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SKETCHES from LIFE

By JIM

AMERICA REMAINS UNCHANGED

The writer returned a few days ago from one of Uncle Sam's long and tiresome tours of the Pacific. There are so many of them being arranged these days, so many of the boys making these trips, that it would scarcely be of interest to anyone to review the endless miles of ocean wastes that lie between America's placid shores and the zones of trouble away out yonder.

After all, most salt water has the same complexion, is of the same approximate dampness and separates the same continents and islands it separated back when the world was young.

The one thing that filled the heart of the writer with joy and gladness was to find that America is still America—that three and a half years of war leaves her much as she was in those old days when Roosevelt was but a prospect for a second term. Stepping off a plane at the Oakland airport about the first thing that serenaded his ears was a radio address being delivered by some dumb Nebraska Congressman on the world monetary situation. His heart was fairly bleeding and his voice was full of tears. He knew damned well that the country was on its way to the dogs. It was exactly the same sort of speech that the partisan ones delivered during the Taft administration, and had used every week or two since.

After a few hours spent in trying to get a berth on a train bound east and an occasional beer for morale purposes, we perched on a stool in a Market Street tavern to inhale a few rations. The radio was going full blast, and the speaker was worrying himself to death about the morals of the young folk of the land. According to him, the whole caboodle was on its way to hell at a two-forty clip. Never since God made little apples had there been such laxity in the human family, never had sin been so rampant in the land, never had the girls and boys partaken so freely of the fruits of iniquity. It is the same song and dance that most Americans have cut their teeth on for the past few hundred years.

Coming across the country, the writer found that America was just as productive as she had ever been. There were a lot of plow handles in the hands of old men and kids, a lot of women-folk were tilling the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE)

ROBBERS ENTER LOCAL HARDWARE

Considerable Cash and Miscellaneous Merchandise Taken in Robbery Monday Night

Five hundred dollars in cash and an undetermined amount of merchandise resulted from the looting of the Farmers Hardware & Supply Company store sometime Monday night, and there have been no clues found as to the identity of the prowlers.

It is presumed by the management that the perpetrator of the robbery secluded himself in the big store building during business hours Monday, and made his foray after the store closed for the night, going out by removing a bar from a basement door.

The office was turned upside down, and cash was missing both from the office and the cash register. A rifle, pocketbooks and miscellaneous items were taken from the stocks, and one bag full of small items were left in the basement, as the robber made his getaway.

The crime was discovered by Mr. W. C. Greer, one of the owners of the store, when he unlocked the business at 7:30 Tuesday morning.

Chamber Commerce Annual Meeting Friday

The annual meeting of the Boone Chamber of Commerce will be held next Friday evening at the Gateway Cafe, at which time J. M. Brown, of the Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Co., of Winston-Salem, will deliver the principal address.

This will be ladies' night and since space is limited, it is very important that all who expect to attend this meeting advise Mr. H. W. Wilcox or Mr. C. A. Price, so that space may be reserved.

Election of officers will be the principal feature of the business meeting.

Wounded In Action



Mrs. Annie Moody of Boone Route 2, states that her husband, Pfc. Ernest Moody, of the U. S. Marine Corps, was wounded in action on Iwo Jima on the 22nd of February. Pfc. Moody has been in the service since last April and has been overseas since August. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Moody, of Blowing Rock.

DR. DOUGHERTY ONE OF MEMBERS EDUCATION GROUP

President of Appalachian College is Named by Assembly as Member of the New Education Board; Was Member of State School Commission

Dr. B. B. Dougherty, president of Appalachian State Teachers College, Boone, was named as one of the new ten members of the state board of education by the general assembly last Friday. Dr. Dougherty had for several years been a member of the old state school commission.

The first district appointments are as follows: First, John A. Pritchett, Bertie county, two years; second, Archibald McLean Graham, Sampson, eight years; third, A. S. Brower, Durham, six years; fourth, H. E. Stacy, Robeson, four years; fifth, Sanford Martin, Forsyth, four years; sixth, Mrs. R. S. Ferguson, Alexander, two years; seventh, Dr. Julian Miller, Mecklenburg, six years; eighth, D. Hiden Ramsey, Buncombe, eight years. Members at large—Dr. B. B. Dougherty, Watauga, eight years, and Alonzo C. Edwards, Greene, four years.

