

Member
North Carolina
Press Association

THE BLACK MOUNTAIN NEWS

"KEY CITY IN THE LAND OF THE SKY"

Devoted To
The Upbuilding
of Our Community

Vol. 1, No. 12

BLACK MOUNTAIN, N. C., NOVEMBER, 22, 1945

\$2.50 Per Year

Presbyterian Foundation Has Remarkable Collection

as Established By The
General Assembly
In 1926

By Mrs. John H. Robertson.
A great collection of Presbyterian, U. S. and Associate Reformed Presbyterian literature known as the Presbyterian Foundation is now housed on the ground floor of Assembly Inn. It is said that this is a very remarkable historical collection; in many particulars there is nothing to equal it in America. It was established by the General Assembly in 1926, although the origin of it may be traced to the acquisition by Rev. S. M. Tenny, in 1902, of a package of manuscripts from the pen of Professor R. L. Dabney. These papers had been discarded by a bookshop in Houston, Texas. After a year in Texarkana, Texas, the material was moved to Montreat and settled in its present location. Mr. Tenny died in December, 1939—but under his guidance and that of Mrs. Tenny, the Foundation had attained international recognition.

Rev. Thomas H. Spence, present curator, is ably assisted by Miss Annabelle Hill and Miss Cook. Materials in the Foundation are classified in three groups: The Archives, the Library and the Museum. There are 1841 volumes and transcripts in the Archives and more than 1500 standard size volumes of printed minutes of the various members of the Presbyterian and Reformed family. Thirteen branches of these churches in the U. S., Ireland, Canada and England, are represented. A printed catalogue entitled "A Survey of Records and Minutes in the Historical Foundation" was published in 1943. A copy may be secured by any interested scholar.

Many rare and expensive first editions are found in the Library; catalogues of institutions, photographs, pamphlets and maps. Nine thousand, five hundred volumes of periodicals are here, collections of manuscripts and correspondences. Among the articles in the Museum are communion services, tokens, cloths, tables and benches from many famous churches. A colonial pulpit, funeral bier, grave marker, Bibles, certificates in acknowledgment of contributions given for the first steamer "Lapsley," an accurate model of the Tabernacle, and many more valuable relics.

Dr. Walter Lingle says: "You must not get the impression that the Historical Foundation is simply a place to keep old books and records or a show place. It is a great workshop." Many candidates for degrees from leading educational institutions all over the country have come to Montreat for research in its Library and Archives. During 1943-44, 104 ministers and 192 students availed themselves of these resources. A large correspondence in answer to inquiries is carried on by the staff. Several thousand visitors are registered annually.

The Foundation has long since outgrown its space and an extensive building program is now in progress. The collection of funds is almost completed and plans are being drawn for a modern, three storied, fire proof building, complete with the most modern and efficient equipment. It will be located on Assembly Drive facing Look Out Road as it comes into the drive. Much credit should be given to the Woman's Auxiliary of the church for their part in securing building funds and collections of historical material.

Represented College At Annual Conference

David Corkran and Theodore Rondthaler, members of the faculty of Black Mountain College, represented the College last week at the annual North Carolina College Conference held at Greensboro. Speakers at the conference were Dean Paul H. Buck of Harvard University and Dr. Chas. W. Lightbody, professor of political science at St. Lawrence University. Matters of curriculum objectives were discussed.

WWNC To Salute Black Mountain Chapter Red Cross

The Black Mountain-Swannanoa Chapter of American Red Cross will be saluted Monday, the twenty-sixth of November at 2:45-3:00 P. M. over radio station WWNC from Asheville, N. C., in the second of a series of five broadcasts on the roll played by the Western North Carolina Chapters in the American Red Cross program at home and abroad.

This recognition is for outstanding work in veterans claims rendered by this chapter. Two other chapters of Western North Carolina, Yancey County Chapter and Mitchell County Chapter, also will be cited on this program.

Salute to the Black Mountain-Swannanoa Chapter is the 2d program in this series of round table discussions of Red Cross services to Veterans. The Black Mountain Swannanoa Chapter and other Red Cross Chapters are prepared not only to give these services but are happy to serve the Veteran.

The broadcast will also emphasize that due to the veterans already discharged and the increasing numbers leaving separation centers daily, there is a greater need for workers in these chapters to successfully continue the Red Cross program.

