

Down Main Street

Mr. and Mrs. John Robinson had as their guests on Thanksgiving Day Mr. Robinson's mother, Mrs. Sarah Y. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Freck, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bryson and daughters, Dianna and Debra, all of Asheville, and Miss Frances Emory of Royal Pines.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack McAlister and daughter, Jacqueline, of Atkins, Va., spent last week with Mrs. J. W. McAlister and Mr. and Mrs. Charlie King of Cane River. Mrs. J. W. McAlister returned with them to Virginia for a visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Bailey and Mrs. Garrett Bailey were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Gardner and Miss Martha Bailey in Charlotte on Thanksgiving Day. Mrs. Garrett Bailey also visited relatives in Siler City during the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Orr and daughter, Rowena, of Asheville spent part of the Thanksgiving holiday with Mrs. Orr's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Proffitt.

Mrs. John Watson spent Thanksgiving Day with her daughter, Mrs. Welzie Riddle, Jr., in Burnsville. Mrs. Watson is living in Asheville at present.

Mr. and Mrs. Ransom Silver were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Hyams of Charlotte, and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rogers of Winston-Salem, during the Thanksgiving holidays. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. Roger Galloway of Charlotte. Their granddaughter, Susan Hyams, returned with them for a visit.

Dr. William Gladden attended the semi-annual convention of the N. C. State Optometrist Society in Charlotte last Tuesday. He also attended the N. C. alumni dinner of his alma mater, Southern College, Memphis, Tenn.

Mrs. Dick Bailey spent several days this week visiting her father, H. G. Bowman, and aunt, Miss Gertrude Womble, in Huntington, West Va.

Miss Betty Presnell of Charlotte spent the Thanksgiving holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Presnell. She had as her guest Alex Helms of State College.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ramsey and son, Walter, spent Thanksgiving with Mr. and Mrs. Albert Powell in Statesville.

Mr. and Mrs. Hale Bryson and children, Tommy and Jane, of Shelby, and Mr. and Mrs. Conrad L. Hooper and children, Becky and Bobby, of Raleigh, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Bryson during the Thanksgiving holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Powell of Mt. Holly, spent Thanksgiving with Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Banks and children.

Hugh Pate, a patient at Moore General Hospital in Swannanoa, spent Thanksgiving at home with his family. Mr. Pate returned Sunday to Swannanoa.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Trammel, Jr. and daughters, Dawn and Beth, of Elkin, were the guests of the Rev. and Mrs. Charles Trammel during the Thanksgiving week-end.

Misses Betty Carolyn Riddle and Betty Jean Gillis, both student nurses at Grace Hospital, Banner Elk, spent the Thanksgiving holiday with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carlo Riddle and Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Gilles, of Rt. 4, Burnsville.

Max E. Gillis, gunner mate first class, stationed aboard the USS Moncello LSD-35 at Pascoyola, Miss., spent the Thanksgiving holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Gillis, of Route 4, Burnsville.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Grady Bailey and Miss Hope Bailey spent Thanksgiving Day with Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Anderson and son in Asheville.

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Burton of Flint, Mich., are visiting Mr. Burton's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Burton.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Butner and children of Orlando, Fla., visited relatives here last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Emory Roland, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Roland, Lois Brown and E. J. Roland visited Mr. and Mrs. Roy Allison and family in Hickory over the week-end.

Refreshments at the November orthopedic clinic in Spruce Pine were served by Mrs. Robert Glass and Mrs. Lamar Barksdale, representing the women of the Spruce Pine Presbyterian Church.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

Nearly 18,000 cards are being left at random in rural mail boxes throughout North Carolina.

When filled out by farmers and returned, these cards will help Henry L. Rasor, North Carolina Statistician, Agricultural Marketing Service, determine how many livestock and poultry are on farms in the State.

