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and

The Highlands Maconian

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The Coronation

THE coronation of an English king is significant to every American whose roots spring from the Anglo-Saxon heritage.

For, underlying the ancient pageantry and sacred ritual are the spiritual roots of the true greatness of a race whose dominions encircle the globe—a land we call our mother country.

A practical nation celebrates her unity and Empire by the crowning of a king as symbolic head of church and state, but more than this, a people possessed of dignity and reverence remember their continuity in history, which is shared by all English-speaking peoples.

The most callous listener over radio could not resist the impressive reverence of the great service in the Chapel of Edward the Confessor as this ancient king's crown was placed on the head of George VI, nor the thrill of great music sung to the King of Kings with humble petition "God Save the King."

Precious Stones of Macon County

IN the issue of the Literary Digest for March 8, there appears in the "Mail" section a letter from Henry D. Chalfont, of Shelter Harbor, R. I., who seems to be a jewel expert. In discussing the quality and value of rubies and the various ruby fields of the world, Mr. Chalfont has this to say: "Believe it or not, the gravel of streams near Franklin, Macon county, North Carolina, has yielded genuine stones of small size."

Mr. Chalfont might have added that not only rubies, but many other precious and semi-precious stones are found in this county. Amethyst; aquamarine, emerald, yellow, golden and blue beryl; garnet, rhodolite, quartz or rock crystal, opal and sapphire, together with many other stones not so well known and of lesser value.

Diamonds have also been found in Western North Carolina, but none so far as known in Macon county. Such as have been found were proved genuine, though small, the largest ever discovered weighing 2 3/8 carats.

Included in the mineral display on the second floor of the National Museum in Washington, D. C., are many glass cases containing gem stones, and the largest and most interesting exhibit in the entire display is the famous Lucas collection of stones gathered in Western North Carolina, practically all of them being found in Macon, Clay and Jackson counties.

The following information in regard to the precious stones of this section is taken from the August, 1935, issue of the South East Miner, published in Asheville, and was published by permission from Hursey & Co., jewelers, of Asheville:

Amethyst, a pure variety of quartz, is very generally distributed throughout this section, but a particularly excellent quality is found in the counties of Lincoln, Macon, Haywood, Catawba and Wake. It is sometimes found in perfect crystals, or in remarkable groupings with purple tops upon slender stilt-like white crystals. The color varies from a light pink to a dark, rich royal purple, which is supposed to be due to manganese. Its hardness is 7.0. Our amethysts are in one respect a little different from the general run of this gem, as they usually have a streak of red color that gives them a peculiar brilliancy in artificial light. This stone has been popular through the ages, as we find it mentioned as one of the stones in the breastplate of the Jewish High Priest. Intaglios and scarabean gems of very ancient date exist. They were believed to be a preventive of drunkenness and a safeguard against the action of poison. It is the birth of February, and expresses the sentiment of deep love.

Beryl, Aquamarine, Emerald, Yellow, Golden and Blue Beryl: This mineral is found on both sides of the Blue Ridge. Near Spruce Pine, in Mitchell county, probably the most extensive workings have been developed, but the Ray mine in Yancey county has produced some beautiful gems. They have been found in Mitchell, Alexander, Cleve-

land, Madison, Macon, Jackson, and at Balsam Gap, Buncombe county. The beryl crystallizes in six-sided prisms; and is a berillium silicate. Its hardness is 7.5 to 8.0, it scratches the amethyst, and is unaffected by acids. It is found here in three colors, green, blue and yellow, in varying shades. Its lustre is truly remarkable when well cut, and it possesses the advantage of retaining its lustre under artificial light. Gems have been found in considerable size up to 30 carats. When of a sea green color, it is known as the aquamarine—when a rich yellow, the golden beryl, and when of the color of fresh grass in the Spring, due to a minute quantity of oxide of chromium, it is the emerald. Sometimes they are found in pockets, the expansions of quartz veins, but often in the decomposed gneiss rock.

One crystal of emerald has been found 8 1/2 inches long and nearly nine ounces in weight. The emerald's brilliancy exceeds all other gems save only the rare green corundum and the hiddenite. It is the birthstone of May. Near Spruce Pine, in Mitchell county, it is incorporated in a white granite rock, the whole forming a beautiful stone when cut as, a matrix, the quartz and feldspar contrasting pleasingly with the emerald green. It is known as emerald matrix.

