



The school safety patrol is composed of girls as well as boys. Here Mrs. James A. Crawford, chairman of the Black Mountain club safety committee, assists a patrol member adjust her belt. Others in the picture are, Nana Beha, Lloyd Moore, Betty Byrd, Taylor, Betty Pollard, Eunice Dotson, Betty Parham, Douglas Quinby, Sara Rickman, Ann Hall, and Margaret Hudgins. The patrol was organized by the Woman's club for part of their finer Carolina project for 1955. —Photo by Craig Cooley



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Old Fort News Letter

Mary Adams Robinson
(Thursday, April 7)

Rotary Club Meeting
The Old Fort Rotary club held its regular weekly meeting Thursday evening at Hotel Ragle. The program for the evening consisted of questions and answers concerning Rotary. Dr. Jerry Snyder spoke to the group concerning the proposed merger of the Community Council and the Chamber of Commerce. Visiting Rotarians were Clifford McCall and Dr. Thomas West of Marion.

Play Receipts Banked
Receipts from the Junior Class play "Deadly Ernest" amounting to \$168.00 were added to the junior senior banquet fund. Two performances were given; one for the school students and one for the public on Friday evening.

Cpl. Alvin Crawford, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Crawford, who is serving as a radio operator with the U.S. Army in Fulda, Germany, is home on a 30-day furlough. Crawford has been in service for two years, and has one more year to go. He was graduated from Old Fort High school.

Cpl. Andre Teague, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Teague, was home on leave for 4 days from Ft. Belvoir, Va. He entered the service two years ago and has been stationed Fort Jackson, S. C., and Fort Sill, Okla. previously.

Crawford Buys Out Early
George Crawford, former partner of Bill Early, trading as Crawford & Early, dealers in Standard Oil Products at the Esso station on Main street, has purchased Early's interest in the business as of last week. Bill Early, is Old Fort's postmaster-elect. The two men have been in business together for 10 years.

Father Dies
Mrs. Harvey Culbertson was called to Bryson City on Saturday April 8, by the sudden death of her father, John P. Gibson, 87, retired business man and member of a pioneer Swain county family. He died in his sleep Friday night.

The funeral was held at 3 p. m. Sunday in the First Baptist church of Bryson City. The Rev. J. G. Miller, the pastor, officiated, and burial was in Arlington Cemetery there.

Mr. Gibson taught school in Macon and Swain Counties early in his career then went into the construction business.

Metcalf Parker
Mr. and Mrs. Luther Parker of Old Fort announce the marriage of their daughter, Betty, to Airman 3/c Clarence Nolan Metcalf in Taylorsville, S. C. on April 1st. Airman Metcalf is the son of Mrs. Florence Metcalf, also of Old Fort. The bride will graduate with the class of 1955, Old Fort High School in May.

The bridegroom, home on a furlough, will leave shortly for San Diego, Calif., and on to Japan where he expects to be stationed for the next two years. Mrs. Metcalf will make her home with her parents while her husband is overseas.

Miss Hughes Injured
Mary Vann Hughes was painfully, but not seriously, injured when she was thrown by a horse she was riding on Saturday at Furman University, where she is a freshman. She is recuperating at her home here, and Mary Vann says that the next time she attempts to ride, she is going to be sure her mount is the "old rock-in-chair" variety.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee White had as guests on Sunday evening, their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Carl White and their children of Asheville.

Mr. and Mrs. Horace Nodine of Spartanburg, S. C. were weekend guests of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Norton and their children, Kenny and Tommy, and of their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Nodine and children, Sherrill, Ronnie and Dennis at their homes on Sugar Hill road.

Pvt. J. D. Rolani of Fort Jackson, was a visitor this week at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dreyfus Roland, on the Catawba River road.

Mrs. Tila Westerman, formerly of Old Fort, now living in Marion at the home of her sister, Mrs. Will Hawkins, is a patient in the Marion General hospital.

