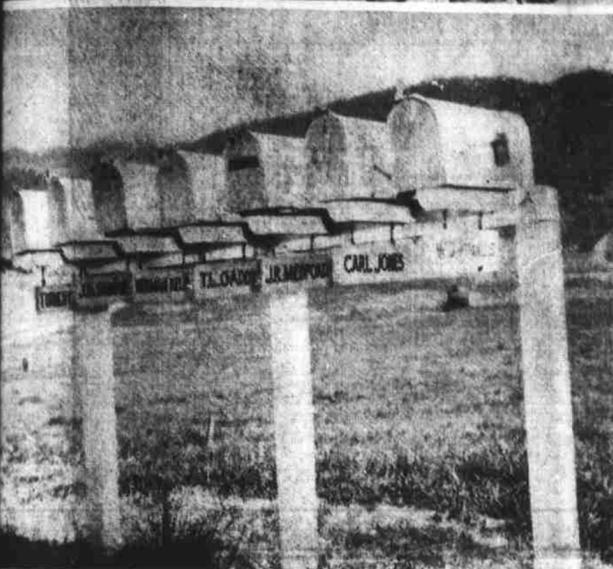
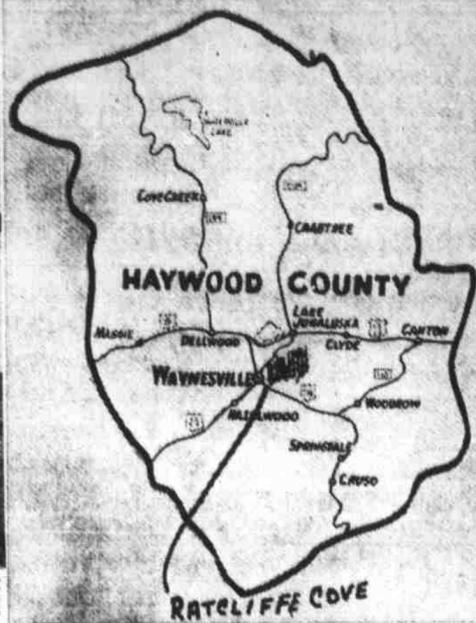
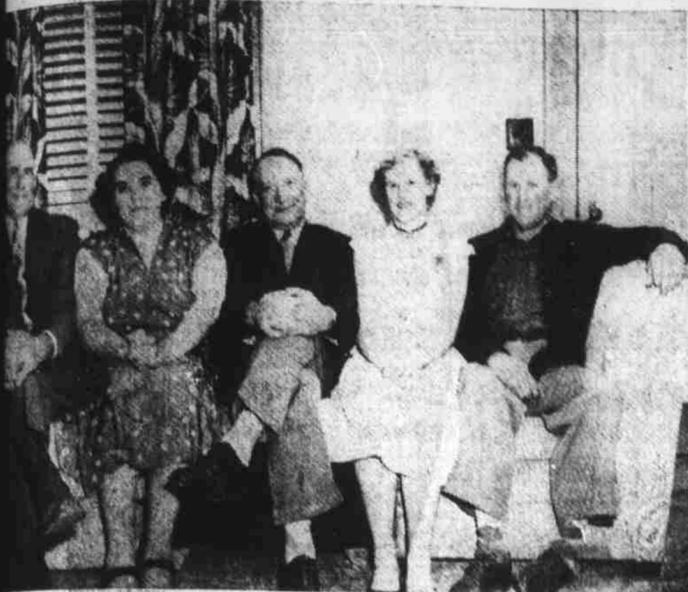


The Eleventh Of A Series of Farm-Home Pictorial Pages



Ratcliffe Cove Citizens Working Harder On Civic Projects; Seek New Honors

Citizens of Ratcliffe Cove are proud of their cooperation and are paying dividends. In paying the community as well as the individuals, the community has in their Development Program of the \$500 which they won in place in the 1949 achievement communities. The 1950 have not been announced. Ratcliffe Cove citizens feel their treasury will be increased by the check awards are out.

Ratcliffe Cove is looking beyond its own boundaries and have entered the Western North Carolina and hope to come out of it with a lot of folding green.

Small in area, the people of Ratcliffe Cove were quick to recognize the importance of the Community Development Program, and right to work. The names of the mail boxes soon caught the attention of many other communities, and almost every section of

No. 1—Officers of the Ratcliffe Community Development Program, are shown in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Galloway. Seated, left to right: R. C. Francis, chairman; Mrs. Carl Jones, reporter; Mark Galloway, treasurer; Miss Nancy Leopard, secretary, and Lem Leopard, vice chairman.

No. 2—A group of mail boxes with identical name plates. This was one of the first such projects in the county.

