

Local Youth Tells A. S. T. C. History

The following article entitled "Long, Long Ago," was written by Sloan Hill, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Hill, of North Wilkesboro, and appeared in the October 24 issue of The Appalachian, college paper. Sloan is an assistant editor of the paper:

Long, Long Ago
Several afternoons ago, in a search for material for this column, I went into the library and back to the two people on the campus who are usually able and always willing to help someone out of a "pinch"; sweet, gray-haired Mrs. Emma Moore and Mr. W. L. Eury. And my search was rewarded. Finally, as I had hoped we would, we hit on the subject of Appalachian in the "old days." I listened all too short a time, while Mrs. Moore, a twinkle in her bright little eyes, reminisced and told me of some forty years of memories of

Appalachian. Her, and Mr. Eury's stories and anecdotes about Appalachianers through the years are truly something to hear. Then Mr. Eury led me back through a door in the rear of the office and into a small room with only a desk, one chair and a locked cabinet. With a smalling of keys he unlocked the cabinet and opened the doors wide; then left me to delve as I pleased in the cabinet, which is truly the heart and soul of Appalachian. There were copies of the Rhododendron dating back through the years as far as 1923; there were school catalogues from the beginning of Watauga Academy to the present 1947 edition; and there were copies of the Appalachian, a bound volume for every year since its birth in 1936. Within all these there is a true tale to be told, a story of many people and many years, one of humor and seriousness, a story still unfinished, being written with every day.

As I thumbed back through the years I couldn't help laughing at the contrast between the "old days" and the present, not only in the appearance of the campus buildings, but also in the rules. But the students, the things they want, and the way they act—that seemed unchanged.

All the streets were no more than muddy gullies with rough planks laid across them for the students to walk to keep from getting their high-top shoes muddy. The girls at one time wore long dark blue uniforms with "sailor" collars.

Everyone had chores to do around the campus. The girls cooked meals, kept the rooms clean, and washed dishes. Boys chopped wood for the wood stoves in the classrooms and swept the halls. Everyone was cautioned in one old catalog to be particularly careful with the kerosene lamps so as not to start a fire in the dormitories.

One catalog clearly states, "young men and young women are forbidden to board at the same places or to associate together in any way whatsoever

without permission." The boys lived far over on the side of the hill in Newland Home, which is still standing today, a white wood building next to the modern men's dormitory. Girls and boys ate separately in their respective dormitories. In order to date, a girl was compelled to obtain approval of the administration, and when permission was granted, an announcement was read in chapel assembly for the entire body to hear as to who could date whom and on what night.

The boys had to stay at their dormitory on two specified afternoons each week so that the girls could go to town, who even then, could not go alone. Matrons or teachers accompanied them in a group, with an escort at the head of the group and one at the rear to see that none of the girls "strayed."

It was a requirement of every student that he spend at least one hour in the library each day, studying or reading one of the library's three thousand volumes. There, as everywhere else, the girls and boys were separated, each group with their own side to sit on.

"Tweetsie" ran through the campus in those days, too. "Tweetsie" was a train on the Linville River Railroad, that ran between Boone and Johnson City, Tenn. It was practically the only way to get into Boone conveniently. Newspapers were brought in on her also. Sunday papers arrived promptly each Tuesday, unless delayed.

Students who proved to have "reproachable characters," such as girls who smoked or boys who illegally associated with girls, were deported from the campus.

And you think you have strict rules now? Sometime when you have an extra hour or two and want to make good use of it, go ask the librarians if they will unlock their "treasure chest" for you—then you'll know what I mean.

Marriage License

License to wed were issued during the past week by Registrar of Deeds Troy C. Foster to the following: Burl Hayes Michael, Cricket, and Lucille Blevins, Wilkesboro route two; Arnold Kilby and Nina Róten, both of Wilbar; William Anderson, Tarboro, and Georgia Billings, Roaring River; Robert Wilson, Moravian Falls, and Daisy Sparks, Lenoir; Robert Junior Laws, Wilkesboro route one, and Dorothy Virginia Cooper, Purlear; James Franklin Dalton and Mary Moore Hix, both of Asheville; Theodore R. Conley and Hazel Westover, both of West Jefferson; Albert P. Ford and Frances Byrd, both of North Wilkesboro route one; Walter Miller and Sue Kyle, both of North Wilkesboro; Clarence Robert Triplett, North Wilkesboro, and Alvesta Walsh, Boomer.

