

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first objective should be to keep that light, and see it left to the people to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without government. I should not hesitate a moment to choose the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive these papers and be capable of reading them.—Thomas Jefferson.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1954

Economists See Little Change In Farm Outlook

Economists are quoted as expecting little change in 1955 as compared to 1954, as far as total income to farmers is concerned, and the following report on the farm situation should be of local interest:

"There seems to be an ample supply of the feed grains, as well as tobacco, meat and pork. The outlook for beef cattle is nearly the same as in '55. However, there may be a little wider spread in price between the good grades and the lower grades of animal. The sheep outlook is fairly bright. Wool is expected to be a little higher in 1955, since there is a higher support price, and lambs will be near the 1954 level.

"For the first half of 1955 egg prices will remain low and the number of chicks that are started will determine egg prices the latter half of '55. Broiler production will continue at a high level and prices be near or close to the break-even point for the more efficient producers. Vegetable crops, especially fresh vegetables, are expected to be near the 1954 level. However, occasional conditions will determine the price of these commodities.

"They are expecting the price of potatoes to be about the same or a little lower in 1955, due to a large acreage that is anticipated to be planted in '55.

"In planning your farm business for 1955 you need to consider ways and means of keeping production per acre high by the use of recommended seeds, fertilizer, and insecticides and at the same time keep labor expenses down. The things which farmers will buy will be very near the same level on such things as seed, fertilizer and chemicals."

Safer Walking Urged By State Commissioner

Assistant Motor Vehicles Commissioner Joe W. Garrett says maybe some day we'll stop thinking of pedestrians' mishaps as accidents, and maybe put them on the record for what they actually are — "self-inflicted wounds."

"There is a tendency," Garrett said, "to discuss motor manners as though they apply only to drivers. Well, in my book there are plenty of discourteous pedestrians, and a good many of the walkers injured and killed in traffic accidents every year are victims of their own thoughtlessness, discourtesy and stubbornness!"

"Walking against the traffic signal, crossing diagonally at intersections, darting from behind parked cars and crossing streets between intersections were listed by the vehicles official as the violation of etiquette—and law—most common among pedestrians.

"The one with the most to lose in a traffic accident caused by a pedestrian's bad manners," Garrett said, "is the pedestrian himself. But this never seems to deter them. The driver suffers from pedestrian discourtesies in terms of frayed nerves and exhausted patience—factors that increase the likelihood of his being involved in an accident."

Garrett also pointed out occasional instances when pedestrian discourtesies are the direct cause of accidents in which the pedestrian is not involved—as in the case of a driver swerving to avoid a pedestrian and striking another vehicle.

"Laws regarding pedestrians are relatively few," Garrett said, "and for that reason, doubly important. The most important thing for the pedestrian to do is observe traffic signals. It's not smart to jay-walk, to cross against red lights, or to cross a street in the middle of the block between intersections, except at plainly marked crosswalks.

"Keeping these laws in mind can mean keeping yourself and others alive," he said. "Let's observe them."

Our Early Files

Sixty-Years Ago

November 29, 1894.

We are sorry to learn that the Ashe Pioneer has been discontinued.

Filmore Ragan, who has been working on the farm of B. J. Council, has cribbed 400 bushels of corn.

The directors of the Boone and Blowing Rock Turnpike Co. has received the road from the contractor, Capt. Coffey, and the toll gate is now up at Ransom Coffey's.

Next Monday all the Democratic county officers go out of office and the new Republicans elected take hold.

Rev. Cherry is attending conference at Statesville this week.

December 28, 1894.

The weather continues fine. Pleasant days and frosty nights.

Solicitor Spainhour has just completed a well-graded road and plank sidewalk from Main Street to his residence.

There are stacks of nice holiday goods at the drug store of L. C. Reeves.

Prof. Yarboro, a teacher of large experience, will open school in Boone in January.

There is some talk of a school of high grade in Boone soon. How sadly a school is needed!

Thirty-Nine Years Ago

December 23, 1915.

Mr. Fred Farthing is at home from the University for Christmas.

Many heavy-weight porkers in this immediate vicinity have given up the ghost during the past week.

The Whiting Lumber Co. have received rights of way for the building of their road to Shulls Mills, the papers have been turned over to Register of Deeds W. R. Gragg to be recorded.

There will be a community Christmas tree at the courthouse Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Several ladies of the town met at the home of Mrs. R. M. Greene Tuesday afternoon for the purpose of making arrangements for serving the inmates of the county home.

