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SHOOTING AFFAIR AT DEEP GAP--OTHER NEWS

(W. A. Watson)

On last Wednesday the 23rd the Consolidated School of Deep Gap had had a very nice Christmas tree and gave an entertainment in the way of short speeches and a Christmas play depicting the charms of the Yuletide. The program was put on by the members of the Literary Society of the school. The play was grand and the background jazzing, for a decorated Christmas tree gave it a cozy effect with its many and varied colors with burning candles they softly glowed in the hours of the evening. After the speeches the play Miss Theodosia, the queen mother of the Consolidated School of Deep Gap and principal teacher took the floor and held the public spell bound with a very interesting school and community talk. She is noted for her way and manner of expression and appreciation. Every word she spoke hit the right spot with the public. After her talk she invited W. C. Greene, a former citizen of this locality to make a talk, which he did with many words of praise for the community progress in the land of his birth. Mr. Greene made a suggestion before he closed in the way of finance for the school which met with public favor, within ten minutes the school having realized \$82 of donations which was taken up to pay the indebtedness of the play ground. The play ground was paid off in full within three minutes, but the Messrs W. C. Greene, J. C. Church, Jeter Church and Ira W. Day, the three latter being traveling salesmen in the employ of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Winston-Salem, N. C. who are now working Pennsylvania territory, would not stop paying off the play ground debt, but kept going on with their liberal donations together with the public citizens and patrons of the school until a large sum was raised to go on the indebtedness of the light plant also.

The Deep Gap boys poured out the much needed. These boys are an asset to any community and we are justly proud of them. We wish them every success and prosperity all the way down the line.

We also want to give worthy mention and praise to Messrs G. B. Miller and E. C. Greer, noted community violinists for the music they rendered on this occasion at the school which helped out most wonderfully to make the public cheerful.

Some time in the night on Wednesday December the 23rd Mrs. Alice Carroll went home from the entertainment at the Deep Gap school after the exercises were over to find a party in the persons of Maggie Lewis a lewd woman, and Wesley Randall (Reynolds) at her home carrying on a wild tippy party of their own. When she arrived she drove them away. Her husband became infuriated followed her as she left to go to a nearby house, where in a scuffle with his wife was shot in the abdomen by a revolver she held. Mr. Carroll is now in the Wilkes Hospital at North Wilkesboro where he has undergone a serious if not fatal operation.

This affair, caused by immorality and strong drink, is deplorable. Latest report is that Mr. Carroll died in the hospital.

The Christmas holiday passed off very quietly in Deep Gap without mishap, save a family quarrel (at the name withheld) where a little party was being held. We mentioned many facts in our close up in last issue which could have been upheld nearby, but there are always offenders of the law and morals that will violate all good reason and judgment at this season of the year.

It is reported by reliable authority that strong drink flowed in the community as never before. If our prohibition officer could have been down here the day before Christmas he would have bagged a dozen or more men with wet goods galore. This does not mean that our good citizens all went wrong, but a number are wet. We believe in being as nearly bone dry as is possible.

Mr. I. Chadwick and wife are visiting at the home of Mr. Gaither Watson, his wives father during the holidays. His home is at Beaufort and this is his first visit to Deep Gap. It is reported that Mr. Chadwick is a good farmer and a champion potato grower of his section, having won a \$5 prize for making the most deposits at his local bank from the proceeds of his marketed potatoes.

BROOKSIDE DOTS

Messrs Vance, Young and John Howell as usual visited their parents Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Howell during the Holly Days, and while the home folks and their many friends were glad to see them, Mr. Cotton tail began to beat time to the music of Young's five beagle bounds which filled the deep recesses of the mountains with enchanting melody.

Mr. Joe Blackburn of Chicago, Illinois of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Blackburn of Brookside, remembered his parents with a beautiful Victrola as a Christmas present. Now Cam has his splendid new residence completed, and during the cold days he sits by the happy fireside and plays, "Old Folks at Home."

Mr. Arthur Winebarger, and Mrs. Lydia Castle, Mr. Loyd Castle, and Miss Sarah Norris, during the holidays made a flying trip to Johnson City and Bristol. The true intent and purpose of this visit has not been made public, but it may turn out that two loving hearts hereafter will beat as one.

