

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper
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BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1966

Traffic Toll For Thanksgiving

While you're steering your wheels carefully so you don't become one of the 22 persons the N. C. State Motor Club warns may lose their lives in Thanksgiving holiday traffic on North Carolina's streets and highways, take time to give thanks that you were not one of the 25 killed during the same period last year.

The state will officially count its holiday toll from 6 p. m. Wednesday, November 23, through midnight Sunday, Nov. 27, a period of 102 hours. The 1965 casualty list, in addition to the 25 fatalities (the exact number predicted by the motor club), also included 859 injured in a total of 1,215 accidents.

Leading driver violations reported

were: speeding, 251; failure to yield right of way, 191; driving left of center, 161; and following too closely, 109.

"Our motor club bases its estimate on past experience coupled with current driving patterns," Thomas B. Watkins, president of the club and the National Automobile Association, said. "Fatalities can be reduced to the extent that motorists observe the safe driving rules and vice versa."

"Don't call off that trip to grandmother's house or wherever you want to go. At the same time, use extra caution and don't spoil your holiday by getting involved in an accident."

Burley Time Again

Long lines of trucks have been moving into town bringing the first of the 1966 crop of burley tobacco to the floors of the auction warehouses.

The sales start next Monday and the Democrat joins with the rest of the business community in extending a glad welcome to the growers, to the warehousemen, the buyers and all who have a hand in the marketing process.

Many of those who are selling their tobacco are old friends who regularly come to Boone, and we enjoy seeing them from time to time all through the years. Our pleasure at seeing them again is understandably great. At the same time it is a happy experience for us to meet so many people we seldom see, from

the surrounding areas, who come here to dispose of their weed. And there are strangers on the floor, who are here for the first time.

It is good to have all of you in the community, and we hope the elements have been kind, that there has been just the right proportions of sunshine and showers to bring your leaf to a rich maturity, and that the curing season has been such that your burley will bring you the high dollar.

The local warehouse facilities are adequate to take care of the needs of the growers, our warehousemen have built the local market on the basis of the square deal, and the latchstring is out side the door of the town.

A hearty welcome and happy sales.

Wise Move For College

The Western Piedmont Community College, of Morganton, is seeking information from establishments in the general area from which it anticipates students, regarding the type of skills that likely will be needed in the next few years.

In a covering letter signed by Herbert F. Stallworth, college president, and Dr. E. W. Phifer, Jr., chairman of the Board of Trustees, management is advised that information obtained will be used as a guide in selecting courses of study and programs of the college. They ask that in anticipating additional workers that this be done on the assumption that past conditions of industrial and population

growth continue, and that the employer have available funds to carry on as in the past.

The Record considers this is a wise move on the part of the college, as it will enable those in charge to draft plans more in keeping with local demands, rather than theoretical needs.

Community colleges, such as the one in Morganton, must be attuned to the grassroots if they are to succeed. On the other hand, we question the wisdom of seeking to offer courses in all fields, as it is obviously impossible to obtain competent instructors in every suggested subject.—Hickory Daily Record.

Inklin's In Ink

BY RACHEL RIVERS

Our college study of the Russian language resulted, if not in our ability to sputter off one or two difficult sounding phrases, in our learning that when one refers to Russia, one refers not to the huge country that spreads itself out over 11 time zones (as compared to the four in the United States), but to only one of the fifteen republics that comprise the Soviet Union (or the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics).

Russia, correctly, is an abbreviated version of the republic's name: The Russian Socialist Federated Soviet Republic. But Russia is the largest and most populous republic in the U. S. S. R. and it is common practice to refer to the whole country by that name.

Irving R. Levine's "Main Street, U. S. S. R.," published in 1959, has been an interesting bedside reader for us. Although the statistics may have changed in the ensuing years, we are interested in the life of Russia's citizens, in regard to

their government, which seems a most powerful, ominous force.

Quote from Levine: "At the time that Russia amazed the world by launching its first sputnik, on Oct. 4, 1957, it was impossible to buy many ordinary household items in a Moscow store."

"A housewife could not find waxed paper or kitchen aluminum foil. Electric blankets, facial tissue, portable radios were not manufactured. Resources were not invested in air-conditioning units, window screens to keep out flies, or personal deodorants. It is possible to live without all of these things. Russians do."

The writer said the Russian economy has not been able to produce both rockets and refrigerators and thus, the needs and whims of the consumer are neglected in order to fulfill the requirements of the state.

Best wishes on Thanksgiving. It's a day that cannot be taken too lightly. At least, in the free world.

Choice Of The Chef



OFFER UNTO
GOD
THANKSGIVING
PSALMS 50:14

Henry McCann

FROM THE EARLY FILES OF THE DEMOCRAT

New River Leaves Banks And Damages Hay Stacks

Sixty Years Ago

November 22, 1906

Richard M. Greene and family left Saturday for a two week's visit to relatives in Russell County, Tenn.

Mrs. W. R. Spainhour, of Bristol, Tenn. is visiting her sick mother, Mrs. Cinda Hardin.

