

Products Of Mountain People Gain In Favor

Mountain Industries is Asset to Community and Country Folk,

It is interesting to those who have followed the development of mountain industries in this section to notice how improved the character of the product is, and also to what extent the market for this product has increased. It must be about ten years, possibly—since a group of neighbors started the Tryon Mountain Industries, and encouraged the country folk to revive the old home industries of weaving, basket making, tuffing etc. At first only a few workers responded and they were mostly past middle age. The young failed to see in it an outlet for their industry. But this point of view is now quite changed.

It is five years and a half since the present management of the Mountain Industries was assumed, and during that time the business has grown ten fold and beauty of the product has increased immeasurably. Crude workmanship has been replaced by fine workmanship, inharmonious coloring has been superseded by pleasant color harmonies. In many homes one of the chief sources of income is basket making, the weaving or the spread work.

Some of these homes a few years ago saw great poverty, now genuine comfort has taken its place. One family which was extremely poor, knowing nothing of the comforts and lacking many of the necessities now is on the point of building a new home and within the last year purchased a mule, a cow and a fine hog, all with money earned by making baskets.

Not only have the old industries been encouraged by the increased market and good prices paid, but new industries such as the making of hook rugs have been introduced. The products now sell from coast to coast and from Canada to the gulf in hundreds of shops, and this large increase of opportunity encourages the workers to enlarge their output. Naturally the young folks, seeing how well the work pays, are taking it up.

Another recent introduction is that of the fine weaving in linen or in linen and cotton. This really exquisite work is done by an ex-service man, who is incapacitated for heavy work, but who has developed his weaving until he produces the best work of its kind in table sets, runners, bureau covers and all such articles.

Time was when many prophesied that the life of the mountain industries was limited and that as soon as the old workers died, there would be no more making baskets, spreads, rugs and pottery. They thought these arts would be lost and forgotten. But with the enlargement of the field there has come a steady increase of output. Nor is the supply sufficient yet. There is a never satisfied demand for these products of the mountain homes and the Tryon Mountain Industries is seldom able to meet the demand placed upon it. It is true that work sometimes has to be rejected but that is because the work is not up to standard. Those who do fine work and do enough of it now ride to Tryon in their own cars instead of trudging on foot.

The introduction of the Gift Department with its charming and unusual articles is proving a genuine convenience to Tryon people, who no longer have to go away from home to select pleasing ornaments for their homes or gifts for their friends.

The Tea Room at the Industries, which is a feature of "the season" makes an agreeable addition to Tryon social life. It provides an objective for those who want to go somewhere or do something in the afternoon and has never failed to prove popular. The tea room, newly and early decorated already promises pleasant things. It will be conducted this year by Miss Fassett and Mrs. Clifford of Portland, Me.

THE STRAND THEATRE
Christmas Day.
Charles Chaplin
in
THE VAGABOND
William S. Hart
in
THE MAN KILLER

Drama Club Will Give Play Thursday Dec. 27

The Drama Fortnightly will hold its next reading at The Parish House Thursday evening December 27, at eight o'clock. The play is Milne's "The Truth About Blaydes," a striking and unusual drama which enjoyed excellent success in New York. It will be given under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Bacon; those in the cast will be Mrs. Dentson, Mrs. Oakley, Mrs. Carson, Miss Loraine Stone, Mr. Frost, Mr. Masanovitch, Mr. Gerald Stone and Mr. Skinner.

OFFICERS FIND STILL IN FIELD RAID AT LANDRUM

A sheet-iron distillery of 60 gallons capacity and between 500 and 600 gallons of whisky mash were destroyed, and T. W. Abernathy, white man aged 45, was arrested by prohibition agents last Thursday in the Smith's Old Field section above Landrum. Abernathy, declared the officers, was a member of three seen in the vicinity of the still, which was lighted up, ready to make mash.

When the officers approached the men, two white men and a negro, ran. Giving chase a full half-mile, officers said they came upon Abernathy pulling corn in a nearby corn field in the rain. In view of the fact that very little corn had been pulled and too of the decending rain, Abernathy was arrested, charged with violating the prohibition law, declared the officers. He gave bond of \$500, however for his appearance before a magistrate.

MARGARET W. MORLEY DIES.

Biologist and Author Succumbs in Washington After an Operation.

