

W. J. Byerly Espouses Mt. Airy's Claim For Concrete Road

Mount Airy Banker Speaking to Rotary Club, of Winston-Salem, Urges Importance of the Construction of the Fancy Gap Road.

While visiting in Winston-Salem last week W. J. Byerly, of this city was a guest of the Rotary Club at one of their meetings and took occasion in an address to impress upon the business people of that city Mount Airy's just claim for the early construction of the Fancy Gap road from this city to the state line.

The following account of Mr. Byerly's address is taken from the *Twin-City Sentinel*:

W. J. Byerly, president of the Bank of Mount Airy, was in the city Tuesday on business and appeared before the Rotary Club, speaking in the interest of good roads, especially in the Mount Airy and northwest section. Mr. Byerly is most enthusiastic in the prospects of Piedmont and the northwest section of the state. The latter, he says, will be one of the richest sections and will mean more to Winston-Salem and the cities to the south in the event that good roads continue to be built there.

The stretch of road that Mr. Byerly and the other residents of this section of the country are particularly interested in at this time is the stretch on the Fancy Gap road, leading from Mount Airy to the Virginia line, a distance of about four and one-half miles. Virginia, it appears, is now building the road with hard surface by Fancy Gap to the North Carolina line, thus assuring a hard surface road from the very heart of the Virginia mountains to the south, thru Mount Airy, Winston-Salem and the Piedmont section. With the four and one-half mile stretch built from Mt. Airy to the Virginia line the hard surface on this side will connect with the Virginia road, according to Mr. Byerly, and will thus give the hard surface highway from the south of Winston-Salem all the way into the heart of the mountains of Virginia, and form an artery that will lead to the south and up into the north and middle west.

The prospects for the stretch of road to the Virginia line is very good at this time and the future is very bright for great development thruout that section. With the road being built to the North Carolina state line by Virginia, then with the many roads from this city and section into Mount Airy, and from here to the south, the completion of the road will open as has been said, a route of hard surface roads thru the entire northwest and Piedmont North Carolina.

Of particular interest to Winston-Salem and to the towns in the territory to the south of this city and intervening territory between here and Mount Airy is the broad field of trade that will be opened when the good roads are completed. According to Mr. Byerly and other citizens who have paid attention to the residents of Carroll county and Wythe county in Virginia, every known kind of farm product is raised in these mountains. The people are well educated, are well dressed and are hard working, thrifty people. When they market their product, according to Mr. Byerly, they do not go to the north but come to the south, Winston-Salem, Charlotte and other places.

Even now there are a number of the larger farmers of the Virginia section who drive their trucks and wagons all the way thru to Charlotte to market their product. Naturally they also come to Winston-Salem, but not as much as they would if new and better roads, such as are being planned at this time, are built.

"There are great possibilities in this proposition," said Mr. Byerly, warning to his subject, in which it might be said here, he has his whole heart and soul. "You can go out to the Fancy Gap road, even as it is now, and you can see it lined with wagons bringing in farm produce of every description and good stuff. With Virginia bringing a hard surface road thru this section, over the mountains to the North Carolina line, North Carolina should build the four and one-half-mile stretch connecting with this road. The territory opened up would be immense and the possibilities that lie in the trade that the cities to the south would get as a result, is not to be realized."

According to Mr. Byerly there is no town of any size between Mt. Airy and Bluefield, Va. Therefore there are no stores of any size at which

the farmers can trade. Thus they must come to the south to do the bulk of their shopping. With good roads they will also "warm up" to the "subject" and bring into Winston-Salem, Mt. Airy and the other towns in this section much business of a value that tends to make success for every community.

The people of the southwest Virginia section of the country, according to Mr. Byerly realize that they must depend on North Carolina, and thus the stretch of road to which he referred is much more needed for this reason. The road being built by the Virginia highway commission, together with the stretch from Mt. Airy, will, according to Mr. Byerly, open up Carroll county, Wythe and other counties of Virginia to North Carolina.

