

The Jackson County Journal

\$1.50 Year in Advance in The County.

SYLVA, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1932

\$2.00 Year in Advance Outside The County.

COLONEL ROBINS NOW RESTING IN HIS FLORIDA HOME

(By John Parris, Jr.) Col. Raymond Robins, noted dry crusader, and personal friend of President Hoover, who was found two weeks ago at Whittier, and said to be afflicted with amnesia, is recuperating at his Brooksville, Fla., home. John Deier, of New York, nephew of the dry crusader, came to Asheville the first of this week to recall the first of this week to recall a car that was employed to carry Col. Robins to Brooksville. Mr. Deier said that Col. Robins expects to resume his normal activities after a period of convalescence. A search of three months came to an end on Nov. 18, when Carl Byrd Fisher, 13-year old school boy discovered that a stranger living in Whittier under the name of "Raymond Rogers" was really the missing Colonel Robins, for whom a nation wide search had been made. Col. Robins disappeared mysteriously September 3, while he was on his way from Maine to Washington, D. C. for a conference with President Hoover. When Col. Robins did not reach his destination a search was begun, and it was almost three months later that he was found in Whittier where he had been living under an assumed name, while he did quite a bit of prospecting in the mountains near Whittier. Made Many Friends It seems that Col. Robins was a great mixer, and a great friend to young people. During the 80 days he was in Whittier he made every effort to become a helping figure in the young life of the little village. There was not a Sunday passed that Col. Robins did not take a group of boys and girls to his look-out far up on Battle Cove Knob, which looked down on the village of Whittier. One of the most interesting of the many things that Col. Robins did while he was located at Whittier was that one Sunday afternoon he led a group of boys and girls to his look-out, and there before a throne which he had erected he held members of the group to enact a scene from Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." He seemed to have been an apt student of the work of William Shakespeare, and his interest in teaching this group of girls and boys Shakespearean dramas, leaves a lasting mark in the minds of many of the boys who were afflicted with amnesia. Many residents of Western North Carolina came in contact with "Boss" Robins, and they had, and still have, a feeling of friendship and kindness toward this man who came into their group and took up their way of living. And it is with deep regret that the people of Whittier and the surrounding territory, mourn the passing of Col. Robins from among them. Years ago, in the Klondike gold rush in far away Alaska, Raymond Robins, after a fight with the deathly cold of that country, dedicated his life to human service. With the finding of a crude wooden altar surrounded by a cross in the hills near Whittier, a story is recalled of this man for whom life has had a vast offering. It was after he and two companions had wrested three fortunes of yellow metal, which men had defied the cold of the Arctic to get from the stubborn earth, that they came almost to death's door. Col. Robins, then an adventurous young man, fresh from the silver mines of the west, decided to stake his life on a million-to-one shot and make a break for civilization. At least he preferred to face death under the storm-swept sky. After many weary miles of travel he came upon a tree, and searched, striding its icy arms out like a white sentinel. Overhead a pale Arctic sun shone with cold radiance, and at his feet was a shadow of the tree, the perfect shadow of a cross. It was there in the far North that Col. Robins fell to his knees and prayed to a God he had never known before. And there he dedicated his life to human service. And so here in the beautiful hill country of North Carolina Col. Robins came to build a cross to resemble that one in the Arctic, where he

TODAY and TOMORROW

(By Frank Parker Stockbridge)

Missionaries . . . their value

Mrs. Pearl Buck, who wrote the great novel of Chinese life, "The Good Earth," confirms from her own intimate knowledge of conditions in China what many good Americans have long believed, that a great deal of the Christian missionary work in the Orient is not only wasted effort but actually detrimental both to the cause of Christianity and the reputation of America in the Chinese minds.

Important religious leaders and bodies have been making a study of the missionary situation. They report that too many persons are sent out as missionaries who are narrow minded, bigoted and entirely sectarian in their outlook, and who have not the educational and temperamental equipment for the job.

Magnificent social work has been done by many missionaries, but when the Chinese observe so-called Christians quarreling among themselves over inconsequential points of doctrine they do not only don't know what it is all about, but begin to distrust the professed motives of the missionaries themselves.

One of the fundamental teachings of Christianity is the duty to "go forth into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," but it isn't everybody who wants to be a missionary who is qualified to preach the gospel to those who have never heard it.

Telephones . . . and distance

The dream of telephoned conversation between all parts of the world has almost come true. There are now 163,000 miles of international telephone circuits which connect with almost all the land line telephones in the world, so that telephone conversation between the remotest part of South America and Northern Europe, between South Africa and Chicago, or any other point in North America, between San Francisco and Manila or Japan across the Pacific, in fact, between almost any two parts of the world, is not only practical but is in almost daily use.

