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Thursday, May 23, 1940.

"Let There Be Light"

A Thought for the Thoughtful
The quality of mercy is not strained,
It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven
Upon the place beneath. It is twice blessed:
It blesseth him that gives and him that takes.
It becomes
The throned monarch better than his crown;
His sceptre shows the force of temporal power,
But mercy is above this sceptred sway,
It is enthroned in the heart of kings,
It is an attribute of God himself.
—Shakespeare, in Merchant of Venice.

Dollars And Mercy

For the first time since the tragic days of the World War the American people are being asked to contribute to a Red Cross war relief fund. A minimum of \$10,000,000 is being sought throughout the country to alleviate the suffering of Europe's innocent victims of war.
As one of the few remaining nations enjoying peace and security in a world of chaos, the United States is in a position to extend a strong hand of sympathy. And if we are to cope with distress that grows hourly, this must be done both swiftly and generously. Each fresh movement of troops lengthens the shadow of terror, hunger, orphanhood and homelessness.
Fortunately, mercy is of a flexible nature. Unlike other forms of human expression it can be translated into effective action by dollars and cents. Those whose homes lie in the path of marching armies are in need of purchasable succor—the simple necessities of food, clothing and medical treatment.
The American Red Cross is the logical channel through which the people of this country may express their deep concern for the plight of women,

Hooker

Hooker, May 21. — Monday, May 20, this community witnessed one of the most severe hail storms ever remembered by the older citizens. The storm lasted some twenty minutes. The stones ranged from the size of marbles up to one and three-quarter inches in diameter, and covered the ground to a depth of one and one-half inches in open fields, drifting to several inches against buildings. All early gardens fruit, berries and young clover was completely destroyed. Where fields were formerly green with oats they are bare now. Foliage was stripped from the trees. Many young chickens were reported killed, asphalt roofs were completely ruined, window panes were broken in many houses and some automobile windows were broken.
Mrs. Mack Johnson is still seriously ill.
Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Harris went to Galax Sunday night to hear Evangelist Bob Shuler, of Los Angeles. They were accompanied by Mrs. Hattie Hendrix.
We hear again the click of horseshoe pitching at the local store on Saturday afternoons and bad days. It is a pleasant sound after a long winter of checker playing.
The local baseball team has begun practicing on the Duncan diamond.
Decoration services will be held at Glade Creek Church the first Sunday in June. All that have friends and relatives buried here are invited to come Thursday, May 30, to help clean the cemetery. Also there is a lot of cleaning that needs to be done around the building where repair work has been done. New windows have recently been put in the church.
Mr. and Mrs. John Henry (Jack) Lanus, of Maryland, who have been visiting Mr. and Mrs.

John Duncan, returned home Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Lanus were recently married. Mrs. Lanus will be remembered here as Miss Lucille Moxley, granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Duncan.

Little Pine

Little Pine, May 20—Mrs. Emes Green, who has been in the hospital at North Wilkesboro, has returned home, improved.
A large crowd enjoyed the singing at Little Pine Saturday night given by the Chestnut Grove Choir.
Mr. and Mrs. Claude Johnson and family spent Friday afternoon with Mr. Johnson's mother, Mrs. Mack Johnson, who is seriously ill.
Mrs. Nina Andrews spent the week with Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Greene.
Mr. and Mrs. Andy Brooks of Bullhead visited relatives here over the week-end.
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Handy are building a nice dwelling house for themselves.
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Moxley and Carl Moxley of Six, W. Va., visited Mrs. Moxley's mother Mrs. Reanie Tompkins, for the week-end.
Rev. Mack Brooks gave an interesting talk at Mountain View Sunday.
John Murphy celebrated his birthday on May 19.
A car license plate and holder was found—Owner call at Guy Collins' home.
Mr. and Mrs. Carlie Johnson and family spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Johnson.
Zelma Jean and Aلتree Greene spent Saturday night with their sister Mrs. Reva Wilson.
Mr. and Mrs. Reaves Blevins visited Mrs. Blevins mother Mrs. George Johnson, who has been very ill.
Services will be held at Saddle Mountain Sunday May 26.

children and aged in Europe's war zones. Through the prompt and efficient manner in which the Red Cross has met the great disasters made by man and nature, its emblem has become the emblem of mercy.
Already the American Red Cross has spent \$1,500,000 for the relief of Europe's suffering. In doing so, it has received \$800,000 in spontaneous contributions; the balance has been taken from its reserve funds. In addition, chapter volunteers have produced a half million articles of clothing and more than two million surgical dressings.
With the invasion of new countries, overwhelming needs are being reported daily. They are manifest reasons why a general appeal must be made to the nation. It is a challenge sympathetic Americans should answer promptly and generously.
Alleghany County's share of this ten million dollar relief fund is only \$200, and surely that amount can be raised promptly. Alton Thompson of the Northwestern Bank is County Treasurer of the Red Cross, while Rev. Mr. Berry is County Chairman, assisted by Rev. Mr. Strader. A public meeting is to be held Friday at 2 o'clock in the Court House to discuss the situation and perfect an organization to raise our quota.

