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NATURE STUDY

GOD'S GIFTS
THE DOGWOOD
Mrs. Thos. S. Sharp

In olden days the dogwood tree was the size of the average forest tree—as stately as the oak and as graceful as the willow, so legend tells us. Its timber was chosen for the cross on account of its strength and firmness. This greatly distressed the tree. Jesus sensed this pity and pain, so comforted the tree by making this promise to it: "Because of your pity and regret for my suffering, never again shall the dogwood tree grow large enough to be used as a cross. It shall be slender and bent and twisted. Its blossoms shall be in the form of a cross—two long and two short petals. In the center of the outer edge of each petal there shall be nail prints, rust stained with red. A blood-stained crown of thorns shall be in the center of the flower. All this that those who see it will remember your pity and suffering for Me and My agony for the souls of men."

(Copyright 1946 for The Black Mountain News)
NOTE:—The wild cardinal-pink may be seen in all of its glowing beauty on the rocky heights on the left hand side of the highway as one drives to Old Fort. Dog-tooth violets and the pink honey-suckle bushes are in abundance. Try to see them now.

Seedlings To e Planted
By Forestry Unit

A project to plant approximately 100,000 spruce seedlings in a burned-over area of about 150 acres on the Pigeon river south and west of the road leading to Beech Gap has been undertaken by the U. S. Forest service, Carl G. Krueger, Pisgah-Croatan national forest supervisor, has announced.

It is the first planting project of any size undertaken by the service in four years, he said, and if it can be completed in time and seedlings are available the planting areas may be extended.

The seedlings are being obtained from the federal forest service nursery at Parsons, W. Va., and a crew of eight to ten men which the service hopes to double in the near future is now working on the project.

The area being planted was logged in the early 1920's and later burned. District Ranger W. W. Huber is supervising the project, with Cecil Coin in immediate charge.

Send in YOUR NEWS



Poets Corner

EASTER

Most glorious Lord of Lyfe! that, on this day, Didst make Thy triumph over death and sin; And, having harrowed hell, didst bring away Captivity thence captive, us to win:

This joyous day, deare Lord, with joy begin; And grant that we, for whom thou didst dye,

Being with Thy deare blood cleane washt from sin, May live for ever in felicity! And that Thy love we weighing worthily,

May likewise love Thee for the same againe; And for Thy sake, that all lyke deare didst buy, With love may one another entertaine!

So let us love, deare Love, lyke as we ought, Love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.

—Edmund Spenser (1552-1599)
(Submitted by Mrs. Thos. S. Sharp)

The Price He Paid

I said I would have my fling, And do what a young man may: And I didn't believe a thing That the parsons had to say.

I did not believe in God That gives us blood like fire, Then flings us into hell because We answer the call of desire.

And I said, Religion is rot, And the laws of the world are nil: For the bad man is he who is caught And cannot foot the bill.

So I had my joy of life; I went the pace of the town; And then I took me a wife, And started to settle down.

I had gold enough and to spare For all the simple joys That belong with a house and home And a brood of girls and boys.

I married a girl with health And virtue and spotless fame.

I gave in exchange my wealth And a proud old family name.

And I gave her the love of a heart Grown sated and sick of sin! My deal with the devil was all cleaned up

And, as I thought, the last bill handed in.

She was going to bring me a child, And when in labors she cried, With love and fear I was wild, But now I wish she had died.

For the son she bore me was blind And crippled and weak and sore! And his mother was left a wreck— It was so she settled my score.

I said I must have my fling, And they knew the path I would go;

Yet no one told me a thing Of what I needed to know.

Folks talk too much of a soul From heavenly joys debarred— And not enough of the babes unborn.

By the sins of their fathers scarred.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

EASTER

Easter with happiness and gladness, Easter with sacredness and sadness, O the day seems peaceful everywhere, Light seems to shine from the Heavenly stair.

Green covers are o'er the earth's great breast, Whereon many fragrant flowers rest.

Red roses large, pink carnations tall, But the white lily is queen of all

High above the sweet, tender ers Amid the great, blossoming bowers,

Dear little birds are sweetly singing While the sacred church bells are ringing.

Great sun, send your gentle, golden beams Upon the dark forests and clear streams,

Upon the lonely, little pathway, For this is our blessed Easter Day.

Strong wind, blow softly o'er mountain crests,

And o'er the pasture where the herd rests Through the day close to the rippling rill, And at night against the peaceful hill.

O wonderful world of beauty and bliss! Thanks to the Great Giver of all this, And He is with us yet, not far away Though He arose years ago Easter Day.

—LOIS DIXON.

Pres. P. K. Gravelly Reports Drive Progress

Raleigh, April 17.—President P. K. Gravelly of Rocky Mount said here today that the drive of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation to bring its membership to the 30,000 mark by June 1 has already advanced far toward that objective.

The campaign for members opened April 1, and it is being carried out with local affiliated clubs as the spearhead of the drive.

Several important meetings have been held recently in various parts of the state under sponsor-

ship of affiliated clubs in the interest of the membership campaign. Two new clubs have been started during the past week; one in Haywood County and the other in Moore County.

Thurmond Chatham, prominent industrialist, world war veteran and candidate for the fifth congressional district seat, was the chief speaker at the get-together meeting for clubs of Iredell, Surry, Wilkes and Yadkin counties in Elkin on Friday night, April 6. Approximately 400 federation members attended.

Chatham, formerly a member of the state board of conservation and development, cited the dire wildlife situation in North Carolina by comparing present resources with those of a quarter century ago. He said that those charged with the responsibility of conserving and restoring these resources should have more qualifications than those of politicians.

Ross O. Stevens, executive director of the federation, reported today that the federation now has more than 12,000 members, distributed among 97 affiliated clubs in 94 counties. He said that several local clubs have more than 200 paid members.



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"THE MISSUS THINKS SHE'S SMART!"

SAYS MR. PODSNAP

"She's been telling the neighbors how she tricked me into promising her an all-electric kitchen—just as soon as they are available. But here's the pay-off: she doesn't know that changing to electricity will save me about six bucks a month in operating costs. Pretty soon the all-electric kitchen will pay for itself, and I'll be saving the difference!

"Say, come to think of it, the Missus is smart!"

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Black Mtn. News
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Easter Greetings

HOPE RENEWED
EASTER, 1946

The Church, the dove, the Easter lilies—all symbols of Eternal Peace—are ours this new-dawning Easter. Our hopes and prayers have been answered once again, we become humble before our Lord and worship Him by our devotion and reverence this anniversary of Christ's resurrection into Heaven.

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