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PAGE TELLS OF HIGHWAY PLANS

Commission is Building Five Miles of Good Roads a Day in North Carolina.

"Approximately five miles of good roads are being finished per day in North Carolina by the State Highway Commission," Frank Page told a large audience at Trinity College last night. The speaker, who is the recently. The speaker who is head of the commission, also stated that 3,500 miles of improved roads has already been finished in the state. Over two and one-half miles of hard surfaced roads are being finished in the state each day.

"The efficiency of the commission cannot be attributed to any one individual, because road building is a collective work, and the success is due to the united action of the men who compose the commission," Mr. Page declared in disclaiming individual compliments for the success of the system. Mr. Page came armed with a book of figures which he presented during his talk. He reviewed the early condition of the State's roads and also the late system preceding 1915. He declared that between the years 1921 and 1925 the commission will handle over eighty million dollars for the improving and building of roads in the state.

Perhaps the most interesting part of the lecture was the statement was the system only covering six per cent of the total mileage of the state, will when finished serve 85 per cent of the state's traffic. The automobile and gasoline taxes were discussed fully, and he presented conservative figures to show that the state is saving over one million dollars per year by using the automobile and gas taxes as a basis for issuing bonds for the roads. By 1930 at the present rate the state will be able to issue bonds for the amount of two hundred million dollars safely. Progress in North Carolina since the advent of good roads was outlined by the speaker, who declared that the state had risen from one of the lowest to the first place in the south.

T. B. RANKS THIRD AS THE GREATEST KILLER

Whereas tuberculosis was given the first place in 1912 among the chief causes of death in the registration area of the United States, in 1923 it was listed as the third greatest killer, heart disease and pneumonia taking first and second places respectively. The reason given for this interchange of places of the chief causes of death is not that more people are dying from heart disease and pneumonia but that fewer people are dying from tuberculosis. In communities where people have learned to fight tuberculosis it is becoming less of a menace each year.

But tuberculosis is not yet a conquered disease. Today it kills 13,000 more people each year than are killed in accidents, automobile accidents included. It has been estimated that during each day in 1922, 206 American citizens were killed by accidents. Of this daily number 38 were automobile fatalities, 35 were due to accidental falls. As great as this number was the daily number of deaths from tuberculosis was much greater.

But tuberculosis workers are not content at having brought this disease from the first to the third place as a major cause of death; as knowing the cause of the disease and the way in which it is spread they purpose to place it among the diseases that have been brought under control in the list with typhoid fever, yellow fever, hookworm and the smallpox. Their program calls for the cooperation and support of every existing agency, the individual, the community, the State and the Nation.

LEAP YEAR

Annies S. Bowie, Blowing Rock, N. C.

Remember this is leap year girls

Your best chance for a broomstick leap;

Four long years till another rolls around;

Get busy, don't wring your hands and weep.

Father time has taken pity on us,

And given us this fighting chance

To change our names of old maids,

And present a rose with a beseeching glance.

BOONE ISOLATED BY ICY GRIP OF WINTER

Not long since Boone claimed the distinction of being the coldest place in North Carolina, and after she began to thaw out, and the natives thought the thing was about done for this year, comes the biggest snow yet, cutting off all transportation in or out of the city so far as the highways are concerned.

The snow is drifted to the great depth in years, as high winds marked both the beginning and the ending of the storm. Mail and jitney service over the Boone Trail both east and west has been out of commission, and no attempt was made either Tuesday or Wednesday to bring the mail from Blowing Rock to this place. We are temporarily isolated and would be altogether were it not for the rail transportation which has not as yet been affected.

Due to the non-arrival of the mails, we go to press this week shy of most of the local correspondence.

It has not been announced just when all the roads will be entirely cleared of snow.

MARS IS GETTING NEIGHBORLY TO PAY VISIT THIS SUMMER

Says the Anniston (Ala.) Star.

In these hectic days of jazz and dollar-chasing and mud-slinging politics, and scandal, and unrest, it is refreshing to consider that there are yet left some men and women who hold themselves aloof from the main stream and devote their time and thought to improving their minds and to an effort to add something to the sum of human knowledge.

To this class belong the astronomer and all over the country they are looking forward eagerly to the summer months, when our neighbor Mars will come closer to the earth than it has been in nearly a century. Mars will be within 31,000,000 miles of the earth this summer. This is nearly 20,000,000 miles nearer than it has been within the memory of any living man. Astronomers are equipping themselves with powerful telescopes and cameras, or are going to places where such instruments will be available, for the purpose of making observations and studies while Mars is so near.

Mars is not only extremely interesting to astronomers, but it holds the popular interest of laymen. More popular articles have been written on Mars in the last fifty years than on all other heavenly bodies combined.

