

Then she spake, saying, They were wont to speak in old time saying, They shall surely ask counsel at Abel; and so they ended the matter.—11 Samuel 20:18.

The Land Of Scenic Beauty, And Outdoor Dramas

While we are not an authority on the matter, it appears to us that the "market" is becoming glutted with outdoor dramas.

The success of one or two of the outdoor dramas seems to have stimulated unusual interest among civic groups in many places to the point of saying "let's stage an outdoor drama."

Too often the venture has been a financial drain on the backers, as the expensive projects went deeper and deeper into the red.

"Unto These Hills," at Cherokee, is one of the very few which has consistently been a financial success, and that is attributed to several factors. First of all, the natural setting, and the Indians, right in the heart of a vacationland area that has the visitors with the time to see such an event.

Other outdoor dramas in this state have had some success, but none to the degree of "Unto These Hills."

One or two in Florida have met with financial troubles, as well as others in the north and midwest.

This summer "Chucky Jack" is slated to open at Gatlinburg, a drama based on the career of John Sevier, an interesting and exciting character. The author, Kermit Hunter, also wrote "Unto These Hills."

It would appear, as an off-hand opinion, that the two dramas so close together would afford each other keen competition.

Not too many years ago, we had a similar situation here in Western North Carolina, when "Thunderland" was staged between Asheville and Hendersonville. The project folded due to finances.

And since Gatlinburg provides a large percentage of patronage for "Unto These Hills," we are just wondering about this year — so are many other folks.

Tennesseans have had a knack all these years of staging events, and attracting tourists, and we certainly put them up as past masters in the art of promoting and getting the traveling public to spend money with them.

The two dramas, being nearby, might work towards making this area known as the land of scenic beauty, southern hospitality, and outdoor dramas. Let us hope that will be ultimate, and no other. If it works in that manner, then the prosperity of this area will be increased. Failure to attain this will bring about a picture which we even hate to let enter our minds.

Wisdom From Near Flat Rock

Carl Sandberg has had a birthday, his 78th, at the home in Flat Rock where he keeps the goats and the guitar and where he will "sit and look out at the Great Smokies and work once in a while." And a reporter went to him and asked what keeps a man happy who thinks sometimes "that I have lived past my years."

The answer came as from one who has learned in a long life that some values are real and some are false in this world, and the real ones are generally the simple ones.

"To be out of jail," said Sandberg. "To eat and sleep regularly . . . To have a little love in the home and a little affection and esteem outside . . ."

These are values easy to overlook in youth and easy to recognize in age. And they are no more the property of poets and novelists than of clerk and insurance men.

There is a lot of wisdom in this fellow at Flat Rock who seems sometimes as ageless as those mountains he likes to watch. We hope he'll stick around for a good long while. —Charlotte Observer.

TOO MUCH BABY SITTING

We know a grandmother who says it's ok with her if people want to develop a race that lives to be 150 years old, but doggone if she's going to baby sit with two more generations. —Augusta, Kan., Gazette.

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Thursday Afternoon, February 2, 1954

Editorial Page of the Mountaineer

Good counsel has no price. —Mazini.

Turkish Tobacco, Berries And Sheep Mean New Farm Program

It appears that our agricultural leaders have come up with a plan for Haywood farmers which will prove to be the solution to the present farm economic situation.

The recommendation for putting more sheep on the pastures, growing more berries, such as raspberries, strawberries, and blue berries, together with Turkish tobacco seems to be an ideal and practical solution.

All of these recommendations are suitable for small acreage, as well as the larger farms. The initial investment is small, which is another distinct advantage of the program.

With the reduction of burley acreage, and the slump in cattle prices, it is evident that a new program must be put into force for farmers to supplement their incomes lost due to the burley-cattle low price situation.

Turkish tobacco holds a bright future for farmers in this area. First of all, there is no allotment on the crop. There is not a surplus on the world markets, and most of it now comes from abroad.

Turkish tobacco grows on the poorest of land. The poorer the land the better the crop. Only a little fertilizer is needed, and cultivation is held to a minimum. The harvesting seems to be most important, in that the crop must be harvested when it is ripe. There comes an element of curing, which at times requires heat on damp days, but otherwise the warm air of August is sufficient.