Mrs. Patrick, of Shulls Mills, has been at the Blackburn house for several days, with her granddaughter, Miss Pearl Robbins, who is quite sick there.

During the bad weather last week, Miss Dorris Taylor, who is teaching the public school at Valle Crucis, fell and dislocated one of her shoulders. She, we are told, is getting on nicely and will be able to resume her work in the school room at once.

Our venerable friend, Jas. Taylor, Esq. who has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. John Stanbury, several days returned to his home this week. The old gentleman has been suffering for some time from a horse kick, but we are glad to learn that he is improving.

The rain storm on Sunday night last was the most severe one that has visited this section for quite a while, and we are told that New River and her tributaries were the highest they have been for a number of years. Much of the bottom lands were overflowed, doing considerable damage to the hay crop, by running up on the stacks.

Mr. W. W. Stringfellow and lady recently returned from a delightful sojourn abroad but claim that a year's absence from dear old America is nine months too long. Mr. Stringfellow visited his place at Blowing Rock for a day last week and contemplates making improvements there besides needed repairs. He complimented Mr. Millard Hodges upon his careful oversight of the place.

Miss Blanche Linney of New York City is the guest in Boone of her brother, Hon. Frank A. Linney.

Mr. and Mrs. Wiseman of Texas are visitors for a few days at the home of Mr. Wiseman's uncle, Mr. Mack Luttrell.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. James H. Council last Thursday a son, James H. Jr.

Miss Hannah Moore, daughter of Judge W. E. Moore of Sylvia, is a visitor for a few days at the home of Mr. and

Mrs. B. J. Council. Miss Moore is a cousin of Mrs. James H. Council.

Mr. Ransey Miller, fifer at every Confederate reunion, save the last one, ever held in Watauga, has been confined to his bed for months, his lower limbs being paralyzed. Aside from this affliction, the aged veteran is in good health, and greatly enjoys visits from his friends.

Fifteen Years Ago

Mr. Kenneth B. Linney and Mr. R. E. Kelley returned Monday night from a deer hunting trip to Pisgah National Forest.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Todd and sons, Joe and Bob, spent the week end in Shelby with Mrs. Todd's parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Blanton.

Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Smith of Boone attended the weekend planned for parents of Queens College students November 10 and 11. Their daughter, Miss Ann Smith, is a member of the senior class at Queens.

Mr. Ned Norris is attending an automobile insurance adjusters school in Yonkers, N. Y. He plans to return home December 1.

Just One Thing

BY CARL GOERCH

AFTER ANOTHER

Things you may not know about North Carolina's past:

The first letter ever sent from America was dated at Roanoke Island on September 3, 1585 and was addressed to Master Richard Hakluyt, Esq., Temple Bar, London, England.

One hundred years ago North Carolina's population was 868,903 or just 17 persons to the square mile, and strange to say 7,726 of the inhabitants were listed as "unattached old maids."

On June 30, 1821, the Fayetteville Steamboat Company declared a 10 per cent dividend on its capital stock. Along with two other dividends, a profit of 25 per cent was realized by its investors within a period of 18 months.

Among candidates for the National Council of the Cherokee Nation in Western North Carolina in 1851 were such names as Spring Frog, Spirit Pot, Laugh-at-much, and Lightning Bug. For the office of Sheriff, Fish Tail and Pelican Tiger were mentioned.

Timothy Trimsquare and Leonard Loveliquor were Craven County planters in 1745, while Capt. Thomas Thumb was listed as commander of the Sloop Rov-

er in 1746, according to old county records.

In an act to establish a school at New Bern in 1766 a duty (tax) of one penny per gallon was placed on all rum or other spirituous liquors sold there for a period of seven years "for and toward raising a fund for the education of ten poor children."

Historic Salem College, the Moravian center of higher learning for women located at Winston-Salem, is older than the United States, out-dates the Constitution, and yet hasn't been closed a single day since its doors were first opened for students in 1772.

In 1812 only one-half of the residents of North Carolina were able to read. To be able to "read, write, and cipher" was considered a good education.

When Andrew Jackson was president, he at first refused to issue a Thanksgiving proclamation. Such pressure was brought against him that he was finally forced to give in.

In 1832 New Bern and Fayetteville were the two largest towns in the state. The only mail carried between the two places was a weekly one carried on horseback.

KING STREET

BY ROB RIVERS

November . . . Brings Memories

November brings Thanksgiving, a special day when people gather in solemn supplication to God in the belief that He has looked with favor on their efforts and has smiled on their country. . . . Others look to the day as an outing to a football game, for a trip to some far away place to visit relatives and/or friends, while others, in more critical types of employment, offer thanks that they have been given the strength and the mental capacity to keep on the job. . . . And November brings memories of other Thanksgiving days, and of other Armistice Days, and for some of us, other birthdays. . . . It brings, like all other periods of time, memories of good days, of mileposts in personal journeys, through the vale of tears as well as through the golden laughter of happy times. . . . It brings back memories of other people, some we haven't seen in many a day, of others who won't be back anymore. . . . It brings a sob to those of us who loved John F. Kennedy, and an anniversary of the infamy which resulted in his tragic death.