Dr. Dougherty is a native of Ashe county. He was educated at Wake Forest college, Holly Springs and Carson-Newman colleges in Tennessee. He was one of the co-founders of Appalachian college in 1903 and was its first president.

FUND DIRECTOR STRESSES NEED TO FILL QUOTA

Services of Red Cross To Returning Veterans Demand Drive Success

It is essential that Watauga county meet its 1945 Red Cross War Fund quota of \$8,700 in order that the local Red Cross chapter may continue its vital program of service to returning veterans, Clyde R. Greene, War Fund chairman, said today.

"The need for local Red Cross services continues to grow," Mr. Greene declared. "In many respects, the local Red Cross chapter's responsibilities will increase as more veterans return from the war fronts. Funds to continue these important programs for post-war armies of occupation are essential."

Stressing the need for Red Cross services to returning fighting men and their families, Mr. Greene also pointed out that the regular peace-time program of the local Red Cross is continuing to expand.

Home nursing, nutrition, accident prevention, water safety and other Red Cross classes are being increased to meet the greater demand for these Red Cross "self-improvement courses," the local Red Cross War Fund chairman said.

"Our responsibility to our fighting men will not end with their return home, Mr. Greene pointed out. "The need for Red Cross assistance in filing claims for government benefits, for providing temporary financial aid, for guidance in settling back into civilian life, and for information concerning community opportunities and resources has intensified to a great extent. These are prime obligations of Watauga county to its returning heroes."

"Moreover, disaster preparedness, community health improvement, and the many other significant programs of the Red Cross play a role of growing significance in helping us all live more complete, happy lives. For all of these reasons, each person in Watauga County should support the 1945 Red Cross War Fund to the fullest extent possible."

BLOWING ROCK TO CONSIDER PARK IN SPECIAL VOTE

Tourist Town To Hold Election on Providing Playground as a Memorial For Those Who Are Serving This Country in War

Blowing Rock, March 20—On April 3, the citizens of Blowing Rock will vote on the proposed bond issue for the purchase of the Coffey property, centrally located in the village, for the purpose of establishing a memorial recreation park honoring all those who served in the armed forces of our country in World War 2.

On last Friday evening a mass meeting was held in the high school auditorium for the discussion of the need and value of such a project. Both those favoring the issuance of the bonds and those opposed were asked to express their opinions. Speeches favoring the proposed bond issue were made by Mayor G. C. Robbins, Messrs. C. G. Beck, H. C. Hayes, W. E. Castle and J. H. Winkler. A telegram from J. Luther Snyder favoring the issue was read. No opposing voices were lifted.

It was shown that, because of the liquidating of present bonds this year, no increase in the tax rates will be necessary. Attention was called to the movement which is prevalent all over the country of establishing living memorials to those who are fighting our battles today. Emphasis was laid on the fact that this centrally-located plot of land lends itself ideally to development along lines of cultural, recreational and civic progress. If the bond issue is approved, the plans call for the building of a central youth center and recreational building, to be conducted along similar lines as a Y.M.C.A.; a community library building; a building for town offices; tennis courts, shuffle-board courts, horseshoe pitching and lawn bowling courts; sand beaches and boating on the lake, a swimming pool, and many other recreational and educational features. A special registration has been ordered for this election, the final date of which is March 24.

PARENT-TEACHER GROUP MEETS 26TH

State Board of Health Representative Will Speak on "Meeting Health Needs of Our Children"

The Boone Parent-Teacher association will hold its monthly meeting at 8 p. m., March 26. The theme for the program will be "Meeting Health Needs of Our Children." Mrs. Virginia Smith, chairman, Mr. Harold Quincy and Miss Gail Clay will be responsible for the program. Miss Pearl Weaver, of the state board of health school co-ordinating system, will be the speaker of the evening.