Garnets: Almandite, an iron aluminum silicate, is most frequently found, and is mined extensively for the making of emery paper. Its color is red, of many shades, varying to brown and purple. Some crystals of this type weighing as much as 20 pounds, have been found in Macon, Burke and Catawba counties. Large quantities have been found about eight miles southeast from Morganton, Burk county, and near Marshall, Madison county.

Opal: Found but sparingly, although the hyalite variety, a delicate pink color, has been found near Asheville, and a colorless variety at Corundum Hill, Macon county. Opal is composed of nine parts silica and one part water, and was probably originally a fluid. It is never crystallized, but always found in an amorphous state.

Rhodolite: A beautiful garnet, between the ammandine and pyrope, and because it is peculiar to North Carolina, has been deemed worthy a separate treatment. Since its recognition, it has proved to be the most valuable gem produced commercially in the state. It was found on Mason's Mountain in Macon county. Its name is from the Greek word, Rhodon, the rose. The mineral shows a light shade of fine red, without the dark aspect of most garnets, and possesses a remarkable degree of brilliancy, especially in artificial light. Most varieties of garnet are only beautiful by transmitted light, but the Rhodolite gives strikingly beautiful and varied color by reflected light. When first found, it was mistaken for a variety of ruby. These qualities give it great value for gem purposes, and it has become deservedly popular. The pieces found as a rule are not very large, but stones of fourteen carats in weight have been cut. The Rhodolite, being a garnet, is the birthstone of January and is supposed to insure power, grace and victory to its wearer.

Ruby and Sapphire: The ruby and sapphire we will group together, as they are both of the corundum class. The chief corundum rocks are in Madison, Buncombe, Haywood, Jackson, Macon and Clay counties, a zone of large extent, stretching along the Southern Appalachians. Many fine gems and crystals from Macon county are in private collections and museums. The United States National Museum has a series of fine red and blue crystals, a blue stone of over a carat, a wine yellow sapphire of 3/4 carats, a violet blue of 1 carat, and several dark blue ones of even larger size. On the Cullasaja, or Sugar Town Fork of the little Tennessee river, about eight miles from Franklin, is Corundum Hill, that has been claimed by scientists to be "a true home of the ruby and sapphire, that up to this discovery had never been really traced to their source." Probably the finest emerald green colored sapphire in the world came from here. Some very fine gem rubies have also been found in the Cowee valley in Macon county.

There are several fine collections of gem stones held by people in and around Franklin but most of them have been picked up by chance, as there has been no serious effort made in recent years to prospect the field.

An organized search by experts in the gem areas of Macon county would no doubt result in some very handsome profits to the promoters, and might make this section a rival of Burma in the production of rubies.

Highlands Highlights

EDITED BY MRS. T. C. HARBISON

NEW TOWN OFFICERS NOW IN CHARGE

HIGHLANDS, May 12.—The newly elected mayor of Highlands, W. C. Davis, and the five commissioners, W. H. Cobb, G. D. Edwards, George Marett, H. S. Talley and D. W. Wiley, took over the affairs of the town at an adjourned meeting held Monday afternoon at the town office. All officers having previously been sworn in, the meeting was turned over to them immediately after the reading of the minutes. Outgoing officers were W. W. Edwards, mayor, and commissioners, L. W. Rice, M. A. Pierson, and J. Jay Smith. Mr. D. W. Wiley remains on the board as a reelected officer.

LARGE CROWDS ATTEND SCHOOL CLOSING EXERCISES

Large crowds attended the closing exercises of Highlands school, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights, May 10, 11 and 12.

Monday night the debate and declamation and reading contests occurred. The subject for debate was: "Resolved, That Congress Should Have the Power by a Two-Thirds Majority to Override Decisions of the Supreme Court Declaring Acts of Congress Unconstitutional." The decision went to the negative, with Steve Potts winning the medal.

In the declamations, the medal went to Carlton Cleveland for his rendering of "When the Sun Went Down."

Peggy Thompson won the medal for reading with "Another Spring."

