

RETURNS AFTER LONG ABSENCE

Man Who Disappeared 57 Years Ago Comes Back To Macon

Jasper Columbus Jennings, who mysteriously disappeared from his home at Hamburg, Jackson county, 57 years ago, returned last week to his native county and state. He is now 83 years of age.

Mr. Jennings resided in Jackson county for two years prior to his disappearance. He was born at Gneiss, Macon county, on December 8, 1855, the son of the late James J. Jennings and Lucinda Evitt Jennings.

Mr. Jennings, with his wife and small children, decided they would move out of the mountains and go where a decent living could be made and, at the same time see something of the world. Without telling anyone of their plans or letting anyone know what they intended to do, they left their abode at Hamburg, and went to West Tennessee where they lived for seven years.

Lived in Florida

During that time Mr. Jennings worked at saw mills, grist mills, cotton gins, and at various kinds of odd jobs in order to make an honest living for his family. From Tennessee, they went to points in Florida where they spent several years.

Mr. Jennings, who has been in practically every state in the South, finally settled down at Rome, Ga., where he has been for several years. There he worked as a carpenter and brick mason. He said he has made a lot of money in his day but "it's all gone now."

Mr. Jennings, who left his home in Rome Monday morning, May 1, hitch-hiked or walked, reaching Sylva Friday evening, May 5. He was en route to his old home site at Hamburg, hoping there to find or learn the whereabouts of some of his relatives, if he had any living. There he found a cousin who told of a half-brother, Charles C. Jennings, who lives at Cullasaja, in Macon county.

Did Not Write Relatives

During his absence of 57 years, Mr. Jennings had never written to anyone nor had he heard from any of his relatives and friends. When asked why he left without telling anyone or why he never wrote back, he replied that he didn't consider it was anybody's business what he did or where he went.

On two different occasions, Mr. Jennings tried to reach his old home place on Cullasaja by car, but each time the highways were under construction and he was forced to turn back. This time, he decided that, in order to be able to make the trip and reach his destination without trouble, walking was his safest plan. He carried with him a shotgun, a hand axe, and a suitcase. He slept in a bed one night while making the trip, at the home of a Mr. Neal in Blue Ridge, Ga. The other nights were spent sleeping on the roadsides.

Despite Mr. Jennings' age he is very active and spry, gets around without a stick and wears glasses only for reading purposes. He boasts of the fact that he has never been ill a day in his life, nor has he had to take any medicine.

Mr. Jennings plans to spend several weeks in Macon county with relatives, for here he has not only found a brother, but two sisters that he did not know were living. They are Mrs. Bedford Horne, of Franklin, and Mrs. Jim Rogers, of Highlands.

Cartoogechaye

By MRS. JOE SETSER

Mrs. E. G. Crawford is spending some time with her daughter, Mrs. Fred Corbin, at Higdonville.

Our oldest citizen, Mrs. Hattie Moore, is seriously ill at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Frank Nolen.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Waldroop, of Jacksonville, Fla., spent last Sunday with his mother, Mrs. L. C. Waldroop.

Mrs. Mysa Crawford and Mrs. Hayes Snyder spent Sunday with their children at the old Crawford home. Among those present were: Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. Laddie Crawford, Mr.

Young Theatrical Genius to Stage Girl Show



Jimmy Griffin, six-year-old Brookline, Mass., theatrical genius, is having a difficult time getting these girls to do a dance the way he wants it done. Jimmy, though, is undaunted. He is the youngest possessor of an entertainment license in Brookline, and has had a successful solo act. He recently applied for a renewal of his license and decided to add some girls to his cast. Here he is trying to teach them the routine he has devised.



JOE BOB WESTMORELAND
First Prize Winner in Baby Derby, Canton, N. C.

and and Mrs. Eugene Crawford, Mr. and Mrs. George Crawford, Mrs. Tillory Love, Elmer Crawford and the children.

Mrs. Chas. Nolen, who has been attending summer school at Sylva, is sick at home.

Mrs. W. A. Setser is spending this week with her children in and near Franklin, Mrs. Geo. McGee, Lawrence Setser and Mrs. L. B. Phillips.

Geo. and Tom Setser and Bobby Waldroop spent Wednesday trout fishing in Moore Creek.

Rev. J. C. Swaim filled his regular appointment at Mt. Zion Sunday. He preached a Mother's Day sermon, using as a text Christ's words on the Cross to John: "Son, behold thy Mother," and a part of the Fifth Commandment, "Honor Thy Father and Mother."

Miss Lucille Brookshire was elected president of the newly reorganized Epworth League Sunday evening.

Mrs. Alex Waldroop, who has been unable to leave her room for months, receives visitors with a cheerful face that should put to shame those of us who are much more blessed in health. Never complaining, she counts her blessings and smiles.

Mrs. Hallie Russell, of Atlanta, spent Sunday visiting her home folks here.

