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Today and Tomorrow

By FRANK P. STOCKBRIDGE

Height

In flying to a height of 53,166 feet, more than eight miles up in the air, Lieutenant Apollo Soucek of the United States Navy has set a record which will take some beating.

Only by the use of compressed oxygen in a tank, inhaled through a tube, and an oxygen super-charger to insure combustion in the engine, was Lieutenant Soucek able to do the stunt at all. Captain Hawthorne Gray of the U. S. Army, who rose to 42,170 feet in a balloon three years ago, died from lack of oxygen in the rarefied atmosphere of that great height.

All of the talk about voyaging to the moon, whether by airplane, rocket or other device, is so much moonshine, in view of the impossibility of carrying enough oxygen along, to say nothing of the intense cold of interstellar space, somewhere around 459 degrees below zero!

Land

A young woman of my acquaintance was surprised recently on getting home from her daily work as a stenographer to find a young man waiting to ask her who her grandfather was. When she told him, he informed her that the title company, which he represented was prepared to pay her and each of her five living sisters, aunts and uncles, \$200 each to sign a quit claim deed to a strip of land one inch wide and eighteen feet long.

That price was a "nuisance value," but there are several pieces of Manhattan real estate which have sold for as much or more per square foot, for office buildings. It no longer pays to build under 30 stories high in old New York. And the reason for the high land value is the growth of population. Every new comes to the city adds an appreciable amount to the value of every foot of land.

Commerce

I went into a grocery store in a little Massachusetts town the other day to buy some matches. The salesman handed me a package which was marked "Made in Russia." In the same shop window I saw some canned corned beef, cooked and packed in Uruguay. In a store in New York recently my daughter bought a raincoat made of silk which had first been woven in Japan and then sent to Scotland to be waterproofed. Wearing that, she drove to a country house on Long Island where the refreshments served included tea from India and biscuits from England.

For every dollar's worth of goods the United States sells abroad we must eventually buy a dollar's worth from the country which we buy from. That is the long and short of all the talk about tariffs and imports and the export trade.

Ships

The Germans now hold the record for speed of transatlantic ships, but both the United States and England are preparing to take it away from them. The Cunard Line, which is the oldest of all ocean steamship lines, announces that it will build a craft 1,000 feet long, carrying 4,000 passengers, which will make a speed of 30 knots an hour and will cost between 20 and 25 million dollars. A knot, by the way, is a nautical mile, which is 800 feet longer than the land mile; so a speed of 30 knots means 34 1/2 miles an hour.

The U. S. Shipping Board in conjunction with the Postoffice Department, is arranging with American steamship companies to build two ships even bigger and faster than the new Cunarder. It will take three or four years to build them. They will be good advertising for the United States but probably will not earn their keep. The deficit will be made up in what the Government pays the company operating them for carrying the mails. The mail subsidy of the British government to Samuel Cunard is what put the British flag ahead of ours on the Atlantic, seventy-five years ago.

Homes

Savings bank heads that right now is a more favorable time to build a home than we have ever had. Building material is plentiful, money is down, and in their employment can be had on more favorable terms than they will be able to get now.

The same authority that the measure of how much a man can afford to invest in a home is his average income. He is justified in trying to get the equivalent of two years' salary if that is under \$10,000 a year, or of three years' income, if he earns more than \$15,000 a year. Thus, a man who earns \$50 a week can afford a \$5,000 home. And from ten to twelve years is a proper length of time over which to spread the mortgage payments.

LIBRARY AT A. S. T. C. IS GIVEN MCGUFFEY READERS

The library of the Appalachian State Teachers College at Boone has just received a set of the McGuffey Readers through the courtesy of Henry Ford. These books are being found very interesting by the students of Education at this institution.

LETTER IS SENT OUT TO FARMERS OF THIS COUNTY

Livestock Association Circularizes Watauga, Offering Suggestions to the Farmers and Sounding a Note of Warning. Agrarians Are Urged to Keep All the Livestock Farm Will Carry.