Cancer Crusade Nets \$110.00
The Junior Women's club members canvassed the town on a cancer crusade Friday evening. Mrs. Ralph Nodine, Club treasurer, reported that the drive netted \$110. The workers covered the territory in teams of two. The drive will last for two weeks. Boxes have been distributed in business houses for contributions from the public.

Park Opens
The roadside park between Old Fort and Ridgecrest is now open to the public. The warm weather on Sunday brought out the first picnickers of the season. Several car loads were observed dining at the various tables.

Mrs. Francis B. Roughton entertained her Sunday School class, "The Gleaners" on Thursday evening at her home on Main Street. Mrs. Roughton is teacher and Mrs. Belle Williams is president of the group. After an enjoyable social hour, the hostess served Devil's food cake, coffee and nuts to the following: Mrs. Max Hunt, Mrs. Leonard Rhinehardt, Mrs. Elizabeth Lingley, Miss Edna Lippe, and Miss Sally Finley.

Washington Trip
The senior class left yesterday for its long awaited and planned trip to Washington, D. C. The group numbering 28 was chaperoned by Mrs. Janie Faw for the girls, and Mr. Robert Woodard, faculty member for the boys. They have secured accommodations at the Hotel Harrison.

Their itinerary will include the N. C. senatorial offices and the office of the congressman from this district, in addition to the usual points of interest in the city. The students and teachers, and the parents, deserve a great deal of credit for the time and effort spent in making this important trip possible. Everyone hopes that the trip will be a pleasant one and that it will provide happy memories for years to come.

Fire At Clearwater
Sparks from the singer ignited cloth in the warehouse of the Thursday evening, but quick work by plant employees and the Old Fort Fire department extinguished the fire and minimized the damage. The sprinkler system functioned properly and the night shift had the hose in place by the time the town fire department, headed by Howard Wolfe, chief arrived at the plant.

According to B. G. Byron, administrative assistant at Clearwater, the chief damage was from water, and it will be some days before an accurate estimate can be made. The cloth is being dried, and it is possible that some of it can be processed.

H. A. Ragle's Birthday
H. A. Ragle, one of Old Fort's most prominent citizens, celebrated his 87th birthday quietly at his home here at the Ragle Hotel on Sunday, April 3.

He and Mrs. Ragle are well known in Western North Carolina, and have friends and acquaintances all over the nation, having been for a great number of years owners and managers of Point Lookout on the old No. 70 highway.

Mr. and Mrs. Ragle have been well this past winter, but are feeling fine now that spring is here. Old Fort wishes Mr. Ragle many more happy birthdays.

Mr. and Mrs. Vann Hughes, Mrs. W. E. Teague, Mrs. Harry Cosgrove, and Miss Nancy Hughes motored to Greenville, S. C. on Thursday Evening to attend a presentation of Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" at Furman University. Miss Mary Van Hughes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, sister of Miss Nancy Hughes and granddaughter of Mrs. Teague, played the role of "Gwendolyn" one of the main characters in the play. Miss Hughes is a freshman at Furman this year.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Manick have as their guest for a week their daughter, Mrs. Herman Creaman and her son Marcus of Clinton, Tenn.

Mrs. Etta Morrison spent the week-end with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Parks Hunter in Nebo.

Mrs. Pearl Adams and family had as guests on Wednesday her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Cross of Covington, Va., and their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Cross and daughter Cathy of Roanoke, Va. The two Cross families were en route from Augusta, Ga. to their homes in Virginia. They said that they were disappointed because they arrived in Augusta the night of the "big freeze" and the next morning the azaleas and other blooming shrubs were killed, and had started turning brown.

Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Pender of Marion visited Mr. and Mrs. Winslow Lavender on Saturday.

Mrs. Lessie Swan had as her guest this past week-end, her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Swan, of Hot Springs.

Mrs. Georgia Nichols, Miss Blanch Finley, J. D. Nichols, of Marion were guest of Miss Sally Finley on Sunday.

