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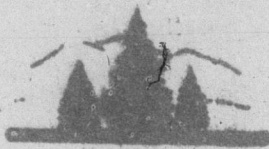
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RANGER RAMBLIN'S



By Helton Carmichael

In the last few weeks I have noticed that there seems to be more wildflowers than in previous years. The relatively mild winter and wet spring have combined to bring the spring flower show to its peak. We are fortunate to live in an area where there is such a profusion of gay and colorful wildflowers. At any time, from early spring before the winter's snows melt until the first frost of autumn, we have the privilege of finding an unending procession of mountain wildflowers.

The beautiful and unusual lady's slipper is in full bloom in the mountains as are the trillium, dutchman's breeches, violets, jack-in-the-pulpit and many others. It is a real challenge to take a trip to the forest and try to identify all the flowers you see blooming. Every color you can imagine is represented in the blossoms and they are one of the many reasons why we have so many visitors to our mountain area.

Did you know that you could see as many kinds of flowering plants between the South Toe River and the top of Mt. Mitchell as you would see on a trip from Asheville to Canada? The richness of the flowers is one of the most distinctive characteristics of the Appalachians. These mountains are one of the world's oldest land masses and have never been covered by water or glaciers. Some of the flowers which persist here have a representation from before the ice age.

Many other factors influence our great variety of wildflowers and plants. Elevations for instance, range from 2000 feet at Pleasant Gap to 6684 feet atop Mt. Mitchell, highest point in eastern America. The rainfall sometimes exceeds 100 inches a year on the peaks. Temperatures are influenced by the wide range in elevation. The mountain tops usually are about 10 to 20 degrees cooler than in Burnsville.

Wildflowers grow almost everywhere. You will find them in deserts, swamps, fields, roadsides and city lots; but nowhere do they grow like they do in the mountains. Wildflowers are one of our nation's irreplaceable assets. They have but limited economic value — no fortunes have been made in them. But attractive, showy flowers offer us a kind of enjoyment afforded by few other things



WILLAMINA, ORE., TIMES: "Not many Americans know that the Federal Office of Education has been authorized to spend approximately \$15 billion during the current fiscal year. This is more than double the amount spent during the past fiscal year and it is a good example of the rate at which we are federalizing education. Let us never forget that Federal financing means Federal control. The Administration in Washington will soon be in position to control the intake of the minds of our children. That means we are losing our freedom."

SANTA PAULA, CALIF., CHRONICLE: "The subsidy for voluntary insurance would be offset by a new hardship clause. Those 65 and over are now entitled to deduct all of their medical expenses. After this year, they will only be allowed (a) 3 per cent deduction plus one half of health insurance premiums. This is giving something with one hand and taking it away with the other. The older people get, the more their medical bills cost."

GARNETT, KAN., REVIEW: "New industry coming into a community means even more than just so many new job opportunities. It is estimated that 100 new industrial workers in a community means 359 more people; 100 more households; 91 more school children; \$710,000 more personal income per year; \$229,000 more bank deposits; 97 more passenger cars registered; 165 more workers employed; 3 more retail establishments; and \$331,000 more retail sales per year."

ARGO, ILL., NEWS: "In the Great Society, the rewards of being in the underprivileged class are so golden that those of other classes may well decide to join, rather than remain privileged, or among those who must foot the tax bills for all the benefits."

GOSHEN, IND., NEWS: "They're equipping automobiles nowadays with everything but what they need the most, eyes."

Learn to enjoy flowers where they grow and learn to leave them for others to enjoy. Do not pick them in forests and other protected areas. As long as you realize that the enjoyment of flowers is something to be shared with others, our wildflowers will be safe.



From N.C. Wildlife

JACK DERMID

How long will this fawn last on this sort of diet? Even under the best of "artificial" conditions, its chances are not good. Leave fawns in the woods.

"Helplessly lost" little forest creatures usually are not lost, Wildlife Protector McGilliard warns.

Many people, because of the protective nature of most individuals, take under their wing, so to speak, wild life creatures when they are found, seemingly lost. Because of this, McGilliard says, many animals are taken into protective custody by well-meaning people. However, because

people are not experts in raising wild animals, the majority of the captured baby animals die.

The protector pointed out that fawns, when found, seem to appeal to persons more than any other animal. And, because of this, several fawns are picked up each spring about this time, carried home where they die.