Fifteen Years Ago

December 21, 1939.

Funeral services were held Monday morning from Boone Baptist Church for Wesley Hardin Brown, 53, superintendent of Watauga Prison Camp, who died Saturday morning. . . . Rev. G. A. Hamby, pastor of Oak Grove Church, was assisted in the rites by Rev. F. C. Watts and Rev. J. C. Canipe.

Mr. C. G. Beck and Mrs. Beck arrived last week from Savannah, Ga., to spend a few days looking after the rebuilding of their Blowing Rock home, which was seriously damaged by the recent forest fire in the resort town.

Mountain Burley Tobacco market had Monday evening sold more than a million pounds of leaf for an average price of around \$18 per hundred.

Shorts For Males

Carlsbad (N. M.) Current-Argus
We have seen too much of the successful machinations of the style experts to deny that they will ever persuade the American male to wear shorts to work. They may do it.

They managed to get the men to wear pink pastel shirts, didn't they? And look at the pink trousers in the window of your favorite men's clothing store!

To be frank, we shudder in anticipation of the day Carlsbad streets will be treated to the sight of men dressed in hairy legs and knobby knees—and shorts, of course—coming to work. There is no esthetic value in the bare male shank that we have been able to observe. Now the female limb, a trim calf encased in its prison of seamless nylon, is something else again. Even the bare female leg is an artistic asset to the passing street scene.

We hope the stylists don't get carried away in their enthusiasm to re-dress the male. They might even decide to remove the shoulder padding from men's suits. Wouldn't it be a tragic day if men's clothes were designed to reflect the true male figure, sagging shoulders, pot belly and all?

Well, they seem to be successful in flattening out the female bosom. They will probably put the man in a work-a-day shorts, too, oh, unhappy day!

When will the experts stop this infernal tinkering!

Wind On The Mountains

Asheville Citizen-Times
The wind is only moving atmosphere, or air on a barge. When the mountain wind blows in December across the pre-cooled coils of snowy peaks and around the frozen custard cups of valleys, it moves with tingling authority.

Face into the mountain wind on a day of heavy chill and feel its little, unseen knife blades dig at cheeks and stab at hands. Dare to open your mouth and inhale a lung-full of icy atmosphere, as clear and cold and choking as a mighty draught of chilled water. A man could "drown."

But the December wind has its uses; and they are not to be discounted.

The mighty gusts send the clouds scudding across the horizon and out of sight. Then the distant yet still warm sun beats down and reprieves the wind-driven.

In the yards and alleyways the charging wind pursues and nips the heels of crisp, faded leaves to send them dancing in patterns and volutions too intricate for any corps de ballet.

Over the housetops and through the trees and around the chimneys the mountain wind plays a lively game of chase, whistling as it goes. The boughs bend. The eaves groan. The panes rattle, and may frost.

Best of all are escape and contrast. The skip up the walk. The quick fumbling for the frozen doorknob. The wind tapping incessantly at back and shoulder, imploring one more audience. Inside at last it is warm and snug. The chase is ended.

They Say . . .

WAURINE WALKER, president, National Education Association: "The best reward of schooling is a sense of direction, some goals in life—combined with the ability and determination to move toward them."

ZSA ZSA GABOR, stage and screen actress: "Every young girl should think it over very carefully before getting married."

EAN VALDEYRON, French actor: "A psychiatrist is a man who goes to the Folies-Bergere and then watches the audience."

King Street Farm Report

(Continued from page one)
fer to a woman's wrap, but indicates a long distance.

"Right smart" is also used in this way. At other times, it denotes a magnitude not to be sneezed at. When a mountain man says someone is "right smart tetchious," that person had best be approached in an easy manner, for he is ready, able and willing to engage in a free-for-all at the drop of a cornshuck.

A considerable distance, too, is sometimes termed "whoop and a holler," or "one (two or three) creeks (bends or houses, etc.) and a cussfight up the road."

The other side of an object is the "fur side," sometimes the "yander side" or "yan side."

MOUNTAIN SPEECH shortens narrow into "narr." Wheelbarrow becomes "wheelbar"; marrow becomes "marr," etc.

"Holp" is frequently used for "help," and "air" for "are." "Varmint" is a word that covers anything on four legs, and sometimes those on two.

To "think a sight" of someone is to like that person very much. To "set a spell" means to sit for a while.

