

Descriptive Of Former Years In The Mountains

By LOU HARSHAW
News Director Asheville Chamber Of Commerce

No other section of the country is so rich, so colorful in tradition, songs, dances and speech as is that part of the land where the Blue Ridge Mountains swing down to meet the Great Smokies and form Western North Carolina.

From the time of the first settlers, the folks who lived along the ridges and in the valley, have been a proud, hardy, independent people. A people who are given to mostly being to their own ways—doing their own thing. The customs that were brought from the "old country," England and Scotland, have persisted through the years.

Sometimes the living was very hard, where a little rain, some tempestuously to an acre or two of land, and a few sheep, were the only means of support. The hills were steep and hard to climb, and the valleys were narrow and deep. The people were few and far between. The life there was a hardy, rugged life. The people were given to their own ways, and their own customs. The customs that were brought from the "old country," England and Scotland, have persisted through the years.

Out of a need for entertainment was born one of the most colorful traditional country dances in America. This dance was a rhythmic, hip-swinging, foot-tapping dance that kept time to the fast moving country music and expressed a certain poetic feeling to these folks as much as Brahms and Bach did for their

Service At Ponders Chapel On Sunday

The choir and pastor from Tried Stone Baptist Church of Asheville will be at Ponders Chapel Colored Church Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

Whenever a few of the folks got together, out would come a banjo, the main instrument of music for the hill people, and pretty soon a guitar and maybe a harmonica, and some one would hop up to do the clog steps. Joyful and joyful, the clog, when properly done is as artistic as the fiddle or fop.

The clog can be done by either a square dance, or by one person. It's a fast shuffle of the feet, sometimes done on the rough wood floors of the house, sometimes beat out on the dirt, or on a board, or on the rain and mud of many feet, have packed into a red clay ground as hard as cement. The clog was known and done all the way from Allegheny County to Greenwood, Ga. in Georgia.

Today, the clog dance is still being done in North Carolina, and a good clog specialist will have an individuality in his steps that makes him famous the width and breadth of all the mountain section.

BALL CITY

There was a large crowd attending church at Ball City Sunday evening. The Rev. Coleman Brown delivered a wonderful sermon.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Moore and family were visiting Mrs. Doshia Donaldson and family Sunday.

Mrs. Martha Price and Mrs. Ida Mae Worley were visiting Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Moore Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Fisher and son, Ray, of Clyde were visiting her mother, Mrs. Rachel Coward Sunday.

Miss Shirley Fish is staying with Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wells. Mrs. Wells has been very sick. We hope for her a very speedy recovery.

Rev. and Mrs. Gordon Crump and children, Modan and Kenneth, of Icard, N. C., spent Friday night with Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Moore and family.

Mrs. Doyle Miller was visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wells Sunday morning.

L. J. Moore spent Saturday night with Charles Coward.

There are lots of children out of school with the mumps. We hope they will soon be well again.

Farm Equipment Should Be Handled With Utmost Caution

Quite often when we pick up a newspaper, we read about someone that has been killed or maimed by a tractor or some other piece of farm machinery. We can't say that it won't happen here. There are a number of instances where it has al-



Top Students Of Walnut Class Picked

Honor students for the 1955 graduating class of Walnut High School have been named by Ralph E. Neill, principal. Miss Mary-Sue Shelton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Shelton of Walnut, is valedictorian, and Miss Ruth Anne Tweed, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carol Tweed, also of Walnut, is salutatorian.

Miss Shelton has been active in extra curricular activities during her high school career. She has been a class, Beta Club and 4-H Club officer, reporter for school papers, manager of the girls' basketball team, chief marshal for commencement exercises, and a member of the school glee club. Her average for four years in high school is 93.4.

Miss Tweed has also served as commencement marshal, an officer in the glee club, 4-H Club and class, and was Beta Club president this year. She was a member of the girls' basketball squad for four years, and was awarded a trophy for the outstanding player in the Madison County tourney this year. She has a scholastic average of 92.2 for her four years.

ready happened in Madison County. We need to become safety conscious so that none of these tragic accidents will cripple or take the lives of any members of our Madison County farm families.

