

HUGE DISTILLERY TAKEN LAST NIGHT

Deputy Sheriff Bags Big Game in Edge of Wilkes When 300 Gallon Steam Plant is Found in Action.

Deputy Sheriff Lee Gross, who keeps the county jail here, is being congratulated this morning on every hand for his action last night, near the wee small hours, when he and his assistants found a 300 gallon steam still running at full capacity, a wash tub being used to catch the hooch as it ran from the still, and two men, Will Fleenor, of Summit, Wilkes county, near which place the thing occurred and Phillips of Wilkes County also peacefully sleeping nearby.

The interesting part of the story lies in the fact that the men were not out on a raid of any kind. Information brought out by Mr. Ed Stearns, Manager of the Watauga Cafe, at Blowing Rock, whose establishment a quantity of whiskey was found not long since, and who is arraigned before court, led the officers to the Blowing Rock this summer. It was an attempt to locate him for appearance in connection with the Stearns case that he and Phillips were found in the act of making liquor.

Everything was "setting pretty" when Officer Gross arrived. The deadly work was being done while the offenders slept, weary perhaps from long nights of vigilance. The distillery being of a size never before captured by Watauga officers, its output was immense, and a large sized washing tub was the least thing the moonshiners could risk in which to catch the fluid as it ran from the condenser, and as they peacefully reposed. Some thousands of gallons of beer sat nearby. Mr. Gross waited and looked no doubt for a moment, at the willfulness with which the laws of the State and Nation were being violated, and flashed his electric torch into the sleepers' faces, but they did not awake, and when they did awake they were being man-handled by the efficient arm of the law.

The outfit was dismantled, and Phillips handed over to a Wilkes official while Fleenor spent the remainder of the night in the Boone jail to answer local charges.

He will doubtless be used materially in the Stearns case, when it comes before the court, and will then be arraigned jointly with Phillips before the next Wilkes tribunal, when they will face an "open and shut" charge of manufacturing intoxicating beverages.

BOONE ROUTE 1 NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Norris visited Mrs. Norris' parents in Alexander co. last week.

Mr. E. C. Norris had the misfortune of getting his saw mill damaged by fire one night last week.

A very successful revival closed at Bethel M. E. Church last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh Moretz of Rutherford visited Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Norris last Sunday.

Mr. Eugene Norris left a few weeks ago for Bentonville, Ark. He is contemplating buying a farm there.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Taylor visited at Mr. E. O. Greer's near Brownwood Saturday and Sunday.

Gertie Moretz and Mrs. Bell Moretz of Brookside visited Mrs. Bell Norris a few days past.

Mr. John Phillips has been going around on a staff as he seems to be suffering something like paralysis.

Mrs. Lydia Castle of Brownwood spent last Sunday with Mrs. Belle Norris.

Mr. Glenn Stanbury passed the 7th grade examination and is attending the Normal.

Mrs. Harrison Miller has been bed ridden for the past few weeks but some better at this writing.

Miss Holly Wagner held prayer service at the Wineberger grave yard the fifth Sunday, quite a few attending. Donna, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wade Houck died a few days past.

Where Educating is Done.

Visitor:—"Do you feel that the seffort and sacrifice of sending your son through college was worth it?"

Fond Wife:—"Oh yes indeed—if for no other reason, the wonderful education it has given his father."

TENN. AND GA. PRAY FOR RAIN—PRAYERS AVAILABLE MUCH

Wonders Have Resulted From Appeals Made by Prayer—in South Carolina Drenching Rains Come.

Atlanta, Ga., Sept. 9.—Apparently encouraged by the results obtained by the people of South Carolina last Sunday when they prayed for rain, the church people of two southern states today importuned their governors to set aside next Sunday as a day of supplication for Divine deliverance from the drought that has damaged their crops and now threatens to wipe out even their drinking water.

Early in the morning, the Baptist pastors conference at Chattanooga and the Chattanooga pastors Association asked Governor Austin Peay to proclaim the day as one for prayer and rain. The governor was absent from Nashville, but it was indicated that the request would meet the favor of the executive. It was said the plea of the Chattanooga pastors was based on a suggestion of their local weather forecaster.

At the same time in this city, the Atlanta Evangelical Ministers' Association called on Governor Clifford Walker and urged that he take the same step. Governor Walker not only consented to comply with their requests but made it the occasion to declare that he is a staunch believer in the efficiency of prayer.

