

KING STREET

BY
ROB RIVERS

MEMENTO OF ANCIENT CHURCH

Mr. David S. Ray tells the Democrat of having salvaged from the old Three Forks Baptist Church a split pine beam, and that he has two canes made from the material which he keeps as souvenirs . . . He says the old church was dedicated in 1790, and stood across the Shearer Hill from the present Ray residence, on a beautiful plot beside New River . . . It used to be a good picnic spot and retreat, and we recall the big spring to the rear of the building, which was visited by the wayfarers of the day as well as the communicants . . . Mr. Ray says the pine timber used in the construction of the ancient church was cut on what was later known as the Shuford Edmisten farm, and floated down the river to the church site . . . It's a pity that the old building wasn't preserved, as the oldest such structure in the county.

RECORD OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP

Mr. H. J. Teague of Route 1 who is now 89 years old, came in the other day and renewed his subscription to the Democrat . . . He recalled that no property of his had ever been advertised for taxes, that he had never failed to take care of an obligation, and concluded that he's been able to go through a long lifetime without ever having been arrested . . . And that's good!

'SIMMON TIME

A tree over near the Linney rock building is the only local reminder that it's persimmon time, and that the fruit so beloved on the south side of the hill by both people and possum hounds is sufficiently frosted to be palatable . . . We never knew how come the persimmon tree alongside the sidewalk . . . Cut down a few years ago, it came back bigger and stronger, and had a good crop this year, most of which splashed on the sidewalk . . . An exchange points out that the persimmon was the first American fruit to get any amount of praise from early explorers . . . DeSoto found out about it's goodness in 1539, John Smith's narrative of the settlements in the New World, written during the early part of the seventeenth century, spoke of the persimmon and observed, "If it not be ripe, it will draw man's mouth awry with much torment." . . . and we submit that Capt. John was well acquainted with the astringent effect of the immature fruits of the simmon tree . . . Used extensively for persimmon beer and for pudding, which is about the richest, best sort of concoction we know, the tough little trees don't come native to these high altitudes . . . Plentiful on the south side of the ridge, the trees will thrive here if transplanted . . . And there ought to be more of that done . . . Likewise it has been proven over at the postoffice that holly, another alien to the higher slopes, will do all right if brought in and cared for . . . Nature didn't recommend them however for the mountain top area.

IN DEFENSE OF ROOSTERS

Used to be, when everybody around Boone had their chickens, we would lie in the morning hours, after an early-rising daddy had made sure we were up, and listen to the crowing of the roosters . . . We'd marvel at the way these fowls would take turns . . . Never would one crow, unless he had his cue from the barnyard which had precedence . . . And we never learned how the sequence was worked out. At any rate there's still a cock or two in town we can listen to, and we know of nothing more important to the successful breaking of the dawn . . . In this regard, the Memphis Commercial-Appeal publishes this letter in defense of the rooster, which follows:

"PRAY, LET US HAVE SUPPORT . . ."

"An outrageous letter to the editor Sunday cawed protest over roosters asserting they disturb the slumbers of the old, the 'nervous,' by which I presume he means insane, and other types.

(Continued on page four)

House Group Plans Investigation Of Election In Ninth

Washington, Nov. 15 — The House Campaign Investigating Committee today voted for a full-scale investigation of Republican complaints of election irregularities in North Carolina's 9th Congressional District.

The committee voted to send back to North Carolina immediately one of its investigators, Samuel H. Still, Washington lawyer who made an on-the-spot investigation in late October. After he reported that some registrars had denied him access to poll books, the committee ordered that all absentee ballots and related records in the district be impounded.

Alexander Won Race

Rep. Hugh Q. Alexander, a Democrat, won a second two-year term from the district by a majority of 5,000 votes over William E. Stevens Jr., Republican furniture executive from Lenoir, in the Nov. 2 election. The district embraces the nine counties of Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Carabarus, Caldwell, Iredell, Rowan, Stanly and Watauga.

Ivan Harrah of Winston-Salem, campaign director for Stevens, testified before the committee last week that there was vote buying, coercion, misuse of the absentee ballot, double registration and

negligence by election officials in the district.