The reason of this interest is not far to seek. It has long been thought that Mars might be inhabited, and when certain markings were discovered there which some astronomers think are canals, it opens up a field of speculation, which appeals even to the most feeble intellect.

Aided to the possibility of intelligent life on Mars, the comparative closeness to us of this neighbor has given rise to thoughts concerning communication between the inhabitants of the earth and Mars. This was discussed before the invention of wireless telegraphy and radio. These inventions or discoveries have given great impetus to the discussion of the question of communication with our neighbor. Some scientists believe that if Mars is ever reached with a message it will be done by telepathy.

It has been pointed out that there can now be no doubt about messages having been transmitted over great distances in this manner. If messages can be transmitted one thousand miles by telepathy, and this is admitted, why, it is asked, cannot messages be transmitted millions of miles in the same way?

With the great accumulation of knowledge of Mars now in the possession of scientists, and with the wonderfully efficient mechanical equipment now at their disposal, together with the nearness of the approach to the Earth soon to be made, it is believed that answers to many questions concerning it will be found in the near future.

Members of the Cleveland county Poultry Association are staging an egg laying contest. With 113 hens on test, Lawrence Hawkins led for January with 2,173 eggs produced. He used electric lights, turning them on at four o'clock in the morning and found that it paid.

240 MILLIONS LIQUOR SMUGGLED INTO U. S.

Government Officials Estimate Loss Of Custom Duties at \$141,140,000 in Two Years

New York, March 10.—The flow of liquor from rum row to Long Island and New Jersey coasts during the past two years amounted to 14,400,000 gallons, on which the federal government has lost \$141,140,000 in duties, customs officials announced today.

These figures, they explained, referred only to smuggling activities along the Atlantic coast, and did not include the liquor smuggled into the country at other places.

The officers said approximately 2,400,000 cases of liquor are illegally imported each year on which the duty if collectable, would amount to \$82,080,000. Estimating the value of smuggling liquor at \$50 a case, customs officials say the smuggling operations have given the bootleggers receipts of 210,000,000 since the rum row was established.

BLOWING ROCK WAITS SUMMER CONVENTIONS

North Carolina and South Carolina cotton men will hold their annual meeting at Mayview Manor, Blowing Rock this summer. This is the first organization to announce summer meetings for Blowing Rock. W. L. Alexander has extended invitations to other associations to hold their annual conventions at the Manor.

Last season was the first time in many years any organization had held annual conventions at Blowing Rock. During June and July three associations, North and South Carolina cotton seed crushers association, North Carolina Press Association, and the Bar Association, held their annual conventions at Mayview Manor.

Mayview Manor will again be under the management of John J. Fitzgerald, who is now at Puchurst where he is manager of the Country Club.

HUDSON MAXIM TELLS HOW TO KEEP YOUNG AT 71

Famous Inventor Defies Laws of Regularity, Hunts, Hikes, Punches Bag and Sometimes Cooks

Hudson Maxim, inventor-author-scientist, healthy and active at 71, gives in absolute defiance of the laws of regularity.

"I have a habit of eating an expedition this unusual character gives for his state of preservation.

"I sleep when I feel like it. Sometimes in bed, oftentimes in a chair. I eat anytime and I eat everything. I bathe when I feel like it, maybe 12 times a day, sometimes only once a week and I use either steaming hot or ice cold water as the spirit moves me," he chuckles.

His cheeks are pink, his eyes are sharp and he boastfully admits he "can hear a mosquito breathe a mile away."

Love romance and work undoubtedly have done much to preserve the spirit of youth in Hudson Maxim.

"He is a real cave man," smiled his wife 49 and English as they playfully cooed on a divan before a large fireplace.

"Yes honey, you are the most wonderful sweetheart a man ever had," he countered with a mischievous twinkle.

They have been wed 28 years.

Maxim is an explosive and smokeless as the famous gun powder he perfected. When he speaks there is a scampering to attention.

Working in his laboratory writing in his study, hiking through the hills or speeding his automobile along the road and meditating before his numerous fireplaces, with the wood fire crackling—thus he passes his day.

Maxim does everything precisely at the moment he feels the urge.

He is quick in thought and deed and his wit is genuine.

His home on a hill overlooking the lake, is filled with interesting paraphernalia. His library, clubby and comfortable, is replete with machine guns, rifles, shells, paintings, mementoes, his game "War," similar to chess—and books.

Frequently he goes to the kitchen dons an apron and cooks. His delicacies are exceedingly palatable and his menu a pretentious one.

In Maxim's own room—his sleeping room—he has all the apparatus of a pugilist. Nearly every day he punches on at four o'clock in the morning and found that it paid.