Mr. Rasor lauded the United States Post Office and rural mail carriers for their cooperation in

FLOWERS FROM HONOLULU In Memory of Charles E. Laurents

Mrs. Thomas L. Taylor, of Honolulu, only sister of the late Mr. Charles E. Laurents, sent a bunch of anthuria - native flowers of the Hawaiian Islands - to her sister-in-law, Mrs. Laurents, as a loving tribute to Mr. Laurents. The flowers, large and deep red in color, came last week by air transport, and were displayed in two vases in the Presbyterian Church on Sunday morning. When the congregation was informed about the flowers, the pastor called for a moment of silent prayer in tribute to Mr. Laurents.

On Sunday, December 2, Mr. Reeve will preach on the subject "Let Us Spiritualize Christmas." At this service, the congregation will make use for the first time of the new hymnbooks that have been procured, through the generosity of many families of the congregation under the auspices of the young people who made this one of their projects for this year.

The men of the church will have their monthly breakfast with business meeting and study of the Sunday School lesson on Sunday at 8 a. m.

making this annual survey. "With this help, we're able to get an accurate picture of our State livestock and poultry holdings," Mr. Rasor said.

Every farmer who gets a card is urged to fill it out as accurately as possible and return it promptly.

"The more reports we get, the more reliable our estimates will be," Mr. Rasor pointed out.

This survey is the basis for the State and national inventories of livestock and poultry on farms as of the first of the year. It includes cattle, cows, hogs, sheep, goats, horses, mules, chickens, and turkeys.

RIDE INTO NOWHERE

By Allen Wishert

CLAYTON JOHNSON wasn't a handsome man, yet his smile and eyes caught and held you; his hand-clasp warmed the spiritual and immortal part of man or woman.

Leaving their homes for the daily grind in office and shop, with energy under par, people would often remark:

"Hope I meet Clayton Johnson, I need a lift."

Clayton was a bachelor, living quarters in a family home with private entrance.

This particular morning, just as he was leaving for his office, came a phone call. Old lady Bertha Taylor, widow, in failing health, requested that he drop by her place, she had an important matter to discuss.

He knew what it was; yesterday she had received a letter from her son, and had confided the contents to a close friend, the friend mentioned it to Clayton; the son was in trouble, he had been many times before, his misdeeds had brought his mother to beggary, practically, all her savings had been used in trying to prevent his going to prison. His home was all she had.

"Mr. Johnson," said Mrs. Taylor, after explaining that she needed the money for her son's attorney. "Johnnie is in serious trouble this time; he blacked-out one day, then not realizing what he was doing, he attempted to hold up a bank."

"He had just been released from prison, hadn't he?" asked Mr. Johnson.

"Our courts are not infallible, however, I know your son."

Clayton Johnson did know him; he knew that he was a gangster, a desperate criminal, one who had not hesitated at murder. However, he could not allow the reputation of her son to interfere with his plan.

"Mrs. Taylor, it just so happens that I have with me the exact amount you need."

"I'll repay it soon," replied the widow, tears streaming down her withered cheeks. "Johnnie has a good position awaiting him, and each week he will send me a goodly sum."

"There's no need for anxiety," he dropped two one hundred dollar bills in her lap, retrieved his hat and started for the door, he hesitated, reached into an inner pocket, and brought forth a document, glancing at it, he turned to Mrs. Taylor, said: "By the way, I need just one more signature indorsing my playground project. I know you won't mind signing."

"Of course not. You're always benefiting others."

He placed the document before her, passed her his fountain pen, and indicated where she was to sign.

Clayton turned to the table, saw the glasses.

"Probably you've mislaid them. I'm in somewhat of a hurry, so, just jot your name on the line where I have my finger."

With considerable effort, Mrs. Taylor signed.

Two months later, failing to receive money from her son to meet the obligation, she discovered the truth.

The document she had signed was a bona-fide loan on her home, twelve thousand dollars, payable on demand or said property would pass into the hands of Mr. Clayton Johnson.

It was mandatory that he appear in court the next morning to receive legal possession. The night before, Clayton's buzzer, sounded, he opened the door and was confronted by Johnnie Taylor, the widow's son.

"What's the meaning of this?" demanded Johnson.

"It means, mister, you're going for a ride."

Every village has it's mystery. Now, years later, the villagers are still wondering whatever became of Clayton Johnson.

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