Ray Jennings of Taylorsville, state Republican chairman, told the same session that he thought absentee ballots made a big difference in the Alexander-Stevens race.

SBI Reports Made

Agents of the State Bureau of Investigation have looked into Republican charges of election irregularities in Ashe and Alexander counties. They have turned their reports over to James W. Powell director of the SBI. He is assessing the reports and is expected to turn his finds over to Harry McMullan, state attorney general.

Republicans also had complained of election irregularities in the 12th Congressional District, but the House committee said recently it had no official notice of these complaints. The SBI recently investigated charges that absentee ballots were bought and sold in Clay and Graham counties in the 12th District. McMullan turned over the SBI report to Solicitor Thad Bryson of Bryson City.

The House committee also decided to send an investigation into the Third Illinois District.

National Guard Meet On Armory Postponed

The meeting relative to the organization of a national guard unit which may lead to the building of an armory was scheduled for Tuesday night, Nov. 16 has been postponed until Tuesday night, Nov. 23 at 6:30 at the Gateway Restaurant.

Special representatives from each of the civic organizations are urged to attend and such others as are interested in the project.

Captain Swanson from Lenoir with the delegate representing the Adjutant General's office will be present as special guest of the

Chamber of Commerce. Those who can come at 6:30 and eat with the group are urged to be there promptly at 6:30. Those who desire to attend the meeting but cannot eat should be there by 7:00.

A Chamber of Commerce announcement says: "This is a very important meeting and we should make a special effort to give Captain Swanson and his associate the assurance that we want a national guard unit and the armory and that we will cooperate with him to the fullest."

Blue Devils Finish Undefeated Season

By LARRY KLUTZ

The Blue Devils of Appalachian High finished their first undefeated season in the schools history by swamping Millers Creek by a score of 40-13 at Millers Creek Friday. This was the 10th win of the season for the Blue Devils. It was a game marked with numerous injuries.

In the first quarter, fullback Randy Maddux took a hand off from quarterback Tony Winkler and went 60 yards for the first TD. In the 28nd period the Blue Devils broke loose for 3 touchdowns. The first of these was a 3 yard sneak by quarterback Tony Winkler. A little later halfback David McKinney drove over from the 5 yard line. Then just before the end of the half co-captain Roger McGuire pounced one a Redskin fumble in the end zone for a TD.

TD.

As the 2nd half got under way Roger Cook grabbed the second half kickoff and raced 85 yards for a TD.

In the last period Jerry Weaver, the Redskin quarterback skirted end for 11 yards for Millers Creek first score. A Weaver to Eller pass play good for 70 yards was the final score for Millers Creek. Hamby kicked the extra point.

Then after a 85 yard drive Bill Brown carried 8 yards for the final score of the game.

One extra point was run over by Bill Brown. Three were kicked by B. M. Miller.

This year's Blue Devil team in going undefeated and winning the Highland conference crown have set a good record for themselves. They have gained 2,151 yards rushing while holding their opponents to 999 yards. They have passed for 595 yards to 196 for the opponents. They have gained 115 first downs, 39 touchdowns and extra points. They have a 26.4 point average per game to the opponents 6 point average.

Although they are losing 10 seniors from the squad, next years team should be very good as the underclassmen have shown promise of being another great Appalachian team.

Decorations To Again Be Judged For Yule Season

Mrs. Starr Stacy announced this week that the Boone Junior Woman's Club, the Worthwhile Women's Club and the Blue Ridge Garden club will again sponsor the annual Christmas Home Decoration contest in Boone. Prizes will be given for the best window, door, and lawn decorations.

Mrs. Stacy urged that all homes begin thinking of decorating for the Yuletide and plan to enter the contest with some decoration.

U. S. Navy Band To Appear In Lenoir

The United States Navy Band will appear in concert at the Lenoir High School Auditorium November 27, at 3:30 and 8 p. m. The admission in the afternoon is students 50c, adults \$1.00; evening students \$1.00; adults \$1.50.