The Watauga Livestock Association, the first of the week mailed out more than two thousand letters to citizens of Watauga County, the text matter of the same having to do with the recent decline in prices and the necessity of individual adjustment to the situation created. The full text of the communication which is filled with common sense and sound logic, follows:

"Dear Friend: There is a country-wide decline in prices and it is absolutely necessary that we adjust ourselves to the situation.

"No doubt, through industry and thrift, good times will slowly return, but it is imperative that we shall do a lot of paring down expenses. Those who owe money—and perhaps most of us do—should make definite plans to reduce these debts this fall. We should not wait till spring to pay our taxes, as heavy expenses incident to planting a crop must be met at that time.

"Watauga is a good county and we should be happy and deeply grateful that we live in such a favored land. The soil and climate make it suitable for the growing of almost every kind of crop and livestock. Hence wisdom would suggest that every farmer should keep all the livestock his farm will carry and grow a variety of crops so that the failure or low price of any one shall not seriously affect him.

"The fact that this is a grass country suggests that we ought to get away from livestock as one of our most profitable industries.

"The Livestock Association of Watauga County through its Executive Committee urges a careful consideration of these earnest suggestions.

"Yours very truly,

"SMITH HAGAMAN, Chm."

Two Local Merchants In Anniversary Sales

Two prominent local business houses are celebrating their anniversaries during this month by making special price concessions on many articles throughout their stocks. Harris Brothers, utilizing page three of this issue to tell of the "birthday party" their customers will be privileged to enjoy, while the Isaacs Department Store lists special offerings on page eight, this latter event being a combination anniversary and fourth of July sale. The messages these firms bring to Democrat readers are well worth careful perusal.

INTEREST IN LIVESTOCK STIMULATES SHEEP GROWING

Destruction of cotton by the boll weevil, the need for more diversified farming, and the growing interest in pastures and hay crops is turning the minds of Eastern Carolina farmers to the production of small farm flocks of sheep.

"The growing of sheep on a farm flock basis is a great need all over the State and especially in Eastern Carolina," says John E. Foster, sheep expert at State College. "We do not wish to see large commercial flocks started in this State but we do think it wise to add a few sheep so as to have a nice farm flock. Such a flock will furnish an income both from the wool and the spring lambs. Sheep raising also will pay in Eastern Carolina because there are few farms without some waste land, pasture and cover crops which can be turned into profits by the animals."

There are times when the flock can have the run of the general farm, says Mr. Foster. In this way the animals not only glean much forage that would go to waste but they also keep down noxious weeds. Sheep may be grazed practically the entire year in North Carolina. Cover crops may be utilized after the pastures have failed and this together with the mild climate makes possible the production of early spring lambs. The lambs may be placed on the market when prices are highest and will thus escape the ravages of the stomach worms.

Soybean hay is one of the best possible winter feeds for sheep and this is produced in abundance in Eastern Carolina. Mr. Foster says a small farm flock kept on the Upper Coastal Plain Branch Station near Rocky Mount has paid well and shows what can be done by the practical farmer in that section.

LOCAL U. D. C. CHAPTER TO PRESENT MUSICAL COMEDY

Miss Eline Lewis, representative of an Atlanta show producing firm, is in the city engaged in coaching local talent for a play to be held under the auspices of the local chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, in the courthouse on Tuesday afternoon and night of July 8. "Dollar Bill" is the title of the merry musical which is replete with beautiful songs and performances, and which has been favorably received wherever shown. An admission price is charged, proceeds to be used by the U. D. C. for worthy purposes.

Apple growers of Wilkes County report about 50 per cent. of a crop in the mountain orchards, but say the quality of the fruit so far is very much above the average.

Blowing Rock Club Holds First Meeting

The Blowing Rock Civic Club, with seventeen charter members, begins its functioning this (Wednesday) evening at Blowing Rock Hotel when the first dinner meeting of the organization will be held. President George M. Sudderth will preside, and a full attendance is expected.