The annual senior play was given at the high school auditorium Tuesday evening. The play was well rendered and was enjoyed by the audience. Ten seniors took part, and three seniors assisted Mrs. Rhinehart in the direction of the play.

Final exercises were given Wednesday night with senior speakers as follows: Marion Day Garris, salutatorian, subject, "The History of Highlands"—Guy Paul, Jr., subject "The Assets of Highlands"—and Sarah Thompson, valedictorian, "The Future of Highlands." Diplomas were presented the 15 graduates by principal O. F. Summer.

Graduating exercises were held for the 7th grade last Friday morning during the chapel hour at the auditorium. Prof. M. D. Billings was present and made an address to the 7th grade students who received certificates admitting them to high school.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney McCarty and family, of Guilford College, have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Bense Neely during the past week.

Miss Rebecca Bridges, of Tarboro, is at her summer home here. E. P. Roberts, of Atlanta, has arrived at his lakeside home here for the season.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Sloan are at their home "Cheononda," now after being away for the winter.

Miss Eva Potts is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Potts, for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Rice have moved from their Holt building ap-

artment to Guy Paul's cottage on the Walhalla road.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Reese have moved to the White cottage on 4th street.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hill spent last week-end in Asheville.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Rucker have moved from their place at Mr. A. C. Holt's to an apartment in the Holt building.

Mrs. Baxter Maddox returned to Atlanta Thursday after spending the week at her new home here.

Mr. and Mrs. James Harkey, of Atlanta, are at their summer home here for a few days.

Miss M. D. Warren is again at her summer home on Satulah after spending the winter in California.

Miss Mary J. Crosby and her mother, of San Mateo, Fla. and Highlands, arrived at their Highlands home last week to spend the summer.

Miss Isabel Justley, of Savannah, Ga., was visiting her aunt, Mrs. J. A. Hanes, here during the week-end.

Geo. B. Patton, of Franklin, was in Highlands Monday.

Miss Marguerite Ravenal, of Highlands and Philadelphia, is attending the coronation in England. Mrs. J. K. Stoddard, of Cashiers, is also in England for the coronation.

West's Mill

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bryson and family spent Sunday with Mrs. Bryson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Morgan.

Dr. J. L. West attended the North Carolina Dental meeting in Pinehurst last week.

Miss Ruth Smith, from Cullowhee, spent the week-end with her cousin, Miss Marjorie West.

Miss Annie Hurst, from Detroit, Mich., is visiting her cousin, Miss Katherine Ray, and other relatives at this time.

Mrs. Willie Potts and grandson, Billy Clouse, from Bryson City, are spending some time visiting relatives here.

Carl Sorrels has accepted a position with the Power company at Murphy.

Little Miss Evelyn Davis, from Webster, spent several weeks visiting her cousin, Ada Ruth West.

Mr. and Mrs. Cero Martin and two children, from Baltimore, spent the week-end with Mrs. Martin's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Morgan.

Mrs. Joe Dalton and Miss Alva Dalton, from Cullowhee, spent the week-end with home folks.

Miss Vonnie West, who is one of the four first grade teachers in the Bryson City school, spent the week-end with relatives.

Mrs. Nina Dalton Holbrooks and two sons are visiting Mrs. Holbrooks' parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Dalton.

Messrs. John, Charley and Perry Matlock, from Atlanta, Ga., spent Mothers' Day with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Matlock.

Burrell Motor Co. Buys New Wrecker

The Burrell Motor Co., of Franklin, has recently purchased a new auto wrecker of the latest design. All the mechanical workings being motor powered makes it possible to haul a car out of the most difficult place with comparative ease and haste. The wrecker has been delivered and is now ready for service, Mr. Burrell stated.

In the ruins of ancient Babylon searchers unearthed carvings in stone believed to be more than 6000 years old showing a milking scene.

A huge relief map of India, 30 by 31 feet, carved in marble symbolizes the union of religions in India, and a Motherland Temple has been built to house the map.

She came into the police station with a picture in her hand.

"My husband has disappeared," she sobbed. "Here is his picture, I want you to find him."

The sergeant looked up from the photograph.

"Why?" he asked.

REMOVAL NOTICE

Dr. Jessie Z. Moreland

DENTIST

Highlands, N. C.

Second floor, Anderson's Drug Store
Formerly located in Raleigh, N. C.