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 JAMES I. STORY, Editor

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Heard and Seen

by Pop Story

Frequent comment heard during coldest days of Winter was "gosh, I'll be glad when summer and hot weather gets here"....during the past several days the comment has frequently been "gosh, I wish it wasn't so hot"....it's really hard to satisfy all people...I've started a garden up home (thanks to Gary Davis)...have a few cabbages, onions, cucumbers, corn, beans, tomatoes and rhubarb...so far, the garden is just "so-so"...but maybe there'll be results later on...I'm not noted for my ability to be a successful gardener so I won't be too surprised if this year's "crop" is, at best,

mediocre...the Athletic Banquet Friday night was enjoyable and the view from the school cafeteria is magnificent...the meal was real good...and the whole affair was interesting...the presentation of trophies was well done and everyone had a good time. Clive Whitt, principal of the Marshall Elementary School on the Island, gave the pupils an "off day from classes" Monday when he let them assemble in the auditorium for an informal chapel program which included singing and watching an exciting movie...I was asked to play a few pieces on the piano and the kids really helped by joining in and singing...three retiring teachers were given gifts (engraved silver plates)...Grover Gillis, who has ably served as County School Supervisor for many years, was also presented a gift...and all-in-all, it was a fine gesture by Mr. Whitt and the faculty...I also enjoyed the tour to the various departments as Miss Ann McKinney acted as my guide...congratulations to Mr. Whitt, Mr. Gillis, and everyone for making so many improvements at our old Alma Mater...many things have changed since the '30's when I was a student but memories still linger vividly in my mind everytime I visit the school...

WILLIAM A. WAGNER has been promoted by Carolina Power & Light Co. to accounting supervisor in the Hartsville area office. Wagner joined CP&L in 1968 as a clerk in Asheville, N. C. He was promoted to senior clerk in 1969. In 1971, he was promoted to office supervisor and transferred to Clinton, N.C. He was transferred to Hartsville as office supervisor in 1972. A native of Hamptonville, N.C., Wagner was graduated from Charles D. Owen High School, Swannanoa, and Blanton's Business College, Asheville. He is married to the former Brenda Ramsey of Marshall and they have one child, Chris. Wagner is a member of West Hartsville Baptist Church.

Remembering Madison County

By EDNA GENTRY ALEXANDER
 All around me I hear people talking. They're saying things like "those awful thirties and the Great Depression." Now, I don't usually pay attention to people talking, but when I hear things like that, I perk up my ears, because I know about the thirties.

The thirties, for me, was when I had all of Madison County to enjoy, from Mars Hill to Marshall, to the Laurel river and back through Walnut and down to Barnard, across the river and up Big Pine. It was growing up on a farm in the Lower Brush Creek section, working hard in Summer, and walking two miles to school at Walnut. It was being poor and not having much money, but never being hungry, because we grew most of our food on the farm, so there was always plenty. Not having money wasn't always so bad. If I needed a new dress, Mama would just catch up a squawking hen or a couple of protesting fryers and tie their legs together, and off we'd to Clyde McClure's Walnut Supply Company, where he sold everything from harness and nails to popicles. He would pick out a piece of yard goods which he kept under the counter. Mama would sew up a dress for me in no time at all. Of course, later, when I wanted to go to college so badly, money was very important, because you had to have money to go, and we didn't have any, so I couldn't go. But I kept on learning, anyway.

The thirties was being in Miss Dorothy's (Roberts) fourth grade and liking it. We could look out the window of the "old school building," before the "new building" across the playground burned down about a year later, and see Hotel Switzerland, with its veranda that went all the way across, shaded by trees so that that had such wide spreading branches that we just knew they had been there forever. Sometimes, we could see Mrs. Haynes out back, plucking a chicken, preparing it for dinner. I missed the hotel when it was torn down a little later to make way for the big new school building that still dominates the scene at Walnut.

It was the thirties when I was in seventh grade and couldn't go to Commencement exercises, because I had measles and someone had to bring me my diploma that was tied with black and yellow ribbons, the school's colors. It was having Clyde Roberts for my Civics teacher in High School. He was a good teacher, it wasn't his fault that things like Caesar's reforms and earlier civilizations got lost somewhere for me along the last thirty five years. But I distinctly remember having to write the words "Silence is golden" over and over, hundreds of times for him. I couldn't have had better teachers for English and English Literature than Anna Mary Hyde and Ted Carter, and I can't remember much about dangling participles, but I do think about how "A thing of beauty is a joy forever" (Keats) and "The Moving Finger writes and, having writ, moves on," (Omar Khayyam). I probably couldn't do the experiments that Miss Moody (Frances Chandler) had us do in Science back then, but I do remember what she wrote in my "memory book." It was "Never be discouraged when the way is dark, for Day follows Night." These words have been a comfort to me over the years.

Singing

There will be a regular fifth Saturday night singing at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Marshall Saturday night May 31. Beginning at 7:30 p.m. All singers and listeners are invited. Lyda Brown is in charge.

