



Phone (919) 352-4204

WALTER C. SPARGER

Route 6, Box 275
Mount Airy, N. C. 27030

Walter Cressy Sparger



*John Sparger
Father*

Sparger Family



*R-L Nannie S. Boyles
Calvin Sparger
Lou S. Atkins
Frank Sparger
Lee Sparger
Dewitt Sparger
Walter Sparger*

*Their Father
John Sparger
Mother
Veronica B. Sparger*

Walter Sparger Store Mount Peak, N.C.
1st days sales - July 14, 1927 - \$3⁸³

July 21-27, 1927 - First load of gas

333 gal. @ 20¢ - \$66⁶⁰

30 gal. Motor Oil @ 50¢ - \$15⁰⁰

Bottom, N.C. Post office - Walter Creamy Sparger
Post master

The Bottom Post office
opened in the late
twenties and closed
6 yrs. later in the
1930's.



To Abolish Post Office At Bottom

Route Two From Mount Airy
Takes On Brim Route.

Notice has been received by Postmaster J. B. Sparger of several changes to be made in the postal routes and offices in this locality. The most important is the abolishment of the post office that has been in operation at Bottom for the past six years. This office is located on the Lowgap road about 12 miles from Mount Airy and was one of the four offices on the Lowgap road, the others being Toast, Ladonia and Lowgap. The office will cease to exist on January 15th according to the regulations received by Mr. Sparger. The postmaster is Mr. Walter Sparger, who operates a store and filling station in connection with the office.

With the retirement of Mr. Dick Marshall as carrier on Mount Airy route four, Charles Simmons of Brim route takes the route carried by Mr. Marshall and the Brim route is consolidated with route two carried by Walter Jackson. The mileage added to Mount Airy route two makes this route 55 miles long.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Sparger
Bottom,
North Carolina



Mount Airy TIMES, Mount Airy, N.C., February 11, 1982

Editorials

Walter Sparger

One of the better-known residents of the Beulah community died recently. Walter Sparger had been a vital, an integral, part of that section for a good portion of this twentieth century.

He ran a general store and service station in the Beulah community for 40 years, until his retirement in the late 1960's. A general store and service station was more than just a place of business, back in those days before the advent of the larger, chain stores: it was an important part of community life. Folks gathered to discuss community problems and needs and, more often than not, to do something about them.

Walter Sparger was a leader in those community efforts. His was one of the driving forces that led to the establishment of Beulah School—then an elementary and high school. His interest in education never waned.

Walter Sparger's interest in his community was many-faceted.

He served as postmaster at the old Bottom Post Office for a number of years, was active in getting telephone service to his community, was prominent in the affairs of Round Peak Masonic Lodge and the Beulah Ruritan Club and was a leader in not only his church, Oak Grove Baptist Church, but could be counted on to support all churches in his community.

Law enforcement officials knew that they had a friend in Walter C. Sparger. Perhaps that interest was honed by his work as a detective in the Marshall Field Co. in Leaksville in his early life. He was a friend and supporter of a profession that continually needs all the friends and assistance it can get.

Walter Sparger was a member of a family with an illustrious past in Surry County. The name of Sparger is closely interwoven with Surry County history and the development of this section and county. He did much to add to the lustrous sheen of a fine old family.

Sparger Passes, Beulah Resident

Walter Creasy Sparger, 83, of Route 6, Mount Airy—prominent resident of the Beulah community—died at 9:50 p. m. Saturday in Northern Hospital of Surry County, the institution which he worked to help establish and supported until his death.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the chapel of Moody Funeral Home here, conducted by the Rev. Arthur Livengood and the Rev. Grady Trivette. Burial was in Oakdale Cemetery, with Masonic rites conducted by Round Peak Lodge 616 AF and AM.

Born September 28, 1898 in the Beulah section of Surry County, he was the son of John and vergenita Bobbitt Sparger.

He owned and operated Sparger's General Merchandise and Exxon for 40 years, from 1927 until his retirement.

He was postmaster of Bottom Post Office for a number of years and, in his early life, was a detective at Marshall Field Co. in Leaksville. He was a vigorous supporter of law enforcement.

He spent a great deal of time working to establish Beulah School, helped obtain rights of way for some roads in the community, and supported the Beulah Telephone Ex-

change.

A member of Oak Grove Baptist Church, he helped support all churches in the community.

Mr. Sparger was a member of the North Carolina Food Dealers Association, Beulah Ruritan Club, Round Peak Masonic Lodge 616, AF and AM, the Winston-Salem Scottish Rite Bodies and the Oasis Shrine Temple.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Sara Snow Sparger; one daughter, Mrs. Ned (Ivylyn) Martin of Route 6, Mount Airy; one son, J. B. Sparger of Route 6, Mount Airy; five grandchildren, Mrs. Gail Martin Shelton of White Plains, Miss Joy Martin, Miss Carol Sparger, Miss Cheryl Sparger and Walter Russell Sparger, all of Route 6, Mount Airy.

Feb. 1, 1982



IN MEMORY
OF

Mr Walter Creasy Sparger

Sept. 28, 1898 Jan. 30, 1982

83 Years 4 Months 2 Days

SERVICES

Tuesday

February 2, 1982 2-P. M.

Moody Funeral Home Chapel

CLERGYMEN

Rev. Arthur R Livengood

Rev. Grady Trivette

INTERMENT

Oakdale Cemetery

Graveside Rites

Round Peak Masonic Lodge

616 AF and AM



MR. AND MRS. WALTER C. SPARGER

Beulah Couple Will Observe Golden Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Walter C. Sparger, of Beulah Community, will celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary Sunday, from two until four o'clock in the afternoon with a reception in the Beulah

Ruritan Building, Route 6, Mount Airy.

Hosts will be their children, Mr. and Mrs. Ned Martin and Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Sparger. They invite all relatives and friends to attend.

Beulah Merchant Has Successful 30 Years

The "country store" continues to play an important part in rural community life and this is true of Beulah, a little community ten miles west of Mount Airy on the Mount Airy-Lowgap Highway.

Walter C. Sparger, a name that is familiar to thousands of Surry County citizens, operates a country store at Beulah that can furnish his neighbors and friends anything they care to buy—from steak to a pair of shoes or some broadcloth or maybe a plow point for the horse.

The store is a hardware store, filling station, grocery store, a ladies' ready-to-wear to clothing for men. He has been an Esso dealer since the day he opened his store.

