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Today and Tomorrow

By FRANK P. STOCKBRIDGE

Books

Two hundred million books were bought by readers in the United States last year. Another 200,000, probably, were read by persons who borrowed them from public and private lending libraries. That means that the average American reads about three books a year. That is not very many books.

One reason is that books are not easy to buy or borrow in most parts of the United States. The American Library Association reports that 83 per cent of the rural population has no public library service. Only a very few cities have bookstores—places where books are the principal commodity sold. Enterprising publishers are now pushing the sale of books in drugstores, cigar stores and railroad stations.

We read more newspapers and magazines than any other nation, and that is all to the good. But nobody can claim to be educated, or get the most out of life, unless he or she also reads books.

Pressure

One of the greatest discoveries of science is that if you squeeze anything hard enough it will change into something else. If you put two or three things into one pressure-chamber and apply sufficient pressure they will combine into something new.

Applying this, Dr. Friedrich Bergius of Germany discovered that you can get 100 gallons of gasoline out of 100 gallons of crude oil. You simply put the oil into a pressure-chamber in company with a quantity of heated hydrogen gas and apply a pressure of 3,000 pounds to the square inch. The hydrogen combines with the oil and you get more gasoline out than you put oil in.

Too much hydrogen in gasoline causes knocking in the combustion chamber of your automobile engine. Another new application of pressure is the "gasoline wringer," which squeezes excess hydrogen out of gasoline. One reason for the lower price of gasoline most everywhere is the adoption of these and other new scientific discoveries by the big oil companies.

Lemonade

Making lemonade out of nothing but cane sugar is a scientific achievement which has actually been put into commercial practice. Chemists of the U. S. Bureau of Chemistry told a scientific meeting recently of a fungus which, when placed on cane sugar in a shallow pan and fed with the proper amount of nitrogen, will convert the sugar into citric acid, which is the acid of lemons.

This process is so cheap, they said, that one manufacturing concern which uses citric acid in large quantities has adopted the new method with satisfactory results.

There is no product of nature which will not some day be made in factories.

Methane

Methane is a natural gas. Pipe lines carrying it from the oil fields to the big cities for fuel are multiplying so rapidly that it may not be long before even the Atlantic seaboard will be using natural gas.

When the supply gives out, as it will in time, Professor A. M. Buswell of the University of Illinois suggests that farmers along the routes of the pipe lines can manufacture methane from farm wastes and pump it into the pipes. He has experimented with certain bacteria which turn everything into methane. He has fed them corn stalks, soy beans, bean vines, straw and excelsior and they turn it all into natural gas.

The difficulty with utilizing farm waste in industry is the expense of transporting the waste to a central factory. If every farm could have its own natural gas plant, that difficulty would be eliminated.

Safety

One reason why flyers like Lindbergh, Coste and Byrd are acclaimed as heroes is because everybody appreciates the risk they ran in their historical flights. When we think of their feats we think of the pilots, not of the planes.

The Graf Zeppelin, has flown around the world, crossed the Atlantic four times without mishap. The R-100, British dirigible, was the first aircraft of any size to cross the ocean, eleven years ago. The R-101 recently voyaged from England to Canada and back. The American dirigible, the Shenandoah, has made a round the world trip. The names of the pilots of these ships; we think of them, not the man.

The reason is that we sense the immensely greater safety of the dirigible. The last time the Shenandoah was said to be risking their lives. The important air travel of the future will be done by dirigible.

THIEVES ENT. R. COTTRELL STORE ON BEAVER DAMS

Fragmentary reports reaching The Democrat by telephone are to the effect that the general store of D. J. Cottrell in the Beaver Dam section was entered last Saturday and considerable merchandise removed, including bedding and perhaps one hundred dollars worth of other merchandise. No other details as to the manner in which the store was entered or as to possible clues as to the night raiders, are available.

Dedication Service Will Be Held at the B. Rock Baptist Church Sunday

Rev. P. A. Hicks, Pastor, Will Deliver Sermon. Revival Series Will Start Monday. Church Was Built Six Years Ago.