The apparent doing of miracles in South Carolina last Sunday has made a profound impression throughout the south. It was related that in one instance where a congregation knelt in silent prayer for rain, while they still were on their knees, a gentle rain began to fall, almost from a cloudless sky, according to the story. This rain gathered force with time and before the day was over, the entire countryside was visited by a drenching downpour.

These and other stories have circulated through the drought stricken area. Letters to newspapers from persons of all denominations have endorsed the movement.

In Georgia, North Carolina and eastern Tennessee there has been an let up from the parching drought and the torrid heat of the past few weeks. A thundershower was promised Atlanta today by C. F. Von Herman, local forecaster, but all that happened was a cloud that hung over the city for about three hours. Before sunset this had disappeared and another hope for rain dissipated.

South Carolina has had no rains of consequence since Sunday, and beyond the local showers of that day is still in the grip of the drought.

A PIECE OF INTERESTING AND LUCRATIVE FARMING

Last spring Mr. James Bingham, one of our best small farmers, who resides in the Brushy Fork section of the county pondered as to what crop he should cast that would bring the quickest cash returns, and tried it out on Irish Cobbler potatoes. Eight acres were planted, the expense for fertilizer, labor etc being approximately \$600. When digging time came he had the crop sold to two Gastonia merchants at \$2 per bushel. He has already delivered his yield which after being assorted amounted to 1,200 bushels, his cash returns being \$2,400 less expenses. He then purchased of his brother and two other gentlemen 1,300 bushels more, which he sold at the same price, making both transactions bring the sum of \$5,000. And still some men say there is no money in farming Watauga lands. Can you beat this?

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to extend to the many friends who have been such a comfort to us in our recent bereavement our sincerest thanks.

Your expressions of love and sympathy have meant more to us than you may ever know. May the Heavenly Father reward each one of you. Annie E. Coffey and Family.

That's Different.

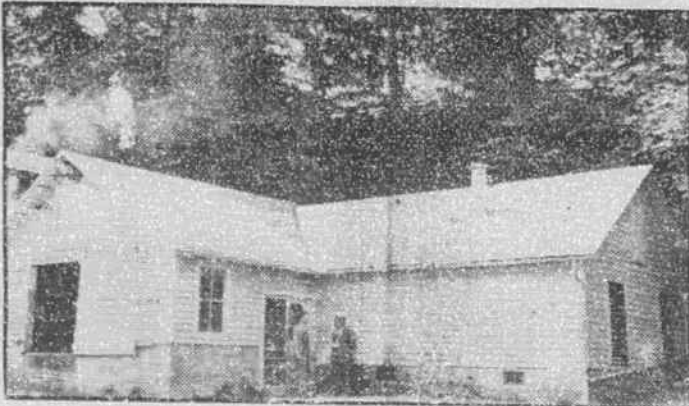
Fat Motorist:—"I've driven these tires 18,000 miles and never yet have I taken one of them off to fix a puncture."

The Goat:—"What—not on puncture?"

Fat Motorist:—"Oh I've had several punctures—but I always hire them fixed."

WATAUGA FARMERS FIND BIG PROFIT IN DAIRYING

Changing Methods of Farming for More Profitable Practice Including the Manufacture of Fine Cheese Which is Carried to Market by Auto.



Above: One of the most successful of the three cheese factories established in Watauga County by the dairy extension office of State College is the one at Brushy Fork about seven miles west of Boone. This factory is located in a pleasant valley and is surrounded by prosperous farms that are rapidly adding dairy cattle as they find profits in selling milk and cheese.



Below: J. B. Horton, manager of the Brushy Fork Factory is seen here hauling an automobile load of Cheese into Boone. This load brought \$118.15 to the cheese factory patrons and eliminates the trouble and expense of trying to market the whole milk. On a tree at the side of the road is seen a sign that tells motoring parties that they may buy fine cream cheese just around the bend.

By F. H. JETER.

"Look here," said John Arey, "if you want to see how a people are changing their methods of farming to adopt a more profitable practice, you come with me to Watauga county next week and visit the dairy farms and cheese factories with me." Accordingly plans were made to go with John Arey. In fact he is a powerful hard man to evade when he wants someone to do something. So we set out. His first stop included a visit to the Granite Falls Dairy Farm in Caldwell County where County Agent D. W. Roberts and Homer P. Robinson, manager of the farm, were to give a giant picnic to the dairy farmers of the County.

Here we found a well managed farm engaged in the production of cream and whole milk from pure bred Jersey cows. Mr. Robinson is milking 28 cows, keeping records on each one and has some high producers. In one year, one of his cows, Raleigh's Rooney, produced 12,623 pounds of milk containing 536 pounds of butter fat. It costs about \$200 to feed this cow and the value of her product including the skim-milk and manure, amounted to \$338. In addition, she dropped a fine bull calf during the year and won over \$240 in prizes in the show ring. She was one of the prize winners at the North Carolina State Fair last fall.

