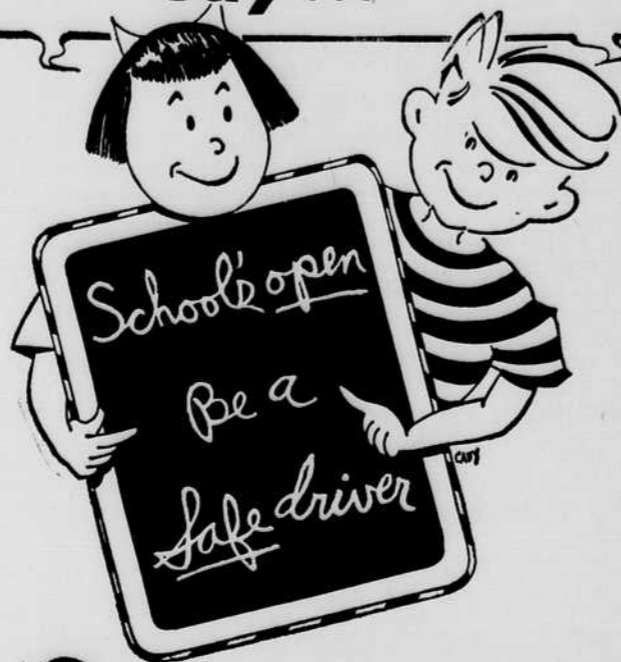


Mountain Musings

by Gene Byrd

36,000,000 of us say...



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Arcean Stables
Last week my son, Bobby, and I undertook the task of cleaning out our garage sufficiently (I don't necessarily mean that although possibly) of skillful maneuvering might be partially protected from the elements.

By next spring the various things that manage to get deposited in our garage will undoubtedly have forced the car to remain outside. The Byrd family doesn't belong to the genus Litterbug, but we qualify as first class "Clutter-bugs."

I am most to blame for the deplorable state of affairs that our storage facilities manage to assume. I am constantly collecting things that are hardly good enough to keep but, in my opinion, much too valuable to throw away.

Sufficient to say, Bobby and I had quite a struggle, and we need to have another session before things will be creditable.

The Hills Beyond
Among other things, we unthinkingly what was proclaimed on its cover to be Thomas Wolfe's last great book—The Hills Beyond.

Now I am not exactly a Thomas Wolfe fan. Forgive me Dear Readers, I know that many of you are great admirers of Wolfe.

The old Muser is a queer contradiction of being prudish with occasional flashes of being pretty uninhibited. The prudish streak usually has the uppermost.

I love parts of Wolfe such as "And time passing . . . passing like a leaf . . . time passing like a flower . . . time passing like a river . . . time passing . . . and remembered suddenly, like the forgotten hoof and wheel . . . Time passing as men pass who will never come back a-

gain . . . and leaving us, Great God, with only this . . . time, this life, are stranger than a dream . . ."

I withdraw when the same pen is dipped into obscenity or becomes a little "too earthy." Perhaps that is why my enjoyment of Wolfe is somewhat qualified.

The Hills Beyond was assembled from Wolfe's materials after he died, by his close friend Edward C. Aswell. Aswell seems to feel that Wolfe in this book was creating a set of ancestors for George Webber.

Wolfe in his writings was intensely personal. He used characters to represent himself. In his famous book Look Homeward, Angel, he was Eugene Gant. After the furor created by his book, he seemed to have soured on Gant and became George Webber in his later writings.

George Webber, in The Hills Beyond, was descended from the Joyners. Mr. Aswell seems to feel that the Joyners were mostly products of Wolfe's mind, among them a flamboyant personality named Zach Joyner.

Any child of these hills, of not too recent vintage, would plainly recognize Zach Joyner as a take-off on the great Zeb Vance.

Some of the ribald stories, positions held such as war-time governor and U. S. senator, the loss of one eye, plainly delineate the immortal Zeb.

Country Cousins
Wolfe brought out an interesting point with his presentation of his Joyner family. He had them all originating in the country. (Would that have been Reems Creek?)

He seemed to try to develop the point that only the Joyners who moved to town amounted to anything. He depicted the country Joyners as being victimized first by the timbering industry and then by the mica mining industry, then with eroded fields and wasted farms sinking lower and lower in the social and economic scale.

A point arises in my mind. What is a yardstick of Success? Were the more or less fictitious Joyners, who lived

sedentary lives in town, or even the famed politicians like "Zach" a great deal happier than the sons of the soil that elected to remain in the country and in obscurity?

What is Success anyhow, Dear Readers? I would like your opinions. Sometimes the worders . . . and

Welcome, Eloise!
I was pleased to see the What's Goin' at Owen column activated last week.

I want to welcome the correction, Eloise Styles, to the News line-up.
Eloise is a sweet conscientious person, and I know she will carry on the worthy traditions of those who have done so well in the past.

Come on in, Eloise, the waters fine. (Of course Barleson and I may get together any day now and muddy up the proceedings.)

Suppose I would make a perfect copy if I tried 'umpteen times.
When I make a mistake in my ramblings, I merely cross it out by using sufficient X's to cover the error. It makes a wild looking paper, but the proof reader always makes it come out pretty well as I intended.