Honor Plaque To Be Given Burley Grower

The Northwest North Carolina Development Association will award an "Honor Plaque" to any burley tobacco farmer who shows proof that he produced at the rate of \$1,000.00 per acre on his entire allotment provided the allotment is 0.7 or more. This is an opportunity for good burley growers to receive some of the honor that they are due for doing a good job. Proof of the production may be presented to Stanley Harris, who is chairman of the tobacco committee for Watauga county under the committee for the Northwest North Carolina Development Association, or to L. E. Tuckwiller, county agent. We want Watauga county to get her share of the honor so please let us know about these yields.

Food Is Sought For Children At Orphans Home

If you are one of the persons who is bothered with shopping for a household, how would you like to change places with Miss Anne Bryan of Grandfather Home in Banner Elk? Miss Bryan, Superintendent of the institution for several years, says that per week she buys food in lots which run something like this: 50 lbs. of sugar, 49 lbs. of shortening, 10 lbs. of fatback for seasoning, 1 cs. eggs—30 dozen, 1 cs. margarine, 108 loaves of bread.

Each day, some 93 hungry children around the ages of five to nineteen, consume food which mounts up into the dollars and cents under today's prices. For instance, per day, Miss Anne can well expect to see disappear from the cabinet 10 lbs. of weiners, 15 lbs. of hamburger, 10 lbs. of bologas, 12 hens, 15 fryers, 4 gallons of vegetables, ½ bushels of potatoes, 5 gallons of fruit, 3½ qts. of jelly, 1 gallon of pickles, 2 gallons of dried beans, 2 large size boxes of oatmeal, 6 large size boxes of cornflakes, 6-lbs. of grits, and 6 lbs. of rice, along with 12 qts. of meal and 12 qts. of flour.

Throughout the Holston Presbytery, truck schedules have been sent to announce the coming drive for Thanksgiving gifts to the Home. Food is a necessity for the success of this drive. If you would care to donate, phone your nearest Presbyterian minister. The thanks you will receive will be measured in the healthy bodies and the glowing eyes of 93 youngsters who will know you cared to share your Thanksgiving with them.

Farmers May Yet Get Lime

Farmers may still apply limestone under the 1954 Agricultural Conservation program until December 31. Requests for cost-sharing under this practice will be approved for applying limestone to cropland which will be seeded to eligible grasses and legumes in 1955 and for the initial improvement of permanent pasture.

All these practices require a soil test. Soil tests for lime only will be given priority by the soil testing laboratory, and results will be returned within a few days. Farmers needing limestone should not let this opportunity pass by.

Since all seeding and reseeding practices in 1955 are based on the use of lime, it is important that farmers take soil samples now on all fields on which such practices are intended to be carried out. Soil containers and instructions are available at the ASC office.

Flat Top Farmer Is Corn Growing Champ

Mr. W. W. Austin of the Flat Top community is the 1954 corn growing champion for Watauga County. Mr. Austin won this honor with the officially estimated yield of 123.55 bushels per acre. Second place went to Mr. James Hagaman of Cove Creek with a yield of 106.56 bushels per acre and third to Mr. Troy Greene, of Deerfield Road, with a yield of 101.88 bushels per acre.

The only other yield above a hundred bushels per acre was

100.65 produced by Mr. B. D. Clawson of Rutherfordwood.

Mr. Austin produced this corn on 1953 potato land with W. Va. 1163 hybrid corn. The corn was planted in 34 inch rows about 10 inches in the drill. He used 5-10-10 fertilizer at the rate of 1000 pounds per acre and 400 pounds per acre of calnitro.

The official yield was estimated by the agricultural workers, with moisture test by North Carolina Crop Improvement Association.

75,000 Pounds Of Burley Now On Warehouse Floor



TYPICAL BOONE TOBACCO WAREHOUSE SCENE

Watauga County 4-H Members Get Achievement Day Awards

Weed Sorting Project Slated

Mr. Harold Nau, Extension Tobacco Specialist, will assist with a tobacco sorting demonstration at Ben Farthing's farm on Thursday afternoon, Nov. 18, at 2:30 p. m.

Mr. Farthing has arranged a sorting table with arrangements for lights, and will have some tobacco in case for Mr. Nau to use. Burley tobacco brings Watauga farmers more dollars than any other crop, yet farmers often fail to get the high dollar because the tobacco is carelessly handled.

All burley tobacco farmers are invited to attend this meeting and watch Mr. Nau prepare the tobacco for market.