Mr. Ronda Parker of Steubenville Ohio, and Lonnie Parker of the Patterson School, Lenoir, visited at home during the holidays.

Misses Gladys and Geraldine Fry of Kona-rook, Va. are visiting with friends and relatives at Brookside. The parents of the young ladies are dead, formerly living in the Flat Top section near Blowing Rock. The girls are seeking an education in a graded school at Kona-rook.

The public school at River View, taught by Mrs. H. J. Lyon and Miss Mary Lillian Lyon has been a very progressive one and will close one week after Christmas. The Christmas tree at the school last Thursday was a splendid affair, and the children were remembered by friends and relatives.

The sudden cold snap has changed the rippling and murmuring waters of New River into a solid sheet of ice. Farmers who remembered their wood sheds during the pretty warm weather are enjoying the fruits of their labor by a warm fireside.

New fashions and inventions are continually cropping out. Along the extreme eastern portion of Bald Mt. township a number of persons both old and young have discovered a new way of using snuff. They take a box in their right hand, and with their left they seize the under lip between the fore finger and the thumb stretching it out to its utmost capacity, after which they lift the box of snuff which they hold in their right hand and completely fill the large reservoir between the tooth and lower lip.

The rubber like lip is suddenly released an explosion of dry snuff is the result, filling the nose, bronchial tubes and lungs to the brim. The residue of snuff remaining in tact in the reservoir is soon moistened by the action of the saliva glands till the morbid secretion finds an exit at the corners of the mouth. Wonder of pouring hot lead in the ears, and driving locust pins in the nose would produce any perceptible change in the senses of feeling, hearing and smell?

BEAUTY

Surely God is a lover of the beautiful, for He has created so much that is beautiful. Consider the sunset, the clouds, the sky, the sea, the mountains, the hills, the valleys, the rose and all the other flowers of wondrous beauty, and avail yourself of such things as you may be able to use around your own good home.

Folks estimate us by our home surroundings and our town spirit by the appearance of our towns. How would we be estimated, you and I? Beauty is a quality that shows in our surroundings. Let's give it full sway. Tell us your purpose for another season.

Mr. A. G. Miller, our mercant became a boy again during Christmas and sent up several red, white and blue balloons. He also supplied fire crackers gratis to his customers, so we had plenty of fire works and some noise.

Miss Dollie Greene who has been in training as a nurse at Lincolnton, visited her parents Mr. and Mrs. Lee Greene here for the Christmas holidays.

The wintry weather held us in its grasp Sunday and Monday, it being the coldest weather experienced for this season of the year.

WINTER CARE OF THE MILK COW

(By J. A. Arey)

Office of Dairy Extension
The milk cow must be kept comfortable during the winter if she is to produce milk profitably. When exposed to cold winds and rain a portion of the energy contained in her feed is used to keep her body warm.

The stall in which the cow is kept should be well lighted and properly ventilated but free from air currents. While good ventilation is important it should be provided in such a way as to prevent direct air currents from striking the cows body. This can be accomplished by making the sides of the dairy barn or cow shed tight and admitting the air through properly located windows. The stall should be well bedded at all times. Ample bedding serves the double purpose of keeping the cow comfortable and increasing the volume of manure which is so much needed or all of our soil.

The practice of requiring the cow to wade through mud and ice some distance to a stream for her drinking water is all too common and a very expensive one. Such exposures chill her body and in this condition she will not consume the amount of water needed for good milk production. A Jersey cow producing around thirty pounds of milk per day should consume from 85 to 90 pounds of water, however she will not take this quantity on a cold day unless the supply is convenient and of a medium temperature.

Perhaps no equipment in the dairy barn yields a greater return on the cost price than good individual drinking cups. The advantage offered by this system of watering, is the possibility it affords for the cow to drink a small amount at a time and at frequent intervals. The convenience of this system is very important for there is no question but that heavy producing cows fail to drink during the winter months, as much water as they need for best results when watered once a day at an outside tank or a nearby stream.

The dairy cow is a creature of habit and there is no animal on the farm that responds more regularly to kind treatment. She becomes accustomed to a regular routine in feeding and care and any change from this system tends to disturb her and decreases the milk flow. Regularity in all details is essential to a constant milk flow. A cow may be accustomed to most any feeding method but she will be uneasy if the same method is not followed all the time. It is especially important that the milking be done at the same hour and under the same conditions as far as possible each day.

