

# THE BREVARD NEWS

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1929

## EXPRESSES BELIEF THAT WE ARE PRETTY BIG LIARS.

One of our valued subscribers, signing the communication as "Cheerful Philosopher," takes The Brevard News to task for overstating the good things of this community, takes a jibe at the Chamber of Commerce, and makes reference to the Methodist preacher. Following is the letter received Monday:

Editor Brevard News:  
I note with interest your recent editorial regarding Brevard's being a "sick baby." Also an account of Mr. Aycock's sermon on "Hell, Calomel and Hanging."

Before we can hope to cure our sick baby, would it not be well to find out what has brought this sickness on the child?

I heard a summer visitor say, this summer, "Well, I must confess that I am disappointed. I think that the Chambers of Commerce of Asheville, Hendersonville and Brevard are decidedly misleading."

Are our boosters always careful to find out and tell "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?"

For, although I never was one of these people who can take great joy in sending three-fourths of humanity to hell, I always remember that the Good Book does say:

"ALL LIARS shall have their portion in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone"—which is the second death.

And it always seems to me that that refers to the prevaricators in the churches and boosting organizations (Chamber of Anninias and Sapphira) as well as to the miserable wretches who do not belong.

In all seriousness, just what ought we non-boosters to do? Maybe we'll get at it if we can do it and be absolutely truthful.

## CHEERFUL PHILOSOPHER.

Our esteemed contributor raises an important question in the very beginning of the letter. It would, indeed, be well to know what has caused the illness here in this town, and whatever the cause may be, it ought to be removed. If our correspondent knows this cause, it is a patriot's duty to state it.

We had nothing whatever to do with preparing the copy for the Asheville or Hendersonville Chamber of Commerce booklets and literature, but did have the task of preparing the copy that went into the Brevard booklet. In view of the fact that a question of truthfulness has been raised, we think it nothing but right that our contributor point to page and paragraph of any false or misleading information in our booklet.

While the one woman was telling our contributor that she was disappointed in this section, after having read the "Liars' Bulletin," we have heard numerous men and women assert that no man on earth could do justice to this wonderful section in the way of describing its beauty and grandeur in mere written words.

Preacher Aycock impresses us with being amply able to take care of himself, therefore we pass over the reference to his sermon, or any intent he may have of sending three-fourths of the people to hell.

We cannot understand the workings of the wind of the man or woman who feels toward a town's Chamber of Commerce as our correspondent (and many others here) seem to feel toward it. The Chamber of Commerce is simply an organization where men of the town gather, and in these meetings try the best they can to be of service to the community, to promote its growth, to make it a better and richer place. If these sincere purposes are sufficient cause for condemnation on the part of a portion of a community's citizenship, then that community is in need of diagnosis.

We are unable to answer the last question. We do not know what the non-boosters ought to do. We do not know how to talk to a non-booster. Pride in a place is the sole cause of the desire on the part of one to want to boost that place. We cannot imagine any citizen of this community without pride in its manifold beauties and its immense possibilities, therefore we cannot even imagine what a non-booster is like.

## \$240 AN ACRE CROP GROWN IN COUNTY.

R. E. Fortesque, tending the big fruit and trucking farm belonging to W. H. Williams on Rich Mountain, is a farmer, as our colored brethren would say. That apples will grow here has been fully demonstrated by the genial gentleman of this farm. Mr. Fortesque brought a basket of apples to The Brevard News office that are as just as fine as any apples ever grown in any western state. They are just as large, just as perfect, and much better flavored than any of the apples shipped into this section from the west. There are some fourteen hundred apple trees on the farm, and by next year the owners fully expect to reap a real harvest from this orchard.

Mr. Fortesque is also an expert in growing and marketing cabbage. He grew 2000 heads on two acres of land, the heads averaging 8 pounds, for which the farmer received an average of 3 cents a pound, making his income from the two acres, according to Mr. Fortesque's figures, produce an average of \$240 an acre.

It just shows what can be done on the rich lands of Transylvania county, and is but another argument that agriculture, fruit growing, truck farming and stock raising can make Transylvania county one of the richest spots in the Southland.

## ROBBED BY TRUSTS WHILE FIGHTING COMMUNISTS.

We of the South are busily engaged just now with a battle against the encroachment of what is considered a deadly enemy to our form of government—the Communist group.