This Saturday and Sunday Mr. Sparger will celebrate his 30 years of business at Beulah. He plans to fete his friends with free gifts of all kinds and on Sunday at 1:30 p.m. he says he has some extra gifts for his customers.

Mr. Sparger was born in 1898, a mile from Beulah, the son of John Sparger.

At the age of 21 he became a policeman at Leaksville but returned home a year later.

He moved to Beulah in 1927 where he built a new store and settled down to make store business his career at a young age. He married Sara Snow in 1928 and they lived in a four-room house. From that year Mr. Sparger and his wife have continued to build on to the store to serve the community better in every line of merchandise.

Mr. Sparger has played a major part in road improvement for Surry County. He has attended

many road meetings, urging the county and state to build more and better roads in Surry.

He was instrumental in the county building a new community grade and high school at Beulah in 1927.

At one time Beulah's mail was addressed as Round Peak, route 1. It was later changed to Bottom and he served as postmaster of this post office for about three or four years until it was changed to Mount Airy, route 3.

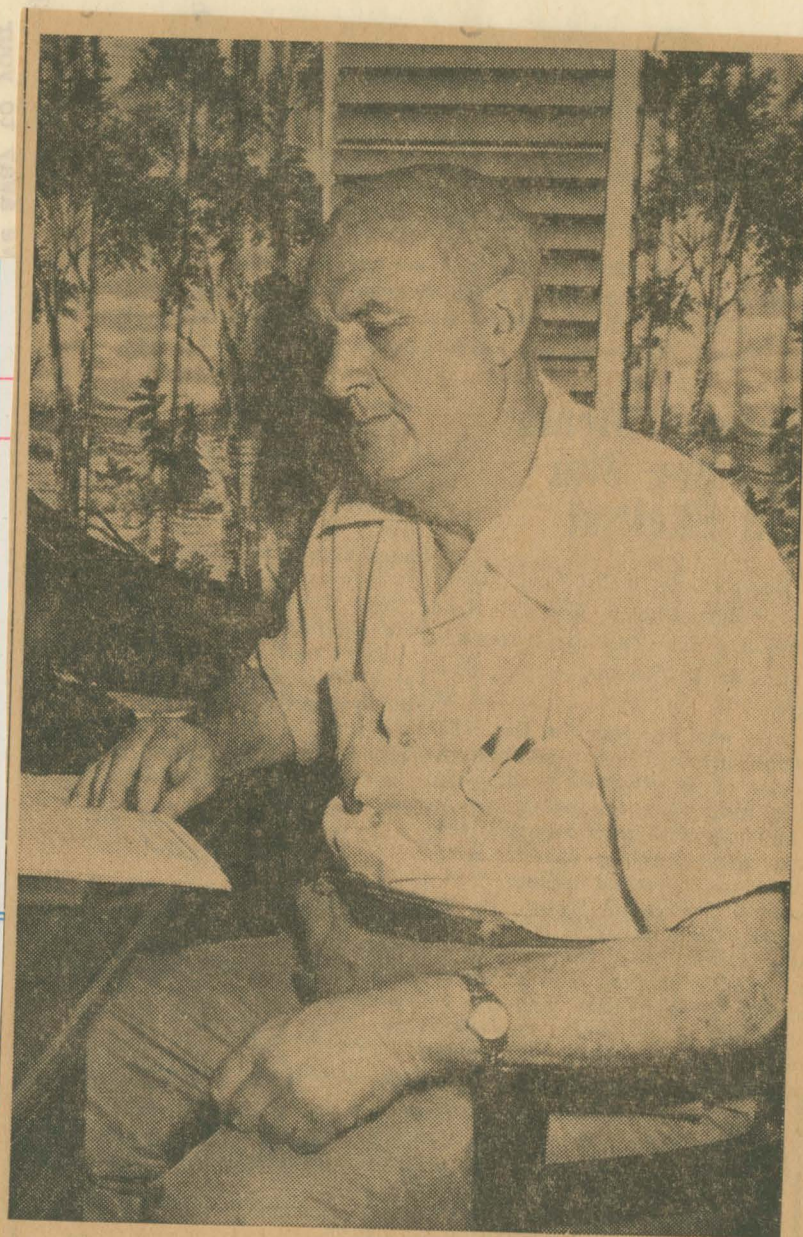
In 1940 Mr. Sparger built a beautiful new eight-room home next to his store.

He has educated two children. A daughter, now Mrs. Ivylyn Martin, is a teacher at Beulah and her husband is a dairy farmer. His son, J. B. Sparger, has one more year in a business college at Johnson City, Tenn.

Mr. Sparger's business calls for the employment of two full-time men — Donald Wood and Boyd Goins.

Mr. Sparger is thankful to his friends and neighbors for his success in business. And to show his appreciation he is having a get-together at his country store this Saturday and Sunday. He invites his friends from far and near to come in and talk about old times, a pastime that is almost a thing of the past in this modern age of living.

1957



WALTER C. SPARGER

1957

Phone 352-4204

Rt. 6, Mount Airy, N. C.

WALTER C. SPARGER
"Dealer In Country Cured Ham"

IN ACCOUNT WITH

STATEMENT

Date _____ 19__

WOLVERINE

Shoe and Tanning Corporation

R O C K F O R D , M I C H I G A N

V O L U N T E E R 6 - 9 4 2 1

June 3, 1957

Mr. Walter C. Sparger
Mount Airy, North Carolina

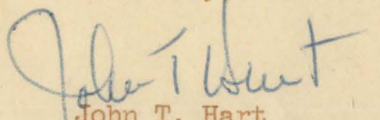
Congratulations, Mr. Sparger,

on the forthcoming celebration of your 30th Anniversary in business.

Your ability to have successfully served your customers for these many years is a real tribute to the way in which you have supplied them with quality merchandise at reasonable prices. Certainly there is no other thing that will keep anyone in business successfully for so many years besides that.

