

The Watauga Democrat.

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News Items as Reported From Rural Watauga

Interesting News Items as Reported Each Week by Our Correspondents in the Several Sections of the County

Deep Gap

Fishing seems to be the sport of Deep Gap, and New River will be minus many fish if the boys have good luck. The tourists from Lynchburg, Va. will be along and we hope they will have good luck and enjoy the trip to the fullest extent, and a big catch their reward are our fond hopes.

The Deep Gap Tie and Lumber Co. are planning to build their warehouse in the near future. They intend to handle a line of grain, feed, flour, fertilizer, etc. for their trade. Their railroad is now complete and they will soon be ready for business which will help build up Deep Gap. Give the boys your trade, as they deserve it.

Mr. Wade H. Green of Stony Fork had the misfortune of getting his Ford roadster burned up on the road toward home at B. T. Taylor's orchard. He was cleaning a spark plug and lighted a match to smoke when by some means or other his car got on fire and was soon burned down to ashes.

The school at Rocky Point is getting along nicely and the parents and children speak in high terms of the teachers who are doing good work in the school room.

The attendance is getting better which we are pleased to note, and we sincerely hope every child in the district will soon be in the school room raising with their class mates toward the goal of learning and of knowledge.

We are sorry to hear of the sad news about our friend, Dr. Jacob S. Hopkins, Galax, Va. who suddenly died there. The message was sent here by wire recently. We do not know anything further than the message sent. Dr. Hopkins was rented in his backyard day near here and first began his practice in this locality. He had good success, and when he moved away was greatly missed by his patients. We are indeed sorry to learn of his sudden death mentioned above.

Meat Camp

Rev. L. A. Wilson preached at the Profit Grove Church Saturday and Sunday. The church held its annual business meeting Saturday afternoon and elected the former pastor for the next year.

Mr. Irvin Miller who has held a position with the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., of Winston-Salem for several years, visited relatives here last week. His father Mr. W. S. Miller of Shulls Mills accompanied him.

Mr. Robert Pendley of near Boone visited his sister Mrs. Emory Bryan Sunday.

Mr. Titus Moretz of Hickory visited relatives here last week.

Messrs. Hyman Laxton and Edward Cozmon, business men of Lenoir, spent a few days last week at Mr. D. L. Greene's most of which they spent hunting and fishing. They pitched their tent in the bottom near Mr. Greene's and enjoyed real camp life again as they are both world war veterans. Their stay was very much enjoyed and here's hoping they will come again.

The people of this community were shocked to hear of the death of one of our best and oldest citizens Mr. Thomas Tugman. His remains were laid to rest in the Hopewell cemetery Friday last.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanford Miller of Tamarack spent the week end here.

Mr. Manley Moretz last Friday left for Bristol Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Kemp Wilson of Zionville attended services here Sunday.

Two of our schools have begun. Chestnut Grove of which Mr. Kemp Wilson and Miss Ruth Bingham are teaching and Tugman which Mr. W. A. Tugman and Miss Louise Hodges are teaching. The Winkler school will begin next Monday under the principalship of Mr. Spencer Miller and Misses Margaret Beach and Anna Sherwood, assistants.

Messrs. Philpotts of Virginia visit

PAGE OPPOSES MORE ROAD BONDS

Raleigh, July 27.—Chairman Frank Page of the state highway commission has spoken his own mind about highway legislation coming before the general assembly at the special session and the leader in road construction is against any new bond issues.

Mr. Page's views were reflected in his correspondence more than two weeks ago, but they were not labeled because at that time they did not care to speak by the book. It was his view and evidently that of the governor that the 191 special session should wait on the 1925 regular which is another way of saying that the McLean administration should be allowed to work out its own way as to road work.

The road 'drive' has been feared. Governor Morrison has observed somewhat facetiously several times that he would have difficulty blocking the onslaughts of the roadway "progressives" who fought his road legislation at every crossing, but having been shoved over now seek to undo every original progressive. There is some sentiment in the highway commission for \$35,000,000 in bonds to further road building but whether that advocacy will be on the dates and makes this appropriation during the Morrison administration or not, no dependents say, Chairman Page favors allowing Mr. McLean to do his own building.

