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This Week



SAVAGE EVOLUTION ELECTRICITY'S BABYHOOD POOR OLD BEELZEBUB A BOOMING NATION

Some African savages believe that gorillas and chimpanzees can talk, but find their knowledge best they be put to work.

Other savages have an evolution theory of their own. The Batogai, the Congo natives, tell the Rev. H. C. Graham that monkeys are descended from men that have been disgraced.

"We are better and prouder than the apes," say these practical black men, "therefore we eat them."

Samuel Insull tells the world that electricity is only beginning its work. We are a little way, but not far from the savage that fell down and worshipped an unknown malignant devil when the lightning flashed.

Railroads will soon change from steam to electric power and that will call for twenty four billion more hours of kilowatt energy, says Mr. Insull. Farms will be wired for electric light and power.

Most encouraging is the prediction of Elmer Schlesinger, Louis Levy's intellectual and dashing young law partner. Elmer Schlesinger says electricity, in this century, will do for the world's troubles and debts what steam did for the world in the last century, after Waterloo, Europe and the nations were called "hopelessly bankrupt." In proportion their debts were greater than they are today. Steam came and debts were paid with the greatest ease. Instead of bankruptcy Europe knew prosperity such as no one had dreamed of. It was so great that nations could not resist fighting over it. What steam did for the last century steam will do for this. And that is no dream.

"Polygamy is legalized and getting a divorce is easy as bootlegging," says Mr. Hackenbourg, of New York Legislature, and he wants easy divorces from Paris to Reno made illegal.

Divorce and bootlegging, now so easy, simply prove that when you try to regulate human nature, you invite trouble. "The cat will mew and the dog will have his day."

Milwaukee supplies an account of marvellous exorcism, believed by many, deeply religious, to have been the actual driving out of a devil from the body of an unfortunate insane woman.

The account of the miracle runs as follows: A woman whose mind had become unbalanced was carried to the Chapel of St. Joseph's Hospital where the "exorcism ritual" was performed, in Latin, not understood by the patient.

The question "Who are you?" was answered apparently from the throat of the woman in a deep masculine voice, "BEELZEBUB." Asked why he had taken possession of the woman Beelzebub replied, "BECAUSE OF MALEDICTION."

The fiend promised to leave the woman at 2 o'clock that afternoon, but did not actually leave until half past five, which is about what you would expect of a demon. The woman then relaxed and is getting better.

This miracle, not as yet vouched for by church authorities, was an everyday occurrence in the middle ages, when demons were more active, numerous and efficient than at the present.

It is romantic, refreshing and interesting to have one of them resume baseness at the old stand in these days of radios, automobiles and newspapers. It is said however that the voice of Milwaukee's Beelzebub indicated irritation and a feeling that times are not what they were in the good old days.

Our population increases more than two per cent, or about 2,000,000 per year. Business and prosperity increase about twice as rapidly as population. We should be grateful.

HAYES WILL SUCCEED PARKER AS NATIONAL COMMITTEEMAN

Durham, Feb. 10.—Johnson J. Hayes of Wilkesboro was elected unanimously, almost so, on the first ballot, as national committeeman, to succeed Judge John J. Parker at the meeting of the North Carolina republican executive committee here this afternoon. The committee also selected Durham as the place for the state convention and April 8 as the date.

WRITING SCHOOL HAS CLOSED AT DEEP GAP

Mr. Z. T. Watson, as he sends the following article, submits specimens of writing from the following pupils in his school of penmanship: Margaret Taylor, H. L. Hardin, Clay Miller, Russell Watson, Tom White, Lloyd Greene, Della Miller, Dessie Younce, Clara Greene, Troy A. Watson, Paul Watson, Fred Greer, Annie Watson, Snow Idol, Ella Watson, and Gurney Greene.

The specimens are all good and some well nigh perfect it would seem. Mr. Watson's letter follows:

The ten days writing school taught at the Deep Gap Consolidated School building closed Saturday February 6th, with an average attendance of 53 pupils during the entire term. Mr. Henry L. Hardin one of the public school teachers took in the writing lessons, and appeared very enthusiastic over his own improvement and said he observed a marked improvement in the handwriting of the other pupils.

I believe the question of consolidating small school districts will be definitely settled when the many advantages of consolidation are generally known.

