Trull, Mrs. Ruth Butler. Hazelwood—Mrs. R. W. Crawford, Cecil Mauney, O. V. Cagle, Rudolph Carswell. Lake Junaluska—Mrs. Grover Leatherwood, Paul Sutton, Tom Fincher, Andy Moody. Jonathan Creek—Mrs. Kate

### Spain Most Inexpensive

Quite different is Spain. We generally have a very wrong impression about this country. The people in Barcelona and Madrid are well dressed and make a good living. You don't see anything of a dictatorship. People can do and live as they wish. Prices there, compared with our standards, are terribly cheap. I brought a menu and a wine card along, and just want to tell you a few of the prices: Fish Dinner (Haddock or Sole) between 50c and 60c. Pork Loin, 50c. Sirloin Steak with Potatoes, 80c. Still cheaper is the wine: You can buy 1/2 bottle of wine for from 6c to 50c for the very finest bottle.

So, next time any of you plan a trip to Europe, stay a little longer in Spain and enjoy yourself.

England has made a 100% recovery, and the people there are hard-working and happy.

Due to the extremely cold weather, I had to take it easier and could not do as much business as usual, so, therefore, I had more time to make up my attendance at the Rotary meetings and had many occasions to talk privately with Rotary members in Austria and Switzerland.

You all know that we have an Exchange Student Program, which brings us some students from overseas to this country, while some of our boys and girls go overseas. This is sponsored by Rotary International in Chicago, but the idea of enabling a youth from another country to spend a few weeks in their own community has a great attraction for many Rotary clubs.

As a member of the International Committee in this club, I was always thinking that it would be very interesting to sponsor the travel of a local youth to a community in another country, where he or she would be under the care and influence of Rotary.

### Student Exchange Suggested

I talked this over with many members of the different Rotary clubs, and I could see that the clubs would be highly cooperative to help us in exchanging students at an astonishingly small expense to the clubs concerned. The entire cost of traveling back and forth for a 10 weeks' visit comes to about \$280 or \$300, which has to be paid by the youth himself. And, since they can live in the home of a Rotarian during the entire stay, the cost to the club would be limited to incidentals, such as pocket money.

Furthermore, you will find that when such an experience is offered, the Rotary club can easily find a

### MORE ABOUT Patrolmen

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breaking and entering and larceny. Williams and Armstrong escaped from the Stanley County jail March 11 and later were picked up in South Carolina and lodged in the jail in Anderson. On Saturday night, March 31, the two men joined five other men—including Lolliis—in saving their way to freedom. Two of the seven escapees were picked up a short time later. Two others still remain at large.

After escaping from the Anderson jail, Williams, Armstrong, and Lolliis first broke into a garage in that city and stole a Chevrolet and a number of tools and auto accessories. Later they abandoned the Chevrolet and stole a 1953 Mercury at Childersburg, Ala. When apprehended by the highway patrolmen, the three men were heading for Greensboro.

Cpl. Smith said that the trio's car yielded one of the largest collections of stolen goods he has ever seen, including large quantities of tools and auto accessories, food, drinks, clothing, a .22 rifle, razors, knives, and other items. Despite their arsenal, the escaped convicts made no attempt to resist arrest.

The Haywood officers took the three men first to Cherokee County jail at Murphy, went on their fishing trip as planned, and then brought the escapees to the Haywood County jail, where they are now being held.

They will remain here until an investigation into their activities has been completed.

### MORE ABOUT Sub-Station

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The market's assets, he pointed out, are owned by 124 stockholders—mostly farmers and buyers—and the organization is governed by a board of directors.

Mr. Cronkhite emphasized that "Farmers Market should not be considered as a Hendersonville market, but as a Western North Carolina market—operated to serve the entire mountain region."

He said that the market has been open six days a week from June until early fall, with daily sales at 2, 4, and 6 p.m.

"This year however, we hope to be in business until Christmas if we have a good apple crop," he added.