Margaret Warner Morley, author and biologist, died Wednesday in Washington, D. C. following an operation. She was 55 years old. After graduation from the New York City Normal College she specialized in biology at the Armour Institute and the laboratories of Woods Hole. The fruit of this work was the series of books illustrated by herself that included "A Song of Life" rather a sensation in the early '90s, being early attempts to deal delicately for children and youth with then tabooed subjects of sex and birth.

HENDERSONVILLE MAY HAVE RADIO STATION

It is stated that definite steps will be taken within the next few days toward the establishing of a radio broadcasting station in Hendersonville for the coming summer season.

Radio fans of the city are organizing themselves into a group toward the perfecting of these plans which will be of considerable advertising value to the resort town. One of the principal features of the programmes that could be sent out through the air would be the broadcasting of the Garber-Davis dance orchestra which it seems will be in the mountain city again next summer.

"THE MARIONETTE MAN" BY MRS. LIGHTNER PRODUCED

The following quotation from the theatrical news of The N. Y. Sunday Times (December 13) refers to a dramatic adventure of Mrs. Clarence A. Lightner, a well known Tryon citizen.
"Mr. Brock Pemberton is about to break forth again as a play-producer. One is 'The Marionette Man' by a new playwright. It is a melodrama."
Mr. C. A. Lightner and family expect to spend the Christmas holidays in Tryon.

Clinic for Mothers.
A daily clinic for the instruction of mothers in the care and feeding of young children soon will be opened in Marion City.

Christmas Spirit Prevails In Tryon

Community Tree Will Be Held Christmas Eve at 7:30.

Holly, mistletoe, galax leaves, toys of every description, and gift suggestions in the windows of Trade street stores, long lines of patiently waiting people sending or receiving packages, last minute shoppers, carol rehearsals, pageants, special church music and the returning of students from the various schools and colleges all give indication of the spirit of Christmas season.

The community Christmas Tree for the children of Tryon will be placed and decorated on Monday in readiness for the arrival of Santa Claus at seven-thirty Christmas Eve. The carol singers under the direction of Howard Strong and Mrs. Grace Clemons have been drilling and will sing at the Tree before making the rounds of the homes of those in ill health. The Tree will be placed near the fountain on Trade Street.

Christmas malls, according to the Postoffice department have been the heaviest in many years, both as to incoming and outgoing malls. The people have responded readily to the "Do Your Christmas Mailing Early" slogan, although as usual there are many who are rushing off packages during the last few days.

Church choirs are rehearsing special Christmas music for the Sunday preceding Christmas as well as for the Christmas services.

The usual Christmas Tree for the children of the employees of the Southern Mercantile Company will be held Monday afternoon in the new community house recently erected. Gifts will be distributed to the children, including toys, dolls and candy.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT HOLY CROSS CHURCH

Children's Festival at the Parish on Sunday evening, December 23, at 7:30 o'clock.
Christmas Day service at 10:30 A. M.
All are most cordially invited.

Sunday Services at Tryon Churches

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
Will O'Neill, Minister.
Church School.....10:00 A. M.
J. Nelson Jackson Jr. Supt.
Morning Worship11:00
C. E. Society4:00 P. M.
Mid-week service Wednesday, 4:00 P. M.

TRYON BAPTIST CHURCH
A Cordial welcome to all.
Thomas L. Justice, D. D., Pastor.
Preaching service each Sabbath at 11 o'clock
Sunday School each Sabbath morning at 10 o'clock. E. Hagemen, Supt

EPISCOPAL CHURCH.
Rev. C. P. Burnett, Rector.
Sunday Services:
Holy Communion—8:00
Sunday School—10:00
Morning Prayer and sermon (Holy Communion on 1st Sunday in the month.) 11 A. M.
Friday afternoon 4:30 o'clock Litany and Intercessions for the sick.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL
Sunday School 10 A. M.
Walter Jones, Supt.
Epworth League, 6:45 P. M.
First and Third Sunday morning, 11 A. M.
Second and Fourth Sunday evenings, 7:30 P. M.
R. P. Fikes, Pastor.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rev. Geo. W. Sheffer, Pastor
Services first and third Sunday nights. Second and fourth Sunday morning's.
Services next Sunday night at 7:30 Subject, Meeting My Obligation to God.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
Rev. J. A. Manley, Rector.
Mass: 9:15 A. M.

Nativity Pageant At Parish House Sunday

The fifth presentation of Tryon's unique Christmas "Pageant of the Nativity" will be given at the Parish House, Sunday evening December 23 at 7:30 o'clock.

The children will give a Miracle Play called "The Christmas Guest" to be followed by the Community Pageant.

