

HOT SPRINGS

The WMU of the Baptist Church held its annual Christmas party Dec. 7 at the home of Mrs. Lee Fowler. The ladies entertained their husbands with a chicken supper, after which they held their regular meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Barwell have gone to Chicago to spend Christmas with their daughters.

The Friendship Club held its annual Christmas party at the high school lunchroom Dec. 14. The ladies of the club served a delicious turkey dinner and their husbands were all invited to attend. Other invited guests included Rev. and Mrs. Calvin Metcalf, Mr. Joe Tilson, Dr. and Mrs. Milling, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield, and Miss Eula Fowler.

Mrs. Mary Jones and daughter of Clyde visited Mr. and Mrs. Paul McFall Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Russell and children of Atlanta, Ga., visited Mr. and Mrs. Tom Russell last week.

The regular meeting of the Home Demonstration Club was held at the home of Mrs. Eliza Buckner Dec. 13. Gifts were exchanged and a "social hour" was enjoyed by all.

Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Izlar of Chattanooga, Tenn., spent last weekend with their mothers, Mrs. Mildred Izlar and Mrs. Myrtle Burgh.

Terry and Susan, children of Mr. and Mrs. John Louis Moore, have been very sick lately. We are glad they are improving.

We are very sorry to hear that Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ellenburg are moving soon to Mississippi. Mr. Ellenburg is the forest ranger here.

THAT CRAZY STOVE

Berlin — Radio engineers are amazed that a "perfectly normal" electric kitchen stove plays radio programs while its owner, a West Berlin housewife, cooks the family meals on it. Mrs. Meta Semler's stove, which is several years old, began recently to play radio programs. She called the engineers, who could find no secret devices and decided the nearby re-

FARMER GROUP HAS LEAST HEADACHES

A recent survey shows that medical students have more headaches than any other group of citizens in the United States. Running medical students a close second are the business executives.

Medical students, the survey showed, are found to have headaches in a percentage ratio of approximately eighty per cent. Thus, four out of five medical students suffer from recurring headaches.

Business executives run them a close second, and it is estimated that seventy-seven per cent of all business executives suffer from headaches. Total figures are that over fifty per cent of the general population have headaches.

If you are wondering which group has the fewest headaches, it is the farmer group. Only one out of every two farmers, or fifty per cent, are thought to suffer from headaches. Manual laborers do pretty well and only fifty-five of them suffer from headaches. Salesmen suffer at a ratio of about fifty-eight per cent, and 68 per cent of all clerks are found to suffer from headaches.

Seventy per cent of the housewives surveyed suffer from recurring headaches and professional persons are just one point higher.

No one need interpret these figures. It is obvious that the tension of modern life, especially for those in the tension-filled occupations, is putting a severe load on our nervous systems. These figures help explain the increasing number of heart attacks, and strokes, suffered by Americans, as contrasted to lesser percentage occurrences of these attacks among the people of other countries of the world.

lay tower of a radio station just happened to hit a wave length in the metal parts of the stove, turning it into a primitive receiving set.

Medieval Dinner Once Was Popular Custom For Cords

Eating peas with a knife is contrary to Emily Post and doesn't seem to have much qualification for observance as a Christmas tradition, but for more than 25 years cords at Pennsylvania State University partook of a fork-less meal each Yule season.

The traditional medieval dinner, complete with everything from costumed lords and ladies to the legendary boar's head, dated back to 1919, finally had to be cancelled when cord ranks swelled to almost 1,000.

The affair, sponsored by the Women's Student Government Association, began with a formal procession through the dining hall. Lord and Lady McAllister—the dinner was held in McAllister Hall—led the throng, which included noble lords and ladies, heralds, a poet, a cardinal, pages, and two jesters bearing the boar's head.

All these girls were appropriately costumed and sat upon a raised dais in the center of the holly-bedecked room, which was illuminated by candlelight.

A choir furnished Christmas music, and the poet entertained the guests by reading Old English poetry from a scroll. In accordance with medieval custom, no forks or napkins were allowed, although guests sometimes secreted them in their pockets. The menu consisted of roast pork, mashed potatoes, peas, and a very rich plum pudding.

Today's students eat a special Christmas dinner before going home for vacation—but it's served "a la carte" style. They're allowed a full complement of table utensils.

The tallest Christmas tree on record was a 212 foot Douglas fir set up in 1950 in Northgate, a suburb of Seattle, Washington. It displayed 3,500 colored lights.