Writers in primer days would use X's or asterisks to replace profane words or even to indicate romantic interludes.
If someone were to apply that interpretation to my efforts, I shudder to think of what they might think of me. (Ed. note—All the proof readers missed last week.)

Return
Judy got home for the day (Sunday). It was so good to have her at church and home with us.
She brought good reports of life at college. We are so happy for her to have the great privilege of more education that we can't quarrel too much at losing the joy of her presence.

MY CROSS
Dear God, you seemed to know my lack
The day you placed it on my back.
Comprehension comes on bending knee.
My cross was custom made for me.
Just heavy enough to break my pride,
And bring me humbly to Your side.
When it weighs until I can't bear it,
I know you'll come in time and share it.

Poor Proof-Reading!
I constantly admire the good work of those who proof read for our local paper. They must have both wisdom and fortitude.
I make a lot of mistakes in the copy I turn in. I don't

LOOKING AT HISTORY
Mr. and Mrs. Leon Burnett of Chapel Hill announced the birth of a daughter. The baby has been named Carol. Mrs. Burnett is the former Elizabeth Maddox.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Tiller and daughter Lea Ashley, have arrived from Lakeside, Ohio, to spend several weeks with Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Ashley before going to Florida.

Robert Guy resigns at Ridgecrest. Robert Guy, under whose management the Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly made great strides during the last four years, has resigned to accept a position as administrator of the Baton Rouge General Hospital, Baton Rouge, La.

By such a Divine Hand?
Have you heard in the pensive hush
The sudden cry of blue jays
As they prey on other birds
So small and innocent?
Have you watched
As the goldenrod seemingly without warning
Burst forth into full bloom
Declaring that summer is past
And that the cold clammy hand of winter
Soon shall blow it's chilly breath
Chilling the very soul of those who mourn
A summer gone?

—Mildred Reel Harris
Swannanoa, N. C.

ODDLY ENOUGH by G. Goldman
Diamonds, generally considered the most valuable of all precious gems, have been the cause of many bloody wars. In ancient times, only kings and emperors were allowed to own the sparkling jewels. Today, however, diamonds are owned by people in all income brackets.

Amazing as it sounds, less than thirty years ago most jewelers had no scientific method of determining a diamond's exact value — or of even being able to separate genuine diamonds from the fakes. Today, modern instruments such as the Diamondlite and the Diamondscope enable any jeweler to grade gems to a high degree of accuracy.

Unfortunately, the layman still has no way of determining a diamond's true value. The only sure way, says the American Gem Society, leading association of national retail jewelers, is to deal with a reputable merchant in your community.

SHOPE CREEK

by Mrs. Thelma Buckner

(Sept. 15, 1960)
Dear Readers, have you missed me these two weeks? I suffered a very bad steam burn on my right wrist and hand which prevented me from getting out any news.
Mom and I have been "gad-ging" a bit recently. We spent two nights in Swannanoa with Mr. and Mrs. Zeb Nichols and

Wayne, and a week-end with the Clinton Greggs and last week-end in Jones Cove with Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Creasman who took us to see Mrs. Laura Shope at the Skyline Rest Home on Sunday.
We were sorry to learn of the passing of these friends: Mr. Elmore Burnett of Bee Tree who died Aug. 25.
Mr. Roy Tipton of Black Mountain, died Aug. 28.
Mrs. Fletcher Mason of Biltmore who died on Aug. 31, and

Thursday, Sept. 22, 1960 — Black Mountain (NC) NEWS - 3

Mrs. Freeman, Shope Creek, who died Sept. 3.
F. B. Gregg of Beaverdam was our over-night guest recently.
G. R. Creasman is now employed as a guard at Amcel. "Snake on the Loose"
Mr. and Mrs. Zeb Nichols and Wayne were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Dillingham and Mrs. Lena Cogdill on Sunday.
The B. T. U. of Berea Baptist church had a social on Labor day for the men at work covering the new church. They served hamburgers, weiners, etc.

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Pies 4 8-Oz. Pkgs. 69^C

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SLICED BACON 39^C

1-LB. PKG.

EXTRA SPECIAL! MILD AND MELLOW

EIGHT O'CLOCK COFFEE

1-LB. BAG 51^C 3-LB. BAG \$1.49

Come 'n' get it... the fishin' fine!

PRIZE CATCH OF VALUES

Haddock Fillet 1-Lb. Pkg. 35^C Ocean Perch 1-Lb. Pkg. 33^C
Breaded Shrimp 10-Oz. Pkg. 49^C Flounder Fillets 1-Lb. Pkg. 45^C

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Complete Just Heat And Serve Fish

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ANGEL FOOD CAKE

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JANE PARKER 8-INCH SIZE

Lemon Pie

REG. 49^C SPECIAL 39^C

JOY LIQUID
12-Oz. Can 39^C 22-Oz. Can 67^C

OXYDOL
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BLUE CHEER
Lg. Pkg. 34^C Gt. Pkg. 81^C

DASH
Detergent Large Pkg. 39^C

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Lg. Pkg. 29^C Gt. Pkg. 89^C

COMET
2 Reg. Ctns. 31^C
2 Gt. Ctns. 47^C

LUX SOAP
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LIFEBUOY SOAP
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Pt. Can 40^C Qt. Can 73^C

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