With larger and more commodious school buildings, with modern equipments, with better qualified and better paid teachers, with the children carried to and from school in closed trucks; avoiding exposure; all should agree that a progressive movement forward will have been made when the dream of our best educators are realized.

The citizens of Deep Gap have reasons for thanking the Board of Education for providing such a splendid building in that section of the county. The building cost \$10,000, and is well furnished with modern equipments, right on the side of the Boone Trail, easy and accessible for all the children, as the county school bus carries them to and from school. With the 125 pupils attending, the public school at present, and increasing with the growth of population Deep Gap Consolidated school is destined to become a splendid educational center, of which her good citizenship should be proud.

The children at Deep Gap are very intelligent and a marked improvement in their handwriting was noticed from the very beginning of the writing school. I find the parents are in sympathy with the teachers, and go hand in hand with them in the moral and intellectual advancement of their children.

I know and think it is generally known that a more kind and hospitable people than those at Deep Gap would be hard to find.

WORTH WHILE CLUB

In her usual hospitable way Mrs. J. M. Moretz entertained the Worth While Club at the regular meeting February 5. A very interesting program on the life of Abraham Lincoln was given. The program was as follows:

Song—"America"
Sketches from his early life—Mrs. W. C. Greer.

Condensed story of his professional life—Mrs. W. H. Gragg.

Lincoln's Habits in the White House—Mrs. W. R. Winkler.

Mrs. Lincoln's Surprise for her husband—Mrs. C. S. Stevenson.

Lincoln's Religious Belief—Mrs. J. F. Moore.

A very unique Lincoln contest caused quite a lot of merriment. Mrs. Higgins was the successful contestant and was awarded a beautiful cream and sugar service.

Many business items were presented and discussed. The election of officers resulted as follows:

President—Mrs. J. M. Moretz.
Vice-President—Mrs. C. S. Stevenson.

Secretary—Mrs. R. L. Clay.
Program Committee—Mesdames W. C. Greer, J. L. Qualls, and W. H. Gragg.

Plans for the years work were discussed at length and definite work assigned for each month.

An outstanding item of business was the vote of the club to build a Community Club house. Plans were outlined, subscriptions taken, contributions made, and thus a fund for this purpose has already been started.

With the other activities the club also voted to own and operate a circulating library.

The hostess served dainty refreshments in the dining room which was decorated with beautiful red and white carnations and lighted with red candles.

Mrs. R. L. Clay will entertain the club at the next regular meeting on February 19th.

Johnnie Hodges broke his arm a few days ago while playing basket ball.

METHODIST NOTES

The first Sunday in February gave the Sunday School the largest enrollment for the New Year and one of the largest for the winter, there being 218 present. Each class and department seemed to have its full share in the increase over former Sundays.

The largest congregation since last summer was present at the morning preaching service at which time eight new members were received by letter. The men were in the majority at the evening service, but this was not the case at prayer meeting of the past week. The friendly contest between the men and the women at the night services goes on with the women slightly in the lead on the average of the services. Mrs. R. L. Bingham is leading the women and Prof. J. M. Downum is leading the men.

The Comrades Sunday School class continues its excellent program of service under the leadership of Mr. Jeff Stanbury as teacher and Mrs. A. E. South as president. The class is divided into two groups, each one striving to lead the other in raising funds to complete the class room in the dome. Quite a bit of friendly rivalry is prevalent, and funds are coming in by which the goal of the class will be accomplished. The old saying "you can't keep a good man down" apply to this class of men and women.

The Wesley Brotherhood met last Friday night in the basement of the church for a fathers and sons supper. Many of the men and boys of the church were present to hear discussions of the work of the Brotherhood, which organization spreads throughout Methodism, and to enjoy the delicious refreshments prepared for the occasion. The next meeting of the Brotherhood will be held next month.

Sunday School at Boone Sunday morning at 9:15.

Epworth League 6:30 p. m.

Wednesday prayer service and choir practice 7 p. m.

Preaching at Blowing Rock Sunday morning and evening by the pastor.

BLOWING ROCK NEWS

The many friends of Mrs. George Sudderth are glad to learn that she is getting along nicely after having undergone a very serious operation. She is in a Statesville hospital.

Miss Bess Ward who has been visiting friends in Lenoir for the past week, returned home Sunday.

Mr. O. W. Spencer of Salisbury proprietor of Green Park Hotel is in town this week on business.

