

The Watauga Democrat.

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BELIEVES STATE HAS CHANCE FOR PARK

Sub-Committee Has Returned From Washington After Conference With the Officials.

Members of the sub committee of the park commission appointed by the special session of the legislature to keep in touch with the work of the national park commission, appointed by Secretary Work, have returned to their homes after having spent two days in Washington last week. The sub committee was composed of Mark Squires, chairman, John G. Dawson, Dr. E. C. Brooks, D. M. Buck and A. M. Kistler. The entire committee held a meeting in Raleigh last week just prior to sending the sub-committee to Washington. The meeting in Raleigh followed the trip of the committee through the Grandfather mountain and Linville and other sections of western North Carolina.

The sub committee was sent to Washington to confer with Federal officials regarding the location of the proposed park and to urge consideration of North Carolina sections. They went to see what preliminary steps have been taken in the park matter. They found that no action had been taken, and that there was nothing to the reports that a location in the Virginia mountains had been decided upon.

In the first place it is recalled that the commission which recently visited Virginia can only act in an advisory capacity and that no recommendation it may make would be binding on Congress. In the next place it is hoped that the commission, which is to report to Congress in December will suggest the feasibility and desirability of planning a number of parks, or a chain of parks in the several states concerned, linked together by good roads, a project which is favored by Secretary Work.

Both Col. Joseph Hyde Pratt and J. S. Holmes, the head of the North Carolina Forestry Association, who are attending the national conference on the utilization of forest products in Washington, were interviewed on the proposal to establish in the Appalachian range of western North Carolina a national park by the government. These gentlemen are wide apart in their views on the value of such a park in the State.

Mr. Holmes is of the opinion—an opinion shared by some others—that there is not sufficient territory in that locality to establish such a park as the government would need to have without taking areas now required for the economic and industrial development of the state. Any park with sufficient magnitude to be considered a national park would necessarily absorb many valuable farms, water power locations and forests that are worth far more to the state and its people from an economic standpoint than what the state, and indeed the whole country, could hope to secure in benefits from a national park as a means of advertising that locality and people.

Mr. Holmes said in looking at the subject entirely from the utilitarian point of view, if a national park was established in the western North Carolina range there would probably be merged in the territory the only chestnut forests now remaining in the whole United States. These groves in the north have all perished. They are many other such thriving industries in western North Carolina that would be thrown on the scrap heap if a national park is opened there.

Colonel Pratt contends that Mr. Holmes is taking a narrow view of one of the greatest projects, not only for North Carolina, but for the whole country, that was ever conceived of. He declared the commission appointed by the government to make a survey of the whole southern Appalachian range for a suitable location for a national park now has in mind not a single national park in some particular state or locality but a chain of national parks in the seven states of Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, and West Virginia.

This commission, at whose head is Representative Temple of Pennsylvania, has made a careful survey within the last year of the Appalachian range in all the above named states and Col. Pratt's understanding is that the report of the commission is now preparing to be submitted to Congress through the secretary of the interior, and the president will recommend not a single national park

MRS. R. E. JOHNSON DIES LAST NIGHT

Mrs. R. E. Johnson of Gastonia a confirmed invalid, who with her daughter and nurse has spent quite a while in the family's summer home in Boone, passed away at 8:10 last night. For some time her health seemed to improve in the mountains, but of late she has been on a gradual decline, growing steadily worse until the end came. Mr. Johnson arrived from Gastonia only a few minutes after she died. A hearse came and the body was taken to Gastonia for interment, leaving here at 4 o'clock this morning.

WITH THE LOCAL CHURCHES

METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday School at 109 a. m. A praying church school is a great power in a community.

Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. by the pastor.

Epworth League 6:15.

Wednesday prayer service at 7:15 p. m., choir practice following.

Sunday School at Blowing Rock at 2 p. m. A short sermon for children following.

All are invited to these services.

ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Elder S. E. Graze will conduct the regular services of the Advent Christian people Sunday in the Episcopal Church. There will be the regular morning and evening services with a communion service Sunday morning. A welcome is extended to all.

BOONE BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School 10 a. m.

B. Y. P. U.'s 6 p. m.

Prayer service and choir practice Wednesday 7 p. m.

Every one is cordially invited to be at Sunday School next Sunday.

You will find a welcome at the Baptist church.

Blowing Rock Baptist Church

Preaching by the pastor Saturday 7 p. m. Sunday 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.

Sunday School 10 a. m.

Next Sunday is the time set to make the canvass for the 1925 program. The church is asked to subscribe \$400, and it is hoped that the amount may be pledged.

The pastor hopes to see all the members out Sunday morning.

but national parks in all these states where the nature of the region lends itself to such purposes, and in all these states there are such regions.

