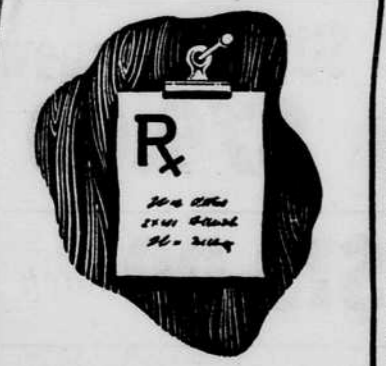




Mud is tiresome, it is relentless, it saps one's strength. I will always remember Nell McAfee and I dragging through the winter slush years ago to the old church to help a few young folks rehearse a Christmas play. There was a preacher (some relation to the Shooks) held a two weeks' revival in the middle of winter, a group of boys and myself went every night, walking through the mud. You should have seen the floor when the services closed. (Minnie just now said that my subject was down to earth at least). All this was while I was a grayer widower. Minnie and I waded through the stiff clay to the same church one Saturday afternoon, I built a fire in the old horizontal heater, we sat and talked and decided to end all this loneliness. But let us go back to even more ancient sticky stuff. My first marriage was in 1923, the road from Ridgecrest to Old Fort was under construction. Thad and Grace Burnette went with us to Marion to get "hitched". We drove my T Model, and went around by Anderson Geyser and I began to think we would not get back, but it is said that those old Fords would always bring you back. We considered Marion a far country then and thought if we went over there we could keep our marriage a secret. Winston-Salem had a boarding school, but some goof in Black Mountain subscribed to a McDowell paper and saw the notice and the news got around. We might as well get to Asheville on a good road. Of course I didn't mind the news getting out and my wife having to quit school, a bride at home is worth several in a boarding school. My young nephew, Don Walker, and I started to West Virginia one time in a 1926 Ford. Down near Winston-Salem we started to detour around a bridge that was being built. We pulled up a very steep hill, just before we reached the crest the back wheels slid into deep gullies leaving the transmission sitting on the ground. We worked and worked, but a dry stick in the worst kind. It came up a terrific summer storm, the rain came down in sheets. Finally that hill got so slick that the car slid back to the bottom, and we drove around another way. The hill alone where Jim Stone lives on the North Fork road used to be known as the Pipe Clay Hill. The mud was of a bluish color, probably some kind of mineral in it. The mud seemed to be bottomless and sticky as heavy wheat dough, horses did well to pull a load the length of the wagon before resting. Every teamster dreaded the Pipe Clay hill, stalling was common. The winter mud on the North Fork used to be awful, I've seen it push up in front of a T Model's axle. One fellow up there owned an old Maxwell, I don't think he ever failed to go through. I thought we had glorious mud here, but take heavy black loam, add a portion of lime to it, dampen well, and see what you get. This concoction will not only stick to your boots, but climb your legs like a rat on a rafter. Most of the farmers in Back Creek valley wore rubber boots all winter and spring. I did carpenter work at Fort Bragg one winter. It's hard for a mountaineer to walk in that sand, it drags him to death. Clay had been put on the country roads to bond the sand, when a car would pass at high speed after a hard rain the mud spray would completely seal the left windows and windshield. We would have to stop and scrape off a peephole. I remember putting on hip boots one to wade out into a South Carolina garden to get a collard for New Year's dinner. It is imperative to have collards and black-eyed peas down there on this day. Yes, this subject seems to be endless, mud is apparently universal. There is the figurative mud that people fling at each other, sometimes adhesive enough to blot the character. Well, as we used to say in the days of high wassail, "Here's mud in your eye." Mrs. Eugene Byrd entertained the W. M. U. circle of our church last Friday night. Those present were: Mae Burnette, Nell McAfee, Amanda Nanney, Louise Garrison, Minnie Walker, Coleen Blankenship, Minnie Shook, Clara Hare,