Secretary C. S. Prevette says that he is assured of twenty-five members by the night of July 16th, when the club will observe ladies' night, and the charter will be presented. Several members of Boone Civic Club are expected to be guests on that night, and a committee to be appointed this evening will work out a suitable program of entertainment.

Those signing the charter were G. C. Robbins, D. J. Boyden, G. M. Sudderth, E. G. Underdown, N. C. Greene, J. T. Miller, H. P. Holshouser, J. E. Holshouser, H. E. Coffey, J. H. Winkler, D. P. Coffey, C. S. Prevette, Dr. R. B. Seales, R. C. McMahon, R. S. Mebane, George Blagg and J. A. Panella.

The regular meeting time for the club will be Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p. m., Blowing Rock Hotel. The interest thus far manifested in Civic Club by citizens of the sister town assures a virile organization, calculated to bring about many civic reforms. At an altitude of more than 4,100 feet, the new organization might well be termed "the highest" Civic Club in America.

Pays First Visit to Boone In Seventy-Four Years

Back in the summer of 1856 J. L. Clement, of Mocksville, then a ten-year-old lad, visited Boone. He came in a covered wagon up the Yadkin River to Wilkesboro, and across a rough mountain trail through Stony Fork into Watauga. He was accompanied by his father, who brought a load of manufactured tobacco from his plug mill in Davie County.

Tuesday, just seventy-four years later, Mr. Clement returned for his first visit. Amusement was written on the face of the venerable citizen as his mind wandered back three-quarters of a century. The courthouse at that time stood on the hill near the Linney residence; the jail, a log structure, and the old-time whipping post frowned at offenders of the law from lots now occupied by the J. B. Horton garage and other business houses; and one store furnished the wants of the handful of residents.

Slavery at that time was still in vogue in Dixie; the ocean cable had not been thought of; men wore side whiskers and the ladies tripped about in hoop skirts. Automobiles and airplanes, of course, had been talked of by a few "crazy scientists," but the horse, sulky, wagon and cart furnished the only means of transportation by land. Tallow candles illuminated the homes of the poor, while the wealthy few used "coal oil."

Mr. Clement remembered the little stream that crosses Main Street near the Democrat office. During his visit of long ago he accompanied a lad of about his age on a fishing expedition down its banks, and ere the two boys had reached the J. L. Winkler farm they had landed a nice string of speckled trout, each pool, the narrator explained, being "just full" of fish.

Then came the War Between the States. Young Clement, at that time fifteen years of age, enlisted in the Confederate cavalry, serving with distinction until the close of the bitter conflict. Much water has passed over the wheel in these seventy-four years, but the gray-haired veteran carries his age with dignity, the twinkle in his eye being as bright and his shoulders as erect as they were when he followed the Stars and Bars through the Valley of Virginia.

"And never in my eighty-four years have I felt better," concluded Mr. Clement, as he prepared to leave for his home "down the country."

WILL CONTROL PELLAGRA IN RICHMOND COUNTY

Co-operating with the county health department, Mrs. Anna Lea Harris, home agent of Richmond County, has set about eradicating pellagra as one of the main extension projects for that county this year.

"The whole county is co-operating to get this job done," says Mrs. Jane S. McKimmon, State home demonstration agent at State College. "Our home agent, Mrs. Harris, is searching out suspected cases and getting them to the doctor while she prescribes a better balanced diet for the family. She has succeeded in getting the local dairies to supply milk to the cases at a reduced price and a local relief committee is helping to furnish other foods on the diet list. A number of individual gardeners who may have a surplus of different vegetables are turning these over to the committee to be used where they are most needed."

In some cases it is possible for the family afflicted with the disease to have a garden of their own. In such cases, the home agent helps to supply seeds and plants to get the plot started. Mrs. McKimmon says that both white and negro families are assisted. There is no discrimination.