WATAUGA CITIZEN TO CELEBRATE 100th BIRTHDAY

Mr. Thos. Greer, of Rubberwood, invites all his friends, especially the older citizens to be present at a birthday celebration in honor of the 100th birthday of his father, Mr. Riley Greer to be held at his home on the 3rd day of April. Quite elaborate preparations are to be made for the notable occasion, and a big basket dinner will be spread for the large crowd expected.

Mr. Greer is our oldest citizen but is only one year the senior of Mr. A. P. Wilson, and two of Mr. James H. Taylor. This event promises to be one of most interest.

The slogan some of the business men have been using on their stationery, "You'll live longer here" is we think very appropriate.

FRIDAY CLUB NEWS

The regular meeting of the Friday Afternoon Club was held at the home of Mrs. O. L. Hardin on the 7th.

The first hour was given to the usual needle work activities while some natural repartee and bright laughter filled the room. Perhaps a bit of Irish wit pervaded the atmosphere for the room was tastefully decorated with shamrock and we were reminded that in this month we celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

During the meeting it was unanimously decided that the club would assist in buying and selling roses for beautifying Boone and the highway. The club members also agreed to exchange books for the pleasure and benefit of each other.

Presently the hostess presented each one with a pencil and a blank piece of paper, and bade us write a bit of advice. After exchanging with our neighbors each declared whether or not she would accept the admonition. Then the reading of these caused much merriment, testifying to the originality of all, and proving that in with there is wisdom. Then followed an informal telling of Irish jokes. After this Mrs. E. S. Coffey gave a splendid historical account of St. Patrick, and included the story of the order of St. Patrick. Mrs. Wooley and Mrs. South sang several delightful Irish melodies among which were "Ireland" and "My Wild Irish Rose."

The hostess, assisted by Mrs. F. A. Linney, served well laden plates which were in harmony with the color scheme of green and white, suggestive of St. Patrick's Day. The green tinted fruit salad topped with whipped cream, the mince meat and pineapple sandwich cut in shamrock pattern with other accessories and coffee made generous plates that were a delight to the eye and to the taste, while the shiny shamrock favor and the white in green and white made perfect the artistic color scheme.

Mrs. H. J. Hardin, Mrs. J. T. Hendrix and Mrs. Setzer were guests of the club.

So tactfully did the hostess plan and execute the afternoon program and so happily and well spent was the time that five o'clock came all too soon, and all were loath to part.

The next regular meeting of the club will be held at the home of Mrs. F. A. Linney on March 21st.

GIRLS BASKET BALL CLUB ENTERTAINS

The girls' basket ball club of the town entertained a number of their friends at the home of Miss Blanche Smith on Saturday evening March 8. After playing many interesting games and enjoying some excellent music given by Miss Norma Brown and Mr. Arthur Moore ("I'll Take You Home Again Kathleen," and "Love Ship") refreshments were served. The course consisted of delicious sandwiches, cocoa and candies. Those present were: Misses Anne Sherrill, Ruth Blair, Norma Brown, Grace Gragg, Maude Gragg, Verna Gragg, Anne Lee Trivett, Helen Stansbury, Margaret Hahn, Mac Younce, Eula Fletcher, Elsie Farthing, Blanche Smith and Messrs Arthur Moore, Clifford Moore, Ernest Parsons, David Moretz Ward Billings, Reid Thomas, Dalin Cottrell, Carl Payne, Arl Clawson and Samuel Helton.

In other days Maxim was somewhat of a boxer and even now he often dons the gloves with younger companions.

Maxim's pet aversion at the moment is prohibition. He is vigorously

Growth of Boone One of Most Remarkable Incidents in North Carolina Progress

While we are accustomed to receiving bouquets from the State press at regular intervals, the following from the Charlotte Observer is made up of pieces of an unusually fragrant kind.

"A few years ago the mountain town of Boone was nothing more than a collection of ramshackle buildings set in the mud. The good roads got there two years ago, and now it is a city of paved streets, electric lights, waterworks, fire stores, model bank buildings, a theater and one of the finest educational plants in the South. And it has just begun to develop. There is now under contract for the present season building enterprises to the extent of \$500,000 exclusive of a tourist hotel, which is being promoted by a \$50,000 Daniel Boone Hotel Company, and the farmers have made it a great center for the manufacture of butter cheese and kraut. Boone is developed by home capital. People who thought there was no money or enterprise in that part of the state have only to take a look-in on Boone during the coming summer to find their opinions revised in radical manner. The development of this mountain town affords one of the most remarkable incidents in North Carolina progress."

WATAUGA NEAR EAST QUOTA \$600

Prof. J. M. Downum of the Appalachian Training School at Boone has been appointed chairman for Watauga county for the Near East Relief for the current fiscal year and will handle the campaign for that great humanitarian organization. Watauga county's quota is \$600 which will feed, clothe and educate the 10 children who are motherless and fatherless and who are assigned to this county for support. So efficient is the work of the Near East Relief overseas that each child can be taken care of and given an education on \$60 a year, \$5 a month or 17 cents a day.

