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BOONE SKETCHES

By J. C. R.

REMEMBER GRANDFATHER

Over at Banner Elk, just beneath the clinging dome of the Hanging Rock, there are ninety of the cutest little chaps you ever laid eyes to . . . orphans, you guessed it! These children, gathered through the benevolent agencies of the Edgar Tufts Memorial Association from the mountain coves of Northwest Carolina, are holding out their chubby hands as the Thanksgiving season approaches, asking for money and supplies to carry them through the coming winter. Grandfather Home belongs to the mountains . . . it was built primarily to serve the hill country . . . and twenty-odd children born to Watauga County parents are being cared for there. No daddy, no mammy . . . a pitiful plight for any kid . . . but over at Banner Elk those ninety boys and girls and dimpled babies have forgotten the sorrows and heartaches which preceded their entry at the orphanage, and are developing into God-fearing men and women. Miss Jane Russell, capable and sympathetic superintendent, is assisted by an efficient corps of matrons in providing a home life just as cheerful as yours or mine for their little charges. A dairy herd of blooded Guernseys supplies an abundance of rich milk for Grandfather's kiddies, and a fertile farm tilled by the larger boys, provides a partial supply of fresh vegetables and fruits. Everything humanly possible has been done to make this mountain orphanage a self-supporting institution . . . but ninety little mouths to be fed, and ninety little bodies to be clothed, and ninety little minds to be trained . . . it's a job, folks, it's a job! Panic or no panic, gold standard or no gold standard, sales tax or what have you, these children over at Banner Elk just have to be provided for! We howl and cuss and chew the fat, morning till night, swear by the eyebrows of an ancient prophet that we're headed for starvation—then crank up a high-powered gas buggy, light a ten-cent cigar, maybe throw in a couple of slugs of high-priced "giggle soup," and drive a dozen or so miles to see Mae West or some other goggle-eyed screen distractor wiggle her way across the shimmering canvas of a movie house! Nay, nay, things are not as tough as we try to paint them. Let's wade right into the task of assembling a sizeable cargo of potatoes and apples and canned goods and sugar and fat-back and rice and flour and stuff for those boys and girls at Grandfather. Let's assemble a few ten spots, a lot of fives, and a drove of ones—a gallon of dimes and quarters and half-dollars—to buy dozens of pairs of abbreviated ahoes, underwear, shirts, dresses, caps, stockings and coats for boys and girls who know how to be thankful. Let's see if the Lord won't make our pathways a little smoother when we eliminate from our respective systems every trace of selfishness, deprive ourselves of a few of the luxuries of life, and divvy up with a bunch of poor little kids, who belong to us all. A truck from Grandfather will be in Boone next Saturday to gather such contributions as the people of this community feel able to make. Think it over for yourself . . . think about those ninety anxious little faces . . . and let your conscience be your guide!

MRS. NETTIE DOWNS DIES IN FAR WEST

Native of Blowing Rock and Prominent Resident of Napa City, Calif., Succumbs After Brief Illness. A Leading Business Woman.

Mrs. Nettie C. Downs, operator of the Downs Dairy in Napa City, Calif., for over fourteen years and highly esteemed resident of that community for over 25 years, died recently after an illness which had appeared serious for only a few days. The Napa City newspaper carries the following additional information concerning the death of Mrs. Downs, who will be remembered as the former Miss Nettie Baldwin of Blowing Rock: "Mrs. Downs was a prominent and beloved matron of this community and her death comes as a great shock to her many friends. She was possessed with many fine traits of character and she was particularly admirable for her frequent charitable donations of milk from her dairy to many poor families. "The deceased was a native of Blowing Rock, North Carolina, and came here to make her home over thirty years ago. "She is survived by a grief-stricken daughter, Mrs. Florence Harris, and her husband, Grover Downs, of Napa; a sister, Mrs. Mary Sherrill of Washington; two brothers, Tom and Rufus Baldwin of North Carolina. A granddaughter, Dorothy A. Harris, also survives. Mrs. Downs also raised Ernest Larsen, who makes his home in this city. Several nephews and nieces also survive. "The remains are at the Webber Funeral Parlors, where funeral services are to be conducted. Interment will be made in Tulocay Cemetery."

COUNTY-WIDE TEACHERS MEETING TO BE HELD HERE

The third county-wide teachers meeting will be held Saturday, November 25th, at the Boone elementary school. 2:00 p. m. is the hour. The following topics of health and physical education will be discussed by both the high school and elementary school teachers: 1. Some preliminary steps which a school can take in introducing a health education program. 2. Fitting the program to meet the needs of the individual school and community. 3. A health program for schools for the month of December. It is hoped that each teacher will come prepared to discuss each topic freely, and that they will present their own problems in health training to the group, in order that they may be discussed and possibly solved.