This plan being tried in Richmond County could be adopted in every county of North Carolina where this disease is found, says Mrs. McKimmon. If such vigorous measures are put into operation in every such county, North Carolina would soon be classed with the non-pellagra states. Mrs. McKimmon says the home agents are anxious to co-operate with the health authorities whenever they are needed.

IS YET TIME TO BE COUNTED IN LATEST CENSUS

Effort Is Being Made to Round Up Any Citizen of Boone Who May Have Escaped Enumeration. Special Blanks Are Provided for Listing of Those Missed. Still Time to Be Included in Reports.

Mr. Herman Deal, from the office of Division Census Director Barkley, in Hickory, was in the city last Thursday and gave out the information that any resident of this city, who by any chance had escaped the attention of the enumerator, when the census was being taken here, could yet be included in the final reports, if they would let their names be known. Mrs. P. A. Coffey, who enumerated the residents of this city, now has a supply of the special blanks upon which these belated reports must be made, and is very anxious to get in touch with any resident whom she might have missed for some cause on her former rounds. If you were not visited by the census taker, it is very important that you get in immediate touch with Mrs. Coffey in order that she may be able to present figures reflecting the exact population of the city.

Unofficial figures coming from Mr. Barkley's office are to the effect that the present population of Boone is 1,293, and it is believed by many that perhaps enough have escaped enumeration to have caused the figures to reach 1,300 or even more. Campaigns have been conducted in others of the small cities for the purpose of listing these omitted citizens and in a number of instances the population figures were considerably bettered. If you haven't been "counted" or know of a neighboring family which has not been officially counted, you would confer a special favor upon Mrs. Coffey by apprising her of the omissions.

Fiddlers Convention to Be Event of the Fourth

The old-time fiddlers convention, which has been arranged for July 4th and 5th, will be the outstanding feature of the Glorious Fourth in Boone. J. W. Bryan, outstanding local musician and member of the committee on arrangements, says the indications at the present time are that the aggregation of old-time fiddlers, banjo and guitar pickers, to say nothing of the buck and wing dancers, will be the largest ever assembled here and that the entertainment will be the most complete thus far presented to a local audience.

The event is sponsored by the Watauga Isaac Walton League and in view of the fact that the net proceeds from the sales of tickets will be used for the propagation of fish and game in this region, it is believed that the people of the town and county will attend in large numbers, thereby contributing a small share to the important work of the League. Reports which Mr. Bryan has received indicate that practically all musicians of this county which have competed in former contests will be present for the convention, besides a number of individual musicians and complete organizations from other counties. Two evenings of the finest type of entertainment has been provided by the committee and there will be no dull moments. The courthouse auditorium will be used for the programs.

From the Early Files

Items from The Democrat of July 2, 1891

Rudy Vannoy has been appointed postmaster at Horton.

E. S. Coffey, one of Colonel Folk's law students, spent last week at his home.

Mr. Sam J. Brawley and family are on a visit to Mrs. Brawley's father, Captain Lovill.

We are glad to see the smiling face of J. Claude Lovill with us again, after a pilgrimage of some nine months in Missouri.

Uncle Harrison Aldridge was in town during court and delighted the people with quite a number of his bear stories.

Mr. A. M. Dougherty, of Shouns Cross Roads, told us during court that the copper mine in Ashe County on New River is a rich one. He has disposed of the property to some Kansas capitalist. The vein is free copper, solid lumps weighing eight pounds having been taken out of the mine.

Miss Bina Greene, the last of our school girls, returned from Bakersville Sunday. Miss Bina is one of our choicest young ladies and all are glad to again welcome her to our social circle.

The mine on Elk, about which Hodges and the Knoxville Mining Co. are now lawing, is perhaps the most valuable mineral property in this section. Some developments have been made, showing a four-foot vein of solid ore which analyzes gold and silver to the amount of \$296 per ton.