One other point that we would like to show you at Mr. Farthing's farm is how he handles primed tobacco and how much he considers it increases his income from tobacco when he primes it.

APO Address Rule Changed

Acting Postmaster Lyle B. Cook calls attention to the request by the Department of Defense that the phrase "Care Postmaster" not be used on mail addressed for delivery through overseas APO's.

The address on mail intended for members of the Armed Forces or civilians receiving mail through overseas APO's should be confined to three lines, if possible, the last line to show the APO number followed by the name of the post office as for example:

Pvt. William J. Roe, RA 12378967 Company F, 167th Infantry APO 601, New York, N. Y.

Watauga Scouts Win Brenner Award

Eight adult scouters from the Watauga District attended the annual Old Hickory Council supper held last Tuesday night at the Home Moravian Church in Winston-Salem. The group, headed by Dr. Lee Reynolds, district chairman, was presented with the Brenner Award for possessing the best scrapbook on publicity the scouts in this area had received last year through newspapers and other mediums. The district last year was led by the Rev. Joseph T. Shackford, now of Walkertown.

Dr. Francis Cooke, of Boone, was publicity chairman during the period the award was made for.

Others attending from the county were the Rev. Everett Lowman, Rogers Wilson, B. W. Stallings, Cecil Miller, Stanley Harris and Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Andrews.

Watauga County 4-H Club boys and girls received recognition for outstanding club work at the annual 4-H Achievement Day in the American Legion Hut, Saturday morning.

Ann Farthing from Bethel presided at the Achievement Day program.

Mr. L. E. Tuckwiller, county agent recognized leaders and parents of the 4-H Clubbers and John Vines introduced the speaker John Whitelock of New Zealand who spoke to the boys and girls of life in his country. He compared the beliefs and customs of America with those of his country. Whitelock is in America on a six months tour sponsored by the New Zealand Dairy Board. He and three others from New Zealand are studying farming in the United States in the International Farm Youth Exchange program, in which 25 foreign countries are participating.

Miss Catherine Holcombe, assistant home agent, and W. C. Richardson, assistant county agent, both in charge of 4-H Club work, awarded medals and certificates to the following boys and girls for outstanding work:

Paul Brookshire and Dudley Norris, achievement; Marc Carlson farm and home electric, John Lett Jr. and Ned Vines; field crops, Norman Michael, Gerald Lawrence and Lynn Matheson; forestry, Gary Hartley; garden, George Cowles and James Moretz; meat animal, Paul Brookshire, Robert Greer and Paul Perry, dairy achievement; and Ronald Swift; poultry, Russell Swift, Lance Reese, Lynn Matheson, Benny Robinson and Doss

Keller Jr.; tractor maintenance, Marvin Storie; public speaking, Doss Keller, Jr.; wildlife conservation, Jerry Junior Welch, and crafts, John Ralph Buchanan and Jimmy Bob Coffey.

The 4-H girl's awards went to Ann Farthing and Evelyn Matheson, both of the Bethel Senior Club for achievement. Certificates in clothing went to Gloria Jean Hampton of the Boone 7th Grade Club; Irene Rominger, Ann Farthing and Evelyn Matheson also of the Bethel Club.

Marjorie Reynolds and Judy Snyder of the Boone 7th Grade Club received the crafts certificate; Patsy Vannoy of Parkway Club, Frances Moretz of Boone 7th Grade Club, Jo Ann Phillips, Irene May and Johnny Tester of the Bethel Clubs, the canning awards.

Gloria Jean Hampton, Boone, and Ann Farthing, Bethel, received dress revue certificates; Ann Farthing and Evelyn Matheson of the Bethel Club, dairy foods team award; entomology honors went to Patsy Gauden of the Boone 7th Grade Club; certificates for frozen foods, Elizabeth Ann Cook of Parkway School, Barbara Edwards of Boone 7th Grade Club and Sue Hagaman of the Bethel Club.

Food preparation medals were awarded to Wanda Jean Wineberger of the Green Valley Club and the winners of the home-grounds beautification project were Elizabeth Ann Campbell of Cove Creek Club and Ann Farthing of the Bethel Senior Club, and home improvement certificates to Madeline Jackson of Green Valley, Evelyn Matheson of Bethel and Elizabeth Ann Campbell of Cove Creek.