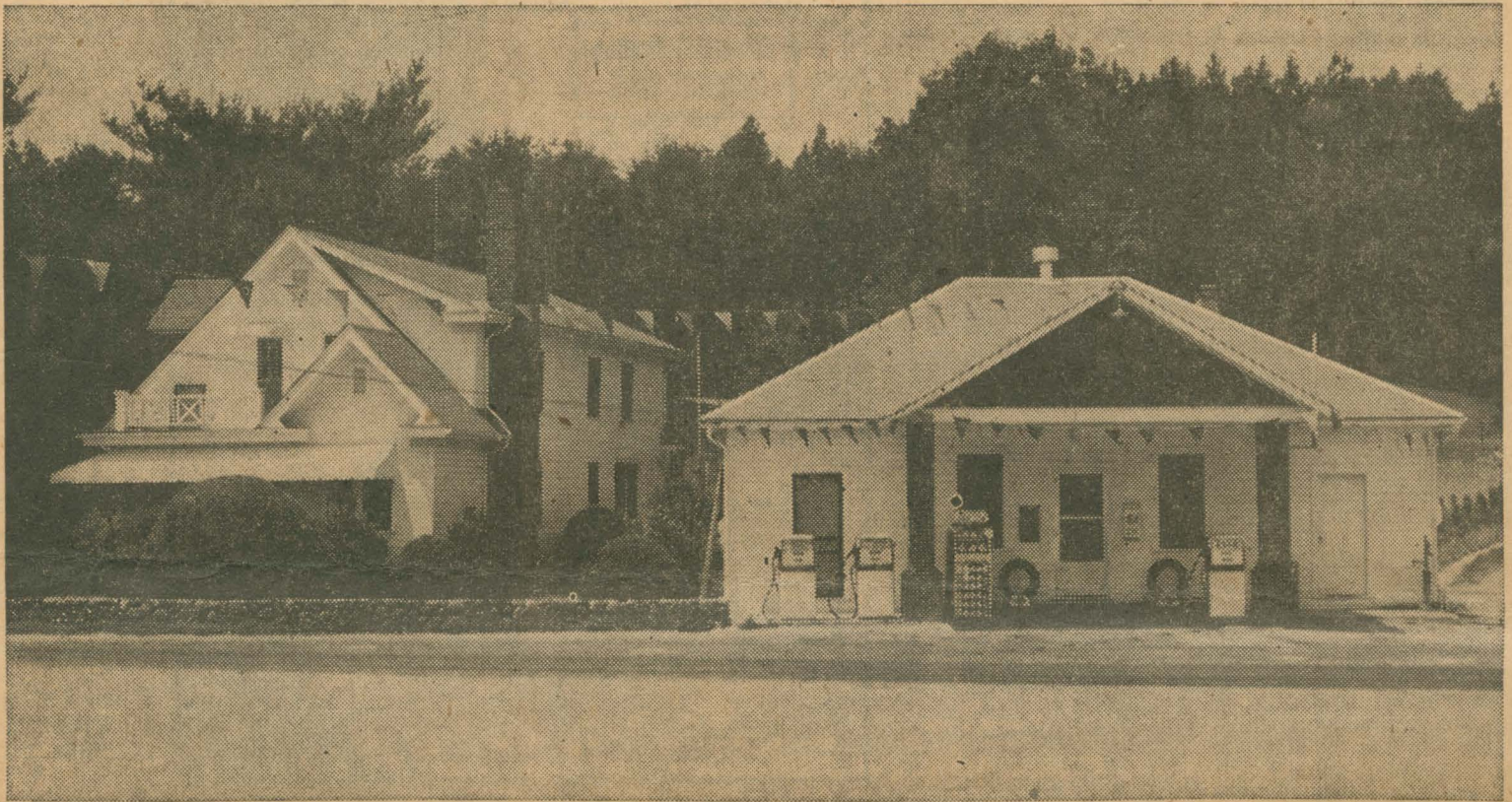
We are shipping you at once a gross of colorful plastic shoe spoons with our compliments. We feel they will make a very nice give away to your customers and we hope add to the celebration in which you will be enjoying.

Sincerely,


John T. Hart
Advertising Manager
mw



30th Anniversary Celebration



Saturday and Sunday, July 13 & 14

Yes,

Saturday and Sunday will be
A BIG DAY at BEULAH at the

Walter C. Sparger's
Store

F-R-E-E

To Our

CUSTOMERS

Nice
Water Sets

Walter C. Sparger's Store

"Your Standard **Esso** Dealer For 30 Years"

Located on Highway 89

Beulah Community

Dial Emerson FL 2-2200

1957



Mr. Walter C. Sparger
Mount Airy, North Carolina

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of February 24th, indicating that you are interested in establishing a Santa Claus name for your store and possibly for a post office also.

The idea of associating your store with "Santa Claus" sounds very practical, and we are sure would meet with the ready acceptance of the students in the neighborhood. Of course, if you did this, you no doubt would want to put up decorations, etc., which would be very symbolic of Santa Claus and Christmas. This, of course, could be done at the start and then you could gradually build your park which could contain various amusements, etc., for the children.

This, of course, takes considerable sums of money and also many years to complete.

As for the United States Postal Department granting a post office in the name of Santa Claus, I am afraid that this would not be possible, inasmuch as it has been legally decided that there will never be another Santa Claus post office in the United States, outside of Santa Claus, Indiana. This stems from the fact that in 1932 the post office department felt that the unusual name of the Santa Claus, Indiana post office was causing too much trouble to the postal authorities and, therefore, requested that the name be changed. However, the protest from all of the citizenry within hundreds of miles, protesting such a move, was so great inasmuch as all had known Santa Claus, Indiana for years and years and they did not think it fair to take away the name which they had build up for so many years.

It was then agreed that the name would not be changed but that there would never be another Santa Claus post office in the United States.

If we can give you any additional information, we will certainly be pleased to assist you in every way we possibly can.

Very truly yours,

SANTA CLAUS LAND

W. A. Koch
W. A. Koch

WE WANT TO EXTEND A . . .

SPECIAL INVITATION

TO OUR CUSTOMERS ON OUR . . .

22nd Christmas Eve Anniversary

OPEN HOUSE From 6:00 A. M. to 8:00 P. M.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24th

This invitation is extended to all – many who have been
our customers during our whole business existence . . .

Come and let's have a good old-fashioned get-together.

Make plans to meet your friends and neighbors at . . .

Walter C. Sparger Store

Mount Airy, Route 3

N & W Industries, Inc.

Manufacturers

OVERALLS - OVERALL COATS - SHIRTS - PANTS - DUNGAREES - JACKETS



FACTORIES
LYNCHBURG, VA.
ROCKY MOUNT, VA.
JACKSON, MISS.
MAGEE, MISS.
COTTON MILL
MAGNOLIA, ARK.

LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA

Feb. 3, 1954

Mr. W. C. Sparger
Mt. Airy, N. C.

Dear Mr. Sparger:

So much time is devoted to those accounts which are habitually delinquent that a credit man is prone to overlook those customers who consistently handle their accounts in accordance with the terms of sale.

