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TRAVELING CROSS COUNTRY IN A BREEZY HUPMOBILE

COUNTIES OF ASHE, ALLEGHANY AND WATAUGA ARE WONDERFUL IN SCENERY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

FRED A. OLDS

In the Orphans' Friend

The last story took us, Dr. Caviness and the writer into Ashe county, at Jefferson. That little town has shade trees which down state folks would think mighty nice, for they are black heart cherries, those big fellows which literally melt in your mouth and make your lips like those of a flapper who has used her lip-stick very freely. The road is paved between Jefferson the county seat, and West Jefferson, the latter being on a branch of the Norfolk and Western Railway, which traverses the county north and south. This roadway leads out of Ashe county northward so that the folks have to take the highway to get down into the state, of which most of them know but little. All of them know that one of the county's chief figures is "Tam" Bowie, a great developer, who prays three times a day for a railroad crossing the Blue Ridge. Not yet has he got it, but who can tell what will happen if he prays hard enough and long enough?

From Jefferson a road leads southward to Wilkesboro. There was an old road used by the stages of the long ago, and about 1890 State convicts built another. Now the Highway Commission has a road which is not yet hard surfaced all the way and which climbs over and down the Blue Ridge by means of innumerable "kripin" curves. This road makes you think of the man who was deranged in his moral meanderings and who was described in a very famous poem thus: "He wires in and wires out, leaving the mind still in doubt, whether the snake that made the track was going out or coming back." Anyhow the road was nice and gave thrills and pretty views now and then a few miles west of Wilkesboro we turned westward and took the road to Boone. It was not long before we began to climb the heights again. We had crossed the Blue Ridge at Deep Gap and again on the way from Jefferson to Wilkesboro and now were to cross it the third time at Deep Gap. The rhododendron in the gorges was magnificent and made up stretches look like a vast garden. At a peak of the ridge was a gap, the Watauga line having been crossed a little before, and then a scene of beauty was before the eye. Blue grass, ripening wheat, snowy buckwheat blossoms, another piled range of mountains was in view. A surprise too, for while a year ago the writer had seen Deep Gap as nature's own child, bless your soul! here was a railway and a saucy locomotive, for all the world like a bath tub on a wheel barrow, which proudly bore the name "Red-top Railway Company," while around it were regulation size freight cars. This is a brand new railway and it hauls lumber down to Bowie, in Ashe, (named for Tam), so it is a branch of the Norfolk & Western, and before long no doubt the latter will be at Deep Gap itself. Then watch out for a great summer resort development at that high place because of the height there is a vast field from which one can look in all four directions and see the world, as the devil a long time ago showed it to the Lord from an "exceeding high mountain."

The devil does not like Watauga for 92 per cent of its folks are of church affiliations. He is much more interested in some down-country regions where he has a far larger percentage of followers. To tell the truth he half claims half of the North Carolina folks; 50-50, that's all. They will have to stir about to get away from him. It may be the Blue Ridge is too high for him.

We saw something else at Deep Gap, namely a handsome consolidated public school, which covers quite a district. On the charming highway, route (No. 60) we wren on to Boone, which is 3333 feet above sea level, and which is 226 miles north-west of Raleigh. To our great delight rain was falling, and when it falls in the mountain it really falls, but it looked and felt good to us. We had been in three blue grass counties Alleghany Ashe, and Watauga and they are like three pearls too, on a string around North Carolina's neck if you can fancy your state as an altogether lovely maiden. We

wanted to see more of route No. 60 so went to Zionville, 17 miles further on, through a country so charming that it exhausts descriptive powers. There we let our friend, Miss Hupmobile, set her front wheels in Tennessee, 243 miles from Raleigh, for there the hard surface ended. We were told a wonderful story, namely, that Tennessee is actually building a real road from that point to Mountain City. It seems incredible and some of the Zionville folks cannot believe it. It was agreed two or three years ago by the State of Tennessee and the State of North Carolina that if our State would build to Zionville, the boundary, Tennessee would build there too. In fact the emissary, or shall we say the ambassador of Tennessee, the "Volunteer State," very proudly said, "We will get there before you do," but he failed to speak truly for his part of the road did not arrive, to the great grief of the Wataugans. It is up to Tennessee.