THE ROMEO ROAMS

Dick Hodges, Watauga's one and only Don Juan, returned last weekend from an amorous crusade down in the Piedmont. Charlotte, Salisbury and way stations were visited by sprightly gals of sixty (?); a dozen or so faun-eyed damozels were given a dozen or so pounds of "sweetnin'," and taken for a dozen or so rides . . . and not a dissatisfied customer, says Dick. And now the apple of many a widdler's eye is preening his feathers for a trip "way out in Texas, where the coyotes howl at eventide, and the wimmen folks, bless their pretty hides, grow sweeter and sweeter as the years roll by. With the coming of spring, we'll welcome the bluebirds again . . . and Dick!

Oklahoma City—Sixty-four years old Tuesday Governor W. H. (Alfalfa Bill) Murray was born at Toadsuck, Texas. Among gifts he received was a huge tom-tom sent by the Ponca Indian tribe. Names of tribal members were painted on the drum.

Owners of ten poultry flocks in Catawba County report their birds paid them an average return of \$1.24 each above feed cost throughout the past year.

Litvinov at Capital



Maxim Litvinov, Soviet Russia's Foreign Affairs Commissar, photographed at Washington during the days while he conferred with the State Department and President Roosevelt in person, regarding the terms of the United States' recognition of Russia.

SCENIC HIGHWAY IS APPROVED WHEN COMMITTEE MEETS

Senator Byrd Makes Announcement of Approval Following Farley With North Carolina Group on Park-to-Park Road. Doughton, Reynolds and Bailey on Committee. Rufus Gwyn in Attendance.

Washington—Assurance came from Secretary Ickes Friday that public works funds will be provided for the proposed parkway between the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains national parks.

Senator Byrd of Virginia said after conferring with Secretary Ickes that the public works administrator had told him "whatever it takes" will be forthcoming for the project. The estimated cost of the parkway, which would be 400 miles long, is \$15,000,000. The survey will be started immediately.

Prior to Byrd's announcement, a conference was held in Secretary Ickes' office at which Governors Polard of Virginia and McAlister of Tennessee and Senators Reynolds and Bailey of North Carolina, on behalf of Governor Ehringhaus, pledged the three states to furnish the necessary rights-of-way and surveys.

Committee Named Also attending the conference were Representatives Doughton and Weaver of North Carolina.

At a later conference in Senator Bailey's office, North Carolinians interested in the proposed park-to-park scenic highway named a committee to represent their state in negotiations with the Federal government and Virginia and Tennessee authorities on the route the road shall follow and matters pertaining to its construction.

Members of this committee are Senators Bailey and Reynolds and Representative Doughton. Governor Ehringhaus appointed them some time ago to represent the state and they agreed to continue.

Under consideration is a plan to secure a 200-foot right-of-way, to be put under the Federal park service, and to build a road 32 feet wide.

Although the route is undecided, Mr. Doughton said it would follow as near as practicable the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains. He expressed belief there would be little trouble obtaining the right-of-way and displayed a letter from J. K. McKnight and I. N. Woodruff, of Galax, Va., saying they would be glad to donate the right-of-way through a 559-acre tract they own along the Blue Ridge crest west of Fisher's Peak near the North Carolina-Virginia line.

Those at the conference in Senator Bailey's office included R. J. Gwyn of Lenoir, secretary of the committee named by Governor Ehringhaus to represent the State in the negotiations; J. Q. Gilkey, of Marion, chairman of the committee, and Chas. Ross, general counsel to the North Carolina Highway Commission.

Byrd said work might begin on the project in Virginia immediately since 100 miles of the route already has been surveyed.

BIG GUNS PLACED ON COURT LAWN

American Legion Post Secures Second Big Cannon for Display. Will Be Mounted on Concrete on Either Side of Entrance.

The second artillery piece secured by Watauga Post American Legion and which graces the courthouse lawn, arrived Sunday from Aberdeen, Maryland, and the two enormous machines of destruction are shortly to be mounted on concrete bases at proper positions in front of the temple of justice.