In reference to roads leading from this city to Mount Airy, Mr. Byerly pointed out that at this time work is progressing rapidly on the road from Pilot Mount to Mount Airy, which will be opened about September 1. This will give a hard surface road over this stretch. The Stokes county highway commission is also busy oiling the road from the Stokes-Forsyth line to Pilot Mountain and the county and state forces are busy on the hard surface road from this city to the Stokes line. When all of these roads are completed it will give a hard surface road practically all the way from Mount Airy to this city, with the exception of about eight miles of oil road, between the Stokes-Forsyth line and Pilot Mountain, which will be maintained in excellent condition at all times.

The roads leading into Mount Airy from the west and the east are good, according to Mr. Byerly, altho the principal travel is over the roads leading from the north and from the south.

Mr. Byerly as has been said, is most optimistic over the future of this section of the country and with the opening of the new hard surface roads, he believes that trade will be increased thruout the entire section.

Five Times Sentenced to Hang, Must Stay Crazy or Go to the Gallows

Chicago, Aug. 8.—Russell Scott was taken to the Chester State Hospital for the criminal insane today to begin serving the sentence which saved him from the gallows. Two deputy sheriffs were his guards.

When the prisoner is formally turned over to the hospital superintendent at midnight, Sheriff Hoffman, of Cook county, will relinquish jurisdiction over the principal in one of the most dramatic criminal proceedings in America. Scott has been in the county jail here since April 7, 1924, and has been under sentence to hang on five different dates. Each time a new legal process rescued him. Thursday evening a jury found him insane.

He goes to Chester with the death sentence still hanging over him should he ever regain sanity.

Drove 30 Miles With Dead Body

Lamonte, Mo., Aug. 13.—Everett Adams drove for more than 30 miles with the dead body of A. R. Clawson, Lodi, N. Y., school teacher, propped up beside him before depositing it in a ditch along a lonely road three and a half miles southwest of here, in the belief of officials investigating the case since the finding of the body early yesterday.

The 17-year-old Wilmington, Ohio, youth shot Clawson while he was driving his car near Otterville, Mo., 30 miles east, propped the body up in the seat beside him, and then drove through Seradla and Lamonte to the culvert on the little-traveled road where the body was found.

There were no definite marks on the body to show that Clawson had been shot. An autopsy is impossible because of the condition of the body, the coroner said.

The place where the body was found was exactly as the description contained in the confession of Adams.

MISS HARRISON FAILS TO SWIM THE CHANNEL

Argentine Woman is Forced to Stop When Only 8 Miles Out From France

Boulogne, France, Aug. 10.—When only eight miles out from Cape Gris-Nez on a fourth attempt to swim the English Channel today, Miss Lillian Harrison, of Argentina, was forced to give up because of strong treacherous currents.

Miss Harrison took the water at Gris-Nez at 12:12 p. m. The sea was smooth at the time, there was little wind and the water was not so chilly, but when she was a mile out a storm of rain and hail broke and greatly retarded her.

Extraordinarily strong currents carried her farther south than has been usual in the history of channel swimming. Her progress was slower than on her preceding attempts and she was continually running behind her schedule under which she should have been 10 miles out in the channel after six hours of swimming, whereas she had not gone eight miles.

Still she plugged on for an hour and a half more, then having been in the water nearly eight hours. But she found her task was fruitless against the treacherous currents and finally decided to give up.

Miss Harrison was supremely confident when she started and was particularly heartened by the outbursts of cheering and applause from spectators lining the cliffs.

Almost Lost Life

Lillian Harrison nearly lost her life today by drowning in her fourth unsuccessful attempt to swim the English Channel. Only prompt work by Isak Helmy, an Egyptian swimmer, who was in the water pacing her, prevented her from going to the bottom.