Boone has changed delightfully in various respects, but not yet are its streets paved. Flour is not quite so fine as its dust, but like the Children of Israel in the Wilderness the folks are going to get out of this disagreeable condition. They have sold bonds and are to have real streets and after they do that will "take nobody's dust."

The great features of the town, besides its location and its atmosphere, is the Appalachian State Normal School. This school is a continual performance, running 12 months in the year. In a year it has wrought wonders, having built a spacious dormitory, a gymnasium and swimming pool combined, a mess hall, ice making and refrigerating building combined and a particularly good public school, the latter being on the normal school grounds so as to be available for demonstration and practice work, to give practical teaching to the many students who come both to the regular term of nine months and to the two summer school terms which cover nine months the public school going on all the time and having like the other buildings been constructed by the state. The Highway Commission has laid off the grounds for drive ways and walks during spare time, for it has a considerable force making a survey from Boone to Jefferson to tie in those two county seats. At this normal school there were during the regular term 640 students, during the first summer term 649 and at the second 483, and over three fourths of the counties in the state have been represented. More is to be done and one may say that the school has a splendid present and a far wider future. It is now building permanently. Forty per cent of the students at its regular term are men and 25 per cent at the summer term.

There are many interesting things to see in the vicinity of Boone. The first cheese factory in the south was established at Cove Creek in 1914 was enlarged twice and now a new building houses it. It does not fail to set out this fact above noted. There are four other cheese factories in Watauga county, the largest being at Brushy Fork, also right beside highway no. 60. This cheese is in great demand. So is the kraut made from the splendid hard head cabbage. Another new industry is the canning of beets, and yet another the raising of Irish potatoes for planting in eastern North Carolina, this already being an extensive business. All these plants are cooperative, the cheese factories being good examples of cooperative ownership.

When the writer used to come in the high mountain region many years ago and then on down to 1914 there were no end of beef cattle in all of these blue grass counties and horses too. He has seen of Boone 25 colts, with their mammas, but they are now as a mountaineer once told the writer about rattlesnakes "powerful scerze." The drop in beef cattle is just because prices dropped after the crazy period which directly followed the World War. It was poor business not to keep on raising them, and horses and mules too.

A splendid highway has been built from Boone to Blowing Rock, ten miles, and on it one passes between

WORTH WHILE CLUB

Perhaps the most pleasant afternoon the Worth While Club has been privileged to enjoy was the afternoon spent with Mrs. Edd Payne at her home Saturday September 19.

A letter from Mrs. Carrie Bamble, president of the District Federation was read by the president. The matter of electing delegates and prospective attendants was discussed. Quite a number of the ladies plan to attend. Some suggestions were made relative to having a chestnut roast. Plans were made for this and will be carried out in the near future.

Mrs. Payne had arranged for the pleasure of the guests a most interesting program. It was as follows: Duet - How Beautiful Heaven Must be, by Misses Harlena Cooke and Helen Edmisten. Recitation - Daisy Time by Helen Edmisten. Reading - Keropie Dear's Faith, by Mrs. Huggins.

Mrs. James Cooke and Mrs. Huggins each received a dainty bon-bon dish filled with delicious confections as prizes for highest score in an apple and Forest Contest.

Apples of choicest varieties were very much in evidence and enjoyed by the guests.

After the guests had enjoyed the program and contests, they were invited to the dining room where a most sumptuous repast awaited them.

Dainty place cards directed each guest to her place of honor. The hostess assisted by Miss Alice Brown and Miss Bernice Cooke served a two course luncheon. The first course consisted of chicken, toast, salad wafers, pickles and coffee. The second pink and white cake, strawberries and custard.

This beautiful home on the knoll surrounded by the beauties of nature forest and orchard and sparkling streams was very alluring and all were loathe to leave.