Mr. J. A. Buckner, a Madison County farmer of the White Oak community, is well aware of the dangers involved to others, as well as himself, in the use of farm equipment. Mr. Buckner has two young boys. They like to play on the tractor the same as most other farm boys do. When he brings his tractor and equipment from the field he always releases the hydraulic lift; this lets the weight of the equipment rest on the ground. By doing this, he prevents the danger of one boy accidentally releasing the weight of the equipment and crushing the other.

Let's become safety conscious. The life we save may be our own or, the life of someone even more precious to us.

Sometimes a man gets a hard fall from the big bluff he puts up.

Rural Health Meet To Be In Asheville Next Thursday

A Western North Carolina Regional Rural Health Conference will be held on Thursday of next week, March 24, 1955, in Asheville at the George Vanderbilt Hotel, sponsored by the Medical Society of North Carolina's Committee on Rural Health.

The afternoon session presided over by Dr. W. Wyan Washburn of Boiling Springs, will be taken up with a forum discussion on the topic "Personal Health and Possible Solution." The panel will have as its moderator, Dr. W. O. Duck, of Mars Hill, with panel representatives as follows:

Representing Dental Health, Dr. John A. Brauer, Deah of the School of Dentistry of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; for Mental Health will be Dr. M. J. Hozzowski of Asheville; for Physical Examinations will be Dr. William H. Birch of Biltmore; and for Child Care will be Dr. R. D. Daniels of Sylva.

Following the panel discussion the Reverend Robert Stamey, President of Bereard College, will discuss "Fighting More Effectively in Community Health," which will include a summary of the



GLAD FOR ARREST

Oklahoma City, Okla. — For one time in his life, Alvie Watham was glad to be arrested. Officers, arriving at his home, jerked Watham out of a burning bed where he had gone to sleep with a lighted cigarette in his hand. He was charged with four separate traffic violations.

Expressing the appreciation of the State Medical Society for those participating in the day's program will be Dr. J. P. Rousseau of Winston-Salem, President-elect of the State Medical Society.

Attendance is encouraged from all persons in Western North Carolina who are interested in matters of Rural Health.