"Catch me, Helmy, I am going down," Miss Harrison suddenly exclaimed while apparently swimming strong. She lurched forward, caught the Egyptian by the neck and nearly fainted. She was then hauled aboard the accompanying tug and brought back to Boulogne.

"This is my last attempt," said the little Argentine swimmer as she reached the deck of the tug in a semi-conscious state at 7:17 o'clock this evening, after having been in the water 7 hours and 5 minutes. "The channel is too much for me."

BAD CROP CONDITIONS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

E. S. Millsaps Return From Trip Through Several Counties

Statesville, August 16th.—E. S. Millsaps, district farm demonstration agent, who has just returned from a trip through western North Carolina, east Tennessee and southwest Virginia, reports distressing devastation in many sections resulting from the almost unprecedented drouth which remains unbroken. In the trip, which was one of recreation and sightseeing, about 525 miles were covered. The places visited included Blowing Rock, Boone, Linville and Newland, N. C.; Mountain City, Tenn., and Lamasus, Va.

"I have often visited the mountain sections during the summer," said Mr. Millsaps, "and always the mountains and pastures were green, but in every section I visited on this trip the pastures were bare, the meadows though mown were destitute of a new growth of grass and the hay stacks were scattering. The cabbage crop, while extensive in acreage, is poor. The plants are making poor heads and have that blue appearance our cabbage have in hot, dry weather. The corn in all the mountain territory is suffering as badly as our crops here. All corn is badly dwarfed, the tassels are dead and that means failure of a grain crop."

"Here and there may be seen small areas where showers have occurred and crops and grass have not suffered, but in all this territory the drouth is the severest it has ever been known to be. The crops in the valleys along the streams are good and it is a great relief to pass from the drouth-stricken areas and see the luxuriant growth of all crops in the valleys."

It is distressing to see the devastation in Watauga and Avery counties where showers normally occur almost every day in the summer. Not only are the crops a failure, but the timbers are dying in many places."

SLEEPING SICKNESS CAUSES DEATH OF MRS. J. P. MORGAN

Believed on Road to Recovery After Two Months' Illness—Heart Fails During Relapse.

New York, Aug. 14.—Mrs. J. Pierpont Morgan, wife of the financier, died suddenly at noon yesterday at the Morgan country home in Glen Cove, L. I., after it had been believed she was on the road to recovery from a two months' attack of sleeping sickness.

Death was due directly to a sudden heart attack resulting from the long illness from lethargic encephalitis called sleeping sickness in this country, but in no way related to the African sleeping sickness which is believed to come from the bite of the tsetse fly. Inflammation of the brain, producing conditions similar to those in the African sleeping sickness is the description of lethargic encephalitis given by medical men.

The exact cause of lethargic encephalitis never has been determined, for it is a disease that only reached sufficient prevalence to cause extensive research in the last ten years. It generally follows attacks of other diseases, particularly influenza and infantile paralysis, although it is not considered that one must have had either to contract lethargic encephalitis. An epidemic in 1918 and 1919 followed the influenza epidemic. New York City two years ago had many cases, but there are few cases now.

Became Ill June 14

Mrs. Morgan first became ill June 14. She had attended services at St. John's Episcopal Church here and complained feeling ill shortly afterwards. Her condition rapidly became worse and before the day ended her husband, who was cruising Long Island Sound on his yacht, Corsair, was summoned by wireless.

On the Thursday following the inception of her illness her condition became critical and a blood transfusion was made. The transfusion was considered successful and she rallied remarkably. From then on her condition alternated between progress and relapse until about July 1, when she began to show steady improvement. At times she was in a state of coma and other times, though her eyes were wide open, she was unable to recognize friends, according to some of those who were close to her during the illness.

There was a steady improvement, and soon the attending physicians issued bulletins that there was every indication that she would completely regain her health, though convalescence would be slow.

A few days ago there was another relapse. Only the closest friends of the family were informed of this, but Mr. Morgan canceled all business and social engagements and remained almost constantly at his wife's bedside.