The harvesting is done in August and early September, and is out of the way before other crops mature. The leaves are small, and naturally harder to handle than the larger burley leaf. The stringing is an ideal job for children, which means a reduction in labor costs.

Specialists tell us that from \$700 to \$1,300 can be made from an acre of Turkish tobacco. We had that demonstrated here last year when A. L. Freedlander successfully grew some of that type tobacco on his Allens Creek farm.

The marketing is simplified, which is another factor in the economy picture of Turkish cultivation.

More and more interest is being manifested in the growing of Turkish tobacco, and already some 10 or more farmers have signified their intention of adding that crop to their farm program.

The proposals of adding berry patches to Haywood farms also has unusual merit, in that the berries now consumed in this area are shipped from elsewhere. The berry crop would come in at that time of year when farmers would have the time to devote to their harvest, without having to employ additional labor. And with the arrival of the frozen food industry, the importance of berry crops have become more profitable in the last few years, since there is no such thing as a glutted market.

We are among that group of people that feel that farmers are going to be forced to make some changes in their programs, and those that start programs that will supplement their incomes now will be the ones that will face a brighter today and many more happier tomorrows.

Deadly Dangers Are All Around Us

The story which recently horrified readers of newspapers in this section, about a young boy who accidentally shot another youngster in the stomach with a shotgun, should bring an important lesson to all of us as the hunting season is under way in North Carolina.

The lesson is this: You can't be too careful with a firearm.

Despite their youth, these two boys in their middle teens were apparently fairly familiar with hunting safety. Both had been hunting, and had no mishap during the time they were actually shooting.

But, like an experienced automobile driver sometimes does, one of them got careless as they were returning home. Somehow a shell was in the chamber. Somehow the trigger was tripped.

Normally, the gun would not be loaded after the hunt, and normally the trigger would not have been tripped. So it was an unfortunate case of double carelessness that caused this tragic accident.

It can happen to you. It can happen in the woods when you are hunting. It can happen on the highway when you are driving. It can happen in the kitchen when you pick up a kettle of boiling water, or anywhere in the house when you disconnect a lamp or some other electrical device.

Be careful, wherever you are.

—Forest City Courier.

HORNS OF A DILEMMA



Letters to the Editor Looking Back Over The Years

FLAG HISTORY

Editor The Mountaineer:

Since I am National Flag Chairman of Southern and Southwestern States for The Daughters of the American Colonists I am aware of the interest all patriotic societies have in teaching the Flag code in the public schools and communities, to stimulate respect and love for the flag that represents everything America is working, striving, and praying for. I thought you would be interested in this bit of flag history. You will see it touches five periods of American History.

Sincerely,
Mrs. R. N. Barber, Sr.
Waynesville, N. C.

Extracts from an address made at the 28th annual celebration of the birthday of General Robert E. Lee by the New York Camp of Confederate Veterans, May 1918.

A part of the exercises was the presentation of a handsome United States flag, the gift of Mrs. James Parker of New York to the Camp.

"On June 14th, 1777 Congress passed a resolution that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, that the Union be 13 stars white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

"We know that Washington's Coat of Arms was composed of stars and stripes. A British officer in 1780 stated that the flag of the United States was taken from the coat of arms of Washington."

In the same year Congress formulated the first Constitution of the United States which was ratified by the 13 States and called, the "Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union."

The above Constitution provided for the government of the United States and called on them for their portion, Rhode Island refused to consent as she was unable to pay, and was dependent mostly upon her vessels for existence.

Rhode Island was said to have broken the contract. This caused eleven States to secede from the Union including Virginia, leaving only Rhode Island and North Carolina in the old Union.

The eleven States on March 4 set up a government under a new Constitution, but when the States came together again the "Flag of the Union" became the National flag.

Virginia in ratifying the new Constitution reserved her right to secede from it by declaring that "The power granted under the Constitution, being derived by the people of the United States may be resumed by them whenever the same shall be perverted to their injury or oppression."

New York in ratifying said, "The powers of government may be resumed by the people when ever it shall become necessary to their happiness."