COL. P. H. GRIFFITH PRINCIPAL SPEAKER

North Carolina Chapter, International Association of Public Employment Services

Col. Paul H. Griffith, long engaged in American Legion and Selective Service activities, will be the principal speaker at the postponed annual convention of the North Carolina Chapter, International Association of Public Employment Services, to be held at the Langren Hotel, Asheville, Monday, November 26.

Colonel Griffith, now a private industry official in Washington, served as National Director of Employment for the American Legion, later as executive officer to Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, of Selective Service, and then was in charge of the Reemployment Division of Selective Service. He has spoken before North Carolina groups on previous occasions. His address will be at the banquet Monday night.

Following committee meetings Monday morning, the business session of the State Chapter will be held at 1 o'clock in the Roof Garden of the Langren, with President R. C. Godwin, Raleigh, presiding. P. Lane Gaston, manager of the Asheville USES, will welcome the visitors and Mason E. Swearingen, area supervisor, Raleigh, will respond. Visiting officials and guests will be present.

Dr. J. S. Dorton, State director of the U. S. Employment Service, and Col. A. L. Fletcher, chairman of the Unemployment Compensation Commission, will be the principal afternoon speakers. Open forum discussions, reports of officers and committees and election of officers will complete the program.

At the banquet meeting, Burgin Pennell, chairman of the N. C. Veterans Committee, will bring greetings. Toastmaster Godwin will install the new officers and present Colonel Griffith, principal speaker. Dancing will follow on the Roof Garden.

Retiring officers, in addition to President Godwin, are three district vice-presidents, Simon P. Davis, Bryson City, Western; Wm. H. Stevenson, Jr., Winston-Salem, Central; and Sam M. Watkins, Henderson and Raleigh, Eastern; Miss Kathryn Queen, secretary and Miss Margarette Carpenter, treasurer, both of Raleigh. New vice-president, elected at earlier district meetings, are: Miss Kathryn Lott, North Wilkesboro, Western; J. A. Gawthrop, Reidsville, Central; and Mrs. Jeannette M. Grainger, Wilson, Eastern.

Old Fashioned THANKSGIVING



The first Thanksgiving Day in North America was held by an English minister, Wolfall, May 27, 1578, on the shores of Newfoundland. This was the expedition under Froberisher who brought the first English colony to settle on these shores. The Popham colonists, twenty-nine years later, conducted a Thanksgiving service on the shores of Maine for their "safe arrival."

The Pilgrims observed Thanksgiving in Holland on the third of October for ten years before they came to America. This was in memory of their deliverance from the Spaniards and was both a religious and a social holiday.

They underwent the most grueling of hardships from their arrival on Cape Cod in the winter of 1620 until the following summer. Their harvest in 1621 represented both sacrifice and achievement. In a deserted wigwam was found a basket of Indian corn. This was withheld from their hungry children. Weakened by illness and lack of food, they planted the corn with infinite care, tended it and watched it most anxiously. These twenty acres of corn produced for them a bountiful harvest. Their hearts were filled with gratitude.

Gov. Bradford called the colonists together and suggested a season of Thanksgiving. On December 13, he sent out "four men" in search of game. They brought back wild fowl, chiefly turkey, enough to supply their wants for a week. The viands were bountiful and diverse—barley loaves, cakes of Indian meal, and vegetables such as squash, pumpkins, sweet potatoes, peas, beans—native American food which the friendly Indians had brought them to eat and wild grapes "very sweet and strong." In the midst of the festivities, Indian shouts were heard. Their king, Massasoit, with ninety Red men, appeared with huge haunches of venison—"five deere" for "our Captaine (Miles Standish). On account of the mildness of the weather, dinner was served outdoors on long tables, cooked over open fires.

Days of thanks were celebrated later throughout the colonies for victory in war, for peace, and for national prosperity. In Massachusetts, the day was usually in October or November, and by 1677, the first regular Thanksgiving proclamation was printed. In 1688 was the first civil appointment of a harvest festival in the Plymouth colony. Other New England colonies soon followed the lead of Massachusetts. To the Massachusetts Bay and the Plymouth colonies may be traced the origin, but as an annual celebration of civil authority and the constancy

of Connecticut have handed it down to us unbroken from 1647. As a national institution, it goes back to the Revolution, the first being December 18, 1777. During the Revolution, the Continental Congress regularly proclaimed a national Thanksgiving service every year, but the states went back to their days of observance after the British were defeated.

