

Washington News

Washington, D. C.—The row over the April meeting of the Civil War Centennial Commission in Charleston, South Carolina, bloomed into quite a ruckus before it was checked by a decision to hold sessions at a military base.

What was seldom mentioned was the fact that the row threatened to squelch the greater part of the centennial observance over the next four years. Since most of the major battles occurred in the South, most of the observances were scheduled to take place in the South.

Hotels in the various southern cities were unlikely to chance their policies even for the centennial commission and out-of-state delegations and if the Charleston hassle had not been worked out, there was a good chance that many events would have been canceled—or at least reduced to something like local observances.

This would have shot full of holes the grandiose plans of the commission for so many observances at so many different places over the next four years.

President John Kennedy felt that the commission was a federal body, that it had received federal funds and that it should not participate in official meetings at observances where all delegates from the various states were not accorded the same privileges.

If the President felt that as President he could take no other position, so too did hotel managers in Dixie. For them to have changed policy would have been to gamble on financial ruin—which few would chance. Also, to have changed policy would have brought widespread cancellations from local people.

So, it was a problem that should have been anticipated, and which should have been circumvented, but wasn't. The issue may not be permanently settled even now, though the commission hopes to avoid any further unpleasantness, and will make every effort to do so.

President John Kennedy went about his necessary course in the Laos crisis with great deliberateness and caution. He made it clear

on several occasions that he would do everything he could to avoid hurrying into a war in Laos, or acting bombastically or impulsively.

But the President was ready to back up his country's commitment to Laos if—in the end—Russia did not agree to negotiate. Even negotiation will bring a victory to the rebels, in all probability, for they will hardly agree to give up all the territory they have occupied.

This is a price to be paid for the hesitancy of some SEATO powers to act, when the rebels in Laos first attacked, and possibly for the change in administrations in the United States, for the rebel attack came just as Kennedy took office.

The conservative or moderate coalition in Congress (whichever you prefer to call it) has shown evidence of strength in the House on several occasions recently. The President's minimum wage bill was rejected in the lower body by only one vote. Other Kennedy test votes have carried by a bare margin. Stiff tests are yet to come.

It seems apparent that the White House is placing more hope in the Senate, oddly enough, for liberal legislation, than in the House. It is hoped, for instance, that the Senate will liberalize the minimum wage bill.

It is yet to be seen how much can be accomplished for the White House by Majority Senate Leader Mike Mansfield and Vice President Lyndon Johnson in the upper legislative body but to these two men fall a critical task.

RAIL CARS GO OVER BABY

Clarksville, Tenn.—A 4-month-old baby escaped unharmed when thirteen freight cars passed over its blanket-wrapped body, after being tossed between the rails of a railroad track in a car-train collision.

Lt. John Hamrock of the Tennessee Highway Patrol said the car in which the infant was traveling was halfway across a blind crossing when a freight hit it broadside.

The baby's father, Pfc. Herman M. Hodges of Fort Campbell, Ky., its mother and a 4-year-old brother were hospitalized with injuries.



GAIL BAILEY, of Bostic, North Carolina's Rhododendron Queen, will be among the visiting beauty queens this week at the N. C. Azalea Festival in Wilmington. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Bailey and a student at Cool Springs High School in Forest City. She won her crown on Roan Mountain last June.

Crop Rotation Is Good For Mountain Farming

By B. L. FOUTZ
Soil Conservation Service

Farmers of the Watauga Soil Conservation District generally recognize that continuous cropping of the same field lowers the productive power of the soil. A good crop rotation, adapted to the land, will reduce to a minimum any losses incurred by field cropping.

The ideal rotation is the one that will produce a balance between the farmers need for cultivated crops and the needs of the land for protection.

A good soil-conserving rotation includes enough grass and legumes to reduce losses of soil through erosion; improve the structure of the soil so that it will absorb water readily; maintain adequate organic matter in the soil; and increase yields of the cultivated crops grown in the rotation.

Residues from grass and legumes that are returned to the soil as green manure increases organic matter in the soil. This additional organic matter improves the structure of the soil by making it more granular and so increasing its ability to absorb water. Most mountain soils contain less than three

per cent organic matter. Cultivation causes the organic matter content to decrease. This is partly due to loss of topsoil by erosion, but to a greater extent, the increased activity of the micro-organisms within the soil with decompose organic matter more rapidly.