When I checked your account recently, I felt I should write you personally, regarding the excellent payment record you have established. You have made my job easier and more pleasant, and whenever anyone asks us for information about Mr. W. C. Sparger, it has been our pleasure to quote that fine record of yours, and tell them how highly we regard you.

Our entire organization joins me in thanking you for your business, which we hope, will be our privilege to handle for many years to come.

Cordially yours,

N & W INDUSTRIES, INC.

V. A. Laverty
Credit Manager

VAL:nw

true of Beulah, a community ten miles west of Mount Airy, N.C., on highway 89.

Walter Creasy Sparger, a name that has been familiar to hundreds of Surry County citizens, operated a country store at Beulah for forty years until his retirement in the late 1960's. His son J.B. Sparger has continued the business. Through the years Walter furnished his customers anything they cared to buy, from a pair of shoes or some broad cloth to groceries, oil cloth, hardware or men's clothing. From the opening until now it has been an Exxon Service Station. From his storage warehouse he sold feed and fertilizer and later built a ham house to cure country hams.

Walter was born in a log cabin September 28, 1898, in the Beulah Community, the son of John (b. 1831 — d. 1912) and Verginita Brent Bobbitt Sparger (b. 1859 — d. 1934).



Walter and Sarah Snow Sparger picture made on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

He grew up on a farm and at the age of 18 worked for 85¢ a day as a pruner and fruit tender for the Sparger Orchard near Mt. Airy. The orchard was owned by his cousins J.B. and Jim Sparger.

At the age of 21 he was a detective for the Marshall Field Co. in Leaksville. Through the years he kept in contact with many of the people he knew there. One of his friends at Marshall Field was Luther Hodges who later became Governor of N.C.

Walter clerked in stores in West Virginia and North Carolina, and on July 14, 1927, he opened his country store at Beulah. People walked, rode horseback and came by buggy or wagon miles around to trade.

They used the "barter system" in early years. Families brought eggs, chickens, butter, fruit, blackberries, shelled corn and tanned animal hides to exchange for their household needs. Kerosene oil was one of the main items sold since everyone used oil lamps.

The ladies bought a lot of cloth to make dresses, aprons, bonnets, etc. The men found household needs such as plow points, etc. Children brought blackberries and brought bantam eggs to trade for tablets and pencils for school.

In 1932 a post office was established in the building and Walter was postmaster for



THE WALTER SPARGER FAMILY

672

The country store continues to play an important part in rural community life and this is

birthday party. front row, left to right — Gail Martin Shelton, Carol Sparger, Grandmother Alice Snow, Walter R. Sparger. back row, left to right — Ned Martin, Joy Martin, Ivylyn Sparger Martin, Walter C. Sparger, Sara Snow Sparger, Goldie Sluder Sparger and Cheryl Sparger.



Left to Right — Cheryl Sparger, J.B. Sparger, Goldie Sluder Sparger, Walter R. Sparger and Carol Sparger.

the Bottom Post office for a number of years.

March 17, 1928, Walter married Sara Jane Snow, a neighbor girl. Sara was born April 30, 1905, the daughter of Sara Alice Goings and Preston Hall Snow. When they married, Sara was teaching primary grades at Zion Hill School, a two-teacher school. When J.B. was in the second grade she decided to go back to teaching at Beulah School. She taught a total of thirty-one years and retired in 1970. Sara and Walter had two children, Ivylyn Arlene Sparger (b. 1930) and Joseph Bryson Sparger (b. 1935). Ivylyn graduated from Appalachian State University and married Ned Herman Martin (b. 1928). They have two daughters, Aleta Gail Martin (b. 1956) married Johnny Ray Shelton (b. 1958) and Joy Lynn Martin (b. 1965). Ivylyn taught high school home economics in Forsyth County, at Beulah, and North Surry. She has been Surry County School Food Service Director since 1966. Ned owns and operates a dairy farm and they live in the Beulah community.

J.B., a graduate of Steed College, married Goldie Jaunita Sluder (b. 1930). Their children are: Carol Dawn Sparger (b. 1963), Walter Russell Sparger (b. 1965). Cheryl Ann (b.

1967). Goldie graduated from Steed College and received an MA degree from ASU. She has taught at Lees McRae College, Beulah and North Surry High and Surry Community College.

Walter's father, John Sparger, grew up near Mt. Airy and as a young man plowed and cultivated the land where the town of Mt. Airy now stands. His father's sister sold the land where the Granite Quarry now is for \$100 per acre. No one knew that it was of any value.

Walter said his family raised almost everything on their farm. They grew wheat for bread, rye for chop corn, cane for molasses and all kinds of roots and herbs were used for medicine. The pastures were mild grass and broom sage, which they burned off in early spring so tender sage would come up.

Walter's family included Nancy (Nannie) Jane Sparger (b. 1883 — d. 1964) married Newton Boyles (b. 1874 — d. 1956). Calvin Sparger (b. 1886 — d. 1945) married Lillie Palmer (b. 1883). Lou Sparger (b. 1888 — d. 1953) married Grover Cleveland Atkins (b. 1884 — d. 1950). John Frank Sparger (b. 1890 — d. 1956). Lee R. Sparger (b. 1892 — d. 1945) married Sallie Collins (b. 1896 — d. 1944) and Dewitt Sparger (b. 1894 — d. 1972) married Lura Jean Wagoner (b. 1896 — d. 1981).

Walter was known far and near for his good "country cured hams." His hams were bought by Southern Railway, Rays Restaurant and many individuals. He was quite surprised to have Colonel Sanders of Kentucky Fried Chicken Restaurants to visit him and ask him to furnish hams for his restaurants. Walter said at his age he would not be interested in any new business adventures.

In 1954 two men came to rob the store and shot Walter. After operations and months of suffering he was finally able to walk again. This injury followed him the rest of his life.

Walter had always been interested in his ancestors and, after retirement, he spent a lot of time corresponding with more than 150 descendants of the Sparger family, helping plan Sparger Reunions and erecting the Sparger memorial at the Salem Church Cemetery, Mt. Airy, N.C. The history has been traced to Switzerland. In 1730 in Germany the Wolfensberger and Frye ancestors sailed on the ship *Thistle of Glasgow* to Philadelphia, PA.