Thus the right of secession was understood both North and South. In 1860 fourteen Northern and Northwestern States had placed upon their statute books that they would not carry out Article IV Sec. 2(3) of the Constitution of the United States. Some of the Southern States being tired of

wrangling with other states and the Supreme Court over this contention, Virginia called a Convention to which all of the States were asked to send delegates to see what could be done.

A delegate from Ohio declared in the Convention that "The Northern States in Congress would not comply with the Constitution, and the Convention adjourned."

April 17, 1861 Virginia in State Convention then passed an ordinance, to be submitted to the people. The territory was being invaded by Northern troops.

The people ratified the ordinance of secession, and thus a second time withdrew from under the flag. "She felt as Belgium did. If she had a right to withdraw the first time she had a right to withdraw the second time. Indeed her right was clear for she had reserved it as we have seen."

It was recalled that in the War of 1812 when the American flag floated over Fort McHenry that it was a Southern man who made it known over the world as "The Star Spangled Banner."

In previous years Mrs. Parker of New York had given the Camp a Confederate Battle flag. She is now presenting a United States flag, the speaker added. "May both flags wave over your devoted heads in equal honor for years to come."

Voice of the People

"What type of housework do you like the most, and what type do you like the least?" (Continued.)

Mrs. Ben Phillips—"I like the decorating and prettying up, but I don't like the hard work."

Martha Ann James—"I like to cook, but not iron."

Mrs. J. P. Dicus—"I like cooking very much, but I dislike mopping and scrubbing."

20 YEARS AGO

Charles Osborne is valedictorian and Winfred Rigdon is salutatorian of the senior class of Bethel High School.

R. N. Barber, returning from a trip through several Southern states, reports business men are more optimistic.

Dr. S. P. Gay and Dr. R. H. Stretcher discuss need for modern hotel here, at a meeting of the Rotary Club.

10 YEARS AGO

Jack Messer is discharged from the Navy and resumes work as superintendent of education.

Twenty thousand garments are collected during second Victory Clothing Drive.

Mrs. Grover Davis talks by phone to her nephew in Europe.

Sgt. Billy L. Greene of Lake Junaluska is discharged at Fort Bragg.

Miss Ida Lou Gibson, freshman at Montreat College, spends week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Gibson, Sr.

5 YEARS AGO

William Osborne of Clyde is named president of the Haywood County Demonstration farmers.

Miss Thelma Ann Jones, bride-elect, is honored at parties given by Mrs. Jonathan Woody and Mrs. T. C. Norris.

Mrs. Boyd Owen entertains at a luncheon honoring Mrs. H. L. Boyd, Jr., of Atlanta.

Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Kimball and their children, Jan and Dickie, go to Bradenton, Fla., for a visit.

By R. J. SCOTT

SCOTT'S SCRAP BOOK



Rambling 'Round

By Frances Gilbert Frazier

Well, this is his day again — that little animal who is supposed to hold the secret of the next six weeks of weather prognostication. The legend goes that if he peeps out of his burrow and sees overhanging clouds, he boldly steps forth to view the landscape. And evidently liking the surrounding bleakness, he closes his winter hideaway and saunters forth in search of excitement. But should the sun also peep out, the little fellow scoots back just ahead of his shadow, slams the door of his dugout, pulls down the venetian blinds and hits the hay.

It's hard to say just where the idea originated that the groundhog was a one-day forecaster but the legend has lived through the ages and shows little sign of being relegated to the ignominy of superstition.

Sometimes it's hard to decide which is right or wrong. But you soon hear about it if you're wrong.

Have you noticed that in the past few weeks we have had a slight epidemic among the high brackets, of articles and letters being written, signed and delivered without benefit of being read (?) before they are sent on their merry way? And their delivery to the public consciousness has caused a series of embarrassments and apologies.

It does seem a bit out of keeping that reading matter which can be so easily thrown on either side of the fence in an election year, should be sent out for the perusal of millions without being given, at least, one look-see before leaving the parental desk. At this stage of the game, every word given to the public is twisted, contorted, tortured and smothered in implications according to the political impetus and foreign interpretations.

Four weeks from today, the calendar flips to March. Forward, March!