Keeping The Record Straight

For 51 years Alleghany County has had its newspaper. But the fire of 1933 was very disastrous in that it destroyed practically all newspaper files and records. We are now seeking to gather together what can be found of old copies of The Star, The Alleghany Star, and The Alleghany Times. We have complete files of The Times for 1934 and to date. But we lack the issues of January 6, January 13 and December 28 of 1933. If anyone can locate copies of those issues we wish to see them.
Indeed, we seek any old copies of the three papers named, and also of those other and more temporary efforts in journalism,—the West Carolina News, the Blue Ridge Eagle, the Rattler, and another paper whose name we have not learned. There may have been still others, also. Our aim is to gather up the fragments of newspaper history in the county; and even though we may not ever own all the old newspaper copies, we hope to get a list of what copies are in existence, so that they can be consulted by future historians.
By the kindness of D. C. Shores, Mr. Gilliam, and several other friends we have borrowed a number of old copies of the paper from 1911, 1912, 1926 and 1927. We know of other issues around the county. An up-to-date binder is being prepared for us by a book-binder in Louisville, Ky., wherein the old papers we do acquire can be preserved carefully.
This is one thing in which we need cooperation from a wide circle of friends, and we ask every person who may be interested to search for old issues of Alleghany County newspapers of any year before 1934. We want to buy or borrow, or even see, as many old Alleghany papers as possible.

Marriages

LANIUS—MOXLEY
A pretty wedding took place Wednesday at Grace Episcopal Church, Darlington, Md., the bride being Miss Lucille Dorothea Moxley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Leff Moxley, of Darlington, who was married to John H. Lanus, Jr., of Pylesville, son of Mrs. J. Harry Lanus. The ceremony was performed by the rector of the church, the Rev. Kenneth Albough.
The bride, who entered on the arm of her father, was attired in a navy sheer ensemble with white accessories and wore a corsage of talisman roses and baby breath. Her mother, as matron of honor, wore a blue and white ensemble with a corsage of small blue fleurdelis and fern. The wedding march was played by Mrs. Breckenridge Heaps, of Pylesville, sister of the groom. John Snodgrass, of Wilmington, Dela., was best man.
After a short honeymoon the couple will reside at Pylesville, Md.

Stratford

Stratford, May 20. — Mrs. Homer A. Smith and son, Harry, and daughter, Lois, motored to Johnson City, Tenn. Saturday to meet Mr. Smith who spent the week-end with them there.
Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Estep, of this place and Mrs. G. O. Edwards, of Hillsville, Va., visited Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Estep, of Troutdale Sunday.
R. T. Atwood is improving.
Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Mabe and family, of Stratford, and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mabe, of Galax spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Alex Mabe.
Mr. and Mrs. Brantly Fender spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs.

Mrs. Ed Rizoti entertained

—at a birthday party, Tuesday, in honor of her son, Junior, on his ninth birthday.
Games were played and contests were held in the grove. Jo Ann Phipps won the prize for the girls, and Franklin Sturdivant was the lucky one in the boys' contest.
After the games the children went into the dining room where individual birthday cakes and ice cream were served.
The following were present: Bonnie Sue McMillan, Virginia Van Crouse, Cecile Smith, Clarice and Evelyn Mitchell, Jo Ann Phipps, Ida Maude Black, Lorraine Tolbert, Opal Nichols, Bobby Black, Tommy Burgess, Franklin Sturdivant, Joe McMillan, R. L. and Junior Tolbert, Buddy Andrews and Allen Richardson.
Mrs. Rizoti was assisted in entertaining by her daughter, Mary.