The Blowing Rock Baptist Church building will be dedicated Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. The sermon will be preached by Rev. P. A. Hicks, the pastor. Special music will be rendered for the occasion and all the members and friends of the church are urged to be present. The structure was erected in 1924, during the pastorate of Rev. F. M. Huggins at a cost of about \$17,000. Financing of the project was completed largely through the efforts of the late Mrs. W. P. Pendley and J. D. Brown.

The dedication services are preliminary to the opening of a two-weeks revival the same afternoon. Rev. H. C. Whitener, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Buford, Ga., has been secured to do the preaching. He is known as a sermonizer of unusual power and a great meeting is in prospect for the Blowing Rock Church. Services each day at 3:30 and 7:30.

Alfred Isaacs Dies After Long Illness

Mr. Alfred Isaacs, prominent citizen of the Bairds' Creek section of the county, passed away last Thursday night, after an illness of several months' duration.

Funeral services were held from the Cove Creek Baptist Church Friday afternoon. Rev. Wellington Swift being in charge of the services. The remains were interred in the Mast cemetery. The floral offerings were profuse and bore evidence of the esteem in which deceased was held by a wide circle of friends.

Surviving are a widow and seven children: Charles, Don and Ben Isaacs of Puritan, W. Va.; Mrs. Addie Adams, Whitehall, Md.; Mrs. James Miller, Sherwood; Mrs. James Brown, Boone, and Mrs. Mattie Ryan, of Vilas. The oldest son, Lem, was killed in a Pennsylvania mine several years ago.

Mr. Isaacs was a native of Watauga County and had spent his entire life in this region. He was a thrifty farmer, a valuable citizen and a genuinely good man. His going has saddened many hearts throughout the county.

Doughton Speaks at Mabel School House

"Farmer Bob" Doughton, Congressman from the Eighth District, addressed a large audience at the Mabel school house last Saturday afternoon, and during his hour's talk gave account of "his stewardship" in the Lower House, scored the national administration, and pledged anew his support to measures of interest to the rural population in his district.

Mr. Doughton reviewed the accomplishments of Woodrow Wilson's administration, and stated that the constructive legislation written into law during that period was so perfect that "even a Republican administration has been unable to find fault with it." As a member of the good roads committee, the veteran Congressman aided in the first appropriations made by the Federal Government for highway construction, and according to figures introduced by him, North Carolina has since received more than forty-eight million dollars.

Directing his attack on the Chief Executive, Mr. Doughton stated that Hoover is a conscientious person, but "a misplaced man, a man unfit for the position he occupies." The President's tariff laws, farm relief measures and prohibition pledges also came in for a sound raking.

Mr. Doughton was introduced by Ed S. Williams. Numerous Republicans were in the audience.

RAMBLING AROUND

By SMITH HAGAMAN

Watauga is proving to the State that it is a real tobacco-growing county. The crop is being harvested just now and the only apparent trouble the farmers are having is to find room on the fields to hang the crop for curing. I have never seen a finer or more luxuriant growth in any country. Of course, no large fields were planted, but many farmers, especially west of Boone, have small lots—one fourth to an acre.

The bean crop has been good. The bean beetle did very little damage this year and quantities of pod beans have been marketed this summer. The recent rains did some damage to the late beans.

After seeing the entire county, I am convinced that we have an average corn crop. Some fields were badly damaged by the drought, others are all the better for it. Some sections of the county have the finest corn crop ever.

The whole county is one vast carpet of green. The grass looks like May. After all our scare, I doubt if there is another section of the country within a radius of 200 miles that has suffered as little as Watauga.

A little frost on Beaver Dam Sunday morning. No damage whatever.

The T. B. Clinic is going rapidly on; half of the county has been covered. The percentage of positive reactions is very low for Watauga, as compared with the State, so far.

Bailey Coming



Josiah William Bailey, of Raleigh, Democratic nominee for the United States Senate, who will address the voters of Watauga County at the courthouse in Boone on Saturday, October 11th, at 1:30 o'clock p. m.

Congressman Hammer Dies at Asheboro Home

Asheboro.—Congressman William Cicero Hammer, 66, for the past ten years a representative of the Seventh Congressional District, died suddenly at 1:30 o'clock Friday at his home here, death ending a political career extending over forty years. He had just finished his luncheon and was resting when the attack came which ended his life before medical aid could be summoned. He has been engaged for the past month in a campaign for re-election to Congress.