Tryon remembers with deep joy this solemn and reverent Pageant with its six scenes from the time of our Saviour's birth; the Prophecies of Gabriel and of Zacharias, the song of Mary, the Message to the Shepherds and Wise Men before the Infant Christ.

Everyone in Tryon is cordially invited. As always admission is free.

CHARLOTTE HAS HALF MILLION DOLLAR FIRE

Several buildings and contents were destroyed at a loss of well over a half million dollars in a disastrous fire occurring in Charlotte last Sunday night.

The fire is said to have started in the Smith-Wadsworth hardware store on East Trade Street and before it could be placed under control spread to a much larger area doing some damage to the entire block. It is declared to have the most disastrous fire that has occurred in Charlotte in many years.

Fire apparatus from neighboring towns was placed at the disposal of the Charlotte department, several of the fire companies making record runs over long distances to give assistance.

MILL SPRING GETS MAIL DELIVERY TWICE DAILY

Beginning last Monday star route service was established from Mill Spring to Tryon via Columbus and Lynn a distance of 15.59 miles according to the contract with delivery twelve times a week.

The contracts was awarded to A. L. MacMurray who has been carrying the mail for the past twenty years. Under the new award Mill Spring will have mail delivery daily except Sunday.

Polk County Cotton Men Meet Sat. Jan. 12

Association Members to Hold Conference at Sandy Plains.

Members of the Polk County district of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Cooperative will meet on Saturday January 12 at 2 o'clock at the Sandy Plains School house by call of the president of this district, A. J. Humphries.

A number of things of interest to all cotton growers in this section will be discussed. Reports will be heard from committees as to the number of new members, amount of cotton raised in the county, amount ginned, etc.

Polk County has never been correctly quoted as the amount of cotton raised or ginned in the county due to the large amount that is ginned in ginning mills across the State line in South Carolina Gms.

Growers from every section of the county are expected to attend the meeting.

MID-WINTER POULTRY SHOW AT CAMPOBELLO

With over three hundred chickens entered in the mid-winter poultry show held last Saturday in Campobello much interest was shown in the "Better Poultry for Spartanburg County campaign" under way in that county under the leadership of the county agricultural department. Fanciers from a wide area were represented at the show and high standards were maintained.

STRAND THEATRE

Friday December 21
Your last chance to see
THE BIRTH OF A NATION
The mightiest picture of all time.
Matinee 3:15 night 8 p. m.
Prices
Matinee 10 and 50c night 25 and 50c
Friday
Matinee 3:15 night 8:00
THE BIRTH OF A NATION
Saturday
The laughing success
"WATCH YOUR STEP"

"Good Fellows Club" Prepare Xmas Baskets

Food and Clothing Will be Distributed to Needy Families.

Christmas baskets containing supplies and clothing will be distributed this year on Christmas day through the efforts of the "Good Fellows Club."

The "board of directors" of the Club composed of C. J. Lynch, Nelson Jackson and James Vernon began a canvass for members for the organization last week, the only requirements being the readiness of candidates to donate toward the filling of the baskets for the impoverished families of the community.

About two hundred dollars were raised for the movement which will be distributed under the direction of Miss Katherine Beatson. The supplies were purchased Wednesday and will be stored in the basement of the Peoples Bank and Trust Company building. The same movement was started two years ago by the same group of men. There was a surplus that year which was added to from time to time and the sum is used through the year in helping needy families.

Following is a list of stores bought for the basket: flour, coffee, sugar, hominy, oatmeal, salmon, tomatoes, bacon, syrup, lard, crackers, oranges, raisins and articles of clothing.

W. B. MILLS IN GALE THAT SWEEP WEST COAST DEC. 7

Word was received this week by local friends from W. B. Mills who is serving on the U. S. S. Mississippi with the Pacific Fleet. Mills stated in his letter that he was ashore (on December 9) after one of the roughest trips he had experienced since enlistment. The two days prior to his shore leave at Long Beach, Cal., saw one of the worst gales in many years according to "old timers" in the service. The storm swept the West Coast doing much damage to coast-wise shipping trade as well as playing havoc with several of the smaller crafts of the Navy.

Mills is expecting to sail with the Fleet for Panama about January 2 and thence around to the East Coast in the Spring.

RED CLOVER SCORES AS A SOIL BUILDER.

