THE "TIMES" PRIZE-WINNING COLUMN



From ALMAR FARM In Transylvania BY CAL CARPENTER

Mrs. Ashworth, whom I Guard, there was a preacher wrote about last week, has many stories to tell about Brevard. Many, like the incidents I related last week, are from her own remembrances of 81 years; many more are those she heard second-hand from older friends and her parents. bite of that pig!"

She remembers them all well and relates them clearly for the entertainment of history lovers like myself who are fortunate enought to share an hour and a cup of coffee with her and her daughter, Eleanor, at their home on Probart Street.

A story Mrs. Ashworth is particularly fond of, she says she heard from Felix Martin, a dear friend some 20 years older than she, whom she calls "Mr. Felix."

"Mr. Felix," she says, "told a story of the days shortly after the Civil War when Brevard, like all the South, was beset by carpetbaggers.

"The people here called them Hoodlums," says Mrs. Ashworth. And that seems to be indicative of the characters of the unprincipled opportunists who came to this backwoods country.

Anyway, there was so much trouble with people of this kind who had flocked into the area after the war, that the men in Transylvania had gotten together and formed a group they called a "Home Guard."

This must have been a

somewhat illegal organization, for at this bitter millinary shop. time, during the so-called "Reconstruction," most legal government was in the hands of northerners who had come they could from the defeated southerners. I'm sure the condoned any organization to protect the his wife watched across the people of Transylvania from street while the Hoodlums the excesses of those same gathered at the saloon, powers. So we can assume the knowing they were to be Home Guard was a clan- raided that night. destine organization that protected its neighbors in much the same manner of the better known Ku Klux Klan.

The members of the Home Guard, because they had to be supported furtively, had almost nothing-evidently not even enough to eat. They met and used as a headquarters, it seems, Brevard's well-known Red House, an old trading post even then of some age; for it ws the second house to be built near the intersection of the Asheville-Cherryfield turnpike and the Southeast turn- of birdshot. That broke up the pike through Jones Gap, at the site that was to become the town of Brevard.

at the time of the story we're numerous birdshot out of the telling, and it seems that one day in desperation, a few of the men went out and stole a pig. They killed it and cleaned it and brought it back to the Red House where it was roasted for dinner.

Now, it seems that in the membership of the Home

- whether properly ordained or self-appointed, the story doesn't say. But anyway, this goodly man did not feel he could eat the stolen meat and told his fellow guardsmen so. We can imagine him firmly saying: "Boys, the Book says not to steal. I won't touch a

> But his strict conscience didn't bother the rest of the hungry guardsmen. Came mess time, the roast pig was passed around the table. The preacher let it go by, although he was as hungry as the rest.

He sat with his mouth watering and his eyes moist while his hungry fellows attacked the succulent pork. The wonderful smell of the roast meat and the sounds of his fellows' enjoyment must have just about driven him crazy.

He stood it as long as he could. Then, the spirit might still have been strong, but the flesh proved weak:

"Boys," he said plaintively, "I believe I will have a little of the gravy!"

Another insight of the harsh days following the Civil War is seen in a story told Mrs. Ashworth by her mother.

On the site where the First Union Bank now stands, there was a saloon operated by a man named Farmer. It was a rough place, a hangout for the "Hoodlums." Across the street, where the Rice Furniture store is now, Mrs. Ashworth's mother had a

It seems that the Hoodlums had it in for "Judge" Southern, as Mrs. Ashworth's to the south to grab whatever father was called, and he was sent the "Letter edged in black" telling him to get out of powers-that-were would not town or be killed. One afternoon shortly after, he and

> But Judge Southern didn't plan to be run out, so he went up the street to buy some buckshot for his shotgun. Fortunately, as Mrs. Ashworth says, he could only find birdshot-much finer lead pellets-and this, no doubt, kept him from killing a man.

