

SPORT SHOTS

BY CHARLES CARPENTER

Local fans will see an interesting Central high squad in action in City Stadium Friday night, a team that could well develop into a darn good ball club.

For the last few weeks they have been drilling twice daily and with only the boys over 15 out. Should a fair crop of reserves pop up out of the ranks of kids in the polio-banages, 15 and younger, it will be a potent team.

The squad is not too heavy, but has weight enough in our opinion. The boys who have been nursing the bruises of the twice-a-day drills have a lot of speed and a lot to learn. Most of the veterans are backs with a good bit of experience but majority of the starting forward wall has had only limited experience.

Coaches Carlton and Parker have been working the squad hard and fast, due to the late send-off due to the polio ban. The boys have had plenty of expert advice tossed their way, along with a goodly set of plays, both offensive and defensive, and their record this year will more than likely depend on the individual physical condition and alertness of each player.

The Mountaineers have a rough schedule. After the opener, Hendersonville, here, the squad takes on Bessemer City, North Carolina School for the Deaf (Morganton), Morganton, Rutherfordton, Cherryville, Mt. Holly, Charlotte Tech High, Shelby, and Lincolnton, all on successive Fridays with the remaining home games all during the month of October.

Good luck to the 1948 Mountaineers!

—dad—

Kings Mountain baseball fans were fairly well represented Saturday night at the Lincolnton Cardinal-Morganton Aggies playoff battle in Lincolnton. The Cards blasted out a 9 to 3 decision and went on to eliminate the Aggies in a Monday night thriller in Morganton 9 to 8. Loop Prexy John Moss was aboard the almost-3,000 paid crowd—Kings Mountain Charles (Specks) Ballard has been a big factor in the Rutherford County Owls stretch drive. He helped the Owls to a double victory over Newton-Conover's Twins on Labor Day and homered a pair of victories over the Twins in the first two playoff battles. Ballard has been playing first base of late... First half of a split dove season

opened yesterday (Thursday) at noon and most dove-hunters have probably hit the possession limit of 100 by this morning. Bag limit is 10 and hunting hours are from NOON until sunset. . . . Rocco Spadicini, ace pass snagger of the pro Charlotte Clippers will more than likely be in the lineup on offense Sunday in Memorial Stadium, Charlotte, as the Clips battle the Brooklyn Dodgers. "The Spad" suffered a knee injury last Saturday night against Bethlehem, and it was first thought the ace would be out the rest of the season. He also had a broken finger to show for his lone score. . . . Shu Carlton wanted to know when we would learn to spell his name correctly after a couple of weeks of calling him "Carlson". "And my first name's Everette," Shu said. Thanks for the correction and good luck, neighbor! . . . What we need around here is a good, adequate playing field with a good ground-keeper for all seasons. Where have we heard that one before? . . . See you all the ball park (??) tonight.

Driving after drinking is dangerous. It's not the fellow who is "drunk" who is likely to be a death car driver. It's the fellow who has had "just a few" drinks who is most dangerous. His reaction time is reduced, his perception ability is not so keen, and his attitude is too much inclined to be a braying one. Traffic records show that mishaps involving liquor go up weekends.

Farm Land Prices Abnormally High

Farm land values in 35 states, including North Carolina, now equal or exceed the boom level of 1920, according to Moyle S. Williams, Extension farm management specialist at State College.

Mr. Williams pointed out that the only large area where land values are still below their 1920 peak is the corn belt and the Northern Plain states. This is one of the areas where land prices boomed the highest after World War I and where values dropped the most during the 1930's. The present inflation seems to have reached its highest level in the southeastern states, especially in North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama, he said.

The average value per acre of farm real estate in North Carolina during July, 1948, was 157 per cent higher than the 1935-39 average. Only six states have had a larger increase, the specialist said.

The rise and continued strength in farm real estate prices and in demand for farm land has resulted largely from the strong demand for agricultural commodities and increases in farm incomes. The full price and income situation for crop year 1948 is not yet definite. However, record wheat and corn crops in prospect for the nation as a whole point to somewhat lower prices. If this prospect develops, land values may not rise as much as the present high rate of land returns would indicate.

The relatively rapid increase in many farm cost items during recent months may be another curb influencing land values. Buyers in the present market must be prepared for

a situation where rising costs may reduce their net income even though gross income continues high, Mr. Williams said.

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