

Historic Boulder Is Being Chipped Away

One of North Carolina's historic aboriginal treasures—an immense Indian treaty boulder near Colowhee—faces gradual extinction unless "proper authorities take steps to preserve it." The warning was voiced by Dr. G. N. Leiby, consultant on making motion pictures of historic landmarks. The Jullicullah (Cherokee for Goliath or huge) boulder, whose queer hieroglyphics testify that in some unrecorded age gone by the Cherokee and Catawba Indians signed a treaty to stop warfare, is being chipped away by souvenir

hunters, according to Dr. Leiby, who recently took pictures of the rock.

The boulder rests in a broad meadow six miles from Cullowhee and about 25 miles from the Cherokee Indian reservation.

Not only is it being chipped away, but "children and others are carving their initials on it, thus defacing it, while wind and rain are wearing it down," Dr. Leiby pointed out.

He said priceless hieroglyphics, which a missionary from China two years ago pronounced bore a remarkable resemblance to the modern Chinese language, should be preserved at any cost, and suggested the "proper authorities"

take charge of the landmark.

The rectangular rock, 9 x 12 feet, has a deeply-carved line running through one side. Dr. Leiby said. This line, according to Indian legend as related by Chief Blythe of the Cherokees marks the boundary line between Cherokee and Catawba hunting ground, as agreed to by treaty.

Dr. Leiby said the rock contained the imprint of a foot at least 20 inches long. He was unable to distinguish the type person or animal to which it once belonged or ascertain its purpose on the rock.

An inverted pine tree, whose significance is unknown, is also carved upon one side of the rock, Dr. Leiby said.

According to United States law, butter must contain "not less than 80 per cent by weight of milk fat."

There are about 379 radio beacons in the world, aiding navigators, and one-third of these are in United States waters.

It costs 10 cents a day to feed a cow on pasture and 38 cents a day to feed her in barn, farmers in New York state have learned.

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Underground Banking Is Established In New York

New York has an underground banking system that makes some transactions of Wall Street look like child's play.

It operates without much cash. It has no tellers, no vaults, nor even any banks, but it does a thriving business with a select clientele at a profit.

The men who run it are mysterious folk known to customers as duebill brokers.

The system begins with John Doe. Maybe John owns a night club. Business is declining. The place might be popular if it were renovated, but John has only \$3,000 and the improvements would cost \$10,000. John would borrow from a bank if he could, but he is already too much in debt. So he goes to the duebill banker.

John won't tell his best friends who the banker is, or where his money comes from. The important thing is that the banker has the cash when John needs it.

The banker gives John the \$10,000, and in return John gives the banker \$20,000 in duebills, which are merely a form of I.O.U. payable in merchandise at the night club.

When this transaction is complete, the banker parcels out the duebills among a number of brokers, selling them at 60 per cent of their face value. Thus the banker collects 20 per cent profit on his investment.

The broker then peddles the duebills to people who want to go to the night club. His price is 66 2-3 per cent of the face value, and his profit is nearly 12 per cent.

By the time the night club goes gets the duebill, it is in the form of a check, made out, perhaps, in the sum of \$20. It can purchase only food, or pay cover charges; it is not good for liquor. But what it does buy the customer gets at one-third less than the listed price.

Suppose the customer spends \$10. Before he leaves the club that amount, the date, and the customer's name are marked on the back of the check, along with the balance of the duebill's value. Next day the customer takes the duebill back to the broker, pays \$6.75 for his \$10 worth of entertainment, and the broker peddles the remainder of the duebill to somebody else.

System Works Well

It's a marvelous system. The night club customer saved money, the broker made money, the banker made money. At first glance it appears that the night club owner foots a heavy bill, but he gets the money he needs to improve his business, and he repays the loan not in cash but in food he sells at a profit. By the time it's all figured up, he figures he has had an even break.

Many New York night clubs have resorted to the duebill banking system at one time or another. So have some hotels and other establishments.

Not all duebills are handled by brokers. Some are handled directly by decorators or builders who make improvements on the "payment-in-kind" basis. In these cases, the decorators or builders act as their own brokers and use the same system.

The house rat is public enemy No. 1 of the animal world, as a menace to man's health and as a destroyer of property.

A Japanese physician says that flying in high altitudes may affect the teeth, causing aviators to suffer from dental decay.

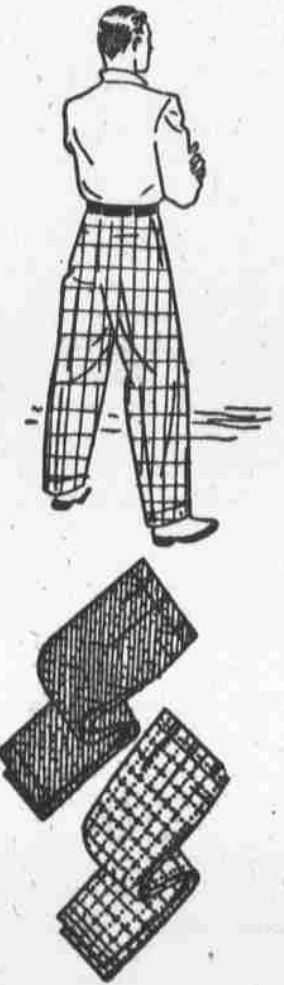
Many Noted Visitors To Appalachian Forests

Arrival last week in Asheville of Dr. Siegfried von Cirlacy-Wantrup, of the University of Bonn, Germany, marked the third distinguished foreign scientist or economist to visit officials and observe the research work of the Appalachian forest experiment station this year. Especial interest attached to Dr. von Cirlacy-Wantrup's trip here because his country is generally recognized as the cradle of forestry practice. He came to this country under a Rockefeller Foundation fellowship and was shown over experimental units of the station by Director C. L. Forsling.

In March, Amihud Grasoosky, attached to the Jerusalem headquarters of the British Colonial office, was here to inspect the methods used at the Coweta experiment station near Franklin.

Earlier in the year came Paul Topham, from far away Zomba, Nyasaland, a British protectorate, to study the soil conservation program in this country. Traveling under a Carnegie Foundation grant, Mr. Topham came here to study the technical and social aspects of forestry and soil conservation as practiced in this highland.

Former Governor Gifford Pinchot, first chief of the United States forest service, was in Asheville and visited sections of Western North Carolina in which he first launched a nation wide forestry program with H. E. Ochsner, supervisor of Pisgah national forest.



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