

## President C. P. Brown Reports On Riding & Hunt Club

To have everyone as cooperative in all the activities of a community as are the people of Tryon is a mark which we hope will never be lost.

As the Tryon Riding & Hunt club is strictly a community affair striving to serve this community in its special way, and having had such wholehearted support in its various activities, the writer feels that some of the inside workings and problems should be generally known.

Almost everyone knows that the club's chief purpose is to foster good sportsmanship and facilities for greater horseback riding activities.

Membership in the club is voluntary with dues the same now as they were in its first year. Each year the entire receipts of the club are expended and each year it starts out with a clean slate. The expenditures of the club yearly include, trail work (done by farmers and mountain people); fire fighting, trail marking, maintenance of Harmon Field throughout the year, caretaker's salary, insurance on buildings at Harmon Field, expenses for picnics, etc.

The Horse Show, Steeple-chase, Hunter Trials, Gymkhana and other activities held at Harmon Field are now self-supporting, but the deficit of these in the past has been met by the club.

The Riding & Hunt has built and maintained all the buildings, equipment at Harmon Field with the exception of the ladies rest room and the large barn. A tract of eleven acres of land was purchased and paid for by the club and deeded to the Town of Tryon, after a caretaker's house had been built on it and the land levelled and seeded.

No one familiar with Tryon can be unaware of the excellent work done by the Harmon Field commission during the time the community supplied it nor the large personal expenditure of our great friend William Mehaffey, who has carried the burden of interest and main-

tenance himself so long.

There is still an obligation of some sixteen hundred dollars on the center piece of Harmon Field which must be paid by next September. The Riding and Hunt Club is ready to do its part. Mr. Mehaffey will be glad to have donations from others who feel that Harmon Field from the standpoint of a community play ground should be supported.

Now as to the horseshow as a community affair—An interested citizen personally rented the land for the first two shows. The first year the show was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and the second year by the Tryon Country Club. By the time of the third show the Riding and Hunt Club was formed and has since sponsored it, but with the cooperation of the entire community. It is a community affair and if it ever loses that phase there will no longer be an excuse for its continuance.

Also, a word about the Tryon Hounds might be instructive. The hounds are supported by the subscription of ten men, interested in hunting, in addition to their dues to the Tryon Riding and Hunt Club; however, any member of the Riding and Hunt Club is entitled to ride to the hounds.

The benefits to the community from any project which promotes good-will, good sportsmanship and pleasure are invaluable.

The helpful suggestions and criticisms of all interested in Tryon's future are solicited.

Tryon is about to enter into a new era and it is most important that the old principles of simplicity and community interest prevail.

There is no personal aggrandizement in community projects; such projects are the direct reflection of a community's thinking and ideals.

Our constant gratitude to the generous and genial land owners over whose land Tryonites and visitors ride can only in a small measure be expressed by entertaining them at the horse show. Daily appreciation is expressed by the visitors of Tryon who are most appreciative of this courtesy.