Chestnut Grove

Chestnut Grove, May 20.—Chestnut Grove singing choir sang at Little Pine Church Saturday night in the presence of a large congregation. Wayne Edwards, the choir leader, is planning on conducting a singing school there in the near future.
Kyle Rector and little son, Thomas, and Allen Edwards visited L. M. Brooks Sunday.
Mrs. Letcher Duncan and daughter Anita, visited at S. L. Perry's Friday.
Luther Brooks and son, Harvey, visited at Allen Edwards Thursday night.
Walter Higgins and family spent Sunday at Joe Sparks' home.
Herbert Hayes, of Coatsville, Penna., is visiting relatives and friends in this community.
Rev. A. F. Absher, of Whitehead, and son, Rev. Alfred Absher, of Kannapolis, were Saturday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Edwards.
There will be services at Chestnut Grove Church Saturday night and Sunday at 11 o'clock. Everybody is invited.
Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Perry and family visited Letcher Duncan Sunday.
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Brooks spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. John Mooney.
Mrs. R. E. Brooks visited Mrs. Leona Andrews last week.
Miss Ila Mooney spent last week with her sister, Mrs. Howard Brooks.

Rich Hill

Glade Valley P. O., May 21.—Everyone in this vicinity was greatly shocked and saddened by news of Tom Green's accident. All hope for his speedy recovery. Sunday School was reorganized at Rich Hill Methodist Church, May 12. Quite a large crowd attended the opening. Keep coming.
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brown, of near North Wilkesboro, and Mrs. Brown's aunt, Sarah Jane Fender, were visitors at the M. F. Dickenson home Sunday.
Crops and garden truck are not doing so well on account of the dry weather.
Mrs. Connie Johnston was quite sick a few days last week but now is somewhat improved.
M. F. Dickenson, I. G. Edwards and Clyde Johnson were among those seen at the stock sale at Galax Monday.
Mrs. Ennis Creason visited her friend, Mrs. W. L. Spurlin, Monday night.
George Wagoner, Buster Murphy and Edward Andrews were business callers at Millard Dickenson's Monday.
Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Franklin were visitors at Harold Lundy's home in Independence Sunday.
This community was visited by a severe hail and rain storm Monday. W. L. Spurlin reports damage to his dwelling house in broken windows and torn roofing.

C. G. Fender.
Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Richardson spent Sunday at the home of H. C. Caudill.
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Ellison spent this week with Mr. Ellison's parents near Boone.
Mr. and Mrs. Sam Porter and daughters, Peggy Ann and Frances of Sparta, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Richardson.
Miss Zollie Southers visited Miss Imogene Richardson Sunday.
Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Richardson spent Sunday with Mrs. Richardson's sister, Mrs. Bub Edwards, of Sparta.
Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Blevins and family, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Delp and family, of Galax, and Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Myers, of Stratford, spent Sunday with Mrs. Dora Musgrove near Walnut Branch Church.
Accident records show that 1,210,200 persons were injured in motor vehicle accidents in the country last year.

Mt. Zion

Piney Creek P. O., May 20—Mack Woodie and his mother Mrs. Mattie Woodie of Piney Creek visited Gord. Rouse Sunday. Mr. Rouse has been ill for some time.
Mrs. Nettie Teague of Wilkesboro is spending sometime with her sister Mrs. R. M. Pugh. Mrs. Pugh continues ill.
Sunday morning May 19, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Young and two children Joe Albert and Linda Taylor of Grant, Va., and Dr. and Mrs. C. F. Taylor of Charlotte came to the home of Mrs. Mary Cox and prepared dinner on the lawn under the large beech trees. The dinner was served picnic fashion. Mrs. Mary Cox, J. Ray Cox and Georgia Cox were invited to dine with them. Mrs. H. J. Taylor is the daughter of Mrs. Mary Cox. Later in the afternoon the visitors returned home, going by to see Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Shepherd.
Mrs. W. F. Pugh, Mrs. T. E. Pugh and Mrs. Mack Woodie visited Mrs. R. M. Pugh, Sunday afternoon.
Miss Betty Mae Wagoner of Piney Creek spent last Wednesday with Logene Pugh.
Louise Perry, Jean Absher, Mary Lou Grubb and Logene Pugh visited Edna Rae Smith Saturday afternoon.
Dave Ross and son Harley of Furches were in this community Saturday.
T. E. Pugh, son Fred, Paul Cox and Mrs. W. S. Church made a business trip to West Jefferson Saturday.
Jesse and Dean Cox of Piney Creek spent the week-end with their sister, Miss Georgia Cox.
Mrs. S. E. Smith of this community attended the W. M. U., meeting at Scottville last Tuesday May 14. The talks given by Mrs. E. C. James of Elkin, Mrs. A. O. Joines of Sparta, Miss Mary Curran of Raleigh and Miss Turner, a recent graduate, of Louisville, Kentucky, and a number of others were greatly enjoyed by all; dinner was served picnic fashion on a table prepared in the yard for the occasion.
Mrs. Mattie Smith and daughter Edna Rae and little Barbara Sue Evans were dinner guests of Mrs. S. E. Smith. Other guests in the afternoon were Mrs. Sallie Absher and daughter Jean.
Mrs. Emma Absher is visiting her daughter Mrs. Ed Trivett of West Jefferson.
W. E. Maxwell and daughter Mrs. Walter Johnson and little son, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ray Maxwell all of Sparta visited W. F. Pugh's home Thursday evening. Other guests were Mrs. Dora Douglas and Mrs. S. E. Smith.
Ross Bateman is visiting relatives in Ohio and Detroit, Mich.
W. R. Jones of West Jefferson visited Mr. and Mrs. Hallie Douglas last week.
Eugene Black and daughter Fairy Lee of Topia, spent Sunday with relatives in this community.
Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Pugh and family, H. C. Smith and Lee Black visited at W. F. Pugh's Sunday.
Mr. and Mrs. Clay Smith spent Wednesday with Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Pugh.
On Sunday May 19, a number of relatives and friends met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cleary of the Mt. Zion community, and set a birthday dinner for Mr. Cleary.