Dr. A. W. Dula and son Robert of Lenoir were business visitors here Monday.

Mrs. Lee Crisp was taken to the Davis Hospital in Statesville last Sunday where she will undergo an operation for appendicitis. Her friends wish her a speedy recovery.

Miss Mary Holshouser delightfully entertained a few of her friends at bridge Wednesday evening.

Miss Dorothy Hayes and Mr. Cleve Sumpter won high score. Refreshments which consisted of divinity fudge, mints and nuts were served.

Messrs. Bill Sehorn and Victor Abernethy of Lenoir spent a few hours in town Sunday.

One of the most enjoyable events of the season was a bridge party and dance given by Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Panella at their home here Monday evening. Mrs. Panella and Mr. Cleve Sumpter won high score on bridge. Radio music was also one of the pleasures of the evening. The hostess invited the guests into the dining room where delicious refreshments were served. The guests departed at a late hour having enjoyed very much the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Panella.

Mrs. H. J. Cooper was hostess at the Katty Club Friday afternoon at the home of her mother Mrs. A. M. Critcher. Music was rendered through out the evening. A short while was spent in sewing, after which delightful refreshments were served, consisting of jelly with strawberries, cake and coffee. The club adjourned after an evening of thorough pleasure and will meet again next Friday evening with Mrs. George Crisp.

COMRADES CLASS TO HAVE ANOTHER FOOD SALE

Did you like the food sale? Then come back next Saturday and try us again. The Comrades Class wants you to buy cakes, pies, sandwiches at the Boone Drug Co. and the Edison parlor.

The proceeds from these sales will go to the completion of the new Sunday School room in the Methodist Church.

An optimist is the traffic policeman who thinks he can stop a runaway by simply holding up his hand.

MAJOR BOWMAN APPEALS FROM 12 MONTHS SENTENCE

Major Bowman, of Hickory, whose trial for an attack of a female, came to a close in Newton on Saturday, after a four days strenuous battle between as fine legal lights as could be procured, both for the State and the defendant, was found guilty of an attack on a 12 year old girl and sentenced to a term of 12 months on the Buncombe county roads. An appeal to the Supreme Court was taken.

A dispatch from Newton to the state press on Tuesday quotes these words of wisdom from Judge Webb, after the appeal was noted:

"After the appeal by counsel for and against Major Bowman, Judge Webb delivered a timely and instructive lecture on present day evils and conditions. He referred to the lack of clothing worn by the young girls of today, and her rolled stockings and painted lips, and the tendency of the parents to allow their girls to take automobile rides with young men at late hours of the night. He stated that such conditions and the present day dress and conduct of young girls was calculated to create and cause a lot of the immoral conditions of the present day.

He harked back to the good old days when the parents required the children to go to church and Sunday School, stay at home and help the parents, and work from sun-up until dark. His lecture was one of the finest on present day evils and conditions heard here in a long time, and numbers of the older citizens stated that it would be a fine thing if every boy and girl in North Carolina could have heard the advice sounded to the young people.

ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The attendance last Sunday at both the Sunday School and the preaching services was larger than usual. Two things contributed to the increase in attendance. The weather was more favorable than it had been before. About the middle of November and then the Lutheran Sunday School came to the preaching services. Everybody was glad to see the Lutherans as they are very fine people and are always welcome.

The services Sunday will be under the leadership of the pastor Eld. R. N. Baldwin, who will use for his morning subject "Paul and the Philippians." At the evening service he will preach upon "Paul in Thessalonica and Berea."

Since Eld. Baldwin has been in Boone he has been able to make numerous friends by his sermons and speeches on various subjects. Not once has he evinced a partisan, sectarian or narrow viewpoint. Instead he has shown a willingness to work with and for any and every group that has the interest of the upbuilding of Boone at heart.

He has announced that as soon as he gets through the book of Acts with his sermons he will invite the public to ask for subjects to be discussed by him in the pulpit.

One man has asked that he preach on "the Valley of Dry Bones." One woman has asked him to preach about the "Evil Spirits Going into the Herd of Swine." Another woman has asked him to preach on "The Seven Seals of Revelation." The only thing Elder Baldwin requires is that each person shall promise to be present and hear the sermon he or she asks to hear preached.

BLOWING ROCK R. F. D. NEWS

We haven't seen anything from this part of the county lately and will be very glad to see some news every week from the different sections.