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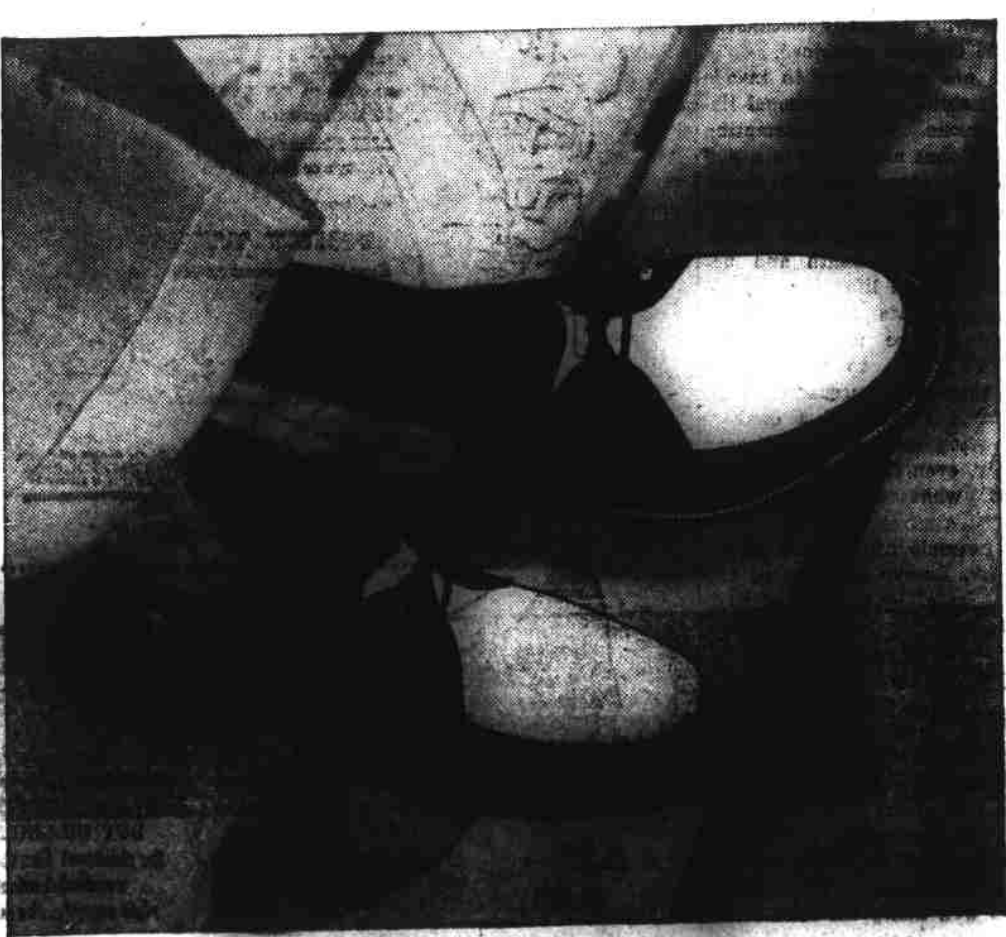
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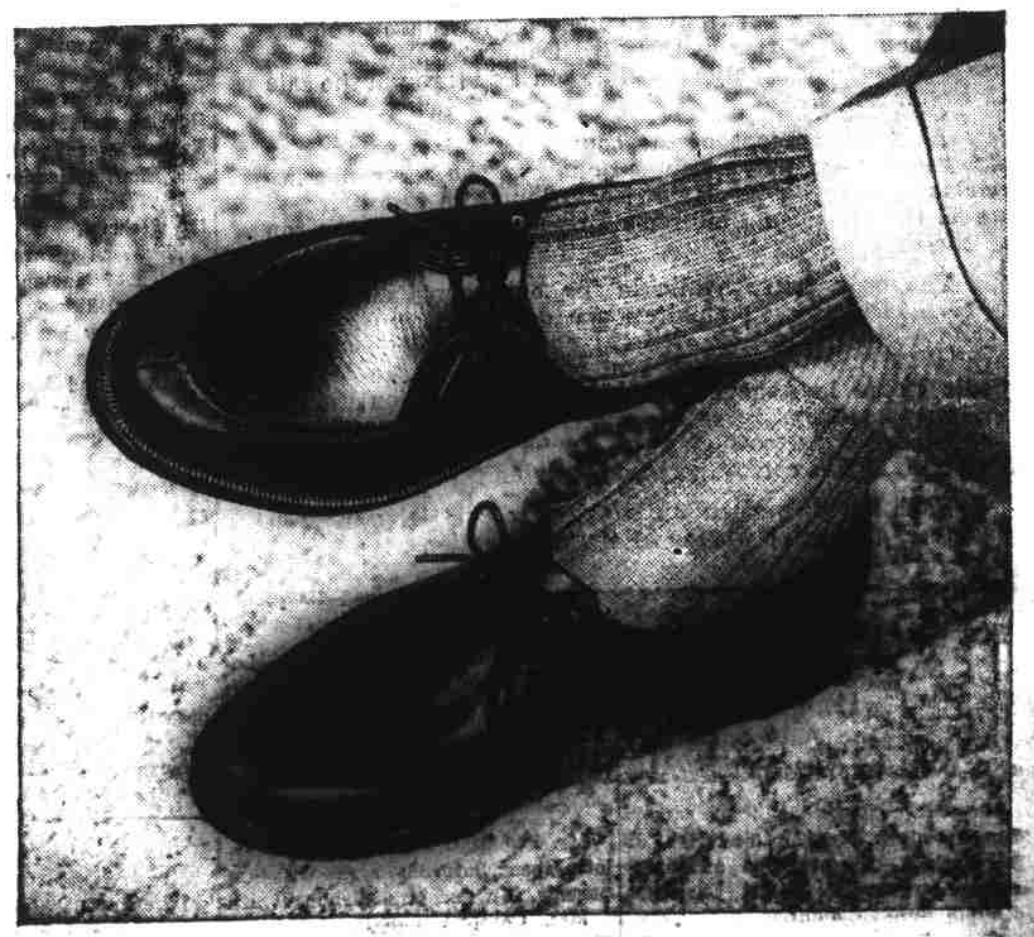
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