

RIDGECREST RAMBLINGS

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At the Church:
Repair and remodeling work of the church building is progressing nicely. Sheeting for the auditorium roof is completed and shingles will be applied shortly. Rafters are up for the two new classrooms upstairs in the educational plant. Adding these rooms not only gives new space but removes the leakage problem of the heretofore flat roof over corner areas.

Music, prayers, the pastor's message, a worshipful observance of the Lord's Supper, all combined to give an even more spiritual atmosphere than usual to the Sunday morning service. It was good to be there.

Ridgecrest women united their hearts and voices with those of other women of all nations as they met on Monday afternoon at the church to observe Baptist Women's

Day-of-Prayer around the world.

Six little girls met Saturday afternoon for a Junior Girls' Auxiliary meeting in the home of their Counselor, Mrs. George L. Hocutt. After an interesting program on Japan, and an enjoyable skating party in the basement of the pastorium, they paid a little sunshine visit to Mr. H. B. Craven, carrying a basket of fruit to which each one had contributed.

Forty books have recently been donated to the church library by Mrs. S. C. Gill in memory of Mr. Gill.

Rev. George L. Hocutt, Rev. and Mrs. Everette Murray, and Mrs. E. F. Poore, were among those who attended the Crusade Counselors' Training Class in First Baptist Church, Asheville, on Sunday afternoon.

In the Community:
Mrs. Jewell Bell of Little Rock, Ark., died in that city on Friday, November 1, after a long illness. She was the mother of our Miss Arvine Bell, Director of Camp Crest-ridge for Girls. Sympathy from all of Ridgecrest goes to Miss Bell in this great loss.

The passing of Dr. William Fitzgerald in Miami, Fla., a few days ago brought sadness to the hearts of friends who recall his presence through the years here in "Wren's Nest", summer house of the Fitzgerald family.

Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Dawson, friends of Dr. John T. High in Rocky Mount, N. C., have been enjoying a ten-day vacation here in the High cottage.

Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Sutherland left Friday to spend some days in Abbeville, S. C. Mrs. W. P. Reeves and her friend, Mrs. Tom Stewart, Jr., on Monday came back to Ridgecrest after a delightful visit in Arlington, Va. and Annapolis, Md. with relatives. But they began immediately to close the Reeves cottage for the winter, and on Wednesday departed for their homes in Decatur and Hartsville, Alabama.

Six members of Ridgecrest Assembly Staff went last Wednesday to Nashville, Tenn., to attend the annual



Town Topics

Edith K. Benedict

Season's End
This gray day while "the sun is away from home" it appears that our long, beautiful, dry fall is at an end. Those who remained in the mountains to get the full effect of the color have had a long vigil, for color began reaching its peak as early as our week end at Grandfather Mountain, which was the first week end in October, and lasted on until the present. The colors are not vivid now, but the views of the nearby



mountains are still something to behold. The juncos came down from wherever they stay during the summer, smart things, they knew the snow was on the way at the higher elevations. Yesterday, as if to give the lie to the weather man, two wrens were giving a throat splitting duet somewhere in our neighborhood. Accoras are so plentiful, still lying in stacks all over the ground, that neither Brownie nor Wilbur are interested in the black walnuts placed to lure them back to us for the winter. We haven't yet forgiven the cat that took our friendly little chipmunk who lived in the wall under the cherry tree. He was cut-er even than the squirrels, and as long as there were pits from the cherries there was no need to venture far to seek food. This made him bolder and braver and we tried to warn him of danger but he didn't listen. The day he disappeared a strange cat appeared on the wall licking his chops and washing his paws in a suspicious gesture which led us to believe he had enjoyed a meal of our pet and hoped for a second such pleasure. Now we are looking forward to the birds that feed with us during bad weather. Progressive Farmer weather predictors say these first days of November will bring harsh weather followed by returning warm days. Incidentally, they have been pretty good in their forecasts.

Dancers Happy
The trip to Raleigh was profitable in more ways than one for the dancers. The State Fair grounds afforded much territory for sight seeing and the town itself, with all that any capital city affords, was a rich field for exploring. The sights seem to have been as important to the boys and girls as their participation in the dancing. However, winning third place was quite a feather in their caps and both coaches were pleased at the recognition. If anyone in the Valley has a Charlotte Observer which contained pictures of the dancers, would they please call either Mrs. McNary or Mrs. Brown; they have neither seen the issue nor have they been able to buy a copy. Date line for the issue needed should be between October 19-22. They would appreciate having a copy if possible.

Story Hour
More and more the community is becoming enriched because of the retired people coming here to make their home. Latest cause for appreciation and thanks is the Friday story hour for preschool youngsters being conducted by Mrs. Charlotte Brideman assisted by Dr. Elmer Behre and Mrs. J. Robson. This is such a nice thing, a really worthwhile activity, in which the very young can take part, and from which they could develop a love for books. Any teacher will vouch for the fact that good students are good readers, so a great big "THANK YOU" to those who are willing to give of their time free-

ly for the advancement of our children. There is no other single factor as important to students, for without an understanding of the printed word, nothing can be absorbed. About twelve children attended the first hour.

Police of Black Mountain report the most uneventful Halloween ever. About 10 volunteer police were on duty but not a single event marred the good behavior for which parents and children of the town have been given credit. Not only was there no soaping of windows in the downtown section, but in the residential area most callers were very young and very courteous, and no door bell sounded on our street after about 8:30. Check this year off as another good one for the young ones, in fact the best ever. Fireworks were heard outside the limits and there are reports of damage nearby, but within the limits of town, nothing.

Too Old To Cry
The talk which Mrs. Harper made before the women gathered here for the district club meeting is illustrated right in our own back yard. She pointed out that young people are forced into an adult world by parents who want them to become adults too quickly. It might be incorrect to say that the girls

roaming our streets here are put there by parents; the parents in all likelihood do not know where they are.

The situation to which I have reference is the use of Cherry Street and some places of business by very young teenagers, girls, as "hang-outs" for pickups. At least two of these girls are twelve years of age; the remaining few are a trifle older.

This is all strictly rumor based on hard fact. We were told that one business place on Cherry called police who moved the group on because customers were being driven away since a number of young people loafing and lounging about does give a bad impression. This is called vagrancy—which is an offense against police and order. These girls are downtown as late as 11 P.M.

The suggestion was made to us that something should be done. What? The very people who should be concerned are the ones that may not be aware of anything being amiss. This group has already been forced from two hangouts, it is as if they either do not have homes or are ashamed to take their

companions there with them. The whole business is contradictory, they are really children playing at being adults. Going down one side of the street they are smoking a cigarette; coming back up on the other side they are licking on suckers. What a paradox! It is both pitiful and heartbreaking and what can you do to help with the problem?

Look Who's Here!

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll D. Weaver of Swannanoa, have a son born Nov. 2, in St. Joseph's hospital.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Grover W. Silver of route 1, Swannanoa, a daughter, Oct. 28, in St. Joseph's hospital.

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OVER 500 COPIES OF THE 1962 AT&T Annual Report have been transcribed into Braille and recordings for share owners and others who are unable to read printed material. This has been a project of the Telephone Pioneers of America, an organization of telephone employees with at least 21 years of service with the telephone company.

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