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 19. J. C. Ashcraft of Union County has just completed a demonstration in soil building that shows the good results secured by using lime and red clover, reports E. C. Blair, Extension Agronomist for the State College and Department of Agriculture. The land used in the demonstration was partly limed, with a part being used in the demonstration being left without lime for comparison. Soybeans were grown for soil improvement, followed by oats, then by red clover. The lime had very little effect on the soybeans and oats; but produced a fine growth of clover, in comparison to a failure where no lime was used. After turning under the clover, the whole field received 400 pounds of 8-3-3 fertilizer per acre, and planted in corn. Then the results began to show, Mr. Blair stated that some farmers would think that having recently turned under soybeans, and having just applied four hundred pounds of good fertilizer per acre, it would not make much difference in the yield whether clover was turned under or not. But where no lime was used and no clover grew Mr. Ashcraft made twenty-six bushels of corn to the acre. Where he limed the land and got a good crop of clover he made thirty-five bushels per acre, or nine bushels more.

The type of soil on which this demonstration was carried out is known as Alamance gravelly silt loam. This is a light gray silty soil of offgrey texture, with a subsoil of yellow silty clay. This soil and closely related are extensive in Union, Anson, Stanly, Montgomery, Randolph, Davidson and other counties in Central North Carolina.

THE STRAND THEATRE
Monday
Jack Hoxie
in
WOLF TRACKS

"Polk County in Early Days" By J. B. Cleveland

The first night I spent in Columbus was in jail. My grandfather, John Bomar, had the contract for making the brick for the jail and court house. He sent his overseer and a gang of mules and negroes up there. The brick yard was on the branch which heads nearly in the town and runs east. The last time I was there there were yet a few old bats where the kilns were located. There were no houses here but we had very comfortable quarters in the jail. It had just been completed and my recollection is there were no prisoners. It was the first time I ever saw an iron cage for prisoners and a whipping post, and stocks both painted a deep red and perfectly new. I was about ten years old.

The town named for Dr. Columbus Mills, was beautifully located. Grandfather had faith in the future of the place and bought two tracks of land and two lots at the corner of Peak and Ward Streets but the bond issue of Fifty Thousand Dollars by the County to build a railroad from Spartanburg to Asheville and to go thru Columbus was defeated and the road was changed so as to run by Tryon, which was not then on the map.

The bond issue was defeated by the opposition of two men who would have been the principal beneficiaries had the road been built thru Columbus.

The Civil War came and Brice, the Overseer, ran away with the mules and wagons to Tennessee and we never heard from him again.

I made frequent trips to Columbus and have pleasant memories of the people I met. Many years ago the late Tom Moore of Wellford, my brother and myself went up Tryon Mountain and found a large distillery making peach and apple brandy. The peach and apple orchards were near the top. The fruit was gathered and carried to a trough where it was sent by gravity to the still house several hundred feet below. This, of course, was before there was any law prohibiting the making of spirituous liquors. There was no road up the mountain only a trail for wooden sleds and horses.

Years afterwards we made the same trip and when I got to a cabin on the mountain side, I told my companions I did not care to go further but would go back to the hotel. About two A. M. they came in very tired and hungry and said they had hitched their horses to a log house and walked up the mountain on foot and when they got to the top they found a distillery run by a woman who brought out about a quart of fine peach brandy in an old fashioned gourd. They came down the mountain where they found that one of the horses had pulled down one or two logs of the house which they paid for against the protests of the owner. It was then so dark that they engaged a man to pilot them down the mountain with a torch. He said that the man who lived in the house had a rich son in Atlanta and I wondered if he was related to a family now prominent in Atlanta.

For many, many years Columbus was the same. It seemed not to grow. A good many years ago I was passing the Sis Talent House. She came to the road-side and said, "I now have a chance to sell my home place, what would you do?" I replied, "You are not so very far from Columbus, suppose you wait and see what the Town will do." She replied "Mr. Cleveland, I have been waiting on the Town for fifty years." As a digression, her father, who for many years looked after the large farm of Mr. Jason Carson, was one of the finest men I ever knew. Large framed, always neatly dressed, he would impress anyone with his poise, dignity, and strong personality. So his daughter, who married Mr. Roach, was a woman of uncommon good sense and fine character. I recall now several of her quaint sayings and keen observations.

In my next, I propose to give you my recollections of the early days of Tryon and other incidents connected with that place.

Snake Bite and Motor Cars.
Venomous snakes and man-hating animals still outnumber transportation in swelling casualty lists in British India. The mortality from snake bite for the past year is recorded at 20,000 as against 10,386 the previous 12 months.—From the Toledo Blade.