Tryon Daily Bulletin, Fri., Dec. 12, 1980

Communication

Gov. Jim Hunt State Capitol Raleigh, N. C. 27600

Dear Governor Hunt:

The Hendersonville Times-News quoted Mickey Lewis, on the 12-4-80 meeting in Columbus on Green River's future - "We are encouraging everyone to come to the meeting and express their opinions." I, and others, came to the meeting and were permitted to express our opinions, after the committee had had their discussion and voted results. Mr. Lewis, a pleasant young man with a poorly concealed bias, was further quoted - and I believe admitted as having said - he, as chairman, would vote only in case of a tie. He voted, with no tie, to get and 8-6 result in favor of a Natural and Scenic River. One committee member, I believe. was absent. If present and voting with the six, and if Chairman Lewis had kept his word, there would have been a tie; Lewis would have broken it - results the same - feeling and respect of the public somewhat better.

An ardent canoeist and very amateur naturalist, the protection of the river is important to me, and at first I favored Natural and Scenic status. But then I found the uniform sentiment of the Cove residents strongly opposed; and I learned the Polk County Tryon Country Club commissioners. elected representatives of Polk County citizens, opposed.

Believing as I do in private property rights, and in local government in local matters, I changed my support. I believe firmly that the rights of the land owners, backed by the County Commissioners, supersede the desires - rights of the river runners and other outsiders,

some of whom have badly abused the area.

I am persuaded that the law of eminent domain should be invoked only when a genuine right of a community demands it, (e.g. when one or two land owners attempt to block a fairly placed and needed hi-way). To force Natural and Scenic River status, with acquisition of land and easements on a strongly unwilling community and county would be, in my opinion, a serious misuse of State power; and set a procedent damaging to private property rights. If the Cove residents and Polk County commissioenrs agreed - I would say amen an so be it. They disagree - and I believe not one person (non-committee) on Thursday and not one Cove resident, spoke in favor of the Committee's action. When my use of the Cove invades the native land owners' rights - I should lose - and if there are 300 other outsiders, they should lose. Many of us want to see this committee's report reversed.

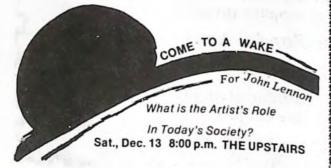
I understand that the Polk County Commissioners have voted \$3,000.00 for much needed patrolling and supervision of the area. We hope that Henderson commissioners will help - the area has been badly abused. But it seems to be a local matter, best solved by land owners and local government officials.

Respectfully submitted. Frank D. Bell, Sr.

Bridge Winners

Results of the Ladies' Christmas Bridge held Tuesday, Dec. 9 at the Tryon Country Club were as follows: 1st. Bets Thrift; 2nd, Jeane Spencer; 3rd, May Wandra; 4th, Louise Lamson

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Bert Tenny, Lois Laybourn and Barbara Edney are shown above as they assemble "Tenney burgers" last Saturday night.

The Minor Surgery room in Drs. Morgan and Blomeley's Columbus office became the scene of a different kind of emergency Saturday night keeping enough "Tenney burgers" cooked to keep ahead of the hungry crowd in the basement.

Because of a broken hip pin, Tenney was unable to negotiate the stairs to the kitchen below. He will leave Sunday for Charlotte. for repair for the hip.

The supper and the auction which followed netted about \$460 for the Tryon Seventh-day Adventist Church's Investment fund for missions.

A bid of \$5. to hear Dr. Charles Wittschiebe sing a Christmas carol was quickly countered by a declaration of \$5. by Wittschiebe NOT to have to sing. Another bid

fo \$5. was made in his behalf either in compassion or selfdefense. Smaller bids were made and countered, but the bidding was not allowed to snowball, being quickly closed by the auctioneer, Dr. Charles Blomeley at \$13, a small price for a reprieve. (Perhaps Blomeley was remembering another auction when the bidding got out of control and \$1,000 was paid for his beard, which he would have much preferred to keep.)

RIF Day

Thursday, Dec. 18th is RIF Day at O. P. Earle School in Landrum. There will be three books given during the year and this is the beginning of this school year.

Abraham Lincoln's home at Springfield, Illinois, is the only house he ever owned!

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