

**THE YANCEY RECORD**  
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**VIOLET RAYS ON OUR WAYS**  
 By H. M. Alley

Note: This column is written with malice toward none, but with the common good of all in mind.

What a perfectly beautiful fall we're having in the mountains. How balmy and warm the Indian Summer sun during mid-day. And how bracing the frosty mornings,—that is for those who are up and abroad before the frost melts away. The hillsides, mountain slopes and valleys are bedecked in a gorgeous array of colors that beggar our command of words to describe.

Always the writer's favorite season, each succeeding Autumn fires anew a gipsy kind of wanderlust in his mind and heart. And until recent years he was able to obey the urge to spend days on end, climbing from one rugged peak to another, just for the sheer joy of viewing from different vantage points the far-flung panorama of Nature bewitchingly clad in her coat of many colors.

It was on October 19, 1944, during our first Autumn among the picturesque hills and valleys of Yancey County, and following one of those invigorating excursions, just mentioned, that the following lines were penned in an humble attempt to describe and express what had been seen and felt on that day. The writer offers the verses here dedicated, especially to those who love the Autumn as he does, and who may also lack the time or means, or physical stamina to leave the busy and clamorous world of men and machines behind, and go for a mind and soul cleansing among the lavishly decorated hills of God:

**WHEN AUTUMN COMES**  
 I walked today 'mongst painted hills,  
 O'er crooked trails, down rocky  
 Where Nature had bedecked the land  
 In varied colors, rich and grand,  
 The hick'ry trees, in golden hue,  
 Along with oaks and beeches too,  
 Stood 'neath an Indian Summer sky,  
 Where lazy cloud-sails drifted by.

Schools." Although he might have been speaking directly to any group of parents, teachers, and other concerned persons in Yancey County, he was actually speaking to the whole nation.

Commissioner Brownell calls education "an investment in the guidance and growth—mental, physical, and spiritual—of today's children, youth, and adults. He adds, "It is an investment protected always by community tradition, local pride and responsibility for the school."

"The 1955-56 academic year will see a record school enrollment in the U. S.," states the Commissioner. In less than two years the census rolls have swelled by 5,000,000 persons. Mr. Brownell also calls attention to health problems that are a part of the educational picture. Nearly 5,000,000 children throughout the country need specialized educational attention because of physical, emotional, mental and other abnormalities.

Great progress has already been made in school health programs, and the remaining problems can be solved, Commissioner Brownell feels. These are of concern to federal and state governments—"but primary responsibility for their solution rests with local communities and citizens." These last words have a familiar ring to citizens of Yancey County, who have been told the same thing by Governor Hodges and by our State Department of Education. The yardstick by which the State will measure Yancey County's willingness to take a proper share of responsibility, and the county's eligibility for further aid by the State, is the response of Yancey citizens in the October 29 School Bond Election.

In pasture lands, 'bove browning grass,  
 I found the lowly sassafras,—  
 Whose tender leaves, varied—  
 shaped,—  
 The hoary frost had not escaped.

Along a ridge where maples grow,  
 A rail fence staggered to and fro,—  
 A greying line that reels and sags  
 Beneath those gold and scarlet flags.

The gum and sourwood were aflame,  
 And blushing red, as if in shame,  
 That soon their limbs would all be bare,  
 Exposed to winter's shilling stare!

All this I saw, then homeward turned,  
 The day well spent,—a lesson learned:  
 Our lives have season's like the year,—  
 When Autumn comes, then winter's near.

H. Alley

**EDITORIAL COMMENT**

**LET'S UNSHACKLE OURSELVES**

As citizens of Yancey County we have often shackled ourselves with the notion that we are too poor to afford good schools.

Luckily this poverty psychology is changing. One sees more references than formerly to "this rich mountain area" in descriptions of Western North Carolina. We have a healthy resentment at being considered poor mountain folk constantly needing things done for us. We prefer to help ourselves as far as possible. Only our vision of what is possible may be too limited.

Great promise for the future of Yancey County lies in our wealth of undeveloped resources. Several local industries could be based on utilization of forest products now going to waste. A greatly expanded tourist business could be promoted in this area of scenic beauty and cool summers. The standard of living on our farms could be raised considerably by taking advantage of better agricultural practices that have been found workable here. These are just a few examples and they are not pipe dreams. They are based on solid, present facts, not even taking account of future discoveries.