This telephone is one of those incredible marvels which we accept as commonplace because we have got used to talking to people at a distance. I can well remember the very first telephone and the skepticism with which Professor Bell's announcement that he could talk over a wire was received. Nobody believed that it could ever be true, no more than they believed that some of the other things which I have seen come true were possible, such as the electric light, the phonograph, the motion picture and especially the airplane.

I'd like to come back in a hundred years and see the new marvels that our grandchildren will then be regarding as commonplace.

Birth . . . a certificate

I had occasion the other day to apply for a passport to enable me to leave the United States and make a trip to Europe. But my first attempt was blocked when the passport bureau demanded proof that I was born in the United States. I just didn't have any sure proof. I was born long before any of the states required the registration of births.

I finally succeeded, by means of an affidavit from my sister and the presentation of an old family Bible in which my birth had been recorded, to convince the U. S. Department of State that I was a native citizen.

They told me at the passport office that only twenty-six states make registration of births compulsory, so that there is still a large proportion of native born citizens who have no means of proving, except by the testimony of relatives, that they were actually born here.

In Europe every citizen is required to carry his birth certificate and all other documents to prove his identity, nationality and occupation, whenever he travels even from one town to another or moves into a different house. That sort of supervision of the individual can easily be carried too far, but it seems to me that we don't carry it far enough in America.

FUNERAL IS HELD AT CULLOWHEE FOR MACK BROWN

Funeral services for Mack C. Brown, who died suddenly, at his home in Spruce Pine, Friday, were conducted at the Cullowhee Baptist church, Sunday morning, by Rev. I. K. Stafford, Rev. J. Gray Murray, and the pastor of Spruce Pine Baptist church, Prof. E. H. Stillwell, of the chair of history of Western Carolina Teachers College, a life-long friend of and co-worker with Mr. Brown on the Board of Deacons of the Cullowhee Baptist church, delivered a funeral oration. The service at the grave was in charge of Unaka Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of which Mr. Brown had been a member for many years.

Mr. Brown was a native of Jackson county. He spent his entire life here, until about two year ago, when he moved to Spruce Pine, and was prominent in the church and civic life of his community. He was employed by the Harris Clay Company for many years, and was known as an excellent mine superintendent and prospector. He was a son of the late H. R. Brown.

Mr. Brown is survived by his widow, and seven children, Misses Emma, and Louella Brown, Mrs. E. D. Hooper, of East Laporte, Mrs. Helen Willis, of Spruce Pine, Mrs. Willie Monteith of Sylva, and Kenneth and John Brown, of Spruce Pine. Surviving also are two sisters, Mrs. L. A. Buchanan, of Sylva, and Miss Emily Brown, four brothers, Jesse Brown, Sylva, Basil Brown of Spruce Pine, Robert Brown of Cullowhee and John Brown of Lakeland, Fla.

COST OF SCHOOLS IN JACKSON HAS BEEN GREATLY REDUCED

Raleigh, Nov. 30.—Jackson county has reduced the current expense item of its school expenditures \$64,565 in the past three years, or from \$169,040 for the school year 1928-29 to \$104,475 budgeted for the year 1931-32, according to figures compiled in the office of the Superintendent of public instruction.

Total cost of operation of schools in this county has been reduced from \$256,865 in 1928-29 to \$124,052 in 1931-32, a reduction of \$132,813. This total cost is divided into current expense, the reduction in which is shown above; capital outlay, which is the erection of new buildings and permanent improvements, reduced from \$64,284 for 1928-29 to nothing for 1931-32, and debt service, payment of interest and retiring bonds, which was \$23,576 in 1928-29, as compared with \$19,577 for 1931-32.

For the State as a whole the total expenses reached the peak of \$50,155,928 in 1928-29, which figure has been cut to a budgeted \$32,463,074 for 1931-32, a reduction of \$17,692,854, or 35 per cent in the period of three years. The current expense item, which includes teachers' salaries and salaries of school officials has been reduced from \$31,959,830 to \$24,887,196, in the same period, a decrease of \$7,072,634, or 22 1/2 per cent.

Since the State has reached the peak of school building construction and has a fairly well rounded program, the capital outlay item has been reduced from \$9,236,299 four years ago to \$1,380,720 last year, a reduction of \$7,855,579 or 85 per cent. Debt service is also gradually lessening, the cost of \$8,959,853 four years ago having been reduced to \$6,195,157 last year, a drop of \$2,764,696, or 31 per cent.

While these reductions of more than one-third of the annual cost of the school were being made in three years, the teachers of the State have been reduced in number by 215, taught 14 1/2 days longer in the average term and taught 47,420 more children in daily average attendance, in 1930-31, as compared with two years before. While in 1931-32 figures are not complete, it is certain that the enrollment and average attendance have been again increased, thus heavily increasing the work of the teachers and lower teaching cost.

CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES STARTED ON HIGHWAY 106

Work on the structures on Highway 106 from Sylva to Cullowhee is starting. The bridge across Tuckasee river at Cullowhee is the place where the first work is being done, and laborers there are clearing off the ground preparatory to construction work.

It is thought that the work on the Scott's creek bridge, in Sylva will begin at once, a contention between the town and property owners and the town having been compromised at a meeting of the Board of Aldermen, on Monday, and the way having been cleared for the State Highway Commission to begin construction of the bridge and its approaches. The town awarded Dr. D. D. Hooper the sum of \$1750 for the parts of his lots that will be taken and for damages to his buildings.

The exact date when work on the highway itself will begin has not been announced. The present plans are to pave the whole of the unfinished portions of the road from Highway No. 10, in Sylva to connect with the present paving in Dick's Gap.

CATAMOUNTS CLOSE SEASON WITH LOSS TO WEAVER

The Western Carolina Catamounts brought their 1932 football season to a close Saturday at Asheville with the Weaver College Tornado. The Catamounts brought back the short end of a 7-6 score, but outplayed their opponents and came very near scoring on two or three occasions. A field goal was missed by bare inches and the Catamounts missed making a first down on the six inch line by a scant half inch. All in all it was a thrilling game from start to finish and served notice that the Western Carolina outfit will have to be reckoned with next year.

From the standpoint of games won the 1932 season was not so successful, but from the way the team steadily improved from game to game it was very successful. The season started with a new coach and a squad of players that had never played together and most of them with very little football experience. A hard schedule was played and the players gained valuable experience that should stand them in good stead next year. With most of the squad due to return next year, prospects are bright for a real team and fans in this section will look forward to next season with expectations of seeing the Catamounts go places.

Monday afternoon basketball practice was begun in earnest by both boys and girls. Coach Poindexter is coaching both outfits and with large squads on hand prospects are promising for two good teams. The boys on the football squad were excused from practice this week, but will get into the grind next week. A meeting will be held at Greensboro the first part of December to make up the schedule. Western Carolina is now a member of the North State Conference and is anxious to compete against fast company. Two or three practice games are being arranged before the Christmas Holidays to get a line on the players.

POSTPONE PLAY AT W. C. T. C.

"The Football Captain," a three act play scheduled to be given last Friday at Cullowhee will be given Friday night of this week. On account of the death of Mr. Brown, the play was postponed from last week. The Monogram Club is sponsoring the play and a large attendance is expected Friday night.

The play is based on the rivalry of two boys for captaincy of the football team. These two parts are played by two Sylva boys, Walter Thomas and Paul Buchanan. Other leading characters are Harry Sams, Charles Morgan, Mark Ferguson, Richard Miller, Emma Thompson, Ruth Brown and Joe Weaver. Coach Poindexter is helping with the rehearsals.

There will be other features along with the play including music by the Western Carolina string band. A nominal admission fee of fifteen cents will be charged with the proceeds going toward buying Catamount coats for members of the Monogram club.

Congress Likely To Vote On Legalization Of Beer In First Week Of Session

TUCKASEE MAN PASSES

J. O. Powell, 72 year old citizen of River township, died about noon, yesterday, following an attack of pneumonia, and a stroke of paralysis. He had been in poor health for two or three years.

Funeral and interment will be held at East Laporte at three o'clock this afternoon.

Mr. Powell is survived by his widow, two daughters, Mrs. Mary Wilson and Mrs. Annie Middleton, five sons, Walter, Ed., Harley, Robert, and Troy Powell, one sister, Mrs. Mary Deitz, of Dillsboro, three brothers, T. J. Powell, of Tuckasee, Joe Powell, of Hendersonville, John Powell, of Blantyre, and other relatives and friends.

BROWN AGAIN TO HANDLE AUTOMOBILE LICENSE TAGS

Mr. A. M. Huggins, manager of the Carolina Motor Club Branches Service has completed arrangements whereby D. H. Brown at the Jackson Chevrolet Co., will again handle the issuance of license plates for automobiles and trucks for the coming year.

The 1933 plates may be used on the 15th day of December and will be sold on the weight basis—the same as last year—which is 55¢ per hundred.

All applicants for license are urged to bring with them the long card which was mailed by the North Carolina Motor Vehicle Bureau to all motor vehicle owners.

The Sylva office will serve Jackson, Macon, Swain, Graham, Cherokee and Clay counties.

In case it is not convenient for the owner to come to Sylva, he may buy a U. S. Postal Money Order made payable to the Carolina Motor Club for the amount shown on his 1932 application card sign his card and mail to the Carolina Motor Club Branch Office, Sylva, and the license plates will be sent by return mail.