The next meeting of the club will be with Mrs. T. Len Cooke, Saturday October the 3rd.

PIANO RECITAL

Miss Ruth Rankin will give a piano recital on Monday evening at 7:30 in the auditorium of the new public school building. Miss Rankin will be assisted by Miss Aldridge of the expression department of Elon College and Miss Annie Dougherty, vocalist. An admission of 25 cents for the grown-ups and 15 cents for children will be charged for the benefit of the Parent-Teachers Association of the city.

Miss Rankin is one of the finest young musicians of the South, and this will probably be the last opportunity the public will have of hearing her before she leaves for New York to continue the study of music.

King George reviewing one of his Scottish regiments had to appear in the customary kilts. It is a good thing His Britannic Majesty is not a general in some of the West African regiments and slated for review.

Dirty Stuff.

"They sat around telling smutty stories all evening."
"It must have been a chimney-sweep convention."

Two great rocks, well named, "The Pillars of Hercules." Nearby is a little lake, which gives a head for an admirable electric power plant, which illuminates the Normal School and the town of Boone, and which was built by the State. Blowing Rock has been so much described that it is not worth while to speak about it, as it speaks for itself. It is over 4000 feet high, and a water shed, as are all these mountain gaps or passes, for the streams which flow south ward into the Atlantic and northward into the Gulf of Mexico.

The main street of Blowing Rock is about as unattractive as can well be imagined, with only two redeeming features, namely the Presbyterian and Episcopal churches, built of stone from the spot. There are three or four points with very wide views. From these one can see the long range of the Black mountains, also Grandfather mountain and the peaks which mark the grand canyon of the Linville river, namely, Hawksbill and Table Rock. We were to see these things, so we took the Yonabalssee road for Linville town, this word meaning in Cherokee "the Bear's Trail," the word "Yonab" meaning bear. So we said good bye to Watauga and literally took the trail.

NEWS OF THE NORMAL SCHOOL

Happenings of interest Around the School and Town as Reported by Our Regular Correspondent.

The following from Judge Stack is a fine recipe for drunken auto drivers: "Give them a lesson in making roads and they will learn sense enough to use them properly."

Mr. J. H. Bryan, a son of Col. W. L. Bryan, visited his father in Boone for a few days the past week. Mr. Bryan is in the fur business in Canada and in developing a wonderful trade in this line. His many friends were glad to see him.

Miss Ruth Coffey, director of Music at the Normal, has been visiting friends at Asheville for the past week, and Miss Sue Spainhour of Morganton has been supplying in her work during her absence.

Mrs. J. D. Rankin, her daughter Miss Ruth, and son Winton have been visiting friends at Rutherford College for the past week. They are expected home on Tuesday.

Friday the 25th is expected to be a day of unusual interest at the Normal as on that day the State Superintendent, the High School Inspector and the High Principals and Teachers of this section are to meet at the Normal for consultation in regard to high school work.

The State Normal has at this writing 100 per cent more than last year at this date. The High School Department has a few less than at the same date last year.

Rev. Woosley conducted chapel service on Saturday and made a good talk to the students.

On last Thursday Prof. Wright sang several solos to the pleasure of those present.

BAPTIST NOTES

We had 235 present in Sunday School at the Baptist church last Sunday. It would be very fine indeed to see this number raise to 300. Let us work to that as our goal for the fall and winter. We are glad to have anyone attend our Sunday School who may not already be in attendance at some other Sunday School.

The deacons of the church have decided to recommend to the church the addition of three rooms in the basement and the combining of two on the first floor for a larger class. This it is believed will meet the needs of the Sunday School for the present.

We are expecting our revival meeting to begin in Boone on Monday following the second Sunday. Dr. C. L. Jackson, pastor of the First Baptist church of Wadesboro, N. C. will assist in the meeting. Brother Jackson is a good man and a strong preacher. Christian people are asked to pray for a great revival.

Our meeting at Blowing Rock will begin Oct. 26th and the church and pastor will be assisted by Rev. W. L. Griggs of North Wilkesboro.