John Wolfensberger III (b. 1754 in PA. — d. 1840 in Ohio), Walter's great-grandfather moved from PA. to Virginia then to NC. He and Christina Frye lived near Friedberg Moravian Church. Later they moved to Surry County. John changed his name to Sparger. John and Christina were the father and mother, or founders, of the Sparger and Spargur families in this country, and their descendants lie scattered all over the world. After Christina died, John moved to Ohio. At the age of 81 years, Walter and family went to Highland County, Ohio, to visit the grave of great-grandfather Sparger. They visited the old Sparger home where John lived with his son.

The site of the first Spargur mill and Mt. Airy, Ohio on Spargur's Lane and Spargurville old Post Office. This was the most important occasion of Walter's last days. He died at the age of 83.

Walter was always interested in every person in each family of the community. Through the years he kept up with every child in the community. It was always a joy to him to have the ones that moved away to stop by and see him on their return. They often times told of the things he had done for them. He helped many young people get jobs and property and he was often called on for advice. Many families say that he kept them from near starvation during the depression years. He would let them have food and necessities whether they had any money or not. To help others was his main goal in life. It is almost a mystery how this goal was reached.

Source: History written by Walter Sparger and book *Wolfenbarger — Sparger Family Record*.

— Ivylyn Sparger Martin

Family cont.

Geschlechts -, Namen - und Wappensagen
Translation of the chapter von Ernst, page 45.

von Ende

This old family name was already mentioned at a contest in Braunschweig (Germany) in 996. The "von Ende" family was originally called Wolfersberger. They were involved in a long standing fight with the family Wolfskehlern, whose name sounded too similar to Wolfersberger. The responsible nobleman of Saxony (Germany) eventually intervened because there was no sign of an end to this debate. The Wolfersberger family was not ready to accept a compromise and therefore the nobleman decided to end this debate (in German: ein Ende). As a consequence the Wolfersbergers were given and had to accept the family name "von Ende."

What's In The Library?

"The Wolfensberger Wolfersberger Family, Switzerland, Alsace, Pennsylvania" by Raymond Martin Bell - an excerpt

The Surname - The surname, of Swiss origin, has been spelled many ways, perhaps fifty. An unusual spelling is Oufensanberger. In Switzerland it is WOLFENBERGER, in Pennsylvania Wolfersberger. One branch in Ohio changed the surname to Sparger.

The name originated at the village of Wolfensberg, about 25 km east of Zurich. In 1233 there is record of Baldebert von Wolfensberg. The name Wolfersberger first appears in 1446. There were many families of this name in Switzerland in early days. In German the middle name is the call name. John George was George, Anna Margaret was Margaret.

The ancestry of John Wolfersberger, who came to Pennsylvania, can be traced back to Jacob Wolfensberger, who lived in Ettenhausen (27km ese of Zurich), parish of Wetzikon. Read more on line!!!!



1957
Walter Sparger

Daddy
Dr. Moir
Martin



1957
Walter Spangler and
Dr. Moir Martin



1927-1977
50th Anniversary
Spargus Store



Laddie
J.B.
Dr. Martin

Clark
Ginger
drabs
numbers



DR. GUY M. MASTEN
DENTIST

SUITE 714 NISSEN BUILDING
WINSTON-SALEM 3, N. C.

Jan 3 - 54

Dear Walter:

Thanks lots for
the salt & Pepper shaker.
They are sure nice. Opponents
lots you sending them to
us.

Also thanks for your
letters. Are sure regretful
about writing as you see.
But "boy" that doesn't mean
in any way that I haven't enjoyed
your letters.

We wanted to come up
through the holidays, But
were quite busy. Mom
got sick on Thurs the week
before X-mas with a cold
and Bronchitis, and didn't get

2

DR. GUY M. MASTEN
DENTIST

SUITE 714 NISSEN BUILDING
WINSTON-SALEM 3, N. C.

to go out of the house
until Xmas Eve.

Also my Dr. told me
on Monday before X. mas that
he had an appointment for
and room reserved at the
Hospital for the next Monday
for me, to examine my throat
again. I went over that
Monday and they did the
exam. Tuesday morning. I stayed
until Wed. morning. They found
a little place about the size
of a green pea, so they made
a Biopsy of it. The piece
they removed and found
it to be neoplastic. I don't
that wonderful,? ~~that~~ ^{the} report
came back Thursday. They now
want me to go to New York to have

3

DR. GUY M. MASTEN
DENTIST
SUITE 714 NISSEN BUILDING
WINSTON-SALEM 3, N. C.

This specialist there, who Mr. Rouman, thinks is about the top man in the country on cancer. He specializes only on the neck and above the neck. They want his opinion, as to whether they should put a Radium seed in this spot now, or wait and check it at intervals.

"The good Lord" has been mighty good to us, and we all sure thank him. I don't know, but of course it is the thing to do. I hope "The good Lord" will continue to help us, and let everything be alright and continue to be alright, and keep us in good spirits as he has done, and that the people all over the world will begin to realize at once, what a comfort the Lord is, and

4

DR. GUY M. MASTEN
DENTIST
SUITE 714 NISSEN BUILDING
WINSTON-SALEM 3, N. C.

just what he can do for each one, if they are willing + want him to help them.

The Mr. is calling for an appointment tomorrow with the Dr. in New York. I want Floris to go with me, so she is planning on going.

Hope you all had a fine X-mas, and that the New Year is going to be the best you all have ever had. Full of everything good.

Thanks lots again for the salt + pepper shakers, and too your letters. Keep up the good writing if you will please? Best wishes to all of you, from us both. Sincerely, Guy

Sat. A.M.

DR. GUY M. MASTEN
DENTIST

SUITE 714 NISSEN BUILDING
WINSTON-SALEM 3, N. C.

Dear Walt & Sara,

I'm sure you will
be surprised & grieved
to know of Guy's
serious condition.

Guy has a malignant
tumor of his throat
& glands of his neck.
He of course had
been suspicious for
some time but had
told nobody nor had
gone to a doctor. His
condition is too far
advanced to operate
so he is taking
X-ray. The treatment
is severe - There are
21 of them & he feels

mightily bad. The doctors
of course had to tell
him his condition
& the seriousness of
it - what they did
not tell him was
what little hope
they held for his
recovery.

His spirits so far
have been fairly
good - though for the
last few days he's
been mightily blue.
I'm in a complete
daze & cannot believe
that this has
happened to us.

Thanks for your
letter. I know we
are in your thoughts
& prayers.