Since this meeting will be held in connection with the library, members will meet in the study hall at the high school, where refreshments will be served. Visitors will have an opportunity to look over the high school library and see the new books and materials which are provided for the use of the students. All parents and patrons are cordially invited to attend this meeting and become better acquainted with the school and its work.

J. V. Caudill Again Heads T.B. Group

Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Caudill gave a dinner at the Gateway cafe March 8 for the members of the Watauga County Tuberculosis association and several guests. Reports were made by Mrs. W. A. Smith, chairman of the investigating committee, and Mrs. M. R. Maddux, treasurer.

Mr. Caudill was re-elected county chairman and Mrs. Maddux treasurer. The following committee was named for the sale of seals: Mrs. Gordon Nash, Mrs. R. A. Olsen, Mrs. Stanley A. Harris, Mr. G. E. Tester. The investigating committee is composed of Mrs. W. A. Smith, chairman, Mrs. J. E. Holshouser, Mrs. H. P. Holshouser, Mrs. R. C. Rivers, and Mrs. S. F. Horton.

The 1944 sale of seals totaled \$1,103.38, an all-time high for Watauga county.

Pvt. Grover Robbins Wounded On Iwo Jima

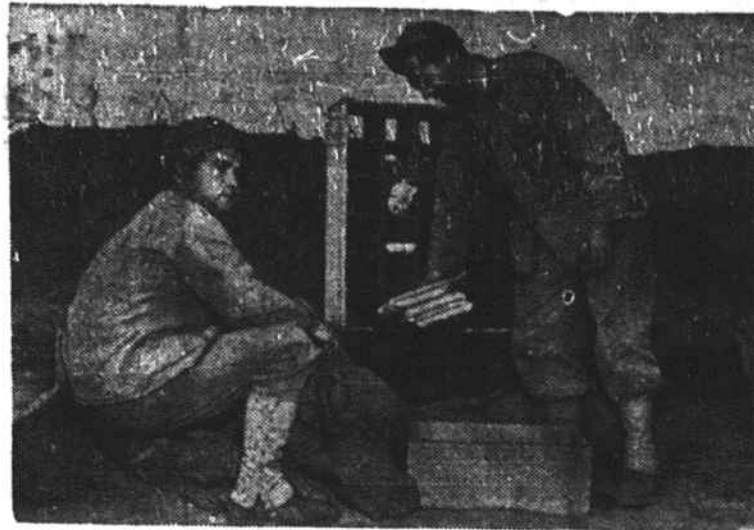
Pvt. Grover C. Robbins, son of Mayor Grover Robbins and Mrs. Robbins, of Blowing Rock, was slightly wounded in the fighting on Iwo Jima recently.

Pvt. Robbins suffered a bullet wound in the scalp, but a letter to his parents, he states that he expects to return to active duty soon. He is a member of the Fourth Marine division.

PIANO RECITAL

Miss Doris Hunter, pianist, and Virginia Douglas, violinist, will appear in a senior recital in the college auditorium Saturday, March 24, at 7:45 p. m. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Marine Mail Moves Forward



Two marine postal clerks on Iwo Jima sort the first batch of mail to hit the island. The mail was dropped from transport planes. Left to right: Staff Sgt. R. F. Taylor of La Porte City, Iowa, and Tech. Sgt. E. J. Doughty of Somerville, Mass., both of the 4th marine division.

ARMY RELIES ON COUNTY FOR FATS

Half Ounce Saved Daily by Each Family Would Supply Medical Needs of 1,509 Wounded

Watauga county's 4,025 families can fill an entire day's medical needs of 7,509 battle front casualties if each home will save one tablespoon of waste kitchen fat, it was estimated today by the nation's largest single collector of this vital war material.

"There are few direct ways a wife, mother or daughter can help safeguard the life of a loved one at the fighting front, and salvaging used fats is one of them," said the head of a national chain store. "The value of the 9,128,000 pounds salvaged by our customers throughout the nation last year is evident in the fact that a single pound of fat will process about 260 quarts of life-giving blood plasma."