On the adoption of the Constitution in 1789, Washington made the first presidential proclamation of Thanksgiving Day. A cause of gratitude to Almighty God. The day was to be the last Thursday of November, the 26th. This was a strong factor in the selection of the last Thursday in November for our National Day, forty years later. The difference in viewpoints between the north and the south kept the day less than national. It was looked upon as a "New England institution" symbolic of Puritan "bigotry." President Washington again proclaimed a national day of Thanksgiving, following an era of prosperity. North Carolina entered wholeheartedly into the observance.

Thomas Jefferson issued no Thanksgiving proclamation. John Adams had shown little interest and many who followed him held only a casual attitude toward the day.

The entire history of America has been one of Divine favor, oversight and protection. As we dedicated our country to the keeping of the eternal and laid its foundation with the Bible in our hands and a prayer in our hearts

and on our lips, we have recognized the hand of God in the lead. His blessings have rested upon our land as nowhere else in the world. We have vast quantities to spare for other lands stricken with the horrible scourging of war, blighted with famine and festile.

This Thanksgiving Day should be a day of praise and rejoicing.

"Oh, that men would praise the Lord of His goodness and for His wonderful works to the children of men."

GO HUNTING ON OCRACOCKE ISLAND

Jim Daugherty, Gordon Crawford and Al Garland, all from Black Mountain recently spent a week of duck and goose hunting on Ocracoke Island, which lies 35 miles off the North Carolina coast. This is the outer reef and is generally considered one of the best spots for shooting along the entire east coast. The hunters were transported by a mail boat to the island, but bad weather prohibited hunting. They encountered rain the first day and wind the next. They spoke of having a hard time in controlling a 16-foot cruiser in the rough water, also the wind was so strong that the birds had a hard time holding their course.

Decoys were constantly being up set, anchor chains were broken. They were taken to the blinds in the 16-ft. cruiser which rolled and tumbled, the wind was so strong at times it retarded the speed of the cruiser considerably. They came back last Friday with several duck and geese. Fishing was good in the day as they caught approximately one hundred black bass, and several other species of fish.

Local Boy To Play With Jackson's Melody Boys

J. C. McCool of Black Mountain starts rehearsals soon with the Charlie Jackson Melody Boys, who are to start a 13 weeks contract over WWNC the first of the year. The Melody Boys are made up of all Western North Carolina boys and are all famous players.

Truman Will Serve On Fund Committee

President Harry S. Truman has accepted the honorary chairmanship of The American Legion Americanism Fund campaign for \$15,000,000, and 45 of the governors have accepted appointment as honorary vice-chairmen, announces Chairman Alvin M. Owsley.

Major General Chennault Will Lecture In Asheville

Miss Aleshire In Guam With The Red Cross

Miss Ruth Cory Aleshire, daughter of the late Wm. F. Aleshire, and Mary E. Aleshire of Black Mountain and Palm Beach, Fla., has reached the Island of Guam enroute to the Asiatic Mainland as a psychiatric social worker of American Red Cross with the Army of Occupation.

Miss Aleshire began her career in social service at Hull House in Chicago as a protegee of the late Jane Adams. While there she was a resident student of the school of Civics and Philanthropy. Pursuing her studies, she obtained her A. B. degree from Eureka College, graduated from New York School of Social Work and received her M. S. degree from Columbia University.

Miss Aleshire has completed her third year of foreign service with the American Red Cross, having served in Newfoundland and in Southern England. She spent her leave during July of this year with her mother at Oak Knoll, Black Mountain. Sailing from Seattle with a staff of workers who were with her in England, she arrived on Guam, October 10 for temporary duty.

Prior to her enlistment for overseas duty Miss Aleshire had been stationed at Raleigh as State Consultant for Child Welfare services for state of North Carolina.

BLACK MOUNTAIN WOMAN GOING TO TRIALS IN JAPAN

EVELYN CORDELL TO FLY TO NIPPON BY WAY OF MANILA

Carlisle W. Higgins, United States attorney for the middle district of North Carolina, will be appointed first assistant attorney to lead in prosecution of Tojo at the trial of Japanese war criminals slated to begin early in 1946, it was revealed recently.