October 19th the Northwestern pastor's Conference will meet at the Boone Baptist church. All pastors of the Association are invited to attend. The ladies are expected to attend also.

Sunday School 10 a. m.
Worship 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.
B. Y. P. U. 6:30 p. m.
Prayer service Wednesday 7:30 p. m. You are asked to be with us. Prayer services are being used preparatory to our revival services.

ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH NOTES

There was an increase in Sunday School last Sunday. Be at Sunday School next Sunday and hear the special part to be given by the "Booster" Class.

There will be services each Sunday at 11 o'clock until December. The Sunday mornings that are not filled by a regular appointment will be taken by some one invited to hold a service. Next Sunday morning C. G. Hodges will have charge of the service.

Don't forget the Wednesday night Prayer Meetings.

Mother Knows.

Friendly Friend:—"And how is yours?"
That fine family of boys and girls of at the powder puff age now. The girls are powdering and the boys are puffing."

CONFEDERATE REUNION NOW BEING HELD IN BOONE

Today the thin Confederate line, the members of Nimrod Triplett Camp, U. C. V., who followed Lee and Jackson through the thickest of the fight, through the earth quaked north their feet, are holding their thirtieth annual reunion and the few grand old men who are left are being entertained at the State Normal. Thirty years ago when the first Confederate reunion was held in Boone, there were thousands of people present, not only from Watauga but adjoining counties, and the double rank file of veterans reached unbroken from the present post office to the court house with Eifer Lorenza Miller and Drommer Enoch Swift (both of whom are present today) heading the parade, that marched to the tune of Dixie and other patriotic airs.

To accommodate the great gathering a sumptuous picnic lunch was served. Following is a complete list of those present on this occasion: Jeremy Green, L. D. Miller, E. M. Greer, E. J. Norris, H. A. Davis, James Arrant Enoch Swift, Capt. Bill Hodges, Wyatt Hayes, S. J. Bishop, Newton Banner (Federal) and Wm. Cook of Caldwell county. Those still living in the county, though absent on this occasion are Robt. Farthing, Albert Wilson, Thomas Love and Mark Winebarger.

The old boys are still quite well, and most of them as jolly as of yore though time has steeped their forms and in some instances disease has made inroads on their once manly bodies. The Democrat on behalf of every citizen of the town extends to the remnant of those who wore the Gray and the Blue as well, a hearty welcome with the hope their stay will be the most pleasant of all. In honoring you we feel that we are honoring ourselves. In the meantime, "old sports" if you see anything hanging about loose that you would like to possess, take it along, but it might not be best for Capt. Bill or Marsh Greer to hear of it.

METHODIST NOTES

There was an increase of seventeen in Sunday School attendance last Sunday compared to the previous Sunday. 257 were present. Some of the classes have been working, one in which it was very evident is taught by Mr. Jeff Stanbury.

In spite of threatening showers 16 members of the teachers' council were present Monday night to plan and work out a larger program for the Sunday School. The council has already adopted the B. Standard chart gotten out by the Department of Religious Education at Nashville, Tenn. as the Sunday School standard, and the accomplishment of this program seems very favorable.

The Boy Scouts of Boone had a very pleasant outing last Friday night. Rev. Mr. Huggins, Mr. Ben Watson and the writer were visitors around the camp fire near Winkler's Creek where jokes were told and speeches made to our hearts' content. The success of this outing movement is largely due to Charles Farthing, Gordon Winkler and Howard Ashley.

Sunday School at 9:45 a. m.
Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. by the pastor. Since Sunday is Promotion and Sunday School Day the sermon Sunday morning will be of ten minutes duration.
Epworth League 6-15.

Wednesday prayer service and choir practice at 7:30 p. m.

VALLE CRUCIS ITEMS

Gordon Taylor has returned home from Cleveland Ohio, and is leaving again immediately to enter the State College at Raleigh.

Wilson Lawrence and T. C. Baird, accompanied by Miss Wilma Baird, made a business trip to Lenoir on Tuesday.