McGilliard said most people are well-meaning when they

find a fawn. Because the mother is not in view does not mean that she is not near, probably watching, and will take care of her offspring.

Therefore, the conclusion is that when a "lost creature" is found in the woods, it is not lost at all. And it will be much better off with its wild mother than in the hands of a human. Also, he said, keeping captured deer is not legal without permission from the Wildlife Commission.

TIMBER CUTIN'

By Millard Murdock

There's gona' be a timber cuttin'
Of all our woods and hills:
The beauty for us mountain folk
Is not for long, I feel.

The city folk's a-doin' the choppin'
And we'll be here to see;
And when the city folk's all done;
There'll be no sign of trees.

Electric earrings which blink on and off put female fashion one more step out in front of nature. No other organism has wool over its body, leather on its feet, feathers on its head, fur on its shoulders and lights in its ears. — *Atlanta Journal*

That old song about a man is hard to find is true today. Most of the unemployed are unemployable. — *Boonville (Mo.) Cooper County Record*

The dictator thinks he's the people's choice right up to the moment when the people chase him out. — *Boston Globe*

It's hard to believe that just 100 years ago people crossed this country in covered wagons. Today we can shoot a rocket into space at 25,000 miles an hour, and nobody's looking . . . they're at home watching Wagon Train. — *Gordon (Neb.) Journal*

After the House passed Pres. Johnson's \$700-million war appropriation bill, many Congressmen and Senators remarked "It's no blank check." No check in the amount of \$700-million is blank, as we see it. — *Goshen (Ind.) News*

"Human relations may be defined as a core of concentration, depth structured upon an inter-disciplinary framework." — *Personnel Journal*. No wonder human relations are in such a mess! — *Guelph (Ont.) Daily Mercury*

PRIVATE ENTERPRISE ALSO FIGHTS POVERTY

While the war on poverty, sponsored by the federal government, goes on in Appalachia, private industry is also busy on the front.

In Eastern Kentucky there are many acres of abandoned land, caused by strip-mining of coal fields. What to do with this land has been a problem for many years.

So while the government tinkers around with fighting poverty in the area, private industry may have some of the answers to creating some cash for the people.

In fact, private industry may solve two problems. One,

provide the cash needed by hard-pressed people and work for them, too, and secondly, alleviate the shortage of elderberries. Yes, there is a shortage of elderberries.

A midwest jelly and jam producer has sent 10,000 plants to the Kentucky area to be set out on these abandoned strip-mined acres to see if they will grow there. Kentucky River Coal Sales purchased half of the bushes, and Greer & Allison Coal Company took the remainder.

The project isn't costing the taxpayers a dime, either.

TAYLOR GIVES HAND ON ROUTING HIGHWAY

(Editor's Note: Below is a letter from Roy A. Taylor, M. C., to Governor Dan K. Moore concerning the proposed Appalachian Regional Highway).
June 8, 1965

The Honorable Dan K. Moore
Governor
State of North Carolina
Raleigh, North Carolina
Dear Dan:

Several citizens of Yancey County have expressed the hope that the proposed Appalachian Regional Highway going from Asheville north to Bristol and on into Ohio pass through Yancey County. I understand that the corridor location for the portion of the highway north of Mars Hill has not been determined at this time.

I know that the route selected will have to be favorable from an engineering point of view in order to secure approval of the North Carolina Highway Commission and the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads and the Appalachian Regional Commission. However, it may be that more than one route would meet all engineering standards and requirements.

The people of Yancey County have waited a long time for a first class highway and I would like to aid them in securing one. I hope that care-

NOTES ON A CAROLINA MOUNTAIN

Barbara B. Stiles
5345 Greene St.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19144
Victor 4-6334

The aromatic pot-pourri of wood smoke and honey-suckle;

The important cricket fillbuster defeated by the raucous caucus of locusts;

The evergreen chaperones blue-nosing the frivolous fall fashions of the resident maples;

The blunt rose thorn; the gentle bee; ice not too slick for lovers;

The billion-leaved forest; the billion-bladed meadow;

The pondering mountains, through whose icy veins flows

The rollicking branch water down to the still valley of finger-to-lips quiet.

At the end of a winding road, wistful, mistful, a house that belongs.

Here at the brink of the whirlpool, one need not search for haven from the roadstom.

Only stop long enough to notice.

ful consideration and study will be given to locating this regional highway on a route going through Yancey County

Kind regards,
Sincerely yours,
Roy A. Taylor, M. C.