Clubwomen Plan Drive To Fill Xmas Stockings

The Worthwhile Woman's Club is again to be in charge of the empty stocking fund in this locality, and Mrs. E. L. Ray has issued the following statement in regard to the annual charity campaign:

"Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus," has become a quotation as American as baseball and as true in Watauga County today as it was a generation or more ago when it was first written by the editor of the New York Sun. In a Christian nation and among Christian people, Santa Claus or the spirit of giving and sharing is ever present. Where there is need, particularly at Christmas time, there are always generous-hearted people to fill that need and help the needy. It has been estimated that in Watauga county schools there are at least 5% of the total enrollment who come

from needy homes where there is great danger of children's stockings being empty on Christmas morning.

Help Fill These Stockings

It has been proved again and again in Boone and Watauga county that there is a Santa Claus; that the spirit of giving exists in the hearts of men and women and prompts contributions to this worthy project, making it possible to continue the filling of empty stockings of needy children year after year. This week the members of the Worthwhile Woman's Club will start solicitations to finance this annual project. Plan to make a generous contribution to Mrs. Mabel Brown, treasurer of the fund, at the Watauga Building & Loan office.

Damp Weather Aids Farmers In Moving Crop

With the opening of the burley tobacco market only two weeks away, there were approximately 75,000 pounds of leaf on the floor of Mountain Burley Warehouse No. 1 Tuesday morning of this week. With welcome rain providing good grading weather, receipts are expected to be brisk right up to opening day.

The Boone market is equipped to sell about 1700 baskets each selling day, thereby assuring growers of quick sales with a minimum of waiting during the coming season.

R. C. Coleman, operator of the Mountain Burley Warehouse and the Farmers Burley here, said Boone will have the best buyer representation this year in its history, and added, "I am looking forward to making this the best tobacco season Boone has ever had. Keep your tobacco dry, grade it carefully, and bring it to Boone. You will receive as high or higher prices at your local market as anywhere in the belt, so why drive farther and add to your expense?"

The burley market will open November 30, and sales will continue through December 21 for four hours a day. After the Christmas holidays, sales will resume on January 4, "and continue as long as there is any tobacco to sell," said Mr. Coleman.

Mrs. R. R. Colvard Taken By Death; Rites Wednesday

Mrs. Mary Lillie Colvard, 71, resident of this city, died Monday morning at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Allie Hodges. She had been ill for several months.

Born in Watauga county July 17, 1883, Mrs. Colvard was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Killian. She joined the church at an early age, and was a faithful member. She was a member of Oak Grove Baptist Church.

Funeral services are to be conducted Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Oak Grove Baptist Church by Rev. C. O. Vance and Rev. Raymond Hendrix. Burial will be in the Hine cemetery.

In February of 1900, she was married to Richard R. Colvard, who survives her. Eight children, thirty-nine grandchildren, and twenty-one great grandchildren also survive her. The surviving children are: Esley Colvard, Lenoir; Mrs. Masie Oaks, Boone; Lee Colvard, Boone; Mrs. Allie Hodges, Boone; Roger Colvard, Boone; Mrs. Edna Brown, Lenoir; Mrs. Annie Hayes, Boone; and Mrs. Josie Wheatley, Lenoir. There are two sisters: Mrs. Mae Crow and Mrs. Addie Herron, both of whom reside in the State of Washington.

Boy Scout Group To Meet Thursday

The regular monthly meeting of the Watauga District Boy Scout Committee will be held on Thursday, November 18, at the Gateway Restaurant at 12:00 noon. Lee Reynolds, newly elected district chairman, will preside at the meeting.

BURLEY EDITION, GIFT GUIDE TO COME OUT NEXT WEEK

The Democrat's annual Burley Opening edition and Christmas Gift Guide will come from the press next Wednesday morning.

Since much of the material for the enlarged edition will go to press during the current week, it will be appreciated if advertisers will cooperate fully in the matter of early copy. Art work and layouts will be provided, and it is the purpose of the newspaper to have all the special advertising in hand by Saturday.

News contributors are also asked to supply copy earlier than usual for this edition.