Love

Aris

Three Marines
HELD

LD FOR ROBBERY AND ASSAULT

3/26/1956

SBI, Police, Deputies Cooperate In Probe Which Leads To Arrest

Mount Airy Boy Connected With Robbery Of Grover Anderson And Shooting Of Walter Sparger; Hearing Scheduled For Today.

Three United States Marines, all stationed at Camp Lejeune, are in City Jail here, all three of them charged with the armed robbery of Grover Anderson of Claudville, Va., and two charged with attempt robbery and assault with intent to kill Walter Sparger, 55-year-old Beulah merchant.

The Marines, being held in custody at the present, are Clay Reece Patterson, 20, of Mount Airy; Kenneth V. Bellamy, 18, of Furnace, Ky.; and John V. Stevens, 20, of Miami, Florida, all privates first class.

Capt. W. H. Sumner of the Mount Airy police, SBI Agents John Edwards of Elkin and R. H. Garland of Winston-Salem, and Deputy Sheriff Roy Smith, carried on a successful investigation which resulted in the arrest of two of the Marines here Saturday.

Policemen E. H. Jones and Tom Hale arrested Patterson and Stevens at noon Saturday at the Colonial Cafe on Main Street and booked them for investigation. The third Marine, Bellamy, was arrested in Charlotte at 12:05 a.m. Sunday by Charlotte police and SBI Agent Willis Jessup, former chief of police here. SBI Agent Edwards and Deputy Hubert Mounce of Elkin went to Charlotte and brought Bellamy to Mount Airy Sunday afternoon.

Patterson confessed to the robbery of Claudville Postmaster Grover Anderson on January 1 and told officers that he was assisted by both Stevens and Bellamy. However, Patterson said Stevens was not in on the robbery of Mr. Sparger.

Patterson, who confessed Sunday to Capt. Sumner, said he also was active in the breaking and enterings and larceny and receiveings of the White Plains School, Franklin School, and Kozy Korner cafe on December 25.

The three Marines did the robberies while on furlough or weekend leaves.

Capt. Sumner said a warrant has also been issued for the arrest of track Creed, of Mount Airy, who was in on the local enterings.

The officers received a lead on the case and joined forces last Monday when the SBI

was fleeing from the shooting scene to the car.

Postmaster Anderson came to the police station Saturday afternoon and identified Patterson as one of the men who held him at the point of a gun and robbed him of \$400 on January 1.

A reward of \$500, half of it posted by Mr. Anderson and the other half by the Patrick County, Va., governing body, will be awarded to the persons who gave police the clues which resulted in the arrests of the three Marines.

Patrick County Sheriff Fulcher said he hoped to have the men tried in Virginia after their North Carolina trial in order that the award money can be made available to the persons who deserve it.

Patterson told Capt. Sumner, "I don't know why I did it. Just the meanness in me, I guess."

Mr. Sparger remains in the Baptist Hospital and is said to be uncomfortable as the result of an operation Wednesday when doctors operated on him in an effort to remove the bullet from a bone in his left leg. The bullet was not found and still remains in his leg.

A hearing for the Marines is scheduled to be held today in Recorder's Court.

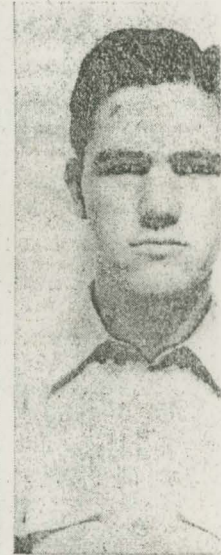
Preston A. Thomas, 18, of Mount Airy, route 3, was arrested by Policeman Jack Ledford and Keith Campbell at 12:30 a.m. Sunday and charged with breaking and entering and larceny and receiving. Officers said he was along with Patterson when the three local places were entered.



KENNETH V. BELLAMY



JOHN V. STEVENS



CLAY REECE PATTERSON

Holdup Men Shoot Surry Storekeeper

Victim Wounded Seriously in Leg

By H. H. Lowery

Special to The Journal and Sentinel

MOUNT AIRY, March 27—Walter Sparger, 55-year-old merchant, was shot last night by one of two men who apparently had planned to rob his store 10 miles north of Mount Airy.

Mr. Sparger was being brought to Baptist Hospital in an ambulance late last night for the removal of a bullet from his left leg.

He told the Journal and Sentinel that the two men, both about 25 years old and heavy-set, came to his store about 8 p.m. and each bought a soft drink. When they had finished their drinks, he said, one of them walked behind the store counter and without a word "Shoot them, shoot them" to two an old German Luger pistol.

Mr. Sparger said he shouted, "Shott them, shoot them" to two other customers in the store and the two men fled. They made their getaway, he said, in a Ford automobile but he did not know the model.

He said he had never seen either of the men before.

Dr. Moyer S. Martin examined Mr. Sparger, then ordered him taken to the Baptist Hospital at Winston-Salem for further treatment. Dr. Martin said the wound appeared to be a serious one and that the bullet had lodged in the bone of the leg.

Mr. Sparger has operated his store on the Low Gap highway in the Beulah school community for many years. His wife and daughter teach at Beulah.

State Highway Patrolman Josh Howell and Deputy Sheriff Roy Smith are investigating the case.

\$10,000 Bond Set For Patterson, Bellamy; Other Goes To Virginia

The case of the shooting and attempted robbery of Walter Sparger, 55-year-old store owner of the Beulah section, and the January 1 armed robbery of Grover W. Anderson, Claudville, Va., postmaster and merchant, was solved here Saturday with the arrest of three members of the Marine Corps from Camp Lejeune, who confessed to the crimes a short while after their apprehension.

Arrested in the Colonial Cafe on Main Street Saturday morning by police officers Tom Hale and E. H. Jones were Private First Class Clay Reece Patterson, 20, Mount Airy, and Private First Class Kenneth Bellamy, 18, of Furnace, Ky.

The third member of the trio, Private First Class John Stevens, 20, of Miami, Fla., was arrested in Charlotte Sunday by State Bureau of Investigation Agent Willis Jessup and Queen City police.

Stevens, a member of the second Marine Division, was not implicated in the shooting of Mr. Sparger and was released to Sheriff S. R. Fulcher of Patrick County, Va., Tuesday morning where he will be charged with armed robbery for his part in the Claudville post office robbery.