Asked about any frost damage to fruits caused by frost the latter part of March, Mr. Cronkhite said that there has been no noticeable damage to apples thus far, and added that damage to peaches in South Carolina and Georgia has not been as great as first believed.

He predicted that "1956 will be one of the best fruit and vegetable seasons in a number of years barring another severe frost."

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### MORE ABOUT SEW MORE COTTON

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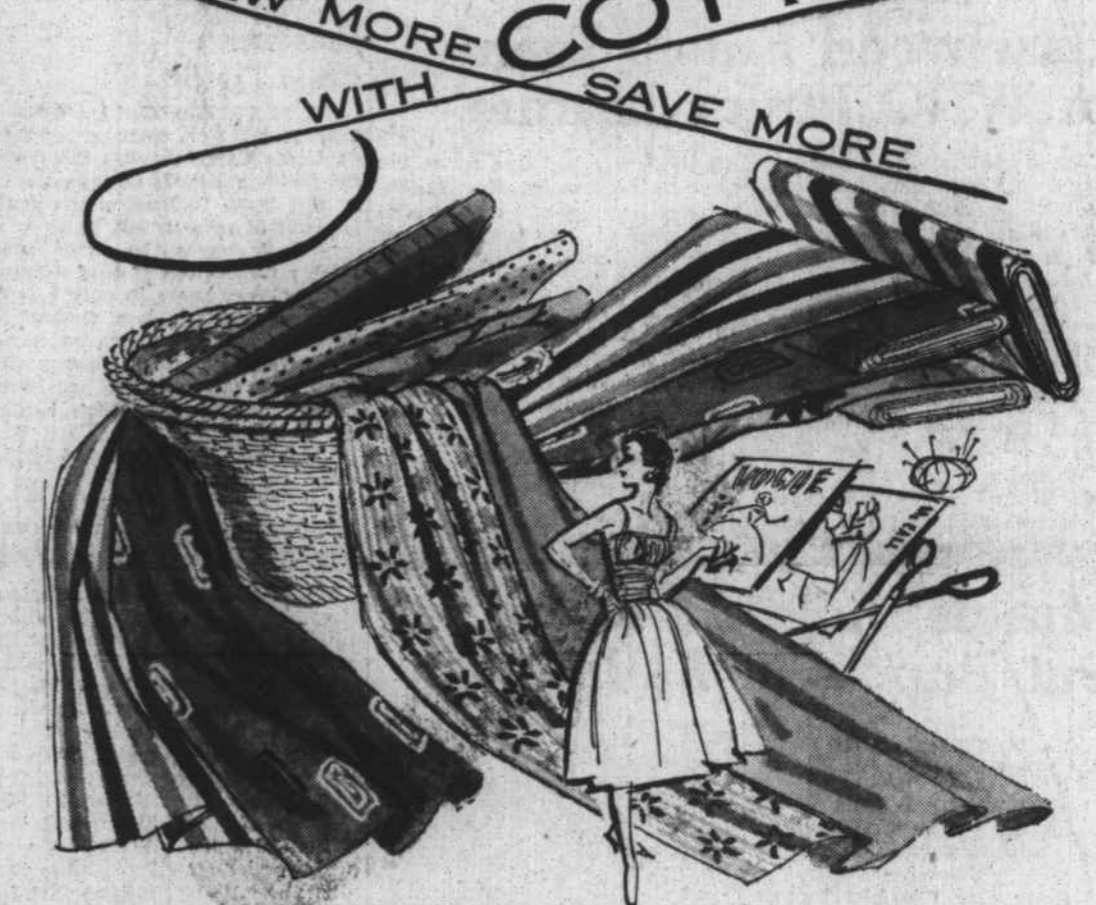
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SPECIAL VISITOR in Waynesville High electronics classes last week was J. T. Winn, equipment manager at the Charlotte office of the American Telephone and Telegraph Corp., who came here to interview students for employment with AT&T. Here Mr. Winn talks with WTHS students Freddie Norris, Billy Siske, and Hilliard Arrington. (Mountaineer Photo.)

## PIECE GOODS WEEK (APRIL 9-14) AT RAY'S

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