Higgins said that he can "neither confirm nor deny the report." "Any announcement must come from Washington," the district attorney said.

A late dispatch from Washington stated that Joseph B. Keenan of Cleveland, Ohio, and Washington, has been named head of the Japanese trials, his appointment to be analogous to that of Supreme Court Justice Jackson in Europe.

Keenan has made no formal announcement of Higgins' appointment, but the Washington dispatch predicted it along with that of Evelyn Cordell, of Black Mountain, secretary to Assistant Attorney General T. Lamar Caule, of Wadesboro, and former clerk of the North Carolina state senate appropriations committee.

Another North Carolinian whose name has not been revealed was also expected to be sent to Japan for the trials. The Black Mountain woman is scheduled to leave December 2 to fly to Japan by way of San Francisco and Manila.

It is supposed that Higgins will leave around the same time if his appointment is effective. A large staff of attorneys, clerks, FBI agents and others will go to Japan for the trials, most of which probably will be held in Tokyo.

Tea and Topic Club

The monthly bridge meeting of the Tea and Topic Club was held at the home of Mrs. A. P. Perley III Friday evening with ten members and two guests present.

Club members present were: Mrs. A. T. Tyson, Jr., Mrs. W. W. Phillips, Mrs. F. W. Grove, Mrs. J. G. Northcott, Mrs. George Molloy, Mrs. Otty E. Leeman, Mrs. Roy Taylor, Mrs. R. T. Greene, Mrs. W. W. White and Mrs. Perley. Guests included Mrs. W. C. Greene and Mrs. Alma Greene.

A salad course was served by the hostess after which a short business meeting was held.

To have and to hold—Buy Bonds.

Former Commander Of The 14th Air Force In China

Major General Claire L. Chennault, leader of the famed Flying Tigers, and former commander of the 14th Air Force in China, will visit Asheville December 12 for a lecture that evening at the Asheville Auditorium, under the auspices of the American Legion.



Major General Chennault

All seats are reserved at popular prices, and mail orders for choice seats are now being filled by the Kiffin Rockwell Post, Asheville, N. C.

Major General Claire Lee Chennault, fifty five years old, who for eight years directed the aerial war against Japan from China, achieved his greatest fame after his retirement from the army. This peerless leader who proved that fighting spirit can triumph over odds and superior equipment in the hands of the enemy, was born in Commerce, Texas, and reared in Louisiana. He worked his way through Louisiana State University, attended Louisiana State Teachers College, and taught in a rural school at Athens, La.

World War I changed the pattern of his life. He enlisted as a private, was commissioned in the infantry, and transferred to the aviation section of the Signal Reserve Corps. Discharged as a first lieutenant in 1920, he returned to the army air corps in a few months.

In 1923 he was sent to the Hawaiian department, and remained there for three years.

As commander of the 19th pursuit squadron he was the first advocate of using paratroops and dropping artillery parts by parachute. By night he calculated and plotted, by day he made test flights of all the intricate patterns of which planes are capable.

Back in the United States, Chennault served as instructor at several fields in Texas, Virginia, and Alabama. His flying set in which three pilots would take off with their planes tied together with strings, go through intricate maneuvers and land without breaking the string thrilled many air shows during the '30s with himself as the leader. This was the act that was called "The Three Men on a Flying Trapeze," which barnstormed the countryside. In 1937 he attempted to retire to a quiet place with his family in Louisiana, but he was lured back into aviation by the pleas of his barnstorming companions who had gone to fight in China. When the Chinese offered him the position of air adviser, he went to Asia to take over the job of creating an air force powerful enough to combat the Japanese.

In Asia he found less than 100 first-line combat planes and even those were being rapidly wiped out by the enemy. He realized that the only solution to the problem lay in the proper training of Chinese pilots. Counseling his men to take advantage of every weakness of the Japanese plans, Chennault put into practice what he was teaching by flying combat with the Chinese Air Force in Shanghai, Nanking, and Chungking. During this time he also set up a series of air bases throughout the interior of China and helped to organize an air raid system that was so efficient that, according to the War Department, "Chinese headquarters are warn-

(Continued on page 4)



Bill Hill Says:

A feller here bought a horse the other day for \$10.00 and ast him how come he got it so cheap. He said that the man said the horse was OK, but he just didn't look good.—He found out later that the old nag wuz blind.