Democrat Is Forty-two Years Old Tomorrow

When two of the town's progressive merchants advertised anniversary sales for the last of the week, The Democrat recalled that tomorrow is the 42nd anniversary of this journal and the 41st with the present owner and publisher, R. C. Rivers, actively on the job. It is interesting to reflect that a major part of the bustling business men of Boone today were unborn when the initial forms for this publication were inked, and that the business houses which existed in those days are every one memories of the past. The Democrat, however, rejoices with its younger business colleagues on their accomplishments and wishes for them much success on each succeeding anniversary.

Boone's oldest business institution, thanks the people of the town and county for their fine co-operation, which has enabled the newspaper to grow old only in years, and it shall strive for all the years to come to add, from time to time, a few new touches of the undying color of youth. Our birthday will be celebrated by strict attention to the manifold services a country journal is privileged to render the public, and we shall strive to enlarge upon our contribution to the public weal. Thinking perhaps that the first forty years are the hardest, we look forward with confidence to the next two score.

Important Change in Spainhour Business

Mr. W. R. Spainhour of the Spainhour chain of department stores is in the city this week, and has given out the information that an interest in the Boone store has been sold to Mr. A. S. Harris, who for about six years was manager of the Acorn store in North Wilkesboro. Mr. Harris has already become a citizen of Boone, he having assumed the management of the local store. The transfer was to have taken place, according to Mr. Spainhour, about the first of August, but due to some personal business of Mr. R. F. McDade, manager of the business for four years, he asked to be relieved this week.

Many changes and improvements are planned, says Mr. Spainhour. A sale is to start soon, which is expected to close out all the present stock and many new items will be added, one of the principal improvements being planned for the shoe department.

The Spainhours, as well as the people of this entire section, regret that the change in the business resulted in the retirement of Mr. and Mrs. McDade, who for four years have been in charge of the store, and through whose efforts a chain of good will and friendly relations has been welded throughout this region. Mr. Harris, however, has many years experience with the large organizations and is a fine citizen and a progressive merchant. He will be heartily welcomed as a permanent resident of the town.

Mr. McDade has not announced any plans he may have for the future, but does say that he is not at present contemplating leaving Boone, which he thinks is the best town there is in which to live.

Home-Coming Event at the Three Forks Church

The congregation of the Three Forks Baptist Church will celebrate the annual home-coming event next Saturday and Sunday. The opening sermon of the occasion will be preached Saturday night by Rev. Ed Green. Sunday School will be held at 10 a. m. Sunday, and will be followed by a sermon by the pastor, Rev. Finley C. Watts. A big picnic dinner will be spread on the grounds at the noon hour and at 1:30 there will be an address by Superintendent Smith Hagaman. The happy event will close that evening by talks from the visitors. The public is cordially invited and more especially those early members of the church who in past years have wandered into other sections.

WILL ROGERS WILL BRING CHEER TO THEATREGOERS

Will Rogers, "America's Ambassador of Good Cheer," is scheduled to appear next Monday and Tuesday at the Pastime Theatre, in his newest film production, "So This is London." The management feels fortunate in having secured this release and promises its patrons the funniest and best Rogers film thus far exhibited.

THE WEATHER

Weather report for week ending June 28, 1930, as compiled by the Co-operative Station, Appalachian State Teachers College, J. T. C. Wright, observer:

Average maximum temperature, 78 degrees.

Average minimum temperature, 50 degrees.

Average temperature, 64 degrees.

Average daily range in temperature, 27 degrees.

Greatest daily range in temperature, 38 degrees; date, 29th.

Average temperature at 6 p. m. (time of observation), 66 degrees.

Highest temperature reached, 86 degrees; date, 26th.

Lowest temperature reached, 40 degrees; date, 28th.

Number inches of rainfall, 0.55.

Greatest rainfall in 24 hours, 0.30; date, 24th.

Number of days with 0.01 inch or more rainfall, 2.

Number of clear days, 6.

Direction of prevailing wind, west.