Baltimore, Md. — Following closely behind a panel truck, loaded with bee hives full of bees, Randolph Fenton, 22, suddenly was attacked by a swarm of the insects which escaped from one of the hives. Fenton drove to Union Memorial Hospital where he was treated for stings on the face, head, neck, hands and arms.

MARS HILL

Glad to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Joseph B. Huff and family to their home recently purchased on the high school ridge.

Mrs. Roy-Well leaves the latter part of this week for Birmingham, Ala., to spend Christmas with her son, Albert, and family.

Miss Carolyn Anderson arrived Sunday from Sanford, Fla., where she is a teacher this year. Miss Sara Anderson, her sister, who is a teacher at Quantico, Va., is expected the latter part of this week.

Miss Daisy Anderson is home for the holidays from Bristol where she is librarian at Sullins College.

Miss Mary Alice Huff arrived Monday from Boone to spend the holidays here with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray N. Jarvis and family are expected Saturday for a week's visit with home folks.

Mrs. Brooke Mehaffey and two little daughters of Charlotte are here for a holiday visit with her mother, Mrs. K. B. Murray.

Local young people away in college who are returning for the holidays include: Miss Hannah Blackwell, from Wake Forest; Miss Barbara Gail Anderson, from WCC, Cullowhee; Misses Jane Wells and Lorena Lee from WOUNC, Greensboro; Miss Florence Metcalf, Tommy Edwards and Charles Robinson from Chapel Hill; Justus Ammons and Leonard Tilson, from State College, Raleigh; Roy Yates Ammons, ETTC, Johnson City, Tenn.; and Grove Robinson, from Art School of Columbia University, New York. Doug Robinson Jr., is expected home from New York for a few days over the weekend.

Miss Alma Freeman, who has been teaching in Lumberton since Thanksgiving, is to return this weekend. Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Wood spent last weekend with their son, Lee, and family in Johnson City.

Prepare to live tomorrow by living every minute of today.

The more a man knows about himself, the less he says about it.

From Where Came Christmas Trees?

Like so many other Christmas customs, the origin of the tree tradition is not definitely known. One theory holds that the 8th-century missionary Boniface persuaded the Teutons to transfer their worship of Odin's sacred oak to an evergreen decorated in honor of the Christ child.

Popular legend has it that the first Christmas tree originated in Egypt where the first trees used were palm trees. Another story says that Martin Luther decorated a tree with candles to simulate an evergreen shimmering with starlit snow.

We do know the Germans did much to popularize the use of Christmas trees, introducing them into both England and America. The German Prince Albert, consort of Queen Victoria, started the custom in England when he had a tree for his young daughter. The tradition crossed the Atlantic with Hessian mercenaries during the American Revolution.

Early Saxons named the curious berried tree parasite used as a Yule-time decoration "Mistletoe," meaning a shoot of a tree. Early Nordics dedicated mistletoe to their goddess of love and started kissing under it as a gesture of friendship and love.

To keep his head up successfully a man must keep his feet on solid ground.

Easy street and the straight and narrow do not intersect.

Mrs. Sallie Payne Passes Monday; Rites Today

Funeral services for Mrs. Sallie Lavada Payne, 81, of Walnut, who died Monday night, December 17, 1956, at 7:00 o'clock in an Asheville nursing home after a long illness, were conducted this (Thursday) morning at 10 o'clock in the chapel of the Bowman-Rector Funeral Home. The Rev. Ralph Hogan officiated and burial was in the Payne Cemetery on Anderson Branch.

She was a native of Madison County.

She is survived by her husband, James Payne; two sons, 5 daughters, two brothers and two sisters.

Ham-Turkey Shoot At Laurel River Saturday, Dec. 22

It was announced here that a "Ham-Turkey Shoot" will be held at the Old Mill Wheel at Laurel River Saturday, December 22. The event will last all day. Ammunition will be furnished. Everybody is invited to participate.

People who refuse to look facts squarely in the face cannot expect to win an argument.

Outdoor Decorations Began in Small Towns

Today nearly every community in the land has some kind of outdoor Christmas decorations and in nearly every big city you can find two or three spectacular displays. It was a small town that first came up with the idea of lighting up the outdoors at Christmas time, but no one is quite sure which town gets credit for the idea.

Four communities are believed to have thought of it about the same time, as early as 1913. Two of them, McDonald and Germantown, are in Pennsylvania. Salem, Ore., decorated a Sitka spruce and Riverside, Calif., illuminated a large evergreen, an Aracuria.

The little metal trumpets decorating Christmas trees date from early Danish custom of blowing in the Yule with four hymns representing the four corners of the world.



May the spirit of Christmas tiptoe into this day and become a lasting memory.

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