

KING STREET

BY ROB RIVERS

THE FAVORED SUBJECT

The weather, about which Mark Twain said everybody talked, but nobody did anything, is setting the pattern for local conversation, as freezing temperatures succeed the balmy days we had been enjoying, and late frosts nip the spring beans in the bud and maybe bring the chill of death to the cherries and the apples and stuff . . . Sunday came a snowing, and early in the morning the mountains showed white for a few minutes . . . Monday the prospects were for more freeze and more frost, much to the discomfort of the folks, who, in a farming community such as this, are moved by the very nature of things, to look upon unseasonal weather with fear and trembling . . . Since Pink Baldwin quit us, we can't rightly say whether this is the "dogwood winter," "blackberry winter," or the "catbird winter," but it falls short of any kind of pleasant spring weather for a fact!

AND THEY TELL US

Of the time the corn and taters were killed dead in the middle of June, and there was no crop, and the rations were short, and we remember riding in a buggy with our dad in a snowstorm which covered the ground, while the dogwoods were in bloom . . . There's been pretty near every sort of weather in this locality, if you'll talk to the old folks and search out such weather records as can be found . . . But our chief concern is the catbird has been fooled for the first time we can remember . . . He usually is fool-proof and when he sets up his gay melody, winter is gone . . . He slipped up this time, however, and it seems to us his song has a plaintive note as it is carried through the frosty air of one of these chill May mornings . . . He's been so good at judging the weather that he doesn't conform to the frigid!

A LIFE OF SERVICE

In the death of Dr. Frank Greer one of the last of the country physicians, whose careers were sagas of rare devotion to duty, of sacrifice, and of high courage, goes away . . . By horseback, on foot, by buggy, wagon, T-model and automobile the faithful physician carried the healing arts to the suffering and distressed people in Western Watauga county for more than half a century . . . His saddle bags were placed beside the pauper's pallet as well as beside the beds of the privileged, and the matter of money didn't plague the mind of the man who set about to minister to the miseries of the folks way back in another century . . . We can think of no men who have contributed more magnificently to their fellow man than these rapidly vanishing physicians of the winding trails and the mountain cabins; the men who went forth in the gales and the storms, and brought professional assistance, and often more important, words of advice and of wisdom and of condolence, to folks who waited and despaired . . . Country doctoring, as it has been called hereabouts, has been carried on by men of great minds, of great endurance, and of boundless sympathies . . . Such a man was Dr. Greer . . . Along with his nostrums and his instruments, his bandages and his knowledge of the anatomy of man, there went the love of his fellow man, without which there can be little love of the Lord . . . And Dr. Greer, who found time to delve into the literature and the philosophies of the ages, perhaps did some of his most important work in his role as the advisor and counsellor of his people . . . Faithful to his high calling, the snows didn't get too deep nor the winds too chill, but that Dr. Greer would venture forth to try to alleviate the suffering of the stricken and to console those who waited in agonized suspense . . . Sometimes the night was pierced by the first thin cry of the infant, and there was joy and a period of visitation . . . On other occasions, the physician's head was bowed, as a lifeless face was covered, and he turned away, sad and smitten . . . But through birth and death

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The following students shown above will serve as the Student Council at Appalachian State Teachers College for 1954-55. Seated left to right, Don Lineberger, Gastonia, president; Jane Harrison, Denton, junior representative-corresponding secretary; Eleanor Johnson, Burlington, junior representative; Janet Sue Houck, West Jefferson, junior representative-recording secretary; Jo Ann

Aldridge, Boone, senior representative; Ben Mast, Sugar Grove, senior representative; standing left to right: Grady Lewis, Troutman, sophomore representative; Ned Trivette, Reese, senior, vice-president; Bill Benson, Mocksville, junior representative, treasurer; Jim Marks, Reidsville, senior representative; Bill Honeycutt, Concord, sophomore representative; Bob Snead, Laurinburg, senior representative.

185 To Graduate From Four High Schools Of Watauga

Kemp Doughton Is Trust Officer Of Northwestern

J. Kemp Doughton of Sparta has been elected trust officer of the Northwestern Bank, which has an office here and branches in 14 other northwestern North Carolina cities and towns.

Mr. Doughton's election as trust officer was announced by Dr. B. B. Dougherty of Boone, president of the bank, at a recent meeting of the board of directors.

In the capacity of trust officer Mr. Doughton succeeds Edwin Duncan, executive vice president who also has served as trust officer for the past several years.

As trust officer of the Northwestern Bank, Mr. Doughton will have headquarters in Wilkesboro and will devote much of his time to the growing responsibilities of the bank as executor, trustee and in similar fiduciary capacities.