District cooperators realize a soil-conserving rotation must be fitted to the land. Some bottom lands can be cultivated continuously without serious erosion, but certainly with caution. If this type of rotation is used, make sure a winter cover crop and stable manure be applied to the soil each year. As land becomes steeper, decrease the amount of cultivated crop and increase the amount of grass and legumes in the rotation. On some of the steepest land, only trees can be grown to properly conserve the soil.

Farmers should adapt a rotation suitable for their farming operation and natural resources.

President praises Italian contributions to peace.

TRADE AT HOME

Slater Will Discuss Occupational Outlook

As future teachers, the students of Appalachian State Teachers College need to be informed of the numerous occupational opportunities for school youngsters in order to give them proper guidance, says Dr. W. G. Sink, ASTC chemistry department head.

To give them the word in the science field, Lloyd E. Slater, an engineer who is executive director of the Foundation for Instrumentation Education and Research, has been invited to the ASTC campus by Dr. Sink.

Slater will appear at the college tonight (Thurs.) at 7 o'clock. He has been active as an engineer, reporter and consultant in the field of Instrumentation and Automatic Control during its spectacular emergence in the past ten years.

A graduate of Cornell University (B. S. '40) he first entered the

field in 1946, after five years of service as a radio officer in the Merchant Marines, when he joined Brown Instruments Division of Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Co., as an industrial engineer specializing in the application of automatic control to food processes.

In 1949 Mr. Slater became manager of the company's food division and was responsible for the pioneer installation of numerous automatic systems in this industry.

In 1951 he associated with the McGraw-Hill Publishing Co., as Midwest Editor for the journal, "Food Engineering," and in 1954 the company brought him to New York headquarters to help start a new magazine in the field of Instrumentation and Automatic Control, "Control Engineering." Slater became managing editor of the publication in 1955, leaving that position in 1957 to assume directorship of the foundation.

He is a member of the Instrument Society of America, American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Society for Engineering Education, has authored over 50 articles on various aspects of instrumentation, and is a contributing author on automation to the "Encyclopedia Americana."

Home Hints

DARE TO COOK WITH SPICES AND HERBS—We are told that American women are more interested in the use of spices and herbs than ever before, that they are constantly requesting information. Don't stock your spices and herbs on shelves and not use them. Most of the food we prepare every day can be made to taste better with fresh spices and herbs.

Dare to experiment! Ginger (dry or root) or mustard (in the jar or dry) makes beans (fresh, dry, or otherwise) taste better. With a little imagination they make everyday foods out of the ordinary.

Check spice container labels for suggestions as to which spices and foods go best together. Start your culinary adventures with approximately 1/4 teaspoon dried spices and herbs for each recipe that serves four. Never use so much that the seasoning is overpowering. Use just enough so that your family and guests feel that something wonderful has happened.

Homemakers On Their Toes—Homemakers are demanding better working conditions. Supplied from all fronts are new gadgets, new packages, and new products. Preparing three appetizing meals a day should no longer be a chore if the homemaker is on her toes and up-to-date in menu planning and following good consumer education practices when buying food.

Campbell Soups sets profit record.

South Vietnam engaged in costly anti-Red war.

In Fashion Now

Chiffon seems to be a favorite with many of the Paris designers. A double thickness of this material is used for the tailored type dress but drapery and spirals are used for dancing and formal affairs.

demand and quite intriguing when trimmed with rhinestones.

Polka dotted fabrics—cotton, silk and chiffon are in the news. The costume suit may have a jacket of the same material or can be worn with a solid color coat or jacket.

For evening, organza is also in

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OTHER AUCTION SALES FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL:

- SATURDAY, APRIL 8th, at 1:30. The Sparta Super Market with all stock and equipment.
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12th, at 10 a. m., the Yadkin Valley Dairy Receiving Station, Lansing, N. C.
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12th, at 2:30, Yadkin Valley Dairy Receiving Station, Sugar Grove, N. C.
- SATURDAY, APRIL 15th, at 10:30 a. m., 83-acre subdivision on East Broad Street Extension, Statesville, N. C., known as the D. C. Safriet property.
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, at 1:30 p. m., House and three acres of land, 2 miles south of Crabtree Church, near Statesville, N. C.
- SATURDAY, APRIL 22nd, at 1:30 p. m., 100-acre farm and all farm equipment on Highway 16, near Grassy Creek, known as the Howard Sexton property.
- SATURDAY, APRIL 29th, at 10:30 a. m., 90-acre farm near Houstonville, known as the A. W. Tharpe property.

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