

An Affair Of Honor

By Robert Wilder

383 pages. GP. Putnam's Sons, New York. 1969.

An Affair Of Honor, states the author Robert Wilder, is a deliberately ironic title for his latest suspense novel, since there is little honor involved in the book. This fact sets the tone for the story laid in the lush Bahama Islands, amid an exterior of carefree indolence with undercurrents of intrigues, jealousies and adulteries.

From start to finish Mr. Wilder creates characters so corrupt that they take each other's corruptness for granted. The tycoon of the islands, Max Hertog, stands out as a feudal lord who claims and takes everything he sees, including land, money, position and women. Molded in the same pattern, his daughter Jan admires her father's qualities and follows his ruthless example. The low-

ly natives who try to outwit their white masters in getting control of the government of the island, are almost successful until their leader, Royal Keating, is murdered. This act is the turning point in the story, for the affairs of Max Hertog henceforth take a downward swing until he is caught in his own web of intrigues, deceit and murder. Big Maum, the mother of the slain Royal Keating, is actually the heroine of the novel as she seeks revenge in her own way for the death of her son. Justice is swift and terrible.

The reader finishes the book with a feeling of sadness. He is haunted by the fact that "it didn't have to happen that way." Man's inhumanity to man in the story causes his own downfall, and all that is left is a memory of what might have been.

New Strength For Yancey County

By Ernest Morgan

What becomes of our young people here in Yancey County? Probably the same thing that happens in neighboring counties. Most of them go away as soon as they graduate from high school. Last year the editor of the Tri County News in Spruce Pine checked on the plans of the graduating class of Mitchell County and was distressed to learn that most of the young people were going to Detroit, Chicago or other urban centers.

A few of course do stay, and some return after college, but more are needed if the area is to prosper. Summer tourists are no substitute for year round energy and leadership.

A bright spot in the picture is the steady flow of new people coming in; some young and some not so young. They are attracted mainly by the mountains, the climate and the quality of life here. In many walks of life they are joining forces with the old timers,

investing their skills, ideas, dreams, energy and money.

Were I to start naming them I would miss so many that feelings would be hurt. But I can name some of their fields of work, and you can fill in the names of the people. Their work includes: Accounting, Agriculture, Building, Camping, Community Planning, Medicine, Drama, Editing, Education, Merchandising, Music, Painting, Photography, Pottery, Printing, Publishing, Writing and probably twenty more things that I've forgotten or don't know about.

They are a mixed bag these new arrivals over the years. Some are neat business types, some wear beards. Some get talked about with wild rumors. Folks will believe any rumor, so long as it's bad.

Come to think of it, though, the "old families" here are a mixed bag too. Many are useful citizens, while some are mixed up and not good for much. There is one big difference.

The newcomer who is lazy or has bad habits usually can't make it here, and goes away. Give him time and he will sort himself out. But the local fellow who behaves poorly has no place else to go, so he just stays.

For my part, I appreciate both the old timers and the newcomers. They certainly make life interesting.

Armed Forces

Benjamin C. Banks, brother of Vernon C. Banks of Route 3, Burnsville has been promoted to technical sergeant in the U. S. Air Force.

Sergeant Banks is an administrative specialist at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.

The sergeant is a 1955 graduate of Bald Creek High School. He has completed a tour of duty in Vietnam.

His wife, Carolyn, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold J. Wilson of Route 2.

4-H Week Coming Up

North Carolina's 75,000 4-H members and their adult leaders will join forces October 4-10 with some four million youth in 50 states and Puerto Rico to celebrate National 4-H Week.

The theme of the special observance is "We Care," according to Dr. Chester Black, state 4-H leader at North Carolina State University.

"The theme indicates that 4-H members are concerned about the problems of their community and country, and that they are involved in helping combat poverty, malnutrition and the pollution of our environment," Dr. Black said.

The state 4-H leader said each Tar Heel county is planning activities during National 4-H Week to:

--Report the year's accomplishments toward the betterment of their communities.

--Consider future needs and plans for next year.

--Encourage more youth, ages 9 to 19, to take advantage of 4-H opportunities.

--Urge more men and women to volunteer as 4-H leaders.

--Recognize important contributions of parents to 4-H and influence their continued support and cooperation.

--Acknowledge the support of 4-H friends and express appreciation to them.

The 4-H program is part of the national educational system of the Cooperative Extension Service. Tar Heel 4-H members receive training through programs conducted by N. C. State University and the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service through county agricultural and home economics agents.

GRAND SHOWING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6th

OF OUR COMPLETE LINE OF:

1971
CHRYSLERS
PLYMOUTH
DODGES

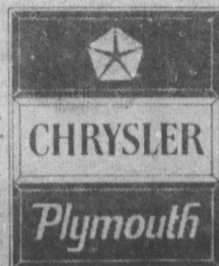
OCTOBER 7th
Miss Caroline Bass
North Carolina
Rhododendron Queen
Will Be Here!

REFRESHMENTS



Road Runner 2-Door Hardtop

Coming Through.



Coming Through.

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