The men of this community seem to be enjoying themselves hunting.

Mr. Wade Hampton caught three coons in the Sampson section.

Uncle Jessie Storie has been real sick for several days. He is nearly ninety years of age and there is little hope for his recovery.

Messrs. Ralph and Grayson Storie have returned from Fosco and Flanders Fork, where they have business interests.

Mr. J. C. Story has had a large trade in galax this season.

There were four very interesting sermons preached at Laurel Saturday and Sunday by Rev. Uriah Farthing of Beaver Dam and Rev. Trivett of near Boone.

Mr. Boyce Holder made a business trip to Boone Saturday.

Mr. Stuart Hayes of Brushy Fork has closed a successful singing school at Laurel. The leader Mr. Kerley is still training his class.

Mr. Henry Green is very sick at this writing.

Roy Holder and Jasper Triplett are spending a few days with their uncle Sidney Triplett.

Aunt Mary Triplett is still very sick.

Mr. Alvin Story of Matney is visiting his father Mr. W. S. Storie.

WATAUGA SCHOOLS HIGH PER CENTAGE OF ATTENDANCE

I am in receipt of the state's report on public school attendance for the year 1924-25. This report shows the State's average attendance for white rural schools to be 74.5 per cent of the enrollment.

Watauga county made an average of 77 per cent. This is higher than any of the surrounding counties except Caldwell, which made 78 per cent.

The following will give you some idea of our relative standing with the greatest school counties of the State:

Buncombe 77, Mecklenburg 76, Orange 71, Wilson 70, Alamance 67, Gaston 67, Avery 66, Carteret 66, Scotland 61.

Regularity of attendance in the state has improved twice as rapidly as enrollment during the last 24 years and enrollment has increased more than twice as rapidly as population.

SMITH HAGAMAN,
Co. Supt.

"UNCLE WASH" NORRIS PASSES

After his long journey of life covering a period of almost 95 years, "Uncle Wash" Norris passed to his eternal reward last Sunday at the home on Route 1, interment being made at Fairview on Monday. Some three weeks before his death Mr. Norris had a fall straining the ligaments in one of his legs, and was not able to be up much afterwards. He had been looking for his dissolution for some time and had his casket made about three years ago, it being made by and stored at the home of his son-in-law, Mr. McD. Wagner. The trimmings were all it lacked of completion.

To say the deceased was a good man is only speaking the truth. For 60 years he was a member of the M. E. Church south and always lived up to his profession. His daughter, Mrs. M. B. Blackburn of Boone, did not know he was worse until she was notified of his death. Mr. Norris had only one senior in the county who is Mr. A. P. Wilson, now in his 101st year.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

The Friday Afternoon Club had a most delightful meeting Feb. 5 with Mrs. David Greene.

A Lincoln program had been arranged. Mrs. D. O. Dougherty told in an interesting way of Lincoln's love affairs.

Mrs. Bill Spauldour won in a clever contest and was presented with a souvenir from the Novelty Shop.

At the close of the program a delicious salad course followed by ice cream, cake and mints was served by Mrs. Greene, assisted by Mrs. Dougherty.

The invited guests were Mrs. McDonald of Highmore, South Dakota, Mrs. Russell Hodges and Mrs. Dean Bowers.

The next meeting will be with Mrs. L. G. Greer February 19th.

RAIP FOR PROFESSOR WRIGHT

Wilkes county teachers who smoke cigarettes, are asked to quit or relinquish their positions. The following clipping from a Wilkes paper is handed in by County Supt. Smith Hagaman and some ruling of this kind may be made by him and the Board of Education of Watauga county. Prof. Wright's statement follows:

"To whom it may concern:

It having come to the knowledge of the Board of Education that some teachers, both ladies and gentlemen, in the public schools of Wilkes county have been smoking cigarettes, it is the order of the board that in case such action is persisted in, such teachers will be asked to resign.

"This order made this 2nd day of February 1926.