The increased tempo of the war has intensified the need for drugs, ointments and acids to ease pain and lessen mortality among our soldiers as well as for synthetic rubber, protective coatings and other vital war materials in which waste fats figure, it is pointed out. Further, the OPA has continued its offer of red points for each pound of grease turned in at stores.

"The importance of used fats in the manufacture of the implements of war and of thousands of products for the home front is widely recognized," it is said. "But little is known of the miracles being worked by military medicine with the aid of converted fats. Watauga county women, in making their contribution to this salvage drive, may take added satisfaction from the knowledge that even a tablespoon, or half ounce, of used fat will help make enough smallpox vaccine for 75 injections."

Other vital medication for which household fats are required includes tannic acid used in treatment of burns, some insulins for shock victims, tinctures of opium and gentian to ease pain, sulfa-diazine ointment for treating abrasions and fungus growths, and nitro-glycerine tablets as a heart stimulant.

Pfc. Ford King, Jr. Wounded in Action

Pfc. E. Ford King, Jr., of Boone, has been wounded in action on the Jap island of Iwo Jima, it was learned in a message received by his parents Monday evening. No details concerning his injuries were contained in the message.

Pfc. King, who has been in the Marine Corps for the past year, had been in action with the marines in the Pacific for the past six months. He had been trained at New River, N. C., and at Quantico, Va. He is one of the community's most popular boys, and further word of his condition is being awaited with much interest.

Red Cross Banquet Plans Are Announced

The Watauga Post, American Legion, will sponsor a banquet Saturday night, March 31, at the Legion hut, it was announced Monday by Beach Keller, adjutant of the local post.

Tickets will be on sale at the following places: Carolina Pharmacy, Burgess Antique Shop, Parkway Co., and Boone Drug Co. The proceeds from the sale of tickets will be given to the Red Cross. Buy a ticket! A good dinner and a good time is in store for every one.

Change in Hours At Red Cross Office

The Red Cross office henceforth will close on Thursday at one o'clock, but will remain open on Saturday afternoons until 3 o'clock, it has been announced by Mrs. W. M. Grubbs, who is in charge of the office.

Killed In Action



PFC. JOHN M. EDMISTEN

CHAPLAIN TELLS OF DEATH OF SOLDIER

Further Information Is Received Concerning the Death of John Edmisten

Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Edmisten, of Sugar Grove, have received the following letter from Chaplain H. E. Brendehill, regimental chaplain, giving details of the death and burial of their son, Pfc. John M. Edmisten, who was recently killed in action with the American forces in Northern Italy:

"Word has already reached you through the War Department of the death of your son, Pfc. John M. Edmisten, in the service of his country. We of his regiment cannot contend that words alone will convey the depths of our sincere sympathy and sorrow in his loss, and yet without them we grope for expression. The realization that he is gone lies painfully in the hearts of his fellow men, and it is difficult to alter our thoughts to the true meaning of this tragic fact. Perhaps this is so since our faith in God reassures us that we will be together again in His great kingdom."

"John was advancing with his unit in Northern Italy when an enemy shell exploded a short distance away and fragments from the shell caused his instant death."

"You can justly be proud of your son's courage and devotion to duty in the face of grave danger, and in his willingness to carry on to the end. In giving his life, John made the supreme sacrifice for his country and fellow soldiers. No one can do more. He was buried with fitting religious services and full military honors in an American military cemetery in Northern Italy."

"Only God can understand and help us at such a time as this. May He be with you in these days of trial."

Pfc. Ned Austin Missing In Action

Pfc. Ned Austin, of Shulls Mills, is missing in action since March 4, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Austin, of the Winkler's Creek section, have been advised by the War Department.

Pfc. Austin, who had been trained at Fort McClellan, Ala., had been overseas since January 1, and had served in England, France, Belgium and Holland.

DR. CAUDILL ON COLUMBIA'S CHURCH OF THE AIR SUNDAY

Dr. Paul J. Caudill, pastor of the First Baptist church of Memphis, Tenn., will be heard on the Columbia Broadcasting System's Church of the Air program Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. Dr. Caudill, a native of Wilkes county, and a brother of J. V. Caudill, of Boone, is one of the South's outstanding young ministers.

