

THE YANCEY RECORD

Established July, 1936

LESSOR
EDITOR and PUBLISHER

ARNEY FOX
ERLING TONESS

Published Every Thursday By
YANCEY PUBLISHING COMPANY

A Partnership

Entered as second-class matter November 11th, 1936, at the Post Office, Burnsville, North Carolina, under the act of March 3, 1879.

PEOPLE'S FORUM

Letter from the editor this time

Dear Readers of the Yancey Record:

This is the last issue of the Record which we are publishing before turning the paper back to the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Arney Fox, at their request. We wish to thank Mr. and Mrs. Fox for having placed sufficient confidence in us to grant complete freedom in editorial policy and general management while we have been publishing the paper under a lease arrangement with them; the arrangement has been mutually agreeable.

We wish also to express appreciation for the friendliness of those whose paths have crossed ours in the publishing of the Record. We shall miss you. Our thanks go out to all who have furnished news of agencies, organizations, or individuals; to the correspondents from rural communities; and to all who have given various forms of help and encouragement in the publication of this newspaper. You have made our work a

pleasant adventure.

We trust that you will give the same kind of cooperation to Mr. and Mrs. Fox, to enable the Yancey Record to serve Yancey County effectively. Any small weekly newspaper must depend upon its readers as an important part of the "staff." The more interest the people of a community show in their newspaper, the better the newspaper can serve the community.

Our thank-yous would be grossly incomplete if we left out the one person who has done more of the hard work of getting out the Yancey Record week after week (and year after year!) than anyone else—the patient soul who has worked early and late, who has endured countless struggles with a balky linotype and a temperamental printing press without ever blowing his top—The Yancey Record printer, Mr. Thurman Brown.

Again, our thanks and best wishes to all of you,
Mr. and Mrs. Erling Tones.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

THANKSGIVING

It is not to get out of writing our own Thanksgiving message to readers of the Yancey Record that we quote Governor Hodges' Thanksgiving proclamation! Most proclamations sound rather cut-and-dried, as if the officials issuing them were discharging a necessary but tiresome duty. But this cannot be said of the Governor's Thanksgiving proclamation.

We consider his document really worth reading and pondering. We are grateful to him for the high idealism expressed in the "emphasis upon a people-to-people sharing of American abundance as a means of evidencing gratitude to God." and for the beautiful lyric which he quotes. The quality of these sentiments, and the form in which they are expressed, may

put those who read the proclamation thoughtfully into a mood that will enable them to " . . . lift their eyes in thanks And see in the white air the face of God."

A PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR THANKSGIVING DAY November 24, 1955

"WHEREAS, it is one of the best-loved traditions of Americans that we set aside each year in November one day when we pause in our labors and return thanks for all the blessings bestowed upon us; and

"WHEREAS, in 1621 Governor Bradford set aside a day of thanksgiving in order that the Pilgrims might thank Almighty Providence for a good harvest; in 1789 George Washington, the first President of the United States, received a joint resolution from both houses of con-

gress requesting that he recommend to the people a day of public thanksgiving and prayer; and in 1863 Abraham Lincoln by proclamation invited his fellow-citizens to set aside the last Thursday in November as a day of thanksgiving and praise; and

"WHEREAS, during this Thanksgiving season, many religious organizations are placing a special emphasis upon a people-to-people sharing of American abundance as a means of evidencing gratitude to God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon our Nation; and thereby demonstrating the traditional friendship and compassion of Americans for those less fortunate than ourselves; and

"WHEREAS, Now is a time of peace. Now is a time of drawing close. The crops garnered, the last row ploughed, The husband stands in the heavy sun and watches the purple hills Painted with the quick hand of Indian summer. Autumn has climbed the mountains And quilted the still hills with colors— With Indian corn colors.

And the great quiet hand of God Lies on the land. And we draw close around the restless fire— In thanksgiving. I proclaim this a day of Thanksgiving giving A day of prayer A day to acknowledge the blessed rewards Of a bountiful land. A day for men to lift their eyes in thanks. And see in the white air the face of God."

"THEREFORE, I, Luther H. Hodges, Governor of North Carolina, do and hereby proclaim Thursday, November 24, a legal holiday in North Carolina and request all the citizens of our State, with their families and friends, render hearty thanks to Almighty God for all His benefits on Thursday, November 24, 1955. Insofar as possible, where there are services of Thanksgiving in our churches, you are urged to attend these services as an expression of your gratitude."