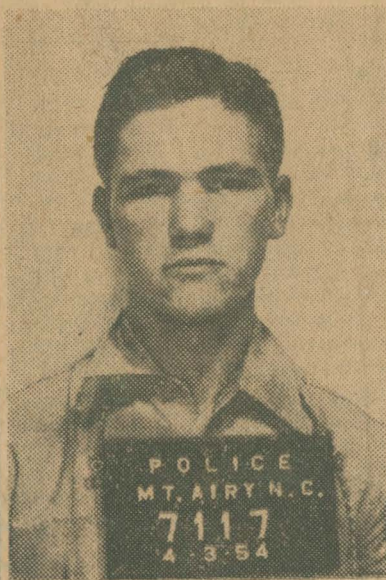
The robbery netted the three men a total of \$400.

Stevens, Patterson and Bellamy are involved in the armed robbery charge, while only Patterson and Bellamy are charged in the shooting of Sparger.

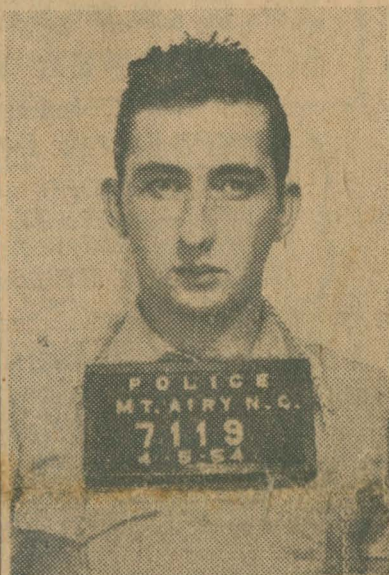
The latter two were bound over to the May term of Superior Court Wednesday after they had waited a preliminary hearing. They are held in Dobson jail in lieu of \$10,000 bond.

Mr. Sparger was shot the evening of Saturday, March 27, at his store on the Lowgap highway. He was taken to Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem after receiving treatment locally from Dr. Moir S. Martin.

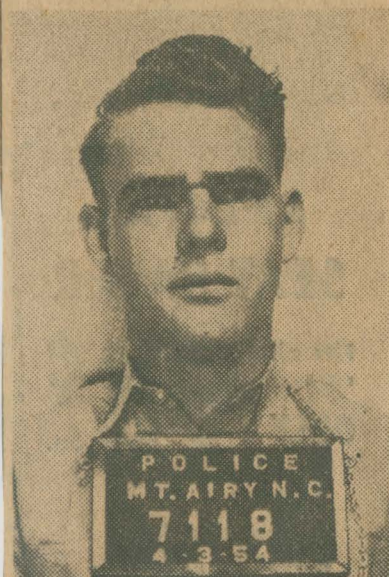
(Continued On Page Seven)



PFC. CLAY R. PATTERSON



PFC. KENNETH BELLAMY



PFC. JOHN STEVENS

\$10,000 BOND SET FOR TWO MEN

(Continued from Page One)

On Monday following the shooting, Sheriff Sam C. Patterson called Deputies Roy D. Smith and "Eb" Eads and SBI Agents Edwards and Garland into the case.

Mount Airy police officers and members of the sheriff's department, SBI, and State Highway Patrol had worked on the case all week, with the final outcome being the arrest in Mount Airy last Saturday of Patterson and Bellamy.

Bellamy was arrested Sunday morning at 6:30 o'clock and charged by Deputy Heber Mounce, SBI Agent Ralph Edwards and Policeman Gilmer M. Eldridge with armed robbery and being a fugitive from justice.

The arrest of the trio touched off a series of arrests, and the issuance of warrants for more arrests, bringing to an apparent close the career of the "gang" of young thugs which had been burglarizing concerns in the Greater Mount Airy area.

A total of 13 warrants have been issued against Preston Thomas, Route 3; six against Jerry Jarrell, Pine Ridge section; three against Reece Patterson; three against Braxton Creed; two against Jack Ledford; two against Calvin Reece; two against Jack Butcher; one against Guy Lyons; one for the arrest of Warren Easter; and one for Carl Goad, all of Mount Airy.

The latter two are being sought in connection with the burglary of Bowman Electric Company on Pine Street.

The issuance of warrants for the men listed in the preceding paragraph are a culmination of an investigation conducted by police department officials in a number of breaking and entering cases in the Mount Airy area, and were issued by Captain Sumner, with the exception of eight Justice of the Peace warrants is-

sued in connection with cases outside Mount Airy Township.

An investigation is still in progress on the burglaries of Main Street concerns last week, Captain Sumner said.

FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 11, 1954

The men that shot
daddy.

Trio Given Long Terms For Holdup in Virginia

Special to The Journal

STUART, VA., June 10—Three youths, including one from Mount Airy, N. C., pleaded guilty today to charges of armed robbery and were sentenced to long prison terms by Judge John D. Hooker in Patrick County Circuit Court.

The charges grew out of a Jan. 1 holdup of Grover Anderson at his Claudville store and the theft of approximately \$300 from the cash register.

Clay Reese Patterson, 20, of Mount Airy, named as man who held the pistol during the holdup, was sentenced to 15 years. Commonwealth Attorney Martin F. Clark said Patterson already is serving terms totaling 19 years in North Carolina for crimes committed in that state.

Kenneth V. Bellamy, 19, of Furnace, Ky., who took the money from the cash register and tore the receiver from the store telephone, also was sentenced to 15 years. Mr. Clark said Bellamy is serving a term of 7-10 years in North Carolina for a crime committed there.

John V. Stevens Jr., 21, of Miami, Fla., was sentenced to 10 years. He had stayed in the car and did not actually participate in the holdup.

Stevens' attorneys said that his parents, who were present in the courtroom, would make full restitution to Mr. Anderson. The attorneys presented character references in the form of letters from Miami officials, including the chief of police and city clerk.

Sheriff Richard Fulcher and Mr. Anderson were the only witnesses heard. The three youths did not take the stand.

Mr. Anderson is postmaster at Claudville and a member of the Patrick County Board of Supervisors.

At the time of the holdup, the three youths were stationed in the Marine Corps at Camp Lejeune. They were arrested in North Carolina three months after the holdup.

Patterson and Bellamy will be returned to North Carolina to complete their terms there. At the end of those terms, they will be turned over to Virginia officials to begin serving the sentences imposed today.

Sat. 11 of May
1954

WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAR

Holdup Trio Reported Captured

OCALA, Fla., May 10 (UP)—Sheriff F.L. McGehee said today he has been advised that a gunman, his woman companion and the "brains" behind an Ocala service station robbery have been picked up at Mount Airy, N.C.