REV. JOHN NORRIS KILLED INSTANTLY AS STATE JURY BY CAR

Well-Known Minister of this County Victim of Automobile Accident on Highway 69. Two Young Men Are Held for Court in Connection With His Death. Funeral Services Held Saturday Afternoon.

Rev. John Norris, 56 years old, a prominent resident of Boone, was instantly killed last Thursday night, when he was struck by an automobile occupied by Messrs. Ray Greer and Edgar Holman of the Laxon community. The accident occurred on Highway 69 about a mile from Boone on the hill just above the settlement of Perkinsville. Rev. Norris was returning to his home in Boone on foot after having held evening prayer services at the Howard's Creek Baptist Church. The automobile which was being driven by Ray Greer and which was said to have had defective lights, was en route to Boone when the fatal crash occurred. No explanation was advanced for the accident other than vision was poor. Greer and Holman had attended the prayer services conducted by Rev. Norris, had taken some girls home from the church and were said to have been conducting themselves in a fine manner. When the accident occurred, they stopped, examined Mr. Norris, proceeded to Perkinsville for help, and later came to Boone for the coroner and sheriff, surrendering themselves to the latter. They remained in jail until Monday afternoon, when they were given a hearing before E. N. Hahn, Justice of the Peace, and released under a bond of \$300 for Holman and \$500 for Greer, for their appearance at the next term of court, they having waived examination before the magistrate. John E. Brown appeared for the defendants and W. R. Lovill for the State. The young men are known as boys of good character, and made no effort to escape responsibility for the accident.

Funeral services for Mr. Norris were held Saturday afternoon from the Forest Grove Baptist Church on Beaver Dam by Revs. Murray and Hicks and burial was in the neighboring cemetery.

The people of the town and country were shocked by the news of the tragic death of the well-loved minister. Mr. Norris was a native of Watauga County and had spent his entire life here. For many years he had been an active minister in the Baptist Church and had done his full duty in ministering to the needs of the spiritual man. No better citizen has ever lived in Watauga County and he will be sadly missed along every line of worthy endeavor.

Surviving are two sons, Messrs. Scott and Ephraim, and two daughters, Misses, "Uncle Lige," all of whom are numbered with the foremost citizenship of this region.

4-H CLUB MEMBERS TO HOLD SUMMER CAMPS

Club members in 26 counties in North Carolina will enjoy camp life at convenient recreation centers this summer with approximately 2,000 rural boys and girls so far enrolled.

"These club encampments are held under the supervision of county home and farm agents with assistance from the specialists of the State College extension service," says L. R. Harrill, State club leader. "A few of the camps were held in June but most of them are scheduled for July with some few in August following the annual State-wide meeting at the college during the week of August 4 to 9. In each case, it is the plan of the extension workers to give the club members a week of recreation coupled with some instruction in agricultural and home economics subjects."

Mr. Harrill finds from studying reports from the home and farm agents that the number of county encampments will be slightly smaller this year than in previous years. This is due largely to financial conditions in the counties affected. From 30 to 35 county camps are held annually.

The mountain club boys and girls will be very fortunate this summer in that the permanent club camp at the Mountain Branch Station farm near Swannanoa is available. This camp opened on June 30 and will be occupied almost continuously until late July. Here the club members have available a large assembly hall and dining room, a modern kitchen, a large artificial swimming pool, and home-like cottages for sleeping quarters.

The State encampment is to be held at State College, August 4 to 9, will be the round-up of climax of the camping season. Much of the information developed at the county camps will be used here as will the facts developed at the National Club Camp recently held in Washington, says Mr. Merrill.

LEGION MEETING POSTPONED

The Watauga Post, American Legion, was to have met in regular session on the evening of the fourth, however, owing to the fiddlers convention which the Isaac Walton League is staging at that time, Legion officials have postponed the meeting to Friday evening, July 11.

LOCAL BANKS WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE FOURTH

The Watauga County Bank and the Peoples Bank and Trust Company announce through their respective cashiers that both institutions will be closed all day Friday in order that the employees may join in the celebration of the Glorious Fourth.