Dr. Charles L. Dana, ex-President of the New York Academy of Medicine has described encephalitis in this way:

"Sleeping sickness of the kind that has been occupying public attention of late years is practically a new disease to modern medicine, although some physicians affirm that it actually goes back to Hippocrates. Its true name is encephalitis lethargica, and it has nothing to do with the African sleeping sickness, which is caused by the bite of a fly. Also, it is communicable, which the African disease is not. No germ affects the nervous system as is varied a way as encephalitis. It may cause insanity, paralysis, neuralgia, tremors, prolonged sleep or prolonged insomnia."

Other authorities point out that while the chief symptom of the African disease is sleeping, the features of somnolency are comparatively minor in encephalitis. It causes innumerable nervous disorders, some very dangerous, but many self curing, physicians say.

Mrs. Morgan, like her husband cared little for social life. Her social activities were confined almost entirely to use of her name in charity affairs given by society and to a few small dances and dinners, given in her town home, No. 231 Madison Avenue, for her children, to whom she devoted most of her time. Her name seldom appeared in news accounts of society's functions and she lived entirely apart from public or social life.

She was a frequent contributor to charity, particularly to institutions and organizations to help children, but the contributions always were listed only with those of her husband.

1,400 Acres Land on Lowgap Road Secured For Resort

Gastonia and Winston-Salem Citizens Leading in Movement to Establish Scenic Resort in Mountains Above Lowgap.

All the preliminary arrangements are now completed and active development on the most scenic resort in North Carolina will soon be under way at the top of the Blue Ridge near Lowgap. Da Costa Wolitz, representing prominent business men of Gastonia and Winston-Salem and Attorney J. H. Rudy, representing interested parties in both Mount Airy and Galax, have this week completed the securing by option and purchase of 1400 acres of woodland on the very crest of the Blue Ridge at a point above the village of Lowgap and overlooking Mount Airy and Galax.

The preliminary plans call for the first unit of a hotel that will when completed accommodate 300 guests, the building of a scenic automobile highway along the crest of the mountain from the Fancy-Gap link of the Lakes-to-Florida highway by the hotel site and connecting with the Lowgap highway and the Roaring Gap highway and the building of a dam that will form a pleasure lake covering over 100 acres. On Chestnut Creek immediately back of the hotel site nature has provided everything necessary for the lake. A dam 125 feet long and 60 feet high will impound enough of the crystal clear water to spread over the hundred or more acres secured for the purpose. Just below the proposed lake is a large expanse of meadow and rolling prairie which has been secured for a joint country club and golf links.

The promoters of this development justly claim that a more ideal location could not be found along the entire stretch of the Blue Ridge, and to support this contention they point out that nowhere else has nature wrought a more perfect summer playground or kissed the earth with a more ideal summer climate. With a greater altitude than Asheville, a wider horizon than Blowing Rock or Roaring Gap and with an expanse of virgin forest unequalled anywhere, this site bids fair to become in a very few years the rival of any resort in the Southland.

A number of cold mountain streams in the immediate vicinity of the hotel site already afford fair trout fishing, notwithstanding the fact that they have never been stocked with fish except as nature has provided a natural haven for them to elude the net and the spear of their enemies. By stocking these streams with trout fingerlings from the state hatcheries and keeping a rigid closed season for a year or two the streams adjacent to this resort will afford in time the finest sport for the angler to be found in the entire state. Even now the expert with the rod and reel can take a fair catch, and in one of the brooks where a few years ago rainbow trout were introduced the present season some beauties were taken that would gladden the heart of a confirmed globe-trotter.

That this development is ideally situated is apparent from the fact that it is only 24 miles from Mount Airy and eight miles from Galax. The business men in these localities like J. B. Sparger, postmaster of Mount Airy, and J. P. Carrico, business man and financier of Galax, both of whom it is understood are interested in seeing the project go through, realize that the citizens of these thriving towns, as well as those of Winston-Salem, Gastonia and Greensboro, need a nearby place where they can spend a few days or weeks in summer with their families.