Dr. Dougherty, directors and other executive officers of the bank expressed their opinion that the bank is very fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Doughton as trust officer.

Mr. Doughton is a native of Alleghany County, and a son of former Lieutenant Governor R. A. Doughton, also a former president of the bank. He has spent much of his life in the banking field, as both state and national bank examiner, as a bank official and more recently as general agent of the Farm Credit Administration of Baltimore. The latter organization comprises the Federal Land Bank, Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, the Production Credit Association and the Bank for Co-Operatives.

Soviet invites Latin Americas to Moscow trade talks.



SAFE DRIVERS.—The men above, employees of the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph System in Boone, were awarded safe driving certificates last week as they ended a total of 10 years driving for the company without an accident. Policeman W. L. Johnson, of the Boone police department, is handing out the certificates to the men, left to right, R. N. McNeil, plant foreman, who has 1 year's safe driving to his credit; J. W. Stanberry, cable repairman, 1 year; Harold Hughes, installer-repairman, 2 years; and Rudolph Greene, switchman, 6 years. W. H. Briggs, plant manager at Lenoir, right, was on hand for the ceremony, and commended the men on carrying out the company's motto: "No job is so important, no service is so urgent that we can not take time to perform our work safely."—Photo by Weston Studio.

Historical Group To Gather; Horn In West Week Set Aside

Scout Camporee At Tater Hill Lake

Plans have been announced for a camporee for all Boy Scouts of the Watauga district, to be held at Tater Hill Lake beginning Friday, May 28 and ending Sunday, May 30. The announcement was made by Fred Gragg, chairman of the camping committee for the district.

Scoutmasters and members of the district committee will attend the three-day camp to take charge of the program, which will include competition in various types of exhibits and in such scouting activities as the preparation of a campsite. Troops will check in on Friday between 3:00 and 5:00 p. m. and camp will break at 1:00 p. m. on Sunday.

The Scout uniform will not be required for attendance at the camporee. Sunday services will be held at the camp ground, according to the committee's announcement. A program of nature study has also been planned. Members of the district camping committee include, besides Chairman Gragg, Howard Cottrell, Ted Hagaman, Tommy Osborne, Walter Edmisten, Wayne Richardson, James W. Godbolt, and Richard Chase.

Dr. F. M. Greer Succumbs From Sudden Illness



DR. F. M. GREER

Dr. Franklin Monroe Greer, 84 years old, Watauga county's oldest physician, died at his home at Mabel, Friday from a sudden illness suffered Thursday.

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Union Baptist Church at Mabel. Rev. L. H. Hollingsworth, Baptist minister of Boone, and Rev. N. C. Bush, pastor of the Watauga Methodist circuit, conducted the rites. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Dr. Greer was born in Pike county, Kentucky, a son of the late Phillip and Mary Greer. The family moved to Watauga county about seventy-five years ago, where Dr. Greer was reared. He was educated at the University of Tennessee and at Johns Hopkins University, in Baltimore, and practiced for a time with Dr. Wilcox of Ashe county. He had practiced his profession at Mabel for about 59 years.

Surviving are two daughters: Mrs. Russell D. Hodges, Boone; and Mrs. Ronda Younce of Mabel. There are five brothers and two sisters: Andy Greer, Hollywood, Calif.; Dr. I. G. Greer, Chapel Hill; W. C. Greer, Boone; T. M. Greer, Boone; Harrison Greer, Morgantown; Mrs. Nancy Roten, Denver, Colo.; Mrs. Alice Greer, Zionsville. Mrs. Greer, the former Miss Laura Campbell, died eight years ago.

Of interest is the fact that Dr. Greer's demise was the first in the family of eight. Of the surviving brothers and sisters, the oldest is 83 and the youngest 62. The average age of the family is 73 years.

Bill Mast Is Given Honor

Bill Mast, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dave P. Mast of Sugar Grove, has been elected to serve as mailing chairman for the Baptist Student Union at the University of North Carolina during the 1954-55 school year. Bill is a rising junior at UNC.

The annual spring dinner meeting of the Southern Appalachian Historical Association, producers of the outdoor drama, "Horn in the West," opening its third season here June 27, will be held Monday, May 17, at 6:45 p. m., at the Ranch Motel, located near the Parkway entrance on the Blowing Rock highway.

HORN WEEK PROCLAIMED

Mayor Gordon H. Winkler has proclaimed this week, May 9-15 as HORN IN THE WEST week, to promote new memberships in the Southern Appalachian Historical Association in time to attend the spring meeting May 17. Membership is \$10, and can be secured from James P. Marsh, treasurer, or from any member of the membership committee, which includes Mrs. L. H. Owsley, Mrs. Rob Rivers, Mrs. W. M. Matheson, Mrs. J. C. Goodnight, Mrs. James Council, Miss Clyde Kilby, Mrs. Joe Crawford, Mrs. W. C. Richardson, W. W. Chester, Joe Williams, and Richard Morehauser. With each membership goes a vote in the association, a season pass to Horn in the West, and miniature lapel horns.