But in this discussion of natural resources the most important resource has been omitted — our boys and girls. The future of our county not only belongs to them. It depends upon them. How can we talk

about these wonderful future developments if we are not to have people capable of doing the job? And how can people—even the most intelligent—become capable without adequate training?

This brings us right back to the question of better schools and our ability to afford them. (If anyone still questions the need for better schools in the county, we refer him to the report given elsewhere in this paper.) We have spent comparatively little on our schools in Yancey County in the past 35 years, as our County Commissioners point out. The total valuation of property in Yancey County comes to over 9 million dollars. Only 1% of this total is owed on schools—the lowest rate of any county in North Carolina. Since we can float the school bonds and still owe only 4%, we will not be taking on any great burden. Help from the State will be forthcoming only if we are willing to shoulder our responsibility by authorizing this local bond issue.

Let us unshackle ourselves from the "poor county" notion and help our boys and girls enter the bright future that is within our reach!

**Challenges to Education**

Yancey County is not alone in having to meet the challenge of inadequate school facilities, U. S. Commissioner of Education Brownell recently wrote an article for Today's Health called "Challenges to Educa-

**DEYTON FARM SUPPLY**  
 Yancey County  
**CHECKERBOARD NEWS**

by  
 Os Deyton

One year ago in September Wentz McIntosh put his herd of dairy cows all the way on Purina Dairy Program. Since then he has followed Purina recommendations on feeding both his dry and his milking cows.

The average production per cow last September was 865 pounds. One year later the average production was 960 pounds per month or an increase of 95 pounds per month.

This increase came by following the Purina feeding program for one year. The program is designed to get all the production from a cow that's bred into her, and at the same time maintain her body condition to ensure a long milking life.

Hurry pigs to market on Purina's hog profit plan

Time means nothing to a hog, but it means everything to the hog man.

To make fast starts even faster Purina Research has added Baby Pig Chow to famous Purina Pig Startena. Super-palatable Baby Pig Chow gets pigs eating and gaining early—often in a week. Feed only 60 lbs. to the litter and switch to

**Pig Startena.**

The average hog man weans only about 6.47 pigs per litter. At the Purina Farm we have weaned 9.15 pigs per litter. Since it takes 5 pigs to break even, we have profit on 4.1 pigs. We're sure you could use extra profit like this.

And, we don't stop here. The average hog man markets only about 11 hogs from each sow per year. At the Purina Farm 17 hogs are marketed from each sow. Thousands of hog men are marketing 1,750 to 2,000 lb. litters in 5 months on the Purina Hog Program. Let's do some figuring next time you're in town.

**HEALTH HINTS**  
 Check CRD with Purina CHEK-RMYCIN

We hope by carefully controlling ventilation and keeping drafts from the house CRD won't strike. Should you hear rattles, wheezing and see droopy birds, it's time for fast action.

ADD CHEK-RMYCIN to drinking water for 3 days. A water soluble Aureomycin product, it will get birds back on their feet. Keep Chek. Mycin on hand where it will be ready for fast treatment of CRD outbreaks.

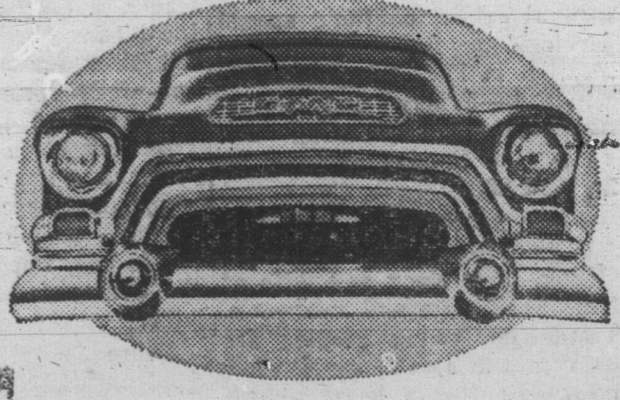
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**PUSH-BUTTON DRIVING!** Now Plymouth brings it to the lowest-price field! A finger-tip touch on a button selects your driving range — easy as flicking a light switch. After that, Power-Flite and new 90-90 Turbo-Torque Power take over!

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