Mr. Hammer's health had not been good for a year, but he declared to visitors just prior to his death that he was feeling particularly well. On Thursday he attended the funeral of Major Charles M. Siedman at Fayetteville. Mrs. Hammer had just left his room when she heard him cough, and returned. He was breathing heavily, but not gasping for breath, she says, and did not speak before he died.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock from the Asheboro Methodist Protestant Church, of which he was one of the thirteen charter members. Burial was in the Asheboro Cemetery. Congressman Bob Doughton delivered the memorial address.

Boone May Get Branch Of Delphian Society

According to information received from Mrs. Charles L. Bowers, Bristol, Tenn., a branch of the National Delphian Society may be organized in Boone sometime soon. Mrs. Bowers explains that it is difficult to get a charter "just any time" and advises that a national secretary will be available for Boone within a few days for organization work. If this is not done at once, it may be years before another opportunity affords itself, continued Mrs. Bowers, who is expected in Boone early next week.

The following explanation of the work of Delphian, together with organizations plans, is copied from a recent issue of the Spartanburg Herald: The Delphian Society is a new interpretation of education, enabling the busy woman to keep mentally alert, abreast of the times, culturally informed at a small expenditure of time and money, and puts her in a position where she will not be embarrassed by having husband or child outdistance her in mental attainments.

The courses are written and prepared by twenty distinguished women from the foremost educational institutions of the country, including representatives from Princeton, Yale, Brown University, Tulane, California University and Minnesota. No papers are read and none are listened to in the regular bi-monthly discussions. Each group is an independent unit, yet in this national association the work may be continued in any city where there is a chapter, thus holding continuity for those who travel or who move to another city to make their home. Chapters have been organized in all but three or four of the states and some cities have from one to 20 chapters carrying on the work today. There are 2,000 members in Grand Rapids, Mich. In the 45 states already organized there are more than 3,500 chapters.

One must be 21 years of age, of the Caucasian race, in good standing in the community and the name must be handed in by presentation. The association is fundamentally for the purpose of home study and group discussion along the lines of the fine arts—by which any college woman may keep herself abreast with the educational trend of the day, or the woman without college degree can acquire one by this home college service. Courses are given over a period of six years and include history, art, drama, music, modern history and literature. The Delphian chapters have hitherto included as many as a hundred members but it has recently been decided the group will be limited to fifty.

SOUTH GETS THE PRIZE

The following item, taken from The Citizen Clacker, a journal of club gossip published by Greensboro clubmen, is of interest locally:

"This week we want to award two stuffed whang-doodles to the following Carolina Civitans: A. E. South, Boone, N. C.; Hugh A. Query, Gastonia, N. C.

"These high-powered gentlemen sent in the names of their On-to-Greensboro Chairmen. The Boone Club says: 'We'll have from fifteen to twenty at the convention.'"

South's Soldiers Feted as the Last Reunion is Held

Seven survivors of Lee's gray-clad armies, each of them well along toward the century mark in age, closed the final reunion of Camp Nimrod Triplett, United Confederate Veterans, at State Teachers College here Friday afternoon. Although their stride was faltering, their shoulders stooped by the weight of passing years, and their old eyes dimmed by the ever-changing scenes of long lifetimes, these battle-scarred "Rebels" who fought so valiantly under the Southern Cross, seemed to be imbued with the zest of young manhood as they swapped yarns with each other, and felt again the camaraderie which was so firmly cemented during that bloody conflict of the sixties.

Captain E. J. Norris, 87, who for thirty-odd years has commanded Camp Nimrod Triplett, was in charge of the program, which closed with memorial addresses by Professor A. M. Norton of the college faculty, and Rev. Mr. Worley, of Johnson County, Tennessee. Rev. P. A. Hicks, of the Boone Baptist Church, had charge of devotional exercises, and Dr. B. B. Dougherty, president of the college, provided meals for the veterans. Numerous visitors attended the final session, and the depleted ranks of the camp were bolstered by many near-relatives of the aged warriors.