About 400 people attended the dairy picnic that day and each family brought a well filled basket. A speaking program was held in the forenoon and games and contests in the afternoon. The folks all inspected the dairy farm and went away filled with a more wholesome respect for the dairy business.

But Watauga County was our objective. A dairy picnic was to be held on the farm of Floyd C. Ward, a leading farmer of the county and formerly engaged in the production of beef cattle. We spent one whole day before the picnic visiting the dairy farmers, the cheese factories and studying the farming practices of that county.

Watauga is one of the grain and livestock sections of North Carolina. Despite the drought the Valleys and coves still presented a green, velvet lined appearance, dotted here and there in suitable locations with

Painted homes, large barns and with herds of cattle grazing on rich pastures. The drought has been responsible for a decrease in milk flow from the cattle but the farmers are finding that the section is suited for dairy farming and many of those who were leading beef raisers and traders have dropped the old to turn to dairying.

Mr. Ward is a typical example. For years he was a prosperous beef man. He raised beef cattle and bought beef cattle from the smaller farmers. He made money. But following the war and the depression of 1920, little money was made with beef so Mr. Ward turned his attention to dairying. He has built a fine dairy barn, bought some pure bred Ayrshires, cattle, has constructed a metal milk house and delivers his whole milk in Boone. He has a farm of some 200 acres devoted to pasture, corn and hay crops. Last month his check for whole milk delivered at Boone amounted to \$600. He has thirty head of Holstein and Ayrshire cattle, headed with one of the finest Ayrshire bulls to be found in the country. He states that dairy farming will pay in the mountain section and others are following his example.

For the smaller farmers who keep only a few cows, the cheese factories are proving a blessing. There are three now in erection in Watauga. Cove Creek which is the oldest and the last one is Beaver Dam. Mr. H. L. Wilson, attached to the office of dairy extension at State College, lives at Boone and gives his whole time to helping the farmers manufacture the best grade of cheese and sell it successfully. He also gives aid to the other factories outside of Watauga.

As we drove up to the Brushy Fork factory, the manager, Mr. J. B. Horton was just leaving with a load of fine cream cheese for the stores at Boone. This load, placed in the back end of his automobile, was worth \$118.15. It was milk condensed into cheese and therefore more easily handled and marketed. It furnished a way for the mountain farmer to dispose of his milk and to get it out of the mountain caves before the buying public in a manner that he could never have done trying to sell the whole milk.

CONFEDERATE REUNION HAS BEEN POSTPONED

The Confederate reunion which was to have been held in Boone today and tomorrow at the Normal School has been postponed until Thursday and Friday, Sept. 24th and 25th. Adjutant E. M. Greer will furnish program at a later date.

One Black Mark.

Prof:—"To have and to hold is a good motto."

Student:—"How about a plate of hot gravy?"

"That," says Mr. Arey, "is what we have found in this cheese factory work. The factories are small manufacturing concerns, owned by the co-operating farmers. All profits after deducting the cost of operation are given back to the producers and the factories are furnishing a steady monthly income to folks who have not much to sell and little means of selling what they do produce. These factories have had rather hard sledding. Our folks are not yet reconciled to milking cows, but when we first established the factories milk and cheese were both high and the profits were good. Then came normal prices and those farmers who had been stripping beef cows to sell milk to the factories, did not get enough money out of it to justify milking such poor producing cows. Therefore, they quit milking. The cheese factories closed. Only those surrounded by good dairy farmers were able to keep open on these, we are now concentrating our attention. They are coming through successfully and with more farmers becoming interested in dairying and buying or growing high producing cows, we can look forward to the time, when more factories will be opened and these now in operation will be turning out larger quantities of good cheese.

W. H. Mast, one of the directors of the Cove Creek factory agreed with Mr. Arey.

"I could hardly get along without my monthly milk check," he said. "We haul about 2,500 pounds of cheese to Hickory from this factory each week and it nets us about \$500 depending on the market. This would mean that we would have to get the same money, even if we were able to find buyers for the milk and could get it to them fresh and pure. If we were hauling hay, it would cost more for carrying charges than the hay would bring, so it seems to me that the only thing we can do is to feed our hay and milk into cheese and haul out the cheese.