The high producing dairy cow is usually inclined to be nervous and easily excited, therefore her attendant should deal with her gently. She should never be run with dogs or a horse nor handled roughly while being put in the barn. No other farm animal works more faithful for her master than the good milk cow. She is the most economical producer of human food of all the farm animals. The food she produces is necessary for the proper development of the human race therefore she deserves the best care during the cold winter months that it is possible for her keeper to give her. For this treatment she will give good returns in the form of an increased milk production.

Mr. Gady Bradley was in the shop this afternoon and ordered the Democrat sent to his address in Florida for the next four months. Mrs. Bradley will accompany him to Knoxville where she will remain with her parents during his absence. Mr. Bradley is a carpenter, a genuine hustler and already has employment there. They will leave Saturday morning.

Messrs Vance, Presnell, Green Miller, Albert and James Bingham and Ronda Fox, all of the Brushy Fork section, will leave tomorrow bound for Florida, the trip being made in a truck. They go in quest of employment.

It seems that one Wesley Reynolds of unsavory reputation was largely if not all to blame for the shooting affair at Deep Gap last Thursday. Reynolds is under suspended sentence in several cases in Superior Court, and we are at a loss to know why it is that he was again allowed to give bond in this deplorable case when he is already sentenced in several others. Supposedly his bond to the court has been violated in all courts and it should be seen that he is made to suffer the penalties prescribed. Tolerance in his case, it seems, is no longer a virtue.

CHRISTMAS QUIET DAY AT VALLE CRUCIS

Christmas passed very quietly only a couple of Christmas trees with programs rendered by the children. Gifts and remembrances were given and received which manifested the Christmas spirit. The little snow and sudden drop in temperature added quite a good deal to the season and made us all feel young, and it quickened our steps. Christmas is a great day for us all. We greet each other with the hearty hand shake and the word of good cheer. The news from far away friends and loved ones brings back fond memories of the past. It also takes us back to the days of childhood when we hung up our stockings and looked for Santa Claus. There is one thing that is especially worth noting, there was not a person under the influence of Mr. Bootleg, thanks to prohibition. No boisterous yelling or shooting as in the days when whiskey was in evidence, and no swearing or profane language was heard of which all speaks well of any community. We have a model community as to morals and our people attend church services, Sunday School and the mid week prayer meeting and manifest good interest.

It looks rather discouraging for our little railroad project but we are still hoping that those who stand in the way will look a little further from home and selfish interest and see the good that all the people will share by just stepping aside and let it pass by with lumber, tan bark, paper wood, sand, etc. for the people who need to sell it. Neighbor, just consider a little more in a friendly sort of way and come across.

Mrs. D. F. Mast has been indisposed for a week or so but is much improved.

Mr. and Mrs. I. T. Johnson and baby of Jefferson spent Christmas with home folks. Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Shull, James Taylor and Philip Mast and Frank Taylor are also at home for the holidays.

AMICUS

P. S. We missed the Democrat last week but we are glad you took a vacation. You need it just the same as grown folks.

WORTH WHILE CLUB NOTES

The Christmas meeting of the Worth While Club was a very happy occasion for all concerned. A Christmas program was given and enjoyed by all. The program was as follows: Song: "Star of the East" Scripture: Story of Christ's Birth from Matthew by Mrs. Charles Stevenson.

Prayer by Mrs. F. M. Huggins. Recitation: "Christmas is Coming" by Mack Greer.

Duet: "Silent Night" Mrs. W. C. Greer and Mrs. Ralph Winkler. Reading: "Christmas night in the Quarters" by Mrs. J. A. Williams.

The annual Christmas social for the honorary members of the club, (the husbands) was discussed. The club also voted to give a social for the ladies of the community who recently moved here and have not yet affiliated with any club, this social to be given some time during the holidays.

Messdames W. C. and Milton Greer the hostesses served palatable chicken salad sandwiches cut in the shape of a star and a Christmas bell, coffee and green jello, whipped cream and cake.