In making the announcement Professor Downum pointed out that although the need has doubled in the stricken globe as a result of the late war, the county's quota has not been increased over last year. More than one million and a half refugees were driven to the shores of the Black Sea and suddenly were thrown on the hands of the Near East Relief as a result of this treaty.

According to the information from the national and state headquarters received by Professor Downum the climax has been reached, the crisis is over, the adult relief work is practically completed or will be completed this summer. Only the children will remain a charge on the American people for the next few years.

There are more than 64,000 children in our orphanages in the Near East. In addition to these about 55,000 are being fed daily and given old clothing by the women in America. These should be taken into the orphanages but cannot be an account of shortages of funds. About 10 per cent of the inmates are annually leaving the orphanages. This means that unless something more favorable will happen all of the orphans will be taken care of, brought up, and placed securely within ten years.

Most of the children (68 per cent) are under eight years of age. This speaks for itself.

Sixty-eight women of Robeson county aided Miss Flax Andrews, the home agent to carry the message of more milk for better health to the children in 109 schools in a milk campaign recently held in that county.

"Tea and coffee as well as alcoholic beverages are banned by the 18th amendment. They are intoxicatingly stimulating. I am going to file suit against some big hotel and make a case of it," he declared.

"Whether the candidate for the presidency is wet or dry is my only concern," he commented on the coming elections.

He does not smoke—and abhors the smell of burning tobacco. Although rabidly anti-prohibition, Maxim seldom drinks, he avers.

ITEMS FROM THE TRAINING SCHOOL

Items of Local Interest From About the School and Town as Reported by Democrat Correspondent.

A large congregation heard a good sermon at the Baptist church by the pastor, Rev. Huggins on Sunday, the Methodist congregation attending as Pastor Wooley was holding services at Blowing Rock.

The Junior class at the school challenged the other classes for a game of basket ball on Friday evening and the score came 27 for the juniors and 29 for the other classes.

A short memorial exercise for Miss Maggie Cox was held by the Sunday School class on Sunday, and the following resolutions were unanimously passed.

Resolved, that the members of the R. O. S. A. class of the Boone Methodist Sunday school wish to express our deepest sorrow at the loss of one of our members, Miss Margaret Cox, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Cox of Furches, N. C.

Margaret was mentally superior to the average pupil and would have finished high school next year. In our association with her, and with her acknowledgment of being prepared to depart from this life, the memory of her passing should not stand out to the ones that remain as conspicuous as the star to the wise men of old.

While we do not understand why one so young should be taken from our midst we in humble submission bow to the will of He who doeth all things well, and resolve:

1. That while we shall miss her we rejoice in the hope of the reward that has been promised to the faithful and loving.

2. That we the teachers and the members of the R. O. S. A. class feel the loss of a true friend and companion.

That we as a class extend our sympathy to the father, mother, sisters and brothers in their sorrow.

That likewise the entire church wishes to express their sincere condolence to those sorrowing ones.

That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family a copy be sent to the Christian Advocate and to the local paper for publication.

BERGIE RUSH
CARRIE HERMAN

(Deferred from last week)

The young ladies basket ball team from the Training School played the Newland team at Newland on Saturday night and won by a score of 10 to 8.

The Greer family, including Prof. J. G. Greer of the Training School, have been having a series of reunions for some days, and nights. Two of the family, Messrs A. J. and T. M. came in from Nebraska some days ago. The family of six boys and two girls have scarcely been able to be together at one time more than once or twice at any time, and even now one of the sisters was absent being at her home in Colorado. Five of the brothers and a brother-in-law were at the Training School on Tuesday and at chapel exercise gave some songs of their boyhood days which were much enjoyed by all present. They spent one night with Prof. J. G. Greer and on Tuesday evening they assembled at the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. Russell F. Hodges and the writer was so fortunate as to be a specially invited guest. The order of the evening was first general and easy conversation till supper was announced and if anyone knows how to prepare a sumptuous meal that is Mrs. Hodges, who is herself a Greer, being a daughter of Dr. F. M. Greer, one of the brothers. Nothing was wanting to make it a meal of the highest rating and appetites were not lacking. After supper the time for the most part was spent in singing for which the family is distinguished. These songs ranged all the way from the melodious folk lore songs which they sang as boys and girls to the "Old Ship of Zion" "The Old Time Religion" and similar ones, in which latter all joined. It was one of those evenings in which all was full and free and yet there was not a dull moment.

J. M. DOWNUM.

"Why do you suppose chiropractors are so successful?"

"They help a lot of people find their backbones."