The Chairman does not fear the financing. He thinks there is plenty of potential revenue now. The combined production of licenses and gasoline taxes is \$8,000,000. It will grow so less. It will get bigger. The sentiment for reducing the license plate tax will not grow. The farmers' union has advocated, but since the farmers pay no state road tax, there is no real possibility to inaugurate them.

Nevertheless the state highway commission chairman thinks there should be no road legislation. A good deal was promised before he spoke. If he clings to his original purpose to retire from the commission at the end of his six years, he will go out with the incoming administration. He would not relish the imposition of another big program in him without giving him a chance to work it out.

But it all goes to show the swell of the road sentiment. It is now all pervasive. The few objections occasionally made make the objectors outcasts. In no place do the people call for roads with such clamant insistence as in the country. And it legislators came here to get more roads which are to be made possible without taxation from the land owners, even a governor and a state highway commission chairman would have full hands in stopping the drive. Chairman Page has said a sensible word.

The Three Forks Association

The Three Forks Association will meet with Pleasant Grove Church at Silverstone on Tuesday Aug. 12-13, 1924.

We want to make this the best session we have ever held. We ask the churches to insure the delegates to stay until the session ends. There will be no traffic allowed on church and school grounds. All cars parked on church grounds will be protected. People are asked to stay out of them, as it is a fine to be caught in other men's cars, by an action of the church the sheriff and his men are asked to be with us to take care of any that want to make trouble.—by the pastor B. C. Eggers

people in this section are taking the Democrat, and would like very much to see a larger number taking the home paper.

Mr. Andy Wellborn, chairman of the community fair program is arranging an interesting community fair to be held sometime in October. This will be a great thing for our community.

We hope to arrange a community gram at public singing to be held in the school house some time in August for the purpose of getting all our school patrons together and for getting better acquainted.

We are glad to state that Mrs. Daniel Wellborn who has been sick for several weeks is now improving.

Lynchburg Tourists Enjoy the Deep Gap

By W. A. Watson.

The first tourists of the season who have pitched their tents at Deep Gap were Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Blair, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Ross and son Albert of Lynchburg, Va.

They have been camping here for several days and speak many words of praise for this section.

They are highly pleased with the North Carolina people as they state that they are real folks and the salt of the earth. They stated to the writer that North Carolina had progressed more in the last fifty years than had the old Dominion, their home state. Our good roads seem to draw the people while their bad roads seem to drive the people around to other states was the way they stated the matter on this point. We are glad to have these fine visitors in our community and we hope they will come again and bring their many friends with them on the next trip.

We have often spoke of the enchantment that Deep Gap held for tourists who might pitch their tents here.

Deep Gap is rich in historic background, as General Stoneman, the raiding commander of the Union forces in his fancy saw a place to set a path trap to slay his enemies, so he threw up breast works to his right, but the enemy forces eluded him and passed quietly on by the way of the Phillips Gap road in Boone county, so there was no blood shed in Deep Gap. The remains of the old trenches can be seen to this day around the base of the summit at the foot of the mountain.

Deep Gap has an elevation of about 3,000 feet above the sea level and lies right on the top of a crest which holds many fine views that overlook Ashe, Wilkes, Watauga and Caldwell counties if one will only take the time to climb to the top where they can look out as far as the eyes can see. The Brushy, the Negro, and the Rich Mountains lay outstretched before you which seem to meet the skies.

Mother nature has played a lavish hand when she bunched the beauties scenery here which is undeveloped by man. It is crude but covered with verdure that lures your mind to the far away hills and blue skies.

The crying need of Deep Gap is tourists hotels and boarding houses. The one who first starts a good hotel here will profit very much as the people from the different states have their eyes on Deep Gap. The background is here for the landscape of Nature has done her work, and is now waiting on man to make the next move. A great opportunity awaits the one who will come here and start building up this noted place.