Captain Norris, known to his many friends as "Uncle Lige," enlisted in Company D, 58th N. C. Regiment, at the age of 17, was "baptized with fire" at Chancellorsville and Missionary Ridge, witnessed the "Battle Above the Clouds" at Lookout Mountain, and received a gunshot wound at that place which sent him home for seven months. After his wound had healed sufficiently, he went back to his regiment, was in the skirmishes around Chattanooga, and at the Battle of Lovejoy Station (Georgia) was shot through the hips with an ounce ball. Captain Norris returned to his home near Boone and, being unfit for further service on the battlefield, was made an officer in the "home guard." When Stoneman's raiders paid their destructive visit to Boone near the close of the war, his father, Ephraim Norris, was shot down as he ran from the Yankees near the present site of the Daniel Boone Hotel.

Mr. William Spainhour, who for more than forty years following the war taught school in this section, was another interesting conversationalist at the reunion. Following his enlistment in Co. D, First North Carolina Infantry, "Uncle Billy" was placed under the command of General Stonewall Jackson in the Valley of Virginia. On that eventful night at Chancellorsville when the "Right Arm of the Confederacy" was shot down by his own men, "Uncle Billy" was close by, and heard with his own ears the volley that brought death to the immortal general. On the following morning a rifle bullet inflicted a wound on Mr. Spainhour's right hand that removed him from the service, and still serves as a visible reminder of that terrific conflict.

And "Uncle Harve" Davis, of the Meat Camp section, was at the reunion for the first day. He is 91 years of age, very feeble and almost blind, but has never missed a reunion, and wanted to be on hand for the last one. As a member of the First North Carolina Cavalry, "Uncle Harve" saw service in Virginia under Generals Lee and Jackson, and

A. S. T. C. Loses to King College on Sat.

King College defeated Appalachian State College in a tough, grueling battle at Bristol last Saturday afternoon, the score being 18-7. King opened with a driving attack in the first quarter to score two touchdowns, but failed to kick the points. The State team carried the ball with in scoring distance twice in the second period only to lose the ball on costly fumbles.

King scored again in the third period after recovery of a State fumble on a pass. The State team began a hard running offensive that netted a touchdown and kick for extra points. The fourth period was replete with an exchange of kicks and a driving offensive by the Mountaineers trying to stave off defeat. Passing featured the last six minutes with the Mountaineers completing five aerials, but were unable to tally for markers. Score by quarters:

King 12 0 6 0—18
Appalachian 0 0 0 7—7

Officials: Siles, University of Tennessee, referee; Fullerton, Virginia, umpire; Parrish, V. P. L., head line-man. Time of periods, 15 minutes.

On the same day Biltmore Junior College defeated Appalachian State College Reserves by the score of 14 to 0, in a well-played game featured by the running attack of the collegians. The Reserves were outweighed but put up a fine brand of defensive football, and failed to connect for scores on two occasions after carrying the ball into scoring territory.

Score by periods:
Biltmore 0 7 0 7—14
Appalachian Res. 0 0 0 0—0
Officials: Gorley, referee; Coffey, head line-man; Moretz, umpire. Time of periods, 15 minutes.

Catawba College will open the Mountaineers' home schedule on October 11 in a game that is expected to have a great bearing on the small college championship of the State. Catawba is coached by the redoubtable Charlie Moran, of Center College fame, and his team is reputed to be very strong.

at the battle of Manassas received a wound in the shoulder that removed him from the battlefield for the remainder of the war. However, he remained in the service, acting in the capacity of courier, and was with the Confederates in the Gettysburg campaign. The aged vet states that he was taken a prisoner in '63, and was incarcerated in room 17 of the old capitol building in Washington. Through a window in the room he could see workmen putting the finishing touches on the dome of the present capitol.

Tom Love, of Beaver Dam, also answered the last roll call of Camp Nimrod Triplett. He has passed his eighty-sixth birthday, but is still hale and hearty. He enlisted in Co. E, 37th N. C. Regiment, fought under Lee and Jackson in Virginia, and was present at the surrender in Appomattox. And he was the only one of the veterans who didn't have a wound to show for his service, having gone all the way through the conflict without injury.