Topia

Topia, May 20—Mrs. Lula Pugh is ill.
Mrs. Mattie Phipps is able to be out again.
Rev. E. E. Wyatt, Piney Creek, spent the week-end with Rev. and Mrs. L. Blevins.
Miss Virginia Caudill, Piney Creek, was a guest of Misses Lucille and Thelma Black, Saturday night.
Miss Mozelle Blevins, Dublin, Va., is visiting her mother, Mrs. Belle Blevins.
Paul and Chris Randow, who spent last week with friends and relatives in this community, have returned to their home in Maryland.
Dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Linville Blevins, Sunday, were Rev. E. E. Wyatt, Piney Creek, Mr. and Mrs. Thurmond Fitzgerald and children, Mrs. C. D. Blevins and children, W. R. Pugh and T. J. Taylor.
Mrs. Geneva Blevins visited Mrs. Maude Miller, Piney Creek, Friday.
Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Moxley and daughter, Lorene, visited Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Edwards, Sunday afternoon.
A number of neighbors and friends gathered at the home of Rev. L. Blevins, Saturday evening, for the preaching service, which was conducted by Rev. Calvin Childers, Piney Creek. Rev. E. E. Wyatt also made an interesting talk.
Fred Jones has returned to Maryland, where he holds a position.

Travel
Around the Rim of Good Old U. S. A.



Through Oregon To Mt. Rainier Park

After covering a few miles more we came to Gold Hill, thence to Grants Pass, and then we followed Rouge River for a long way,—a very beautiful drive, and a fisherman's paradise, where wild life is abundant, and where we saw our first deer scampering out through the big trees. Proceeding on we came to Roseburg where we spent another night, amid western hospitality. Next morning found us in the lovely Umpqua Valley, and then on up to Cottage Grove. From here we headed for Eugene, where the University of Oregon is located. The campus and buildings are very beautiful. Continuing, we crossed the Willamette river at Harrisburg and rolled on through Albany to the state capital of Salem.
Here the magnificent new capital building was very much worth while for a stop and visit. We next came to Oregon City, one of the oldest cities in the state, where falls of the Willamette River furnish power for large paper and woolen mills. Our next important stop was Portland, Oregon's metropolis, the Rose City. It is located in a beautiful setting, near the junction of two rivers, the Columbia and Willamette, with five snow-capped mountain peaks visible in the background, Mt. Hood being most picturesque of all. The annual Rose Festival is held each year in June, and I was told that it is just as beautiful as the Pasadena Rose Parade. Leaving this city of Roses we crossed the broad Columbia River to Vancouver, the oldest town in the state of Washington. There were lots of things I wanted to see in this historic city, chiefly the Vancouver Barracks on the site of Old Fort Vancouver, built by the Hudson Bay Company, and a ride along the Evergreen Highway through the Columbia River Gorge to see the Bonneville Dam, a gigantic power and navigation project that is creating a deep lake over fifty miles long.
From Vancouver we went on to Kelso, famous for its smelt fishing. Continuing we passed through Castle Rock, Louis and Clark State Park, and Jackson State Park to Mary's Corner, and Chehalis. We really saw some very beautiful evergreens through these parks, the gigantic trees with their lacy green foliage, really delight and feed one's fancy. I have always loved trees, and that is why I suppose this drive up the Pacific coast was such a treat to me. Such natural beauties I have never seen before in any forest, as I saw on this trip up through Northern California to Seattle.
We had dinner in Olympia, Washington State capital at the southern tip of Puget Sound. We saw the tablet in the New Capital Park, marking the terminus of the Old Oregon Trail.
Leaving Olympia we drove near the Nisqually Indian Reservation and up past Fort Lewis to Tacoma, an industrial city on Commencement Bay and gateway to Mt. Rainier National Park.