Rev and Mrs. J. P. Burke have driven through to New York City, expecting to be gone about ten days.

Mrs. C. D. Taylor has gone down the mountain to visit friends at Leigerwood and Lenoir.

Wade and Evans Miller of Elkland stopped to greet friends in passing through the valley on Tuesday evening on their way home from Cleveland.

Dr. and Mrs. F. M. Dula and Joe Clark of Lenoir were visitors in the Valley on Sunday. William Clark also returning to Lenoir with them.

The summer cottage being built for the Rev. Harding Hughes of Greensboro by the Clark brothers is progressing rapidly.

The Very Same.

Clerk:—"He grows fast, doesn't he. It's the same youngster who was just under 6—when you rode on my train summer before last."

MRS. CLEVE JOHNSON DEAD

Prominent Young Lady Passes Away Early This morning at the Watauga Hospital—Funeral Tomorrow.

Mrs. E. C. Johnson died at the Watauga Hospital here this morning after an illness of only a few days. Mrs. Johnson was formerly Miss Mae, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Greene of this city, and a niece of the Professors Dougherty, of the Appalachian State Normal. She had been married for only about two years and with her husband had made her home at the Greene residence. She was educated at the Normal and was an accomplished musician and an artist of unusual ability.

Her death has cast a gloom over the entire town, for she numbered her friends by her acquaintances—a lovable character, always having a kind word and pleasant smile for those with whom she came in contact. She leaves a husband and infant daughter ten days old, father mother, and two brothers to mourn her seeming untimely death.

Funeral services will be conducted from the Baptist church tomorrow, after which interment will be in the town cemetery.

The Democrat extends deepest sympathy to the husband and others of her family in their bereavement.

NEWS FROM THE STATE FAIR

Though the cattle pens and livestock sheds of the State Fair were overrun with entries last year so that it became necessary to erect tents to house the overflow, it is estimated by Manager E. V. Walborn that the exhibits this year will be greater than last. Mr. Walborn is particularly pleased with the outlook for the Horse Show, which is being arranged by David Gray as assistant superintendent. In this department will be the regular exhibits or horse and mules entered for premiums, and in addition will be held the Horse Show on Wednesday and Thursday nights, when competition in riding between gentlemen, ladies and couples will be a feature event. A cavalry troupe from Fort Bragg will also give an exhibition on each night.

In the cattle department, Prof. R. S. Curtis states that there will be an especially good beef show. Premiums amounting to nearly \$4,000 are offered in this section, and a number of fine herds have already entered. Prof. L. I. Case of Blacksburg, Virginia, will judge beef cattle this year. With dairy breeds John Arrey states that the premiums amount to \$3,505 with indications that the contests will be unusually close. Mr. Arrey expects a large number of entries with the Jersey breed predominating, as was the case last year.

Over \$1,000 is offered in the swine department. Prof. W. W. Shay states that in addition to the regular show of pure breeds, there will also be a barrow show and a ham and bacon show which will attract attention. C. P. Thompson, of Stillwater Oklahoma, will judge the swine this year.

North Carolina grown sheep will also be much evidence at the fair. A. C. Walker, of Clyde, North Carolina, will have charge of this department, and the judging will be done by George Evans, County Agent of Davie County. Nearly \$3,000 in premiums is offered in this department and competition will be keen.

BEAUTY

Make your home surroundings the most most attractive in town or most attractive in town or county. — Your neighbors will know it.

Beauty develops the soul—help on this great work.

Consider the mountains, hills, valleys, clouds and vaulted sky, how beautiful!—Let us make our lawns and lives in harmony with these.

Have you a short word to say or a plan for the beautiful?—Tell us about it.

LIVINGSTON CLUB

Two very interesting meetings of the Livingston Club have been held recently. One was with Miss Louise Critcher at which very entertaining short talks were made by Misses Ruth Rankin and Wilhelmina Hydrick.

The second meeting was with Mrs. Grady Farthing at which Mrs. Esther Stanbury Boone, a former member of the club was present and was interested in the plans of the club for the coming year.