A feature of May 17 will be a panel discussion with Dr. D. J. Whitener, executive vice-president of the association, as moderator. The panel will include Chester Davis, of the Winston-Salem Journal; Kermit Hunter, author of the drama; Mrs. Ed M. Anderson of West Jefferson, publicity director of the Northwest North Carolina Development Association; Carl Fidler, business manager of Horn in the West; Robert Isbell, publicity director of the drama; and the board of directors. The meeting will be open for questions from anyone present.

Dr. I. G. Greer of Chapel Hill, president of the association, will preside at the business session, and Samuel Selden of the Carolina Playmakers, head of the University of North Carolina dramatic department, and ex-officio adviser to the association, will bring greetings, and offer suggestions for promotion of the drama.

All members of the association, and all persons who are interested in Horn in the West are invited to attend and take part in the meeting. There will be a charge of \$1.50 per plate for the dinner, and everyone who plans to attend as asked to make reservations not later than Saturday, May 15, with Mrs. B. W. Stallings or Mrs. L. H. Owsley.

Paper Drive Is Set For Saturday

Boy Scout Troop 109 will conduct a scrap paper drive Saturday morning May 15. Anyone having scrap paper they wish to donate, please call Jerry McCracken AM4-3700 or Joe Minor AM4-8490.

Farm prices have ended their decline, rise 0.4 per cent.

Saturday Is Last Day Voter Registration

Saturday is the last day for new voters to register for participation in the May primary, it is reminded by R. T. Greer, chairman of the county board of elections, who says that Saturday week, May 22, will be observed as challenge day.

Registration has been light so far, but Registrars expect greater activity on the closing day. Chairman Greer also wants to

make clear that voters must state their party affiliation at the time of registration. Otherwise they cannot participate in the primary of either political party.

Those who register as independents or who withhold information as to party affiliation, will be unable to vote May 29th, Mr. Greer repeats. However, these voters may change their party affiliation if they do so Saturday.

Dr. Fite To Address College Graduates

The graduating exercises will be held at Appalachian State Teachers College on Friday, May 14, at 10:30 a. m., with Dr. D. Harley Fite, president of Carson-Newman college, Jefferson City, Tennessee, as the commencement speaker.

Dr. Fite is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State College, and holds the master's and doctor's degrees from George Peabody College for Teachers. He has served as principal of high schools, has taught at Memphis University School, Austin Peay State College, was director of education for the Tennessee Valley Authority, headed the department of education at Florence State Teachers college in Alabama and taught two summers at Peabody before becoming president of Carson-Newman, president of Carson-Newman, well known Baptist college, in 1948.

He is in demand nationally as a speaker, has headed a number of committees on education on the national level, and is listed in Who's Who in America, Who's Who in American Education, and Who's who in the Southeast. He is a member of a number of learned and professional societies and has written many magazine articles.

At the graduating exercises, President B. B. Dougherty will present diplomas and grant degrees to 160, twenty-one of whom are receiving the master of arts degree and 139 of whom are receiving the bachelor of science degree.

The college orchestra, directed



DR. D. HARLEY FITE

by Nicholas Ernest, and the college choir directed by Mrs. Virginia Wary Linney, will participate in the program.

The exercises are scheduled for the college stadium, but in event of inclement weather they will be held in the college auditorium.

Graduating seniors, their parents, faculty members and their wives or husbands will be entertained by President Dougherty at the traditional President's Breakfast at 8:00 o'clock on the morning of graduation day.

Sheriff Seizes Big Liquor Plant

Sheriff Earl D. Cook and his deputies captured a huge illicit whiskey plant in the Sampson section of the county last Wednesday afternoon.

The boiler, says the Sheriff, was of 1250 gallons capacity, and there were six vats of beer almost ready for distillation.

Included in the seizure were tools, still worm, tar paper, 20 new five gallon cans and other equipment. The still hadn't been in operation, said the Sheriff, and none was present when the raid was made.

Sheriff Cook was accompanied on the raid by Deputies G. M. Watson, Willie Miller, W. B. Day, and Howard Camp, Boone police officer.



VISIT BOONE—The children above, pupils of Mrs. Daisy Adams' second grade at Green Valley school, visited in Boone last Thursday morning. They are shown as they visited the Watauga Democrat office to learn how the county newspaper is printed.—Staff photo by Joe Minor.