Alleghany—Oddities

by Frances Wrench
It is a beautiful idea to make two blades of grass grow where one grew before. And indeed, perhaps it can be done, and is done, often. But to have two trees growing in a single spot should be strange even to Bob Ripley. And yet, that is what Alleghany can display.
On one of the hills near Sparta is a dead locust tree. At one time it was alive and serving its purpose as a living thing. It came to its end. And now from out the top of the old dead locust has sprung a mahogany tree that is alive and thriving, with its roots running down through the very center of the old dead locust trunk. So, two trees in one spot.
We plan to show a picture of these two trees in one spot soon.
Another Oddity is where several trees are growing out of a rock, as will be described in another sketch.

Mind Your Mind

by James Watson, M. D.
Division of Mental Hygiene
State Welfare Department

The requests for suitable books and pamphlets dealing with "Mental Health" come from three main groups.
I wonder if you are familiar with the pamphlets published by the Government's Children's Bureau? If not, write to the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., for a list of the publications of the Children's Bureau, which will be sent you free. In it you will find listed pamphlets dealing with almost every problem arising in the raising of children. These pamphlets cost 5c or 10c each. Parents have particularly praised the pamphlets entitled "Are You Training Your Child To Be Happy?" "The Child From One To Six," and "Guiding The Adolescent." And there are hundreds of other good ones.
You should also get the list of publications of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene, 50 West 50th Street, New York City. In it you will find listed many useful pamphlets, some of which are free. I would like especially to mention "Some Undesirable Habits and Suggestions as to Treatment" by Dr. Taft 15c. Many parents have found this helpful.
Among books I would recommend "Everyday Problems of the Everyday Child" by Dr. Douglas A. Thom. This book is written in simple style by an eminent physician and covers every problem likely to arise in the life of a child. It costs \$2.50 and is published by the Appleton Century Co., of New York, but it is probably in your town or school library.



Ever since the first public meeting of Boy Scouts in the Sparta Methodist Church, Friday night, February 23, definite steps have been taken each week toward perfecting the organization and training the boys in Scout activities. A charter has been received from the national and parent organization, and the eight boys who comprise the troop are working toward a trip to North Wilkesboro to be inducted into the next higher rank than they now hold. Uniforms are being acquired; a flag and staff are one of their proud possessions; a number—53—is the official number; Arza Richardson is the patrol leader, under Scoutmaster Odell Andrews and Assistant Robert Andrews; and red is the troop color. "R. C." Mitchell is scribe.
The boys' trip to Fries one Saturday night, to a Scout demonstration, was not only a lot of fun but an inspiration to press on toward Scout perfection.
At present Troop 53 consists of eight boys, and as two of them are carrying on a very interesting activity right here in Sparta, it is thought a sketch of it will be interesting.

Billy Carol's Lab

Speaking of hidden treasures, Billy Carol has a chemistry laboratory in his mother's plant cellar. A very exclusive lab it is—both because the owners, Billy Carol Choate and James Hardin wish it that way, and also because entrance to it is so difficult (one lowers himself in through the roof).
After one has entered, an array of beakers, test tubes, and other paraphernalia greet the eye. There are gas burners, a syphon pump, a miniature chemistry library, gas generators, mortar and pestle, fire extinguishers, running water from a force pump which the boys fixed up. There are all kinds of acids, over 100 different chemicals, a first-aid kit, and also a microscope.
Billy and James carry on their experiments on the town rats—some of them coming from the barber shop. (Their complaint is that the rats coming from the barber shop are too close-shaven).
The experiments include the making of gunpowder, nitroglycerin, a gas mask, and studying all kinds of chemical reactions.
Privacy while they work is guaranteed both by the entrance and by cardboard-covered window panes.
On the wall hang Dr. Leff's medical saddle-bags, hang-over from the days when he answered his calls on horse back.
Lewis Wagoner, we understand, has started a similar small laboratory for himself.