The little Christmas tree with its artistic decoration and dainty packages added much to the Christmas decoration so much in evidence. Just at this time the little tree was relieved of its burden and each guest received a gift. Each guest gave expressions of Christmas wishes and holiday greetings to each other one present and added much to the spirit of Christmas already so prevalent.

The next meeting will be Jan. 1, at 7:30 p. m. at the home of Mrs. John P. Greer, at which time the husbands will be entertained. Mr. F. M. Huggins will be associate hostess.

Tuesday December 15, the members of the Worth While Club in a body are with arms filled with packages of suits, clothing, coats, sweaters and articles too numerous to mention met at the Democrat office and left their packages to be delivered at the Grandfather Orphanage or near Christmas eve. This little deed, done in the name of our Master, was a treat pleasure to each participant.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

Mrs. Henry J. Hardin who has been in a Statesville hospital for several weeks, returned. Her friends are delighted to know that she is recovering nicely from a rather serious operation.

Dr. English, eye, ear, nose and throat specialist of Johnson City, will be at the Watauga Hospital Monday for the practice of his profession.

Miss Virginia, daughter of Mr. A. H. Dula, passed through the first of the week en route to Winston-Salem where she will take a three months course in a Business College there.

Mr. Hugh Watson, student at the University is spending his holiday vacation with home folks on route 1.

Tuesday of last week young Fred Teague of Blowing Rock was very seriously hurt by the accidental discharge of a shot gun, the entire load taking effect in one of his legs below the knee. He was brought at once to Watauga Hospital, where it was found that the limb was so shattered that amputation was necessary and it was taken off near the knee. He is recovering as rapidly as could be expected, the seriousness of the wound and the operation considered.

Mr. J. Turner Hendrix of Bristol, Tenn. an employee of the Reynolds Tobacco Co. as assistant district manager, spent the holidays with home folks here. He and Mrs. Hendrix will return to Bristol tomorrow.

Dr. J. C. Farthing is of the opinion that he was the recipient of the most valuable Christmas present of any man in town—a fine baby boy.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank McGhee at the Watauga Hospital Tuesday morning a girl, Kathryn Gray.

Attorney and Mrs. E. A. Linney and children attended a family reunion and Christmas tree at the Matheson home in Taylorsville Christmas eve. Mrs. Matheson (Mrs. Linney's mother) has almost lived out four score and five years and it was largely on her account that the reunion was held. Every child and every grand child of the venerable lady were present, and the occasion was enjoyable. The Linney family returned Christmas day.

The taking over of the Cash Grocery Store makes the firm of Cottrell and Hagaman one of the leading retail grocery concerns in this section. They are well stocked in both establishments. Mr. Cottrell is in charge of the newly purchased business while Mr. Hagaman is "holding down the job" at the old stand in the D. J. Cottrell building.

A fine red fox was seen by Mr. Clint Thomas Tuesday afternoon well within the corporate limits of the town. He was back in the sunshine by a fodder stack on the Bryan farm when Thomas discovered him. He left his fur with a wonderful leap and was soon in the laurels on the Bryan hill.

Married on last Saturday at the home of the groom's father, Mr. Foly Moretz in Boone, Mr. Ralph Moretz to Miss Veltie Winebarger of the Mead Camp section, the Rev. J. H. DeLoach performing the ceremony. Young Moretz is just out of school and his marriage came as a surprise to his friends. The newly weds were treated to an old time serenade Monday night. The Democrat extends congratulations.

Miss Lucy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Moretz, a student at Meredith College, has been at her home since the beginning of the holidays. She will return early next week.

Mr. Pink Hodges of Adams who has been in declining health for some time was taken to the Long Sanatorium in Statesville last week by her husband. She underwent a very serious operation but all will be glad to learn that the splendid lady stood it well and seems to be improving nicely. Mr. Hodges has visited her at different times and seems to be very hopeful of her permanent recovery.

Mr. Thomas Hampton for a long time Superintendent of the Whiting Lumber Company at Shulls Mills, a most splendid gentleman, esteemed by all who knew him, was instantly killed in the wreck of a log train in Cherokee County last Thursday. No particulars.