Farmers Lose Money By Grazing Woodlands

Farmers who graze cattle in woodlands lose money both in milk or beef and in timber and erosion control, declares R. W. Graeber, forestry specialist of the State college extension service.

He cites experiments which have shown that managed woodlands yield an annual return of about \$4 per acre, and that the best open pastures yield about the same amount. However, when grazing and forestry are combined on the same area, the yields are much less, the total annual return for typical woodland pasture being only \$1 per acre.

"Why do farmers run their cattle in the woods?" Graeber asks. He answers: "There is only one logical reason: They think they can pick up an extra dollar or two by letting the cattle pick a few buds and twigs in early spring, along with the low-growing plants and a few sprigs of grass or briars which may grow where a few rays of sunlight reach the ground."

"This is a fallacy. A farmer doesn't pick up an extra dollar or two; the cows do not produce as much milk or as much beef as when they graze in open pasture; the timber supply is reduced; grazing woodlands induces erosion and

loss of leaf litter; the fencing bill is higher."

The 1935 farm census showed that North Carolina had 1,574,303 acres of farm woods in use as pasture. Of this, 1,186,788 acres, or slightly more than 75 per cent of the woodland pasture is in the 59 Piedmont and Mountain counties. This is the principal area in which Graeber recommends that all woods grazing be eliminated.

State College Answers Timely Farm Questions

Q. How can I renew my old strawberry beds?

A. Immediately after the harvest is over, a part of each row should be plowed up leaving a strip of plants about six inches wide. The plants are then thinned of all old plants leaving the remaining plants about 18 inches apart. Plow up the middles and continue cultivation throughout the summer. When new runners begin to develop, apply a 5-7-5 fertilizer mixture at the rate of five to seven pounds for each 100 feet of row or from one to two pounds of a mixture containing equal parts of nitrate of soda and cottonseed meal. This will give good bearing plants for the next spring.

Q. Is it more economical to sell broody hens at this time of the year than to break them of broodiness?

A. The broody hens should be sold by all means. The season of high production is passing and birds going broody at this time usually lose a month in being broken of this and in getting back into normal production. By this time, most birds are about ready to go into a molt and thus become unprofitable. It is also true that if the broody factor is dominant, one spell will usually be followed by another and the birds will be out of production the greater part of the time.

Area Fishing Streams To Be Open May 18

The old adage, "All good things come to him who waits," has a most timely application when applied to the Game Refuges on the Nantahala National Forest, being managed cooperatively by the United States Forest Service and the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development.

Two years ago these areas were placed under management as a result of a general public desire and need for such work. The work started from scratch. Deer were stocked, turkey were stocked, trout were stocked. The enthusiasm of the public for these game areas

wavered in some places, in others it remained staunch.

And now comes the pay-off to John Q. Public who has waited patiently to see these areas again re-open to fishing. The areas—all of them—Wayah, Standing Indian, and Fires Creek, will be open to fishing this summer. It will be regulated fishing of the 60,000 trout planted in the game refuge streams. Standing Indian and Fires Creek will be open May 18, 19, and 20 during the first period. And may all fishermen—by they experts or novices—have the kind of luck that produces evidence to back the inevitable fish story!

Many Improvements Made At Cashiers

Last year the new highway went through Cashiers changing the course of the road and going by some peoples' front doors and some back doors, sometimes necessitating moving houses. The result was a scar on the face of Cashiers, and many unsightly spots were brought to light.

The people of Cashiers hated to have visitors see their town looking so ugly, so decided to do something about it. They had a community meeting in the school house to decide what to do. A "working" was planned to which about 50 people came. There were six trucks working all day taking the trash, old car wrecks, etc., out of town. The women provided such a good dinner that everyone was asking when the next "working" would be.

In the Spring they had another meeting at which the moving pictures of the first "working" were shown, followed in a few days by another "working" when laurel, ivy and other native shrubs were put in along the road. Not only this, but nearly everyone fixed up their own places.

Many visitors who were here last summer have since come back and have remarked on the many improvements. However, the people of Cashiers have not finished yet—they intend to make their town the prettiest on Highway 106.

Communications

MR. HILL URGES DOG TAX COLLECTION

Horse Cove, May 15, 1939.

Editor of The Franklin Press: I wish through The Press to enter a complaint as to the manner in which the present tax on dogs in Macon county is enforced.

It seems that it is optional with dog owners as to whether they pay the 50 cents per head tax or not. It seems to me that it is the duty of those whose job it is to enforce the law, to see to it that the law is enforced.

In my neighborhood, and I presume it is the same in all sections of the county, there has never been an effort to collect this tax, and the result is we are overrun with dogs, of both sexes, that are a menace to the stock and even to the people.

I see that Cherokee county is making a valiant effort to enforce this law, and I think it is high time Macon county officers should get busy and see to it that the law is upheld or relegate it to the dead letter office where so many North Carolina laws have gone before.

Respectfully yours,
Frank H. Hill.



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