In these states, Colonel Pratt says the government has already acquired 700,000 acres of forest service land. Much of this land can be utilized for national park area. The government has 370,000 such acres in North Carolina. A national park does not necessarily have to be a rectangular square, circular. It can be laid out zigzag and be made to cover a vast amount of territory with out taking in towns, railroads, industrial plants, water power sites or farms. It would of course be impossible to find in any one of the above states territory in a compact area to lay out a park with anything like the dimensions of Yosemite or the Yellowstone.

Col. Pratt says if Congress keeps in mind what the commission that has examined all these proposed sights recommends, the whole southern Appalachian range will in time become a vast chain of national parks. Virginia will get a national park in the Luray section of that range, but other states will also get their national parks, and just as soon as Virginia. There should be no struggle before Congress to see what state or locality can get the first national park, he said.

From the economic point of view Col. Pratt said these parks would be of immeasurable value to the south. With the great national system of highways that are being constructed these parks will be a magnet for thousands of tourists annually and unlike the tourists to the great parks of the west the southern tourist will find something besides parks and hotels in the south. The parks will advertise the south to all the world. Our mountain torrents and gorges will become gold mines, in his opinion.

TWENTY DAYS TO GO!



HAPPENINGS AT THE TRAINING SCHOOL

One could hardly have spent this week at Boone without feeling that the spirit of Thanksgiving is abroad. The air is crisp and wintry—just right for those inclined to hunt, and the usual game is plentiful. However most of the students took advantage of the holiday to attend one or the other of the Thanksgiving services held in the churches, and in the afternoon to attend a play given in the new theater by the Young People of Henron's Chapel Methodist church. At this the attendance was fine, both audience and players were delighted.

Prof. Williams and Dr. Rankin of the Training School were Thanksgiving speakers at Blowing Rock and at Brushy Fork respectively.

The annual bazaar and oyster supper given by the Methodist women was a success, judged either by the attendance, the money made, or by the good fellowship which prevailed.

Prof. Gaddy, principal of the Thomasville Orphanage School, spoke interestingly and helpfully at the Baptist church along the line of his work on Thursday. He was also a welcome speaker at chapel on Friday.

J. M. Downum.

TAKE A CHANCE

Woman Diner: "I see by the signs around that tips are forbidden here."

Waiter: "Good grief lady—so wuz apples in the Garden of Eden."

Shoot To Kill



Every employee of the Cleveland, O., Trust Company has been armed and taught to shoot, in the effort to discourage any thought bandits may have to hold up that institution.

BUSTER DUNN, VETERAN ENGINEER HAS RETIRED

Johnson City Chronicle. G. C. "Buster" Dunn, veteran engineer of the Southern Railway Company, retired on completing exactly fifty years of service at the throttle, was the honor guest of Johnson Citizens for a few moments Thursday night; and was cheered by a crowd of more than one thousand gathered at the Southern station.

The date was the semi-centennial of the beginning of his service as engineer on the Southern and its predecessor, the old E. T. V. & G. railroad December 2, 1874. "I have made my last run," he said in answer to the cheers of the crowd.

Mr. and Mrs. Dunn arrived on train No. 42—the train which Buster would have piloted in the regular course of his schedule, but they were riding in the private car of general manager R. E. Simpson en route to Washington and Engineer Pitts was at the throttle. Superintendent Post of Knoxville was in the party.

Arriving at Johnson City about 10 minutes behind schedule the square and street about the private car was immediately jammed with a large crowd. A hearty cheer was given as Mr. and Mrs. Dunn appeared on the platform. In a few words Mayor W. B. Ellison spoke formally on behalf of the people of the city, commending the long and faithful service given by the veteran and offering the well wishes of the community. Mr. Dunn responded briefly by an expression of thanks, and spent the remainder of the time shaking hands with old acquaintances.

The veteran engineer appeared in fine spirits and both he and Mrs. Dunn seemed in a jovial humor. He was dressed in a dark gray suit and his silver gray hair was in rather striking contrast to his florid complexion and robust physique, carrying well his seventy-four years.

The train pulled out as another cheer was given answered by a waving of his hat as he continued on his "regular run"—not as an employee but the honored guest of the company.

REASON ENOUGH

Mother: "I wish you would stay away from that Skinner girl. What do you see about her anyhow?"

Son: "All the other fellows."

TREN THE FIGHT STARTED

Becker: "Gosh—I had some nightmare last night."

Fetters: "Yes, I was at the movies too—I saw her."

BLONDE BESS OPINES

"Some girls are born poor, others have poverty thrust upon them while others go and have their hair bobbed."

McLEARY MURDERERS WILL BE ELECTROCUTED FRIDAY

Columbia, S. C.—Mortimer King and Frank Harrel must pay with their lives Friday for the murder of Major S. H. McLeary of the United States army.

Final hope of the youthful slayers of the army officers for executive clemency failed today, following formal announcement by Gov. Thomas G. McLeod that he would not interfere with the sentence of the court.