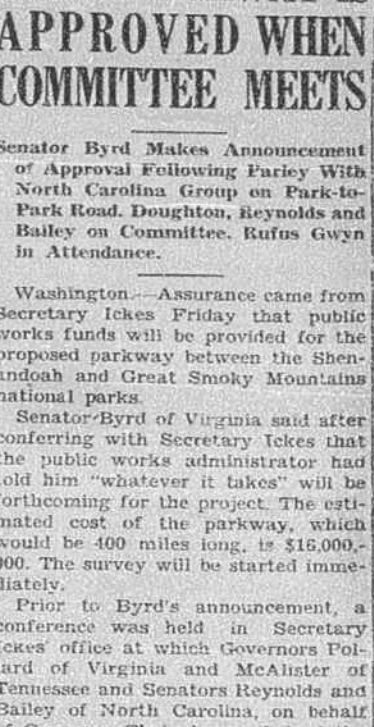
The first of the cannons, which has been here for several weeks, is an American field piece of 4.7 inch bore, model 1904. It weighs 7,420 pounds and over all is 25 feet long. The new arrival is a British gun, 5-inch calibre, and weighs 9,857 pounds, and is twenty-four feet long, with carriage. The last named actually saw service in the World War.

The Legion secured these artillery pieces through the aid of Congressman Doughton, and were liable only for the expenses of transportation. They have attracted wide attention, and when permanently placed will enhance the courthouse property.

ERROR APPEARS IN ADV. OF SPAINHOURS STORES

The Democrat gladly makes correction of an error which appears in Spainhours' advertisement on page three today. Necklaces which are quoted at 59 cents should have been priced 19 cents. When the proof was submitted the store the error was overlooked, and since the forms in which the ad was included had already been printed, this is the only means of making the correction.

Ready for Thanksgiving Day



In Massachusetts, home of Thanksgiving Day, Miss Ruth Fisher of Lasch College, near Sudbury, selects a 35-pound bird which manifested much interest in the grindstone operation of sharpening an axe.

Roosevelt Asks Thanksgiving For "Passing Of Dark Days"

Warm Springs, Ga. — President Roosevelt asked the nation to be grateful for the passing of "dark days" in a proclamation issued on Tuesday calling for the annual observance of Thanksgiving Day, November 20th.

In the same decree written by the President in his cottage here he condemned "greed and selfishness and striving for undue riches" and asserted "the greater friendship between employers and those who

Says Sales Tax Saves This County \$18,000 Annually

In reply to an editorial appearing in the Watauga Democrat on last July 27th, in which was quoted the way a merchant figured out an increased tax burden for Watauga County, Harry McMullen, director of the Sales Tax Division of the Department of Revenue, submits figures showing a saving to Watauga taxpayers of \$18,000, just the opposite to the figures submitted previously. The letter, setting forth the tax situation in this county, is gladly published.

My attention has been called to a reprint of an article appearing in your paper of July 27th, entitled "Sales Tax Argument." In this article a statement is made that the people in your county will be called upon to pay \$30,000.00 in sales taxes against a reduction of only \$12,000.00 prop-

erty taxes, making an increase in taxes to be paid by them of \$18,000. I am sure you will be glad to hear of the correct figures in connection with this matter and, therefore, take the liberty of writing you.

In 1932, there was levied in your county (following Rock, Boone, Coon Creek and Elkland special school districts) for current expense operation, taxes amounting to \$8,938.00; a county-wide levy for current expense of the six months school in your county of \$8,298.00. The 15-cent State-wide levy in your county amounted to \$12,448.00, making a total of these three levies of \$29,684.00.

Under the acts of the 1933 General Assembly, the necessity for all of these levies was eliminated, affording a property tax reduction in your county (Continued on Page 8)

Orphanage Truck to Be in Boone Saturday

Attention is again called to the fact that a truck from Grandfather Orphan Home, Banner Elk, will be in Boone next Saturday for the purpose of securing foods, canned goods, etc., donated to the child-rearing institution by citizens in this section. Canned goods, potatoes, cabbage, or anything growing children would use, will be greatly appreciated by the superintendent, and the gifts are to be left at the Democrat office. All those who can be asked to make cash contributions as well, for the needs of the mountain institution are great.

Many people in this territory have always been disposed to think of the Grandfather Home along with their own church orphanages at Thanksgiving time, particularly for the reason that it is a mountain home for mountain children, and has no vast territory from which to draw its support.

The Democrat is anxious that the offering this year be liberal.

Mrs. Mary A. Wood Buried Wednesday

Mrs. Mary Ann Critcher Wood died at her home near Oxford last Tuesday morning at the age of 83. Funeral was held Wednesday afternoon at the home of C. P. Critcher, with whom she made her home for the past few years. Rev. W. D. Poe and Rev. C. L. Gillespie conducted the funeral, and the interment was in Elmwood cemetery.

Mrs. Wood is survived by two brothers, R. T. Critcher and C. M. Critcher; three sisters, Mrs. J. P. Stovall, Mrs. Ella Critcher Gooch and Mrs. Lizzie Critcher May. She was preceded to the grave by her husband whom she married in 1886.