It would be a second Blowing Rock if the people would start to build it up. The air here is as fresh and gentle as a baby's breath, and full of health-giving ozone that puts the tint of youth in the cheeks of all who bask in the wonderful air and sunshine.

We hope many more tourists will turn their eyes toward Deep Gap when on their trips out in the country, and when you get here you will find your friends waiting galore for you.

The water will give you any information that you ask, so come on to this place and you will have no regrets coming to you.

PREVENT TOMATO WILT

The tomato wilt disease is present in many gardens this year, causing the vines to wilt and die before the fruit begins to ripen. This fungus trouble is most abundant in the small garden where tomatoes have been grown continuously for several years. The wilt-resisting tomato developed by government breeders several years ago has proved effective in eliminating this loss. Tomato growers wishing to secure seed this year or seed for next years crop can obtain them through the county agent provided request is made during the next few weeks.

If in doubt as to whether the vines are dying from wilt or from other troubles the tomato grower should submit the lower portion of a badly affected stem to the county agent for examination. Wilt-infected plants display a characteristic blackening of the interior of the stem by which it is distinguishable.

NEWS ITEMS FROM TRAINING SCHOOL

The Appalachian Training School is having a record making summer in many respects: larger faculty, more students, better and larger buildings. Their professional spirit, earnest application to work. Three hundred and twenty five are registered for the second term, an increase of twenty per cent over the corresponding term last year. It is interesting to note that in attendance Watauga led in the first term, but trailed, which had second place in the first term, leads now. This condition is possible because the normal school of Watauga are now in session.

Among the visitors to the school during the week were Dr. Davis, the pastor of the First Baptist church of Albemarle, who spoke at chapel on Tuesday, Prof. and Mrs. Harman of Asheville Wednesday, Superintendent Hough of the Lenoir school Thursday, Hon. Charles Ross, recent Candidate for Attorney General delivered a most excellent address on Friday, calculated to stir the patriotism of every North Carolinian. Mr. Setzer, civil engineer of Charlotte, here in connection with the building program of the school, spoke interestingly on the achievements of science. These addresses along with a series being given by members of the faculty, make the chapel periods occasions of pleasure and profit.

Dr. and Mrs. McG. Anderson entertained in their elegant home a number of friends on Thursday evening in honor of their visitors, Hon. O. F. Moore and Dr. C. H. Pugh of Galax.

Hon. T. A. Bower of Morganton preached most helpfully at the Baptist church on Sunday.

Today is "Grandfather day" for the school. Many students and a number of the instructors have gone to climb the Grandfather Mountain. The day is delightful and they will have a wonderful view as they look down from the top of this most ancient of American mountains upon the lofty peaks rising on all sides.

MRS. WOOSLEY HOSTES

Mrs. M. B. Woosley was charming hostess at the Friday afternoon club July 25th. She met the guests at the door of the reception hall and graciously led them to a host of delicious refreshments where her sister Miss Jane Watson, and a friend Miss Helen Leonard of Granite Falls graciously presided.

The guests were then ushered into rooms that are beautifully decorated with swags, pins in which one quickly could make a scheme of pink and white. The first hour sped merrily as silver tumbler fingers did their work, and happy hearts bubbled over with fun. The hostess had prepared a very enjoyable program on Robert Burns and his work as follows:

Carlyle's appreciation of Burns—Miss A. Stanbury.

"To a Mountain Daisy"—Mrs. E. S. Coffey.

"The Gently Sweet Almond"—Mrs. O. L. Hadden.

"To a Mouse"—Mrs. M. G. Anderson.

"John Anderson My Joe"—Mrs. B. J. Linnell.

After the literary program the hosts passed white folders with pink cord and pencil, attached for an interesting contest, on Grandmother's Kitchen. When three or four guests drew for excellency, Mrs. Ben Smith drew the lucky draw and received a dainty hand made cup towel as prize.