"The law of South Carolina for such cases is capital punishment," the governor said. "That law I cannot arbitrarily suspend. It must be vindicated and the law executed."

Major McLeary was robbed and slain on a lonely road in Chesterfield county on July 2 after giving King and Harrel a lift in his auto.

WORLD MAY SOON BECOME BONE DRY

Washington, Dec. 2.—The whole world will soon be dry, prophesied the report of Dr. Clarence True Wilson, general secretary, made public to the annual meeting of the board of temperance, prohibition and public morals of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The board has representative in 21 foreign countries to hasten the culmination of the dry campaign, the report said.

Wilson recommended the transfer of the prohibition unit to the Department of Justice or the formation of a separate department for dry enforcement, the placing of dry agents under civil service and the passing by the board of a resolution commending Attorney General Stone as "fearless fair and faithful."

SWIFT-PHILLIPS

On last Sunday Mr. Clark Swift and Miss Mable Phillips, both of the Cove Creek section, were happily married, after a courtship extending over a period of several years. Mr. Swift is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Enoch Swift of Amanatha, and a prominent farmer in that section, while his bride is the youngest child of the late Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Phillips of Sugar Grove, and is considered one of the choice women of that section. On Monday a splendid wedding feast was enjoyed at the home of the bride, a large number of relatives and near friends being present. The dining room was beautifully decorated. To the popular couple the Democrat extends hearty congratulations with the wish that they may have smooth sailing on the sea of time.

MANAGER FOR DANIEL BOONE PROBABLY COYLE

Mr. Coyle manager of the Vance Hotel at Statesville and Mr. Williams of the Huffy at Hickory were in town Saturday afternoon for the purpose of leasing the Daniel Boone Hotel. They were very much pleased with the building and the outlook, and while no contracts have yet been signed, it is practically certain these are the successful bidders. The lease will cover a period of five years. The bidders are Messrs. Coyle and Pogue, and Mr. Williams will be manager. All are experienced and successful hotel men, and the service they will render will be unsurpassed.

ED LUTTRELL SERIOUSLY INJURED IN AUTO CRASH

On Friday night last Dr. R. H. Hardin, Mr. Ed Luttrell and a nurse Mrs. Bradley were on their way from Banner Elk hospital with the doctor at the wheel of his big Buick roadster. When near Balm, running about 15 miles per hour the lights suddenly went off, and as the brakes were applied the car was precipitated down an embankment, turning over four times in its wild plunge. Dr. Hardin escaped without serious harm, as did Mrs. Bradley, while Mr. Luttrell sustained injuries that may prove fatal. As far as this is written there is but little hope of his recovery. All possible is being done for him at the Banner Elk hospital, but the spine being involved makes the case almost hopeless. The tragedy is much deplored.

A REMINDER OF THE GOLDEN RULE DINNER

Please do not forget to have the Golden Rule Dinner next Sunday the 7th of December—think about those many needy Armenian children, orphans by the cruelty of the Turks, and each family please send a free will offering, however small, to save from starvation those orphans who are dependent upon us for life. You know how a helpless orphan appeals to our sympathetic hearts. These orphans are helpless in the most pathetic sense. Send all funds to Mr. G. P. Hazaman, Watauga County Bank. I prize that richest blessings may rest upon you and your loved ones for your helpfulness to these needy ones. "Whatever ye would that men should do to you, do even so unto them."

Sincerely,
 J. M. DOWNUM,
 Co. Chm. Near East Relief.

THANKSGIVING WITH THE WORTH WHILE CLUB

The Worth While Club with needles, threads and materials provided a worth while service when more than twenty strong met with Mrs. John Lewis on Friday November 28th. It being the Thanksgiving season, it was planned that the club devote the day to making a quilt and clothing for the more unfortunate. In one room a real old time hilarious quilting was in full swing. This quilt goes to the Grandfather Orphanage to be tucked about some child whose mother went away with faith that some other child's mother would look after hers. In other rooms groups were busy making and remaking garments for other orphan children who live in the shadow of Boone and who are not even so fortunate as to be cared for in an orphanage. Late in the afternoon two of our members were dispatched across the hills with a supply of warm clothing for another family in dire need. After our hostess had served a repast of Thanksgiving pumpkin pie and other good things our group dispersed with the feeling that this has been the best day of all.

We will meet Friday December 12 with Mrs. Francis Cooke.

LOCAL

Mrs. Mary Howell of Russel, Mont. is visiting friends and relatives in Watauga and Ashe counties. Mrs. Howell was Mary Hardin and was raised near Jefferson. This is her first visit to North Carolina since she was married 32 years ago.

DUMB DAN AT WORK

Employee: "Boss, I gotta idea."
 Boss: "Be good to the little thing. It must be all alone."