Marion Millsaps, of Banner Elk, 86 and still spry, journeyed over to be with the boys again, and recited many humorous stories that provoked laughter in the group. He and Harry Davis were together during the war, and at the surrender Marion Millsaps, according to his own statement, still had plenty of fight in him.

An interesting visitor was Marshal Made, former Ashe County man, but now a resident of Marion, Va. Incidentally, he was the only one of the old soldiers who served under General Vance, and was among those present at the Battle of Gettysburg.

Enoch Swift, of Cove Creek, father of Mayor Bob Swift, dropped in for the memorial service. He is 82 years of age, and as a lad of sixteen volunteered with Major Bingham, but never saw active service. For many years he was a drummer for the local camp, and his reminiscences of the chaotic days of reconstruction are most entertaining. Jerome Pressnell, a member of the "home guard," also attended the service.

Wyatt Hayes, of Boone, R. F. D., who left half of his right foot on the battlefield at Chancellorsville, was not well enough to attend, but his friends say that his gallantry in the Virginia campaigns was monumental. S. J. Bishop, of Meat Camp, who was with Captain Norris in the fighting around Chattanooga, was also absent, as was L. N. Perkins, of Boone Route 2; Newt Greer, of Elk, Lee Greene, of the western part of the county, and Elinor Luther of Deep Gap. Perkins, Greer, Greene and Luther were all with Lee in Virginia. Physical disabilities kept them away from the reunion.

Just one dozen soldiers of the Confederacy remain in the county. Only a few years ago this annual reunion was attended by scores of veterans, but the years have taken their toll, and Captain Norris stated Friday that the curtain has fallen on the activities of Camp Nimrod Triplett. The simple memorial service was the finale. Another year and more graves will be opened in the "slain gray line" and the ones who survive will carry a heavier load. So Boone will witness no more reunions. Time has removed one of the most pleasant tasks that Watauga people were ever permitted to perform—that of paying tribute to their vanquished heroes of the "Lost Cause."

Freak Potatoes Shown By County Farmers

For the past several weeks farmers of Watauga County have brought numerous collections of Irish potatoes to the office of the Watauga Democrat—all of them large, well shaped, reflecting credit on the grower, and showing in convincing manner the productive quality of Watauga soil. But this week two tubers of the soil brought the editor a like number of spuds that for freakishness would make Ripley, the "live-it-or-not man," turn green with envy.

Exhibit No. 1—A spud grown by Clarence (Red) Angel on his lot in Boone, an almost perfect electric light globe, a part of the potato having included itself in the end of a discarded socket. And, furthermore, the "light" is in place for keeps, a part of it protruding from a screw-hole high up on the metal casing.

Exhibit No. 2—A potato formed exactly like a pig's foot, toe-nails and all, grown by Dwight Edmiston on his Laurel Creek farm. Next!

DR. THOMAS PROFFITT DIES FROM AUTOMOBILE INJURIES

Dr. Thomas Proffitt, well known practicing physician of Elk Park, died in the Banner Elk Hospital last Wednesday after having been injured in an automobile accident near his home town on the previous day. Funeral services were held Thursday.

The accident is said to have occurred when the physician diverted his attention from the road in an effort to light a cigar. The machine left the highway on a turning over, inflicted the fatal injuries.

Dr. Proffitt was widely known throughout this region as a popular and skilled physician and has numerous relatives in Watauga County.

Mr. Don Bingham, son of Attorney John H. Bingham, of Sugar Grove, who was so seriously hurt by a Camel City bus near Bristol some four weeks ago, is slowly but steadily improving at his home. He is now very cheerful as he hopes to be out again in the near future.

Alson Beach Dies At Home of Son Near Stoner on Sunday

Former President of Boone Was One of Trustees of Appalachian Training School. Eight Children Survive Him.

Mr. A. W. Beach, 76, one of Watauga's best known and most widely-respected citizens, died at the home of his son, Enzer Beach, on the headwaters of Howard's Creek last Sunday morning, after a rather protracted illness. The funeral was conducted on Tuesday morning by Rev. Roe Payne, assisted by the Rev. Ed Greene, possibly the oldest minister in the county, and interment followed in the Rich Mountain Cemetery. All the children save two, Messrs. Everett, of Spokane, Wash., and Mack, of Springfield, Ill., were present at the funeral.