For when the Hoodlums showed up at the Southern home that night, Judge Southern treated the first one he could get a bead on to a load raid and Mr. Southern was told the next day by the local doctor, that he, the doctor, had been called out of his bed in The group was half starved the middle of the night to pick backside of a local Hoodlum. If it had been buckshot it would have killed him.

> But the word had been passed, according to the doctor: "Don't go messing around that feller Southern. He shoots almighty straight!"

Make Your Mobile Home Safe And Secure! er Anchor Installed

What Do You Know

for you? How much should you take? Does it or doesn't it prevent or cure a cold? These are some of the questions that have been debated in living rooms and laboratories, and on radio and television talk

Along with other vitamins, Vitamin C has become the subject of considerable controversy and comment in the past decade. And, while the questions go on, millions of Americans are buying Vitamin C supplements, believing they will benefit

According to the Food and Drug Administration, many of the questions being debated are still unanswered. A free copy of What About Vitamin C?, which discusses the pros and cons, may be had by writing Consumer Information, Pueblo, Colorado

C relates to Nobel Prize maintain health.

took the position that Vitamin C in the proper amount can help decrease the incidence and severity of the common cold and related infections.

Most nutritionists and physicians found Dr. Pauling's conclusions lacking scientific validity. FDA reports other studies done recently which indicate that Vitamin C might be beneficial in reducing the severity of colds or the length of time the symptons persist.

For consumers who are concerned about whether or not to take massive doses of Vitamin C. FDA advises:

Wait and see. There may be benefits; there may be risks.

Until more evidence is available, it's reasonable to assume that Vitamin C in amounts specified as the Recommended Daily The most talked about Allowance will be enough to question concerning Vitamin prevent disease and to

Vitamin C in the diet. Vegetables and fruits - expecially citrus fruits provide the greatest amounts.

What About Vitamin C? is one the 250 select Federal consumer publications listed in the Consumer Information Index, published quarterly by the Consumer Information Center of the General Services Administration. A free copy of the Index may be obtained by

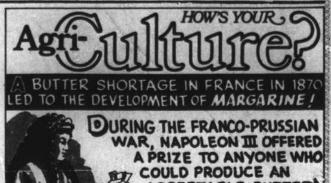
formation, Pueblo, Colorado 81009, or from Federal Information Ceners located throughout the country.

Employment figures are based on a monthly survey of 50,000 households across the Nation conducted by the Bureau of the Census for the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Perform a death-defying

Stop smoking.

Give Heart Fund



ACCEPTABLE BUTTER SUBSTITUTE... A FRENCH CHEMIST MADE THE FIRST MARGARINE BY

CHURNING A MIXTURE OF BEEF OLEO OIL, MILK, WATER, AND VEGETABLE

TODAY, MARGARINE MADE CHIEFLY FROM SOYBEAN, CORN, & COTTONSEED OILS-IS CONSUMED IN THE U.S. AT THE ANNUAL RATE OF 11 POUNDS PER PERSON

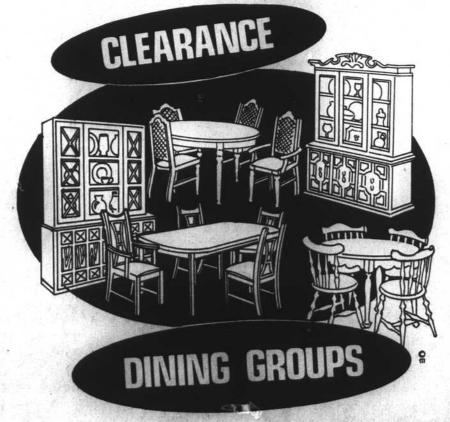






SAVE 20% to 50% DURING THIS SPECIAL FROM PROM 50% FEBRUARY SALE!

Household Furnishings In All Departments At Rice's Have Been Drastically Reduced!





Visit Our Large Three-Floor Show Room And Annex Today - And Save! Save! Save!