QUALLA

Mr. J. E. Freeman and family have the sympathy of our entire community in the death of their son Donald, who died at their home at Cherokee Friday evening. Many friends and relatives from Qualla attended the funeral Sunday morning at Cherokee. The body was taken to Smokemont for interment. Mr. Freeman had recently moved from his Qualla home to his store at Cherokee.

A Thanksgiving program was given at Qualla school Thursday afternoon. Several parents and other visitors were present.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Hyatt served a turkey supper to several guests at 5 o'clock Thursday afternoon.

Miss Louise Hyatt returned to school at Cullowhee after spending Thanksgiving with home folks.

Mr. Tyler Buchanan and family of Webster called at Mr. D. M. Shuler's Sunday.

Mrs. D. L. Oxner is visiting relatives in Canton.

BALSAM

Monday morning mercury stood at 13 and rose to 78 about noon.

Mr. Lloyd Quiett was badly hurt while working on the skidder for Snyder and Long up in the mountains. However, he is recovering as well as could be expected in Angel Bros. hospital in Franklin.

Our school gave a very interesting program Thanksgiving Day.

The school children enjoyed seeing and talking with Santa Claus Monday. He gave them whistles, etc.

A benefit "cap supper" was given at the school house Thanksgiving night. The proceeds, which amounted to \$7.50 will be used for a Christmas tree for the Baptist Sunday school.

Dr. and Mrs. H. B. Boice will leave Dec. 1st to spend the winter in their home at Clearwater Beach, Florida.

Mrs. D. T. Knight and Son's store was broken into and robbed again the fifteenth. No clue has been found except the tracks of a woman's shoe on the freshly oiled floor.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 1.—Political forecasters here are up to their ears in speculation as to what the "lame duck" Congress, which will open its final session next week, will do about beer legislation. It is expected by all to be the first piece of major legislation to be taken up.

The general opinion here is that the House will railroad through a Bill modifying the terms of the Volstead Act so that a beer satisfactory in strength to all drinkers will become legalized. Ales and light wines will also, it is expected, be permitted of a strength now denied by the present Act. The Bill, when passed, will be sent over to the Senate for similar action and the joint bill will then be sent to President Hoover for his signature.

Practically everybody here admits the wets possess sufficient majority in both Houses to pass any legislation desired by them. Even staunch dry Republicans like Senator Vandenberg, of Michigan, have bowed to the storm of wet votes cast in the recent election and admit they will no longer oppose the expressed wish of the people, spoken as they were in no uncertain tones.

The day has gone by, it is admitted, when Congressmen need to listen to the voices from back home, demanding that they vote against the "Demon Rum." Even the powerful lobbies that have haunted the halls of the Capitol Building for fifteen years, watching that the People's Representatives did not break from their dry stand, have practically ceased to exist.

May Veto Wet Bill

The one factor that has not changed in the situation, it is said here, is the veto power possessed by President Hoover. Those close to the President assert that he has declared openly since the result of the election was learned that he will veto any bill offered to liberalize the Volstead Act, taking the stand that he considers any action of that kind to be a nullification of the Eighteenth Amendment. Even the most vigorous supporters of repeal do not feel that the Seventy-second Congress possesses enough wet votes to go counter to the President's wishes and pass the Bill over his veto. That makes it look more than likely that no changes will be made in the Volstead Act until President-elect Roosevelt is sworn in next March.

During the campaign the Democrats did not disabuse the mind of the public, which plainly believed that the country would be made wet by action of Congress in its first week after the elections. While no definite promises were made of action before next March, yet the feeling was allowed to exist that immediate action was quite likely. It is generally believed here that Congress will pass wet legislation quickly and put the issue squarely up to the President, thereby redeeming the Democratic party promises even if it fails to result in the country getting the beer it plainly voted for.

One significant trend since the election has been a general let-down in enthusiasm in regard to the expected amount of revenue to be realized by the legalizing of beer and light wines. During the campaign the idea was fairly general that taxes on alcohol would practically turn the present deficit in the budget into a surplus, or nearly so. Now the amount generally being accepted by merey modifying the Volstead Act is \$300,000,000, an amount that will fall far short of balancing the budget. This would be increased by complete repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment.

However, this amount is not all that can be expected to result from the new tax, observers here assert. The enormous number of men who will be employed in the industry and the hundreds of millions of dollars that must be spent to put the industry on its feet will provide many more millions for the Treasury, while there will be an imposing sum saved by the abolition of the Prohibition forces, the freeing of Federal Courts of all liquor cases, and the enormous reduction in expense in caring for Volstead Act offenders in Federal prisons in all parts of the country.

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