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The Best Part Of The Meal

By Miss Julia Stokes
Sunday morning at 11 o'clock the Rev. Stanley Bennet preached on "Race Relations." The chorus under the direction of Allan Guy sang "Lord Be Still." Martha Porch of the college was at the organ.
The Youth Fellowship met in the rec room of Assembly Inn at 4:45 p.m.
Some friends went to the Friendship church to see the film "Go Ye Therefore," which was given at 7 p.m. Sunday. This is a picture made in Africa by the Rev. Mr. Stegall of the Friendship church.
Vespers was held in Gaither Chapel with the Comradeship group in charge of the program at 7:15 p.m.
The young adults met in the home of Miss Betsy Watling on Mississippi road at 8 p.m. Sunday. The prayer meetings are held each Wednesday at 4 p.m. in the sun parlor of the Assembly Inn and at 7:15 in Gaither Chapel.
Montreat will unite with Black Mountain in the services on Friday for the World Day of Prayer. The services will be held at 12:05 in the State Street Methodist church. The Rev. Cecil Perry is speaker, and at 7:30 p.m. in the St. James Episcopal church with the Rev. Bernard Trexler of Asheville as speaker.
On Saturday, Feb. 18 at 4 p.m. the Garden club will meet in the sun parlor of the Assembly Inn. Mrs. W. J. Gammon, president, will preside. There will be many points of interest discussed.
The monthly meeting of the Women of the Church will be held in the sun parlor of the Assembly Inn on Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 3:30 p.m. The president, Mrs. Collins Lee, will preside. This is the World Mission study day and will be Family Life on the Mission Field. The speaker will be Mrs. Paul Moore, a missionary of the French Cameroon, Africa.
A large crowd attended the supper and mission study held on Friday night in the home economic room in Gaither Hall. Some 70 were present for the supper which was a most delightful occasion. The children and young people, as well as the adults, had a most profitable meeting.
The play given by the college on

Judy Byrd and myself. Mrs. Hare brought a challenging message, and Jackie Byrd served refreshments.
The play given by the college on

pressed for horns acting.
The Westminster Fellowship of the First Presbyterian church, Sumpter, S. C., held a week-end Assembly Inn over the week-end. Miss Mary Williams, a last year graduate of Montreat college, was the religious director for the church.
Miss Marie Spence of King college spent the week-end with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Spence, in their cottage on Virginia road.
Mr. and Mrs. Francis Wyly were in Montreat for the week-end.
Mrs. Helen Owens has returned from New York City where she visited her daughter and family. Mr. and Mrs. Nat Weimer and wife, comed her newest granddaughter, Susan Ellen, born on Jan. 26. Mrs. Owens will drive Mrs. R. C. Anderson and Mrs. Anderson's cousin, Miss Kate Kelly of Asheville to Orlando, Fla. They will stay in Mrs. Anderson's home in Orlando for a few months.
Dr. and Mrs. L. Nelson Bell have returned from a weeks' stay in Florida.
Mrs. Charles Camp of Estill, S. C., is spending a few weeks with her sister and brother-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. Will Ross in their home on Alabama terrace.
Billy Solomon spent the week-end in the Solomon home on Assembly drive. He returned to Benn Lippen school on Sunday afternoon.
Miss Hadi Anders and Miss Margaret Carstens had as their guest for a few days last week, Miss Bessie Liberman of Memphis, Tenn.
Miss Virginia St. Clair has been ill in Umatta, Fla., but is somewhat improved now.
Mr. and Mrs. Jones Pharr of Charlotte and three children spent the week-end in Assembly Inn. They have a summer cottage on Mississippi road.
Mrs. Samuel Woods has returned to the Grier cottage after visiting her son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Woods, Jr., in Franklin, Va. She welcomed her new granddaughter, Amy Kirk, born Jan. 19.
She visited her sister Elizabeth, Mrs. Leland Edmunds, and family in Newport News, Va., before returning home. The Edmunds' oldest son, Leland, Jr., has won distinction in science. He is a senior in high school and has majored in science. He was one of the 40 young scientists chosen to compete in the Westinghouse science award which is a scholarship for one of the colleges which has antierian church.

ENKA PAYS DIVIDEND.
Directors of American Enka Corporation today (January 27) declared the regular quarterly dividend of 40 cents per share on the common stock, payable March 23, 1956 to stockholders of record March 9, 1956.
Leland goes to Washington, D. C., the end of February to take this examination and we hope for him success in this undertaking. Leland comes to Montreat in the summers where he visits his grandmother, Dr. Nettie Grier. He is the son of the Rev. Leland Edmunds who was at one time pastor of the Black Mountain Presbyterian church.

Will Be Shown
Many interesting programs have been presented at the youth rally in the American Legion hall each Saturday night at 7:30. Those who have attended have received inspiration and enjoyment. One of the most interesting programs thus far will be presented this coming Saturday night when the Bob Jones university film production, "Light of the World" is shown.
This film is based on a sermon which Dr. Bob Jones Sr., has preached to thousands for many years. It is hailed as one of the most inspired sermons the famous evangelist has ever preached.
The film is filled with many interesting scenes and exciting dramatizations. It comes from the best equipped film studio of any Christian school in America. The Universal Films studio at Bob Jones university is one of the largest and best equipped 16mm film producers in the country. The impact of "The Light of the World" has been felt by thousands all over the country.
Also on the program will be featured some very special music by the talented young couple, Paul and Barbara Montgomery.
Everyone who comes this Saturday night is sure to be blessed. Remember, everyone is welcome.

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