One of the most significant facts about the whole project came about the past week. Mr. Wolitz and Mr. Rudy were both working like moles trying to secure all the acreage they deemed necessary for the project without letting the outside world know what they were about. While Mr. Wolitz hails from Gastonia and has several clients who are interested in the deal as a whole, he thought that he could keep his operations secret until such a time as it was thought best to give them out to the papers. But in the midst of things a woman in a limousine and hailing from High Point came to the Lowgap section right close to the proposed hotel site and quietly purchased 12 acres of land for her a summer home. A business man from a city nearer home the present week took steps to buy a small parcel of ground for a summer camp. It is known that

neither of these parties are buying for speculation but appreciate the fact that folks are going to summer in this locality and wanted to be in on it. For the past two weeks Lowgap citizens say people from a wide scope of country have been coming to the mountains and inquiring about the new hotel site. This is strange in view of the fact that hitherto nothing has been said about it in the papers.

COAL ROW SHOWS NO SIGN OF ADJUSTMENT

Only Two Weeks Remain in Which to Avoid Strike, Each Side Stubborn

Philadelphia, Aug. 16.—Only two more weeks remain before the country is to know definitely whether it again is to suffer interruption of its supply of hard coal for winter stove and furnace by a suspension in the 828 hard coal mines in northeastern Pennsylvania on the part of the 158,000 mine workers.

Tonight at headquarters here of the operators and miners, now at loggerheads over renewal of the wage contract expiring August 31, no sign appeared of early reconciliation.

Tests of sentiment of various leaders indicate neither side is disposed to resume soon the negotiations broken off August 4 in Atlantic City.

The United Mine Workers "do not work without a contract" they say.

Fixed for War

Since the break at the seashore both operators and miners have entrenched themselves in their announced opposition to each other.

Operators have reiterated the danger of a public boycott if they let the price of hard coal go any higher. They have repeated that this prevents their assenting to any terms in the new contract, such as the request for a 10 per cent wage increase for contract miners and \$1 a day additional for all day workers, which would in any way increase present production cost.

With the outlook unsettled, the coal anthracite trade and public are reported to be taking emergency precautions.

Working Top Speed

Work at the mines is proceeding at top speed, words comes, in order to store up every extra pound of coal possible in advance of any untoward development a fortnight hence. Anthracite carry roads indicated increasingly heavy shipments.

Meanwhile fleets of retail coal trucks rushing bulging loads to household cellars and to the "coal pockets" of large industrial users are reported familiar sights on the streets of large eastern cities.

Boy in Melon Patch Shot by Farmer

Durham, Aug. 15.—Jim Herndon, farmer of Durham county, was today required to give bail of \$500 to hold him pending the outcome of the condition of William Lunsford, 16 year old youth of East Durham, who was seriously wounded when shot in the back with a load of small shot when he and several others entered a watermelon patch on the Herndon farm three miles from here. The episode occurred Thursday night and two days elapsed before the affair became known publicly and Herndon was apprehended.

Parents of the youth and hospital authorities endeavored to quash the incident, but it leaked out through companions of the injured youth.

Although one shot penetrated the right lung of Lunsford his wounds will not prove fatal unless unforeseen complications set in, according to hospital authorities.

Sitting Bull Coat Sold

Danville, Pa., Aug. 14.—The outfit of Sitting Bull, famous Sioux Indian chieftain, consisting of head-dress, saddle and coat, was sold today by Mrs. Emma Heller to the Wyoming Historical Society of Wilkes-Barre for \$800.

The outfit was given by the chieftain to Gen. Harry Thomas shortly before he was killed in 1890. Mrs. Heller's daughter married the son of Gen. Thomas, and through him she gained possession of the outfit.