Mr. and Mrs. Bascomb Johnson, formerly of Lenoir, but for several years residents of the state of Washington are visitors to their sons, the Messrs W. Roy and B. C. Johnson in Boone. They arrived Christmas eve and will be here for some weeks. The boys seem elated over their coming, as they have seen neither of their parents for many years.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. McDonald of South Dakota are visitors at the home of their daughter Mrs. H. L. Wilson in Boone. When they leave they expect to go to Florida for a few weeks before returning home.

Miss Margaret Linney, student at the State College for Women at Greensboro, and brother Baxter, of Duke University, are spending the holiday season with their parents, Hon. and Mrs. F. A. Linney.

Hurray for Boone! Not a drunk or any disorderly conduct within her borders during the holidays. This is most commendable.

CHRISTMAS IN TOWN AND COUNTY AT LARGE

The Christmas holidays were in a great many respects, the most wonderful year celebrated in this part of the hill country of North Carolina. The day was cold, typical winter weather and was as quiet as any Sabbath observed here for many months.

The community had done her best for the needy ones. A community chest of right good proportions was collected by Ex-Mayor Hahn and J. L. Qualls, two prominent citizens and the ladies of the town provided an empty stocking fund for the less fortunate ones in the community. All were well taken care of and the poorest kiddies to be found were enabled to enjoy the happy season to the fullest. The spirit of giving however did not stop here. A collection was taken for the Grandfather Orphanage and quite a sum was raised to say nothing of canned goods, preserves, clothing shoes and other articles donated by the ladies of the city. They certainly did themselves proud. The contributions were sent over Christmas eve, and the management of the orphanage was highly pleased, saying it was the best of all the Christmas gifts received up to that time.

The Democrat, as always, is proud of our liberal hearted citizenship. They are always on the job when real charity work is needed.

BOONE GRIPPED BY UNUSUAL COLD SNAP

Just how cold it was in Boone on Monday morning is a somewhat mooted question. The ordinary run of thermometers hovered around 10 and 12 below, some higher and some lower. A gentleman, rather inclined to be particular covered up his thermometer, lest it freeze, and lo! (he says) when the covering was removed she was registering 18 below. Another tells of 15 indoors, while the one exposed read 12, while it seemed that mercury had run out at the bottom of others. Likely about 10 below is "how much". The heaviest ice for many years is still on the creeks and ponds.

NEWS NOTES FROM THE POPLAR GROVE SECTION

Miss Stella Sherrill, teacher at Heaton, N. C. spent the holidays with home folks.

Mr. H. R. Maltha who for some time has been in a hospital at Johnson City, spent part of the past week with his family.

Mr. and Mrs. George Greene of Kingsport, Tenn., spent the past week end with Mr. Greene's parents Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Greene.

Miss Ruth Blair of Howards Creek has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Vannoy.

Mrs. Virginia Maltha, accompanied by her son Mr. F. M. Maltha left Saturday morning to visit her son Mr. R. L. Maltha at Black Earth, Wisconsin.

On Wednesday night December 23 Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Vannoy delightfully entertained a number of the young people. Many interesting contests and games were enjoyed during the evening and delicious refreshments served. Everyone enjoyed the occasion and appreciated the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Vannoy.

Friday evening Dec. 25 Miss Muriel Hodges of Hodges Gap entertained a number of her friends at a Christmas party. Quite a number of games and contests were enjoyed and good string music was furnished during the evening by Messrs H. L. and G. L. Hodges. Miss Hodges was assisted by her sister Sallie and Miss Pearl Gragg in serving delicious refreshments, consisting of home made candies, raisin and banana sandwiches with corus. Young and old enjoyed the occasion to the fullest and left voting Miss Hodge a charming hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. Artie Hodges spent some of the holidays with their relatives on Laurel Fork.

Misses Muriel and Sallie Hodges and Pearl Gragg also Messrs. Earl Blackburn and Alfred Bennett spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Winkler.

IMPORTANT MEETING

Mr. I. O. Schaub, State Farm Extension Agent of Raleigh, N. C. will be at the court house at 11 a. m. January 20, 1926, for the purpose of discussing County Agent work.

All the farmers and tax payers are urged to be present. The commissioners want to do the best for you. Please be on hand, hear the work discussed and take a hand in the discussion yourself. All who want to speak will be heard. We want you to express your views either for or against.

Please be here on this date and make your wishes known so that we may act upon your recommendation. By order of the Board of County Commissioners.