RED CROSS FUND NOW MORE THAN FIVE THOUSAND

Campaign Goes Into Home Stretch With Large Contributions; Chairman Asks That All Reports Be Made by Next Saturday

The Red Cross War Fund campaign in the county goes into its final stages with contributions of \$5,516.55, according to Clyde R. Greene, chairman of the campaign, who is insisting that the chairmen in the various communities make their returns by Saturday of this week.

The goal for Watauga county is \$6,700, and the War Fund organization is anxious to reach the local quota as quickly as possible.

The standing of the fund is as follows:

Reported last week \$4,123.81
Boone (business district):
J. E. Clay and Guy Hunt 58.00
Alfred Adams 13.00
15.00

Eastern Star, Mrs. Nell C. Linney 20.00
Cove Creek Baptist Church 88.30
Lower Middle Fork, Mrs. Fred H. Pennell 9.00
Grandfather, Miss Floy Cannon 31.50
Cook School, Miss Almedia Bingham 4.05

Boone (Residential Section):
Mrs. Mack Luttrell 32.50
Mrs. J. E. Clay 2.00
Mrs. Chappel Wilson 14.50
Green Valley School, Miss Lola Rowe 9.65

Employees Baker - Mebane Hosiery Mill 80.00
Baker-Mebane Hosiery Mill, S. E. Cline 20.00
Blowing Rock (Cone estate) Mrs. A. C. Moody, Jr. 17.25
Blowing Rock School, Mrs. Joe Crawford 73.50
Oak Grove Church, Mrs. L. M. Hodges 18.70
Oak Grove Community, Mrs. L. M. Hodges 7.00
Upper Middle Fork, L. P. Hodges 39.00
Middle Fork Sunday School L. P. Hodges 9.55
Bamboo School, Miss Pearl Cowles 4.00

Boone Dem. School, Dr. J. G. Barden 42.00
Elk School, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Irvin 9.63
Boone Postoffice, Edgar Brown 21.00
Riverview School, Mrs. Theo. Greer 7.46
Bethel School, Mrs. Grady Tester 72.00
Mabel Community; Miss Blanche Thomas, Mrs. Jim Burkett and Mrs. Pearl Younce 136.00
Todd Community, Mrs. Jas. Miller 26.00
Blowing Rock, Mrs. H. C. Hayes 60.50
Employees D. & P. Pipe Works, Gorman Garland 60.00
Valle Crucis Community, W. W. Mast 99.05
Valle Crucis Community, Gladys Taylor 48.00
Zionville Community, Mrs. Chas. Wilkinson 25.60
Zionville Community, Mrs. Blanche Miller 31.00
Lower Meat Camp, O. C. Coffey 64.00
Foscoe, Mrs. Chas. Moore 34.50
Miscellaneous 29.00

Total to March 20 \$5,516.55

PFC. BROWN IS KILLED IN ACTION

Boone Man Loses Life in Fighting in Germany; Had Been Overseas Since September

Pfc. Ralph M. Brown, 20 years old, was killed in action in the fighting in Germany on February 23, the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brown, of Boone, have been advised by the War Department. On March 11 the parents had received word that their son was missing in action, but the later message reported him officially as having been killed.

Pfc. Brown entered the service in May, 1944, and had been in service overseas since September. Besides his parents, he is survived by two brothers and one sister: Max Brown, Edward Brown and Miss Edna Brown, all of Boone.

Anglers' Banquet To Be Held Tonight

The fisherman's banquet will be held on Thursday night of this week at the Gateway Cafe, it is announced by Mr. B. W. Stallings.

Every sportsman in the county is invited to attend. In addition to the dinner, there will be a movie in color, an after-dinner speaker, and the award for the 1944 Stallings fishing contest.

Tickets are now on sale at the Boone Drug Company at 75 cents each.

High frequency sound waves are used to determine the elasticity of nylon.