The guests drew for tables and were directed by the hostess to the dining room where tables were spread whose center pieces and mint baskets beautifully and daintily emphasized the color scheme of pink and white. There Mrs. Woosley assisted by Mrs. Warwick and Tenge served a delightful fruit salad with iced tea and sandwiches and other accessories.

Miss Pearl Tilley of Granite Falls, Miss Mary Edwards of Charlotte, Miss Annie Coppedge, Wadesboro and Mrs. B. Johnson of Lenoir were guests of the club.

After exchanging books and giving expressions to the feeling and joy the afternoon afforded, the guests tardily took leave to meet the next week.

Mrs. M. G. Anderson.

Dr. "Jake" Hopkins Passes Away in Va.

Dr. Jacob Hopkins of Galax, Va., a prominent physician of that town died Saturday from the effects of a stroke on his spine. He was never confined to his bed. He was taken to his operating room the owns a hospital there) when an urgent call came from a patient five miles away. As soon as possible he attended the call. After being there for a short while he laid down for a rest, asking that he be called if needed. An hour later some member of the family went to his room and found him cold in death. The Dr. is a son of Mr. and Mrs. John Hopkins of Washington, D. C., and was reared at Hopkins, Ashe county. He was one of those big hearted jovial fellows always ready to befriend those who were in need, and every one who knew him loved and admired him for his many sterling traits of character. The remains were brought to the old home for burial and interment was made Sunday in the presence of a large concourse of loved ones and friends. The Rev. M. B. Woosley conducted the funeral and some timely words were spoken by Prof. J. G. Green of the A. T. S. The heart-broken family arrived from Washington on time for the funeral.

Quite a number from Boone were present in behalf of the people of the town the Democrat extends sympathy to the bereaved ones.

WORTH WHILE CLUB

Mrs. Madeline Winkler and Hutton entertained the Worth While Club on Friday the 26th at the home of the former. The attractive home was decorated with flowers and ferns.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Harman, president of the club. Mrs. Bennett conducted the devotional exercises. The committee on care of garden, appointed at the last meeting reported and a new committee was appointed. After the routine business the meeting was turned over to the hostesses. Two contests furnished much amusement. The first was "Leave in the Kitchen" in which missing words were furnished by naming kitchen utensils. The prize, a silver spoon, was won by Mrs. Wainwright for having the best story.

The second contest was one in which contestants ate five soda crackers. The first to finish must whisper the name of the one who was won by Mrs. Moore.

Miss Bennett told an amusing story. Following the hour of fun refreshments consisting of ice cream, cake and grape fruit were served.

Valle Crucis

Rev. and Mrs. J. M. Lackey of Raleigh spent a few days at the Mission School last week. Rev. Mr. Lackey preached at the Episcopal chapel last Sunday.

Other guests spending a while at the Mission School are: Mrs. P. H. Thomas of Henderson, N. C., Mr. and Mrs. W. E. McCulloch, Dr. and Mrs. J. S. Wells and children of Reidsville, Mr. and Mrs. Luther H. Hodges and Mrs. Harriet L. Herring of Spray, and Miss Rosa Pascual of Goldsboro.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Bales and sons Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rankin and son and Mrs. L. W. Rankin from Wadesboro, spent the week end here.

Recent arrivals at Mr. D. F. Massie are Mrs. Graham and Mrs. Chelton from Elkin, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Rushon of Raleigh, Mrs. Augusta Sinclair of Fayetteville, Dr. and Mrs. James Gibson and baby of Charlotte, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Abernethy and family of Whitehaven, Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Seagle and family of Raleigh are spending a while at Mr. W. W. Mast's.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira T. Johnson of Jefferson spent Sunday at Mr. J. M. Shulls. They were accompanied home by Miss Gladys Taylor.

Miss Boyd Caudill has returned to her home here after attending the summer school at chapel hill and visiting at Durham and other places.

Miss Margaret Lusk of Johnson City is the guest of Miss Anne Moore.

The public school opened Monday with Mrs. R. A. Farthing principal and Miss Alice Taylor teacher of the primary grades.