Meadow, widow, window, shadow, and the like become "medder, widder, winder, and shadder." "Mought" is used for might. The past tense of the verb, fight, becomes "fit," as in "I fit a good fight."

When you want to know where a person was educated, you ask:

(Continued from page one.)
the first Proven Sire Heifer sale at Enka.

Johnny Vines, 4-H club member from Bethel, won a dairy heifer in the calf scramble held at the Dixie Classics in Winston-Salem.

The Artificial Breeding program continued to increase in number of cows bred in 1954.

The unit test demonstration program maintained twenty-four active farms in 1954.

Two unit test demonstration farmers conducted tobacco variety demonstration tests in 1954.

Two unit test demonstration farmers conducted tobacco fertilizer rate tests in 1954.

The unit test demonstration farmers conducted five tours in 1954.

The Lester Warren family was voted the unit demonstration farm home making the most improvements in 1954 by the group on the tour.

The Sanford Creed farm was voted the unit test demonstration farm making the most improve-

ments in 1954 by the group on the tour. There were certificates awarded to unit test demonstration farmers who completed five years on the program.

Watauga farmers and 4-H club boys secured and planted 36,000 white pine seedlings in 1953-54.

Boone Senior 4-H Club started a forestry project in Watauga county this year by planting 1000 white pine seedlings. This same procedure will be followed for the next eight or nine years.

Mr. Fred Whitfield, Extension Forestry Specialist, discussed forestry with 593 4-H club members in twelve club meetings.

As a result of the forestry meeting held at Mr. I. D. Shull's farm, a woodlot was secured which will be used as a forestry demonstration for the next few years.

Watauga county produced approximately 150 acres of alfalfa for hay in 1954.

Mr. W. W. Austin produced 123.55 bushels corn per acre to be the 1954 corn growing champion for Watauga county.

Three new farmers joined the 100 bushel corn club of Watauga county by virtue of producing more than 100 bushels of corn per acre.

Forty-five 4-H club members took corn, and forty members took tobacco as projects in 1954.

Six demonstrations were conducted on control of weeds in tobacco plant beds with Methyl Bromide.

Bethel Senior 4-H Club seeded

four 6 x 100 feet tobacco plant beds last spring. They produced approximately 100,000 tobacco plants. Of these 63,400 were sold to farmers.

Five Watauga county farmers cooperated with Dr. Moyle E. Harward, Research Agronomy Professor, in conducting fertilizer rate demonstrations on potatoes.

The potato tour was continued in 1954. The high yield was 610 bushels per acre produced by Collis Austin and Sons.

Several farmers in Watauga county set a few plants of a new cabbage that is supposed to be club root resistant. It is hoped that a strain of cabbage can be developed that is resistant to this disease.

Houston Mast, a farmer in the Cove Creek section, had a gross income of over \$300.00 from one-fourth acre of tomatoes.

Norman Michael, 4-H club member from Parkway, netted \$129.38 from 0.4 acre of snap beans. He was carrying this as his 4-H project.

Examples of new poultry houses constructed in 1954 may be seen at the farms of Tom Ward, W. W. Wilson, and J. C. Stansbury.

Dallas Wilson of the Beaver Dam section, increased the size of his White Leghorn flock.

Ten 4-H club members each received one day old pullets Saturday, March 27. One hundred twenty of these pullets were sold September 29 for an average of \$1.96 each.

Russell Swift, 4-H club member from Bethel, received 100 pullets in March of 1954. These pullets averaged 247 eggs each during the

first laying season. Thirty-five 4-H club members from Watauga county attended 4-H club camp at Waynesville July 5-10.

There are 481 boys enrolled in 4-H club work carrying 746 projects.

John Whitelock, International Farm Youth Exchange delegate from New Zealand, spent the month of September with the W. R. Vines family at Sugar Grove.


Seven 4-H club members from Watauga county participated in the 4-H District Recognition Day held in Asheville October 30.

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HAPPY NEW YEAR
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New Year's Greetings
1955

As the old year departs and the new year dawns, we pause to take a grateful look backward and a hopeful look forward. We salute the passing year with deep appreciation for old friendships strengthened and new friendships made . . . deeply thankful for the steadfast loyalty of our customers. We hail the new year with firm faith and high confidence . . . alert and eager for its opportunities to serve more and more people better and better. To everyone, everywhere go our very best wishes for a 1955 richly rewarding on health, happiness and all the good things of life.

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