THREE YEARS have gone since Edward Ragan, an employee of the Democrat, told us by telephone that the President had been shot. . . . Rifle bullets had ended the bright career of the man who had rekindled the imagination of the American people and who had brought grace and charm to the White House. . . . The President who had excited the crowds, who had bolstered the hopes of the world, and who had upgraded pride and patriotism with his eloquent logic and with a homesy sort of elegance. . . . In his brief tenure as President he became a vibrant, colorful leader of the nation which enjoyed his dedication and gained strength from his love of country and the wholesomeness of his personality. . . . When Thanksgiving time comes around we'll always remember John F. Kennedy, and be especially thankful that this great man came along to give his country new hope, new dignity, and heightened purpose.

"Free And Strong"

One of our files yielded us a copy of a bulletin to law enforcement officers, which was sent out over the signature of J. Edgar Hoover a couple of years ago. Some excerpts from the bulletin follow:

"IN 1621 THE PILGRIM Fathers were bound by spiritual unity, and love of and faith in the Supreme Being. Their special observance of thanks was a testimonial to their belief that God, in His omnipotent wisdom, looked with favor on their quest for a land where freedom's blessings flow. In this humble and devout setting, the true meaning of Thanksgiving was born.

"TODAY, AMERICA IS FREE and strong, a monument to the hopes and ideals of the Pilgrims. It stands as the greatest fortress of brotherhood in the history of man. Conceived under God, our country represents a people whose progress has been blessed with divine guidance and whose history is rich with evidence of His power and glory. We have emerged triumphant from devastating world wars. Our scientific achievements stagger the imagination. Our standard of living surpasses all expectations. Truly the goodness and mercy of God have been with us.

"LAW AND ORDER are pillars of democracy on which our safety and welfare rest. Without law and order, our society would falter and be destroyed. Law enforcement, as the main line of resistance against all enemies of our heritage, may indeed be proud of its contributions to the growth of a nation founded on mutual trust, understanding and faith in God. On this Thanksgiving, we should lift our hearts in humble thanks for this special privilege and pledge to uphold our noble cause to promote tolerance, to preserve the rule of law, and to protect and strengthen our God-given ideals and faith in freedom.

"WE AMERICANS must never lose sight of the fact that our power, wealth and happiness come directly or indirectly from our belief in God. Let us commemorate Thanksgiving by refurbishing our religious ideals. As we meet the forces throughout the world which seek to destroy our way of life, let us find strength in the Biblical quotation, "If God be for us, who can be against us?"

The Lighter Side

In Charlotte Thursday, the man told us a tale. . . . The woman in a small neighbor-

hood town was going to have a blessed event. Her time wasn't far off. She was leaning on the top of her car, and a passerby thought she was weeping. He offered to help and found out that actually she was laughing hysterically.

"What it is, she said, is this: 'My Doctor told me to bring a specimen today. I did—in one of my husband's empty whiskey bottles. I laid it on the seat beside me. When I came out of this store, on my way to the Doctor's office, what do you know, someone had swiped the bottle.'

And the would-be Samaritan no doubt joined in the laughter.

Uncle Pinkney

HIS PALAVERIN'S

(McKnight Syndicate.)

I got my pamphlet from the Department of Agriculture last week and it was full of interesting items. For instance, they was a small item reminding us that this was International Rice Year and that 250 million tons of rice was eaten in the world every year.

This rice item got me to thinking about how this country's food surplus is gone. According to my pamphlet, 60 million acres of farm land was now in the soil bank and we was going to draw it all out and put it to growing food by 1970.

I bring this matter up at the country store Saturday night and Ed Doolittle reported he had saw where Secretary of Agriculture Freeman was urging country folks that has moved to town to go back to the farm on account of we didn't have enough farmers now to work them 60 million soil bank acres. Ed, that ordinary claims farm supports was unconstitutional, is now of the opinion that doing away with them would be bad. He said if it wasn't for the fact that the Democrats has give away money to build so many golf courses where good farms used to be we would have plenty of farm land.

Clem Webster of the Great Society said he was reading this piece where farm price supports this year will hit \$3 and a half billion, a billion more than last year and would amount to a fourth of the net farm income of the whole country. He claimed this was fine for the farmer and the national economy, and he was high in the praise of Secretary Freeman and the Administration.

Bug Hookum was lamenting that the more people we git to feed the less folks we can git to work in the fields. He was of the opinion if the Government would send some of them Federal employees back to the farm it would help solve the problem. He had took note, he said, that Governments at all levels now has 11 million workers, which is exact double the number on the taxpayer's payroll 10 years ago.

Personal, Mister Editor, this whole problem of farm labor and national economy is a puzzle to me. It ain't no wonder this town in Australia got up a Anti-Progress Association to try and keep down growth. They don't want no more factories and said they was going to cut off electrical and telephone service to practical zero to slow down the pace of living.

I like to be optimistic about these matters but I can't git as optimistic as that 90 year old man that bought an orange grove that won't bear no oranges for 10 year.