No. 4—The two signs at the intersection of the Ratcliffe Road and Highway 19A-23 attract much attention. The sign on the right was

erected by the community, while the one on the left was put up by the State Test Farm.

each other. They take pride in the accomplishments of their fellow citizens. As one drives through the section with a citizen of the community, they will point to such places, and remark, "There is where the chairman of the Haywood board of commissioners lives," or "now there is where a former member of the state highway commission lives."

The Community Development Program group has a community house — a former brick school, where the meetings are held the second Thursday of each month. R. C. Francis is chairman; Lem Leopard is vice-chairman; Miss Nancy Leopard, secretary; Mark Galloway treasurer, and Mrs. Carl Jones, reporter.

The children of Ratcliffe Cove attend the schools in Waynesville — the grammar school students go to East Waynesville, and the others to high school. The school has 364 students, six grades, and is served by three buses.

CHURCHES
There are two churches in Ratcliffe Cove—the Ratcliffe Cove Baptist church, with a membership of 186, and the Rev. R. P. McCracken, pastor. The Sunday school enrollment is 154, which is just one more than the Sunday School at Elizabeth Chapel, the Methodist church, with a membership of 125. Rev. Paul Taylor is pastor of this church. Both churches play an important part of the community life and are well kept and progressive.

RECREATION
People are still talking of the womanless wedding staged by the Ratcliffe Cove men some months ago. This is typical of their recreation on a community-wide basis. When they go out to put on a project, they go all the way. The same applies to their basketball, softball teams, and spelling bees.

Whether a debating team could be classified as a form of recreation is questionable, but the manner in which the Ratcliffe Cove people enter debates, makes it an educational feature. Some of their debaters are in demand for performances throughout the area.

INCOME
The farms of Ratcliffe Cove are generally rather small, with many families working at industrial plants, and caring for small acreage to supplement their industrial incomes. Yet with all this, there are three of the largest dairies in the county in Ratcliffe Cove, about 30 acres of burley grown.

Last year's burley crop meant over \$26,000 to Ratcliffe Cove farmers, who averaged 306 per pound, and grew an average of 1,860 pounds per acre.

Ray Meadors averaged 59 cents for his crop of 1,448 pounds, while J. B. Swainson received 54 cents average for his crop of 1,692 pounds. Sam Limer was right close at hand with a 53 cent average for a larger crop of 1,976 pounds.

DAIRYING
There are seven grade A dairies in Ratcliffe Cove, with 90 grade A cows. A total of sixteen sties are utilized in the business, and 185 acres of pasture devoted to the dairy herds. There is also a wide variety of dairy cows, with Guernsey, Holstein and Ayrshires leading all others.

Ed Sims milks 20 cows, and for the year will get about 115,000 pounds of milk. Mrs. Frank Leopard has a herd of 16 cows, and gets 104,000 pounds of milk. David Noland has 14 cows, and gets about 109,900 pounds per year.

Practically every family in the community has from one to five cows for supplying home needs of milk.

Some of the best milk cows in the entire western part of the

state will be found in Ratcliffe Cove. Several of the cows have established high records, some giving as much as 12,000 pounds of milk in 305 days, as in the record of the Ayrshire cow of David Noland.

POULTRY
Ratcliffe Cove has started into the poultry business in a big way, and several new flocks are being added. Right now Lem Leopard has the largest poultry project, with 225 laying hens. He produces hatching eggs, and has the New Hampshire Reds. Mrs. Frank Leopard has 150 hens, as does Charles C. Francis. Both of them also have the New Hampshire type.

BEEF CATTLE
A count just made shows that there are 391 head of beef cattle in the community, with Johnny Morrow heading the list with 45 head. He devotes 150 acres to pasturing his herd. C. C. Francis has a herd of 40 head of cattle, and pastures them on 150 acres, while Hugh Ratcliffe has 23 head and devotes 70 acres to their pasturing. In all about 600 acres are devoted to pastures for the cattle, and Hereford is the leading type for

the farmers of the community. The pastures of Ratcliffe Cove have been given special treatment of lime and phosphate, and are kept in excellent condition, which adds to the increased profit for the cattlemen.

FRUITS-VEGETABLES
About 95 per cent of the homes in Ratcliffe Cove have gardens with many producing more than enough vegetables for their own use. There are some who sell on the fresh vegetable market, but the vast majority can, or freeze their surplus. Hence, the storehouses, freezer lockers, and pantries of Ratcliffe are well stocked with ample food for year round use. Almost every farm has apple trees, but there are not any commercial growers in the community.

FORESTRY
There are 364 acres in woodland, with about 1,000 seedlings being set out during the past year. There are several special forestry tracts in the community, including the special planted plot of pines on

the Frank Leopard farm. These trees were set out about 15 years ago. There are also several projects of forestry throughout the community where cattle have been kept out, and extra care given the trees.

Ratcliffe Cove community was first settled by Abraham Ratcliffe, in about 1820. The entire broad valley along Barcoon creek became known as Ratcliffe Cove.

A citizen of the community, in

Continued on Page 5

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