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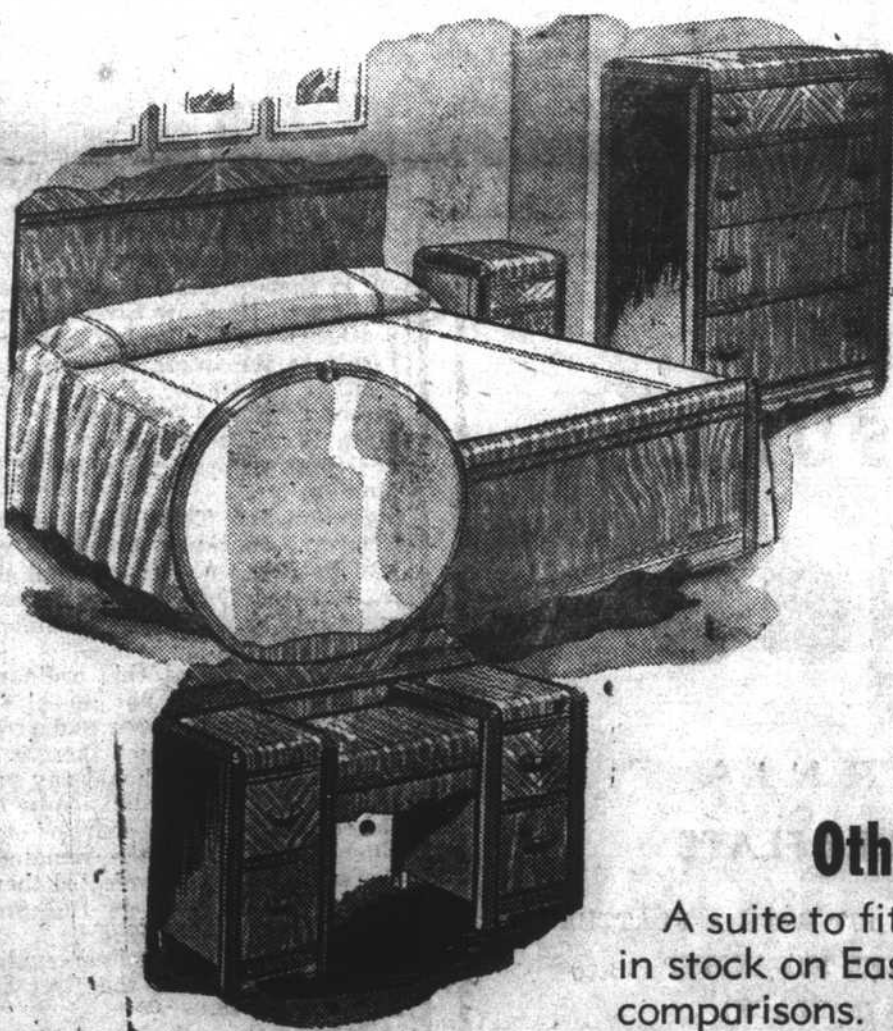
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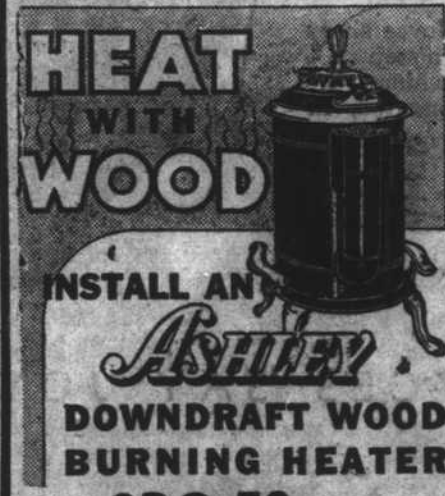
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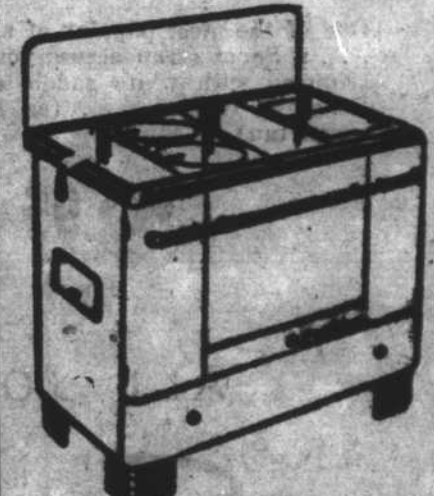
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