Mr. Beach, in the opinion of the writer, was one of the most wonderful men ever reared in the northwestern section of the State. As far as school education was concerned, he never got it, his experience in a school room lasting only one week. But having a master mind, he began to cultivate it at an early age, and the deeper he dug in history, literature, mathematics, the sciences and Holy Writ, the richer became his findings, until he became a ripe scholar, one whose opinions and advice were sought by many. He was a life-long Democrat and, possibly, was as well posted on local, State and national affairs as any man in the county.

He will be missed! Yes, very much, by a large crowd of friends and loved ones. Being of a happy, pleasant disposition, he made friends of all with whom he came in contact. His like, conditions considered, we never expect to see again.

Mr. Beach was a member of the Boone Baptist Church, and was for a number of years a trustee of the old Appalachian Training School. He is survived by the following children: Messrs. Enzor, of Rich Mountain, Everette, of Spokane, Washington; Mack, of Springfield, Ill.; Willard, of Wilkesboro; Tom and Carl, of Boone; Mrs. Pink Hodges, of Boone, and Mrs. S. E. Day, of Wilkesboro. His wife preceded him in death by only a few weeks.

Sam Rhea Claimed by Death on Last Sunday

Sam R. Rhea, 62 years old, son of the late Dr. R. C. Rhea, of Shouns, Tenn., died suddenly at the home of his sister, Mrs. Clayton Wright, near Silver Lake, last Sunday night. A family dinner was being given in honor of Mr. Rhea, who had recently returned from his home in Los Angeles for a brief visit. After the dinner had assembled and just prior to dinner, he was seized with a heart attack, and death resulted within the space of minutes.

Funeral services were conducted from the Methodist Church at Shouns on Monday afternoon by the pastor, Rev. William Marsh, assisted by Rev. Walter Worley, and interment followed in the nearby cemetery, beneath a veritable bank of flowers.

Active pallbearers were James Shall, Tom McQueen, Jasper Baker, E. C. Rivers, Clyde Wagner, Charles Dalaney. Honorary pallbearers were E. L. McDade, James Wagner, J. P. McGinn, R. H. Donnelly, E. E. Burnett, W. F. Smythe, R. L. Nave, Ed Grant, R. W. Seehorn, J. M. Patten, Wiley Mount and Dean Dotson.

Sam Rhea was well known to the older citizenry throughout Watauga County, and had renewed acquaintance and formed new ones during his visit here last year. He was educated at King College and for the past thirty years had been engaged in mining enterprises in Arizona and California. For several years his residence has been Los Angeles, "Sam" as he was familiarly known to everyone, had an exceedingly attractive personality, a heart of gold, all too big for his own material welfare, and was well loved by all his acquaintances. A good man, a gentleman of the old South as well as the newer West, his going on and there is wide-spread sorrow.

Surviving are a widow, son, Robert, two daughters, Caroline and Peggy, all of Los Angeles; mother, Mrs. R. C. Rhea, and a number of sisters and brothers.

Community Fair at Bethel on October 11

Plans have been completed for a community fair to be held at Bethel schoolhouse on Saturday, October 11. The morning program will consist of speeches and music. A social invitation is extended to all the young folks in the county. Games and contests will feature the afternoon program; prizes to be awarded in the various contests. An interesting feature will be a duet sung by Will Farthing and Clyde Perry. Following is a list of the prizes:

Best peck of potatoes, 50c; best peck of beans, 50c; best dozen apples, 25c; best six ears of corn, 25c; best dozen ears popcorn, 25c; best dozen beets, 25c; best squash, 25c; best cabbage, 25c; best turnips, 25c; best glass of jelly, 15c; best apple pie, 15c; best chocolate pie, 15c; best butterscotch pie, 15c; best pumpkin pie, 15c; best cake made by single girl, \$1; best collection of six cans of fruit, percolator, given by Perry-Edmiston Company; best marksman with rifle, cake; best woman whistler, pedestal, given by John K. Perry; best bedspread, 75c; best apron, 50c; best bunch of flowers, 25c; best doll dress made by girl under twelve years of age, doll; best pound of butter, 25c. A prize will also be given to the oldest person present.