Letters to the Editor:

MARS HILL LUNCH CLUB
 I would like to suggest that you do a feature story on the Mars Hill Lunch Club. In case you are not familiar with the Lunch Club, I will tell you that this is part of the Land of Sky program, the goal of which is to provide nutritious meals and fellowship for people in the community over 60 years of age. The Lunch Club is a relatively new program. I believe it's been in action for about a year and the members seem to be enjoying it. They've been working on

crafts and participating in song fests and Bible study as well as coming for the lunch. One aspect which I find interesting about the program is how they have been able to get the cooperation of the whole community. One organization provides volunteers to assist with the serving of the meals and to participate in the fellowship of the members. Some organizations are donating money to help pay for the crafts. Others are providing special programs of entertainment for the members. In case you are wondering

who I am, I am one of the members of the organization (Contempo) which provides volunteers to assist with the meals, and I would like to see the Lunch Club get some publicity. I think it's a very good program. They can serve more people if more people are interested in coming, so the publicity would be good for those needy persons as well. If you would like more information about the Lunch Club, you can contact Mrs. Joan Middaugh, the director of the Mars Hill program. She is at the Mars Hill Baptist Church where the Lunch Club meets from 11:30 til 1:00 or later.

Sincerely yours,
 - Mary DeVries
 Mars Hill, N.C.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The above letter is appreciated and this newspaper endorses and congratulates those responsible for such a worthwhile program. Further publicity, with pictures, will be welcomed.

Re: U.S. Senator Morgan Releases Opinion of Ship Capture - The News Record dated May 22, 1975.

Are we to infer that it was Senator Morgan's letter to the President that was responsible for the action taken that caused the prompt release of the S.S. Mayaguez?

If so, the Senator could have at least acknowledged that the immediate response of President Ford made it possible for the ship and crew to be released.

Sincerely,
 - William G. Tisdale
 Major A.U.S. Ret.
 Mars Hill, N.C. and
 Grand Rapids, Mich.
 (Jerry Ford's home town)

As late as the 18th century, some Spaniards supposed that copper grew in the ground and that if a mine was left alone, it would become productive again.

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Raleigh Report

by Ernest Messer

North Carolina's \$6.9 billion biennial budget recommended by the Governor and the Advisory Budget Commission will have to be reduced \$288 million to balance with projected tax revenue.

Hardest hit will be the proposed expenditures for 1975-76, which must be reduced \$157 million; expenditures for the second year of the biennium will have to be trimmed by \$131 million.

The budget for highways will have to be reduced by \$14,000,000.

These adjustments will involve a five percent reduction in programs supported by the General Fund and a two percent reduction in highway programs.

These reductions can be alleviated somewhat if the two \$40 million bond proposals adopted by the General Assembly and submitted to a vote by the people. One of these proposals, offered by Representative Liston Ramsey, provides \$40 million to be used for capital expenditures by the University System; the other \$40 million proposal by Rep. Carolyn Mathis of Mecklenburg County would provide funds for the ECU Medical School. Both these bond bills are now being considered by the House Finance Committee.

Even if the two bond proposals are adopted, some very painful cutting will still be necessary to balance expenditures with revenues. Indications are that the economy axe will fall hardest on the \$137 million recommended for pay increases for

teachers and state employees and on the \$16,600,000 recommended for highway department pay increases.

Most appropriations requested for special projects will probably be denied.

The House has approved a bill to move the primary to the last Tuesday in August. If a second primary is necessary, it will be held four weeks after the first primary.

Alex Brock, Secretary - Director of the State Board of Elections, says this move will cause some difficulty in getting ballots printed and distributed throughout the State and that the process of voting absentee ballots by mail will have to be speeded up.

The Presidential Primary, if it is retained, will have to be rescheduled. It cannot be held in August, because by then the party conventions will be over and a Presidential Primary would have no meaning since each party would already

have selected its nominee. Speculation is that the primary will be scheduled for late March. There is some concern about the extra \$500,000 a separate Presidential Primary will cost.

The Senate has passed what it calls a "No-Fault Insurance Act." It is not a no-fault plan, however, and some Senators who opposed the bill said it was an attempt to deceive the people.

A true no-fault plan restricts the right to sue below a specified monetary level (usually \$2,000); but the Senate plan places no restrictions on law suits. The Senate plan will provide no savings to the automobile owner, because he will still be required to carry liability insurance in addition to no-fault.

Indications are that this General Assembly will not adopt a no-fault insurance plan.

Morgan Visits Historic Sites

Joe L. Morgan visited a number of historic sites last week. One of the more interesting ones was the Kingston, Georgia Cemetery where 250 Confederate soldiers were buried. These soldiers "known but to God" fell in the battles of Missionary Ridge, Dalton, Kingston and Chickamauga during the Civil War.

Kingston has had Confederate Memorial Day continuously since May 1865, the only place where this tradition has been upheld for such an extended period in the United States. On a marker

erected by the Georgia Historical Commission is this unique expression relative to the gallant soldiers of the thin gray line: "Here lie the greatest fighters of all times." Near the Kingston Confederate Cemetery was the site of the Hargis House where General William T. Sherman was headquartered in May 1864 while reorganizing his forces for the sweep his soldiers were to take to Atlanta and ultimately to Savannah. Nearby is the Kingston Museum which houses memorabilia, artifacts and historical matter relating

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