The Cove Creek factory was built in 1921 and when it first opened only about 50 gallons of milk was delivered. Now the factory gets about 700 pounds per day. Before the drought became so severe, the factory was receiving about 1,700 pounds per day and this is about the same thing that happened to other factories. The Cove Creek factory is now making 600 pounds of cheese per week which is a drop of 350 pounds since the drought began. This cheese is now selling for about 24 cents per pound wholesale.

The Beaver Dam factory is smaller than the other two but makes fine cheese and brings in a good income to the small farmers of that valley. The factory at Banner Elk has been in litigation but has now opened and is making good cheese.

Wherever we went through the valleys and coves of Watauga, we found the people thinking of dairy cattle. Some, like Wray W. Wilson, of the Beaver Dam Community, have already put in fine Holstein cows and are getting ready to supply more milk.

At Valle Crucis, the fine herd of dairy cattle being managed by Miss Effie Heffner is being used to provide milk for ice cream made at the school and sold outside. The cheese factory here has ceased operation until the milk flow increases or until the neighboring farmers find means to secure more dairy cows.

Throughout the entire county, the farmers are finding that dairy cattle are proving more profitable than beef. Some still have their beef herds but the larger number are breeding towards the dairy type and this with the sheep and wool, the cabbage, potatoes and apples largely furnish the income of the farmers. On nearly every farm, one sees the cabbage and potato patches, the corn in the bottoms, the orchard high on the hill-

WOOTEN TRIAL STILL GOES ON

Lawyers Now Making Pleas—Being Tried for Second Degree Murder Can't Finish Dockets This Week.

The trial of D. W. Wooten, charged with the killing of Leonard Triplett in June is attracting much interest. The court room has been packed since the case came up yesterday and the lawyers' pleas are now being heard. The defendant is being tried for second degree murder, and it is expected the case will go before the jury tomorrow.

A good many minor cases have been disposed of. We will however be unable to carry a full list of the proceedings this week.

More than one hundred cases were on the state docket this term while the civil docket has about 20. Attorneys think the term will continue well into next week.

W. L. ALEXANDER DIES IN CHARLOTTE

Wealthy Blowing Rock Developer Succumbs in Charlotte Hotel to Heart Attack.

(Charlotte Special of the 9th to the Greensboro News.)

Walter L. Alexander, 41, of Charlotte and Blowing Rock, capitalist and developer of the Blowing Rock section, died early this morning at the Hotel Charlotte of heart trouble. He had been ill but for a short time, his death coming as a complete surprise.

Mr. Alexander, accompanied by his wife and daughter, and Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Morrow of Blowing Rock, came to Charlotte Monday afternoon. Yesterday Mrs. Alexander and other members of the party returned but Mr. Alexander was unwell and remained in Charlotte, intending to return to Blowing Rock probably today.

Tuesday afternoon Dr. G. A. Barron and Dr. W. E. Wischart, house physicians, attended Mr. Alexander, who, it is said, responded to treatment. A nurse was left with him during the night. Early this morning he dropped off to sleep and several hours later when attendants went to him he was found dead.

Funeral arrangements had not been completed this afternoon, pending the arrival here of Mrs. Alexander, who was expected tonight.

Mr. Alexander lived in Charlotte until about eight years ago when he moved to Blowing Rock to develop real estate in which he was extensively interested. He was secretary-treasurer of the Mayview Manor company and the Mayview Construction Company of Blowing Rock, and the chief developer of properties held by these companies since their organization years ago.

Mr. Alexander also owned a large block of land in the picturesque Blowing Rock region which he was developing individually, devoting practically all his time to these projects. He was also interested in a number of business concerns in Charlotte.

Mr. Alexander is survived by his wife, Mrs. Ernestine Bridges Alexander formerly of Wilmington and two children, Ernestine and Preston. His stepmother, Mrs. W. L. Alexander, lives here. Mr. Alexander's father, W. S. Alexander, one of the best known business men of the city died last year. A sister Miss Minnie Alexander, lives here.

sides and the farm home, set back under the lee of some hill, surrounded by a carpet of green. To the rear or at one side is the barn and the cattle grazing in the pastures beyond. The people are energetic and earnest, clear-eyed and intelligent. To the picnic held on Mr. Ward's farm last Tuesday, they brought an abundance of food, well cooked and the talks made and showed an intelligent appreciation of the problems presented to them.

As I left them to come down the hills again to my lowland home, I thought that here some day will be a great cattle country. From this section will flow a stream of pure, cold, clean milk to feed the people of the lowlands. Other dairy products will also be made here and this together with the other crops will make this again one of the richest sections of North Carolina.