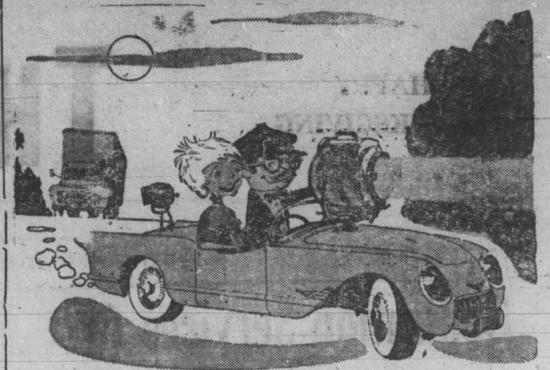
The 1955 Tar Heel "all hay" crop is forecast at 1,253,000 tons—172,000 tons more than was produced during the drought-stricken year 1954.

"I REMEMBER"
BY THE OLD TIMERS

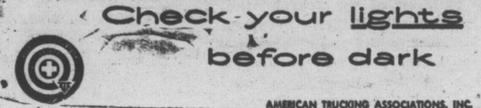
From Doretta McElyea, Berryville, Arkansas: I remember when we sheared the wool from our sheep, washed it down at the spring and carried it back to the house, wet, in baskets; then spread it on scaffolds to dry. Sometimes mother invited our good neighbor women in and there was a wool picking to get the dirt and trash out. Mother would prepare dinner for all when the job was done. The wool was then tied in clean bed sheets. Daddy would take our wool and the neighbors wool and load them on what we called the "hack." Sometimes there was more than he could tie on the "hack" so he took the farm wagon and drove to Roaring River Spring (now a State Park) where the wool was carded and made into long rolls.

Mother and we girls would spin the rolls into thread, weaving some into what we called "linsy" to make our dresses. We colored this thread with diamond dyes. Some was woven with three threads, which made the cloth heavier and gave it a "right" and a "wrong" side. This was used to make pants for the men folks and was colored by boiling green walnut hulls, which made it a pretty brown.

In those days we made knitted out stockings, socks, and mittens. We also made all our blankets, of which I still have some I made myself.



see, and be seen!



AMERICAN TRUCKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

Remember—you have to see danger to avoid it! The State Department of Motor Vehicles says 57 percent of the fatal motor smash-ups occur at night. Get ready for S-D Day, coming December 1. Check your headlights—check accidents!

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WE TALK
YOUR LANGUAGE**

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BURNSVILLE, N. C.



TWO people could not be farther apart in background and training than James C. Petrillo, "Czar" of the American Federation of Musicians, and Mrs. Ronald Arthur Dougan, of Beloit, Wis., president of the Music Clubs of America.

Petrillo, blunt, domineering, and every inch the "czar" in the world of professional music, who has come to power the hard way and Mrs. Dougan, cultured and refined and soft spoken, Petrillo, interested solely in providing jobs for the 252,000 members of his musicians union . . . Mrs. Dougan, interested in music as a culture and as such, stimulating interest in music appreciation for the 10,000 to 15,000 music clubs in the small home towns of the country and as well as the 2,500 senior clubs in the larger cities.

But like politics, this mutuality of interests has made this pair join in a last ditch fight for repeal of the 20% war time excise tax on entertainment. This tax fixed at 30% in 1944, was cut to 20% within a few months when returns started dwindling. Today it is a tax of no return and as a matter of fact an economic survey shows that the Federal Government would collect some \$11,000,000 and up more in increased taxes on business and personal income without the tax, than the \$38,000,000 it now collects as a result of the tax. People just don't like 20% added to their dining or entertainment bill. Result—patronage is way down.

What has happened in the profession musical world in the past ten years as a result of this tax? A survey shows this: two-thirds of the hotels in the country have abolished entertainment in dining

rooms; 50,000 musicians have lost their jobs and means of livelihood as musicians as a direct result; some 52,000 still employed are averaging less than \$3,400 annually; thousands more play occasionally and make up their income in other work; hotels still provide entertainment, do so at a loss, and charge it off to public relations; name bands have disbanded, only one top band has come up in the last five years.

But probably the most important aspect is the cultural facet throughout the nation. There has been a general drop of interest in the study of music, of becoming a professional musician. Membership in music appreciation clubs is at the lowest ebb in history; enrollment in music in the schools has dropped off alarmingly; some large universities have even dropped their degrees in music due to lack of enrollment. The smaller towns of the country are harder hit even than the big cities, for like baseball players, musicians come up from the sandlots of the small towns as well as the cities to reach the big time.

Fight for this tax repeal has been going on through several sessions of the congress. At the last session repeal was voted by the House, but was defeated by one vote in the Senate. Heretofore the fight has been spearheaded by business interests, and the creation of a lobby financed by the Hotel Mens Association, the cabaret Association and the taverns and other business interests without success. Petrillo has financed a nationwide survey and has come up with some real statistics to back up this new fight sponsored by the Union and the Music Appreciation clubs of the country.