C. C. WRIGHT,
Secy. Board of Education"

WILSON MEMORIAL FUND

As announced last week it is planned to have the campaign for the reception of donations to the fund for the establishment of a memorial at Mr. Wilson's birth place at Staunton Virginia during February, beginning the 14th and ending the 28th. However if anyone desires to make a donation before that time, as some are, they may send it to the Chairman of the Executive Committee of their respective sections or to Mr. G. P. Hagaman, Treasurer, Boone, N. C. The Chairmen for the different sections of the county are Mrs. T. H. Coffey, Blowing Rock; Mrs. W. W. Mast, Valle Crucis; Mr. W. F. Sherwood, Sherwood; Mr. W. S. Farthing, Sweetwater; Mr. E. T. Taylor, Stony Fork; Mr. Harrison Baker, Sands; Prof. J. T. C. Wright, Boone. This is a non partisan campaign and any friend of the late President may feel free to make a donation but it is purely a voluntary matter.

J. M. DOWNUM,
Co. Chairman.

INTERESTING DAYS AT THE NORMAL

It would be difficult to find more interesting days for the students than the past few have been at the Normal. To those specially interested in the games, as most are, it was a pleasure to note that the Normal basketball team won over the Newland team by a good score. Also quite a number of games between the different classes have been played to the pleasure and amusement of many.

The Normal team went to Winston Salem Saturday to play a team there and came out second best by a small per cent.

Unusually attractive programs have been given at the chapel period by two of the young ladies literary societies. These exercises have been rendered in such an alluring and withal so impressive manner that it would not be an easy matter for much of our heads to surpass them with any degree of success. In fact these young ladies displayed much skill, such ease of manner, and such talent in the entire performance that the most astute would be strongly impressed with the fact that no ordinary talent is being developed in these young and active minds.

The programme in brief for the Blank-Dauph Society, a Society of the young ladies of the Normal College were devotional by Miss Irene Hendricks; a reading attractively rendered by Miss Nan Stuart; a vocal quartette by Misses Ollie Ray, Marie McFadden, Lola Hardie and Christine Mackie; with Miss Annie Mae Rader at the piano; several stunts performed in most amusing manner and vocal duet well rendered by Misses Marie McFadden and Ollie Ray.

The program by the Caliopean-Literary Society, the High School Society, was after devotional by Miss Katrina Walsh a reading well given by Miss Ola Dotson; Debate on the query, "Resolved, that an education is more valuable than great riches" decided in favor of the affirmative; Vocal quartette by Misses Elsie Maudie, Lola Thompson, Nettie Profit, and Callie Greene; an attractive pantomime, "Nobody's Darling," by Miss Anna Mae Jones; Splendid vocal duet by Misses Lola Thompson and Hazel Hardy; All these exercises were gotten up by the students themselves with all the plans and certainly showed unusual skill on the part of those engaged in them.

Mrs. Van G. Hinson, French teacher at the Normal, and Miss Jennie Todd, Supervisor of women at Lovell Home, visited Winston-Salem with Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Hartzog Saturday and Sunday, returning Sunday afternoon.

The following have been appointed trustees of the Appalachen, State Normal: Mr. G. H. Geiser of Catawba in place of Mr. Adolphus Taylor and Miss Celeste Henkel of Statesville in place of Mr. Vance Henkel, deceased. The Normal is pleased with the appointment of these good friends to help further its important work in the training of teachers.

An interesting and helpful meeting and one that is capable of being of great worth in many ways was the "Fathers' and Sons" meeting at the Methodist Church on the past Friday night. Quite a goodly number came together. Talks were made by the Pastor M. B. Woolsey and Dr. J. D. Rankin, Prof. A. M. Norton, and by Prof. L. E. Logan, the latter preacher of the Normal. A banquet was prepared by the ladies of the church and greatly enjoyed by all present. It is planned to have these meetings regularly each month.

VALLE CRUCIS NEWS

Robert Tester died of pneumonia at his home on Dutch Creek on Friday of last week. The burial service was conducted at St. Anthony's chapel on Sunday by Rev. J. P. Burke and the interment took place at Matney Ransom Tester came in from Boston and Mary Tester and Mrs. Reid from Jacksonville, Fla. for their father's burial.

Henry Yates' house was burned to the ground about 11 p. m. last Thursday. It is thought that it caught from a defective chimney. Mr. Yates was awakened by the roaring in the chimney and he and his two daughters had time to save only a few belongings, as the fire was soon over.

W. W. Mast returned from St. Louis, Mo. on last Saturday evening and reports both pleasure and profit.

Mr. W. H. Mast's friends gave him their good wishes and congratulations on the occasion of his 75th birthday. Wednesday February 10.

Charlie Lowrance has returned from Florida, and reports the North Carolinians from this section doing well.