While our mind is occupied with this matter, another forceful enemy is at work against the people of this government—the Tobacco Trust.

Tobacco is one of the big money crops of North Carolina.

The Tobacco Trust buys this tobacco from the farmer.

The tobacco farmers are not receiving enough for this year's crop to pay the fertilizer bill.

In the face of this low price being paid by the Tobacco Trust for tobacco grown by the farmer, the same Tobacco Trust announced Monday morning that an increase is being made in the price of cigarettes manufactured by the same Tobacco Trust.

Just think of it, will you. This gang pushing the price paid the farmer clear to the bottom, and raising the price on the manufactured product.

Communism is bad. Government by Trusts is bad. Trusts breed revolution; revolution feeds communism. And there you go.

Oh, Ho, Hum! Well, we can yo-yo till the tourists come again, anyhow.

Mayor Jimmie Walker, the dancing, dapper, dudish, devilish little thingamabob who has pranced about as Chief Magistrate of America's greatest city, is now dancing to another tune. He is about to be defeated in his race for a second term. Well, he can get in vaudeville where he may make less money, but would be more at home, however, than he is when popping his little carcass down into the mayor's seat of New York City.

A good one is being told on a "hunter" from Greenville. The story goes that the Greenville man came to Brevard for the purpose of squirrel hunting with one of the local citizens. The two went to a fine place near town, and driving into a field skirted by woodland, they parked their car and made ready for the hunt. The Greenville man took a gun from the car and started right away toward the woods. Immediately he saw a squirrel, a big fellow sitting on a limb and looking with interest at the men. The Greenville man brought his gun to his shoulder and drew the bead. The Brevard man called to him, saying: "Wait a minute. I haven't loaded the guns yet." The Greenville man called back: "I can't wait, doggone it, the squirrel will run away," and proceeded to pull the trigger. And that's that.

## BACHELOR'S CLUB TO MEET MONDAY EVENING, OCT. 14

The Brevard Bachelor's club will hold their regular semi-monthly meeting at their club house on Monday evening, October 14, at 7:30 o'clock. All members are urged to be present as important matters are to come up.

## MISS BEULAH ZACHARY WINS COLLEGE DISTINCTION

Miss Beulah Zachary, who is in her Sophomore year at Salem College, has been selected as secretary of the class for the year. Miss Zachary was a member of the graduating class of the Brevard High School of 1927.

## DAVIDSON RIVER PRESBY CHURCH RICH IN HISTORY AND TRADITION

(Historical Sketch Given By Judge Robt. L. Gash, Sunday, Oct. 6, 1929.)

During the summer of 1928 we celebrated the Centennial of Davidson River Presbyterian church, counting the original organization of the church from the organization and election of Elders in June 1828, the meeting being conducted by Rev. H. M. Keer, the evangelist, at which time Rev. Christopher Bradshaw was installed as pastor. We have the seasonal records from June 1828 to the present time.

The fact that there were well organized Camp Meeting Grounds at both Davidson River and Mills River would imply considerable organization and work prior to 1828, but we merely counted from the date we had definite records.

At the Centennial Meeting the talk of W. R. Kimzey gave me another line of information, and the added statement that the organization in 1828 was in fact but a re-organization, and that the definite history of the church was more than a quarter of a century earlier.

Beginning with this lead, starting with the obituary of John Murray, from June 1828 until he united with (who was an elder of this church Mills River church in 1850) published in the Asheville News in 1860, I find that John Murray joined the Davidson River Presbyterian church the latter part of the year 1802; that he was elected an elder at the re-organization of the church under Rev. Christopher Bradshaw in 1828, and dwells at length on his service in the church. The editor of the Asheville News was related to Murray's wife, and to various families on Mills River and Davidson River. There were numerous old settlers familiar with the facts. The account I think we can safely say is correct.

This places the organization of Davidson River church as prior to the Fall of the year 1802.

There are other points bearing on the point. Thomas Patton and other residents of Davidson River and French Broad Valleys obtained their letters of dismission from Swannanoa Presbyterian church in 1800.