Mrs. Wood will be remembered by many in Watauga as she spent the summer and fall of 1920 here, visiting relatives. She was a niece of the late Nathaniel Critcher, also a first cousin of Mrs. A. M. Vandyke, whose serious illness was mentioned a few weeks ago. We are glad to note that Mrs. Vandyke's condition is improved.

ORPHAN ASSOCIATION IN ANNUAL PLEA FOR CHILDREN; DAY'S INCOME IS ASKED

The North Carolina Orphans Association, through the offices of its president, I. G. Greer of Thomasville, has just issued its annual Thanksgiving appeal for funds with which to care for the fatherless in the 28 homes of the State.

Every citizen of North Carolina who is receiving an income from any source is being asked as heretofore to contribute the earnings of one day to the orphanage of his or her choice on or near Thanksgiving day. The needs of the needy and helpless children were never greater than today, says Mr. Greer, who feels that the people need only to be reminded of the duty they owe to the unfortunate, as they have never failed yet to rush to the aid of the fatherless ones in an emergency such as the one which exists today.

Full co-operation of the people in this connection will be greatly appreciated by the home superintendents as well as by hundreds of little folks they are seeking to save for useful citizenship.

REV. BRENDALL IS RETURNED TO THE BOONE CHURCH

Popular Pastor Will Enter Upon His Third Year Here as Result of Action of Conference. Rev. Graham Returned to Watauga Circuit. Rev. Downum to College. Dr. Stanbury Goes to Greensboro Church.

Rev. J. H. Brendall Jr. returns to Boone as pastor of the Methodist Church for the third year, it was revealed Monday when the appointments were read at the closing session of the Western Conference in Greensboro, which had been in session since last Wednesday.

Rev. and Mrs. Brendall have endeavored themselves to Methodistism and to the people of all other denominations while in Boone, and the news of their return was received with pleasure in this community. The church has fared well under his pastorate and members of his congregation were anxious that he receive the appointment for the third year. He is a fine sermonizer and a faithful pastor.

Rev. Graham Returns Rev. G. C. Graham likewise was sent back to the Watauga Charge, where he has served his congregations with distinction and where he is much liked and admired. Rev. J. M. Downum was returned to Appalachian State Teachers College.

Rev. A. C. Gibbs was named Presiding Elder for this district. Stanbury to Greensboro Dr. W. A. Stanbury, son of Mr. J. S. Stanbury of Boone and a native of this county, was transferred from the North Carolina to the Western Conference, and takes the pastorate of the West Market Street Church in Greensboro. Dr. Stanbury has served the leading churches of the State in Raleigh, Wilson and Wilmington, and is one of the greatest ministers in North Carolina. His career is always followed with the greatest interest by the people of this section, who have watched his rise to a place of eminence with a feeling of the greatest pride.

381 Jobs For Watauga Under Federal Program

Watauga County is to be enabled to distribute 381 jobs to needy persons under the Federal Civil Works program, it was announced Monday by Mrs. Thomas O'Berry, state administrator.

Fourteen thousand persons who have been working on relief rolls are to be transferred to civil works projects immediately, it was said, and by December 1st an additional 20,000 who were receiving direct aid will be given jobs.

Scores of proposed civil works projects have been placed before the State administration and Mrs. O'Berry was expected to have been able to announce the first approvals Tuesday night.

Spainhours Closes High Point Branch

Spainhours, local department store, gives out the information that the establishment being conducted at High Point under the same general management has been closed, due to the fact that Mr. Spainhour was unable to negotiate a lease for the quarters being used at a satisfactory figure. At the same time the announcement is made that large numbers of new dresses, etc., are being moved from High Point to Boone and are included in the offerings in connection with the Mid-Season Clearance Sale, formally announced in this newspaper today.

Friends of the popular store will be greatly interested in the advertisements appearing on page three, and thirty buyers will have an opportunity to buy high grade merchandise at remarkable savings, it is pointed out.

Democrat Adds Many Subscribers to Its List

The Democrat continues to grow in favor with the people of this territory and subscribers are daily being added to its long list of readers. At the same time friends of the publication are continuing to renew rapidly in response to appeals.

The publishers are grateful for the ever-increasing spirit of co-operation manifested by the people, and the fact that practically all transactions involve praise for their efforts in publishing a good county newspaper, is a source of genuine pleasure.

The few who have not yet responded are requested to heed renewal statements sent out just as quickly as possible.

Gaston County Cotton Growers are Taking Advantage of the 10 Cents a Pound Government Loan on Cotton and are Delivering their Staple to Bonded Warehouses.

Gaston County cotton growers are taking advantage of the 10 cents a pound government loan on cotton and are delivering their staple to bonded warehouses.