Dr. W. A. Robinson has returned to his home from a hospital in Asheville. He and Mrs. Robinson, who was also a recent hospital patient, have as their house guest, Mrs. Oscar Miller, of Snow Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. George Sandlin, who have moved to Winston-Salem to make their home, spent last week here closing their residence Hemlock Hill, and shipping the last of their furniture. The Sandlins' daughter, Mrs. Sue Millaway and family also live in Winston-Salem. While the Sandlins are away, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Padgett and family will occupy the upper floor of the house.

Erwin Allison, who has served his hitch in the army, returned Monday to his position with Clearwater Finishing company.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Washburn were visitors in Erwin, Tenn. on Sunday.

The youth fellowship group of the Old Fort Methodist church held a sale of home baked goods on Saturday at Hogan's Cash store. Proceeds will be used to purchase a movie projector for the church.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude H. Thompson had as their guest this week-end, their daughter Jane, student at Limestone College and her fiancée, Hugh Niesler, of Stone Mountain.

Religious Film Shown
For the last four Sundays, the Rev. Kelly Brendle, pastor of the Old Fort Methodist church, has shown a series of film strips depicting the last days of The Life of Christ, at the evening services. The films are in color and are very beautifully executed. The last of the series will tell the story of the First Easter and will be shown next Sunday. The public is invited to attend.

Walker Wins Scholarship
Clark Walker of Old Fort, a senior in animal industry at N. C. State, has been selected as one of the nation's three winners of a Ralston Purina Research Fellowship awards in dairy science for the year 1955-56.

Walker is the first N. C. State student to receive such an award and will receive \$1,500 for graduate study in dairying. He competed with students from colleges and universities throughout the nation. The fellowship was based on scholastic records, student achievement and extra-curricular activities. As an undergraduate he won the Sears Robuck Foundation and Border Company scholarships at State college.

Baptist Revival
The Old Fort Baptist church will hold a revival beginning on Sunday, April 17. Dr. David Mein of Recife, Brazil, will be the evangelist. He has been a Southern Baptist missionary in Brazil since 1944. He is the son of Mrs. Annie Keith and son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Keith and their son, Bobby, of Cincinnati, Ohio, were Easter visitors at the homes of their cousins, Mrs. Winslow Burgin and Mr. and Mrs. Max Hunt.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Simmons and daughter Vivian, and Mrs. Margaret Adams and daughter Sheila, and Mrs. Charles Simmons were Easter visitors in Wilson. They returned to Old Fort on Monday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee White and Mr. and Mrs. Gus White spent Sunday in Spartanburg, S. C., visiting the Melvin Blanton family.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Kanipe and twin sons, Ronnie and Donnie, arrived on Monday for a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Howard Gosorn of

Old Fort, and Mrs. Albert Kanipe of Glenwood.

Mr. and Mrs. Odell Ward of Florida are visiting Mrs. Ward's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Sherrill.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Tipton announce the birth of a son at Marion General hospital on April 6.

Hunter Killed By Auto
James Wesley Hunter, 79, who lived between Old Fort and Marion, was killed instantly when struck by a car early Saturday morning on U.S. highway 70, five miles east of Old Fort. Mr. Hunter was crossing the road to enter an automobile driven by Lloyd Allison when he stepped into the path of a car driven by Buster Brown McKinney of Marion. Coronator S. J. Westmoreland ruled the death an unavoidable accident. Hunter was McDowell's first highway fatality of 1955. Mrs. Wilburn Davis of Old Fort, RFD 1, is Mr. Hunter's daughter.

Officers Elected
Misses Lula and Frances Pinks entertained the Women's Society of Christian Service of Old Fort Methodist church at their home on Main street Tuesday evening. Mrs. Elizabeth Lindley was elected president; Mrs. Lola Lono, vice-president; Mrs. W. E. Teague, secretary; and Mrs. Clarence Will-

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