In the Fall of 1800 Bishop Asbury of the Methodist church, mentions in his diary of stopping at the residence of Ben Davidson, and holding services. He also mentions that Mr. Davis, the Presbyterian minister was present. His sermon was on the text "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

In October 1800 a petition was presented to the Synod of the Carolinas (embracing the territory of what is now the two Carolinas, Tennessee and Georgia) for the establishment of Greenville Presbytery, covering the territory drained by the Halston, the Clinch and the French Broad Rivers. The four ministers on this petition were Rev. George Newton of "Swannanoa and Reems Creek," and Rev. Daniel Davis of Davidson River, and two ministers from what is now East Tennessee. This Presbytery was in existence for four years, and was dissolved in 1804. The distances were too great and the settlers too few.

About 1815 there was a deed to trustees for the meeting house—to members that according to our records were members of this church. This land joined the Trull lands, the Allison lands, and the Avery lands, and was, about as near as I can figure it, northeast of Lambs Creek, and northwest of the railroad, and not far from the middle of the bottoms of the W. H. Allison farm, and about 300 or 400 yards south of where the residence of Rev. Daniel Davis stood.

A church erected according to this deed would have been very convenient to the preacher, but considering the fact that it was then surrounded by swamp on three sides, it would have been a very inconvenient location for the congregation.

Walnut Grove, on Ben Davidson's land had long been a meeting place liked by the people, and fairly convenient to both valleys. In the meantime Mr. Davis was getting on in years. (He was too old and feeble for active service in 1828).

It is quite possible that a disagreement on location in a small flock was an important cause leading to the church becoming dormant between 1815 and 1828.

Ben Davidson deeded Walnut Grove to the "trustees for the Free Meeting House" in 1826. The first building was erected just about that time. He died in 1828. In the same year, Davidson River Presbyterian church was "organized"—as we have heretofore called it. In view of the information developed later, we can safely say that it was at that time re-organized.

The original organization was some time between the Summer of the year 1800 and the Fall of 1802, and, considering all the evidence I have been able to obtain, my opinion is that the church was first formally organized at the close of the Camp Meeting season of the year 1800, with Rev. Daniel Davis as the first pastor; that meetings were held in "Walnut Grove," at Ben Davidson's residence or at the pastor's residence, depending on the weather; that there was a dispute as to location of the permanent church building sometime between 1815 and 1825, and that the different families dividing on the different locations as well as the unsettled conditions following the War of 1812-1815, resulted in the church becoming dormant, and that the organization of 1828 was in fact a reorganization of the church which had been organized 28 years earlier. The definite records fix the original organization as prior to the Fall of 1802. I believe the contemporaneous and related evidences are sufficient for us to place the date two years earlier.

We can safely place the founding of the church as "Davidson River Day, 129 years ago."

## SCHOOL CORNER

"Brighten the corner where you are" Conducted by S. P. VERNER County Superintendent

A visit to the Pisgah Forest School found the veteran Prof. W. B. Henderson with an overflowing house, as has been the case everywhere else. The children there were live wires—attentive, interested, responsive, to the short talks I made, which I try to make specifically entertaining in order to gain attention. Emphasis was laid on care about roads and automobiles, as this place is particularly exposed to the dangers of traffic, with that sharp curve right at the bridge and the river. The sooner some other way of getting off the highway there is devised the better.

The ladies helping Mr. Henderson are capable and devoted, and they are doing splendid work this year. The faculty consists of Misses Julia Deaver, Annie May Patton and Flora Lyday, and Emily Ruth Moore.

It is hoped that the attendance at the District Association meeting at Asheville Oct. 18th will be attended with a full representation. The same rules as hitherto will apply as to leave of absence for the purpose.

Teachers are urged to emphasize health instruction at the opening exercises of their schools. One of the main reasons for the lack of high attendance last year—which, however, was not relatively lower than in most other counties—was the prevalence of epidemics. To ward these off as far as possible is a definite part of school work, and the task calls for energetic and intelligent effort. Children ought to be closely watched, and all cases of suspected infection reported both to parents and to the Superintendent's office at once. Parents should be urged to consult their physicians freely. Prevention is better than cure.

## SPENCER MACFIE HONORED AT DAVIDSON COLLEGE

Spencer M. Macfie, a freshman at Davidson College, has been pledged to the Kappa Alpha fraternity of that institution.

A total of 87 members of the freshman class and five upperclassmen were pledged last week to the 11 social fraternities having chapters at Davidson, following an intensive three-week period of rushing.

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