Up and down the Avenue of Tomorrow:

The ground being prepared in front of the Towne House for the famous ageratum decorations: the lonesome look of the Gordon Hotel and Wayside Lodge disappearing in neon signs: the ivy covered wall at the Le Faine Hotel glistening in the glory of glossy friendliness: the view from the top of Depot street as reflected in Burnette's windows lifting the jaded spirits of winter: the open glass doors of Dan's and the Eagle store like engraved invitations: the jars of flowers in front of Campbell's Shop and Stovall's: tiny patches of grass that have managed to force themselves through broken pavement: dandelions pushing up their little yellow umbrellas on the courthouse lawn: shop windows suddenly bursting into song of spring: that quickening feeling that hurries the heart-beat into a race as the first warm days slip into town.

Procrastination is the nom de plume for laziness.

Highland Flings

By Bob Conway

Much has been said—and rightly so—about the beauty of our Western North Carolina mountains in the spring, the summer, and especially in the fall during the color season.

However, you rarely ever hear anything said about winter—implying that there's not much to see in these parts from November through March.

During much of the cold-weather season, the highland peaks do look somewhat drab and barren, but when blanketed either by frost (rime) or snow, the mountains take on a fairyland appearance that defies description.

We won't go so far as to say that our tall timber is prettier clad in white than it is in bright hues of red and gold, but it is extremely pleasing and warrants far more mention than it has been given in the past.

Of course, Western North Carolina is primarily a summer resort area and it's not likely that we can ever supplant either Sun Valley or Lake Placid as a ski and ice skating playground. We don't have enough snow or enough tourists, but we do have the natural beauty of a winter wonderland.

Since summer visitors get to see with their own eyes what the mountains look like when the mercury is at the upper end of the thermometer, they'd probably enjoy seeing pictures of WNC in

the winter time. As for natives of this area who have not taken a walk through the woods when rime or snow is on the foliage, we can promise you a memorable experience.

However, if you venture forth, you do so at your own risk. We are not responsible for skidding cars, kids with snowballs, frozen feet, or pneumonia.

In an Associated Press dispatch the other day on the sports page of an Asheville newspaper, the Clearwater (Fla.) Bombers were referred to as "world-renowned". That's what came from the original term "world-famous".

The same paper also labeled Flat Rock "Fat Rock".

Sign painters in town are also having their troubles with the English language. In two signs at Main St. business establishments, the word "moved" came out as "mooved" in several instances.

While on the subject of grammatical roofs, we might mention that Barbara Ketter, reserve on the Waynesville High girls' basketball team, has received rough treatment this season in game lineups.

One time she was listed as "Kutner," but the worst was last week when her name came out as "Catmer".

CROSSWORD

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| ACROSS | 5. Jewish month | 29. Polynesian drink |
| 1. Bird's stomach | 6. Fold over | 30. Joyful satisfaction |
| 2. White matter of spinal cord | 7. Fetch | 31. Hub out |
| 3. Long-eared rodent | 8. Celestial being | 32. Unable to hear |
| 4. Farm building | 9. Zest | 33. Mat |
| 5. Spice | 10. Thick cord | 34. Beetle |
| 6. Swine | 11. Observe | 35. Nocturnal (C. Am.) |
| 7. Overhead | 12. Rodents | 36. American authoress |
| 8. Smell | 13. Sweet potato | 37. Assam silkworm |
| 9. Born | 14. Back of the neck | |
| 10. Enemy about | 15. Pause | |
| 11. Small sparkling object | 16. Render muddy | |
| 12. Rip | | |
| 13. Greek letter | | |
| 14. Ear shell | | |
| 15. Garden tool | | |
| 16. Turf | | |
| 17. Always | | |
| 18. Meat pies | | |
| 19. Wine cup | | |
| 20. Tardy | | |
| 21. Part of "be" | | |
| 22. Dip lightly into water | | |
| 23. Search for provisions | | |
| 24. Upstairs | | |
| 25. Desire | | |
| 26. River (IL) | | |
| 27. The Orient DOWN | | |
| 1. Spruce | | |
| 2. Mashed | | |
| 3. A constellation | | |
| 4. Obnoxious plants | | |