They are wanted here in connection with the Wednesday night holdup that netted \$140. The service station attendant, Weldon Meyers, 25, was hit on the head and given a brief ride as a captive.

The sheriff said North Carolina authorities identified the arrested persons as Samuel G. Patterson, 35, of Mount Airy; Susan Kirkwood, 18, Hawthorne, Calif., and Wilbur Hiatt, 23, Mount Airy.

The Kirkwood woman was arrested in Mount Airy on drunk driving and hit-and-run charges, the sheriff said. She was asked about a large amount of silver found in her purse and the fact that she was driving the car that was occupied by the gunman Wednesday night.

McGehee said the car belonged to Hiatt, a former employee of the victimized service station and the "brains" behind the \$140 holdup.

Patterson and the woman were charged with the actual holdup and with pistol-whipping Meyers and forcing him to accompany them four miles from the station, where they dumped him out of the car.

McGehee said that he would ask North Carolina to arrange for extradition of all three to Florida to face trial.

Thursday
April 15th
1954

Dear Grandma + Uncle Ray,
Daddy came through
the operation yesterday
all right. He was sick from
the other of course.

Mama is going
to see him today.

The police are
working on the
case. The gun was
found outside the
store + the jacket
was right near daddy.

Love,
Luelyn

Walter was
shot near,
27, 1954

Sam G. Patterson is a brother of the Patterson boy that shot Walter Sparger

Southern Railway System

Operating Department

Special Service

Washington 13, D. C.

G. T. LANE,
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT
F. L. SMITH,
SUPERINTENDENT

R. W. CLARK,
SUPERVISOR
A. L. FOWLER,
SUPERVISOR

April 19, 1954.

Mr. Walter C. Sparger,
Room 511,
Baptist Hospital,
Winston-Salem, N. C.

Dear Walter:

Mr. Rose sent me a clipping from the local paper covering the incident in connection with your recent injury. Was certainly sorry to hear of your trouble and am hoping you will have a speedy recovery. It seems that the good are required to suffer as well as the bad, which certainly is evident in your case. I am hopeful the people involved in your injury will be required to suffer for this crime.

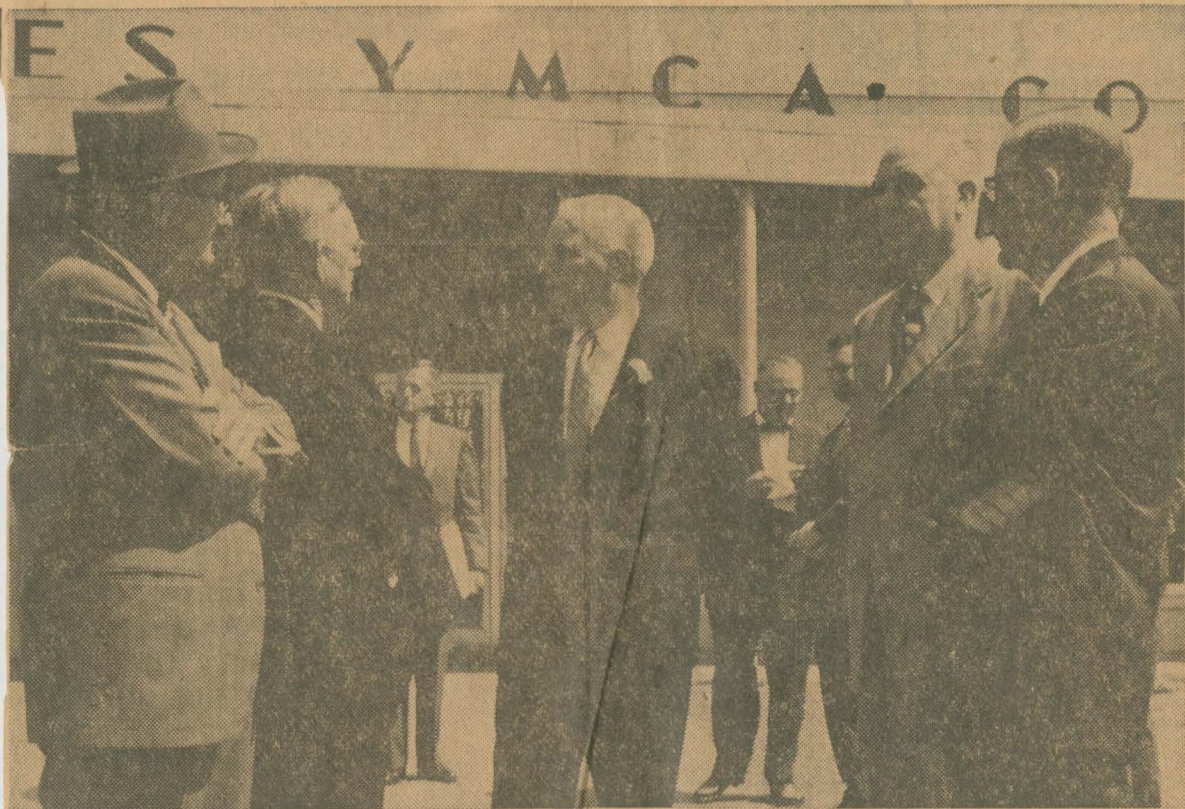
We also received a nice letter from Mrs. Guy Masten advising us of your condition. It was certainly nice of her to take time to write us a note because I am sure she has had her troubles also. I am wondering how Dr. Masten is getting along.

Will try and see you if I can get to that part of the country anytime soon. In the meantime we are wishing for you a speedy recovery.

Best regards,

Frank Smith

Tuesday, April 2, 1957.



Governor Hodges (center) is shown here discussing the weather Sunday with several Surry County citizens while they stand in front of the YMCA. Left to right are County Commissioner E. W. McDaniel of Elkin, Mayor W. F. Carter, Jr., Governor Hodges, Walter C. Sparger of Beulah, and County Commissioner R. P. Jones of Mount Airy.

ROYAL CROWN

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.



Bottling Company

Charlottesville, Va.
Apr. 10. '56

Mr. Walter C. Sparger
Mt. Airy, N.C.

Dear Walter:

I want you to know that I appreciate your thoughtfulness of me in sending Aunt Millie's Knife. This knife is the only thing I have of Aunt Millie's personal belongings and with the knife I now have the knowledge that ~~at~~ a friend took time, out of these busy days, to do a truly friendly, unselfish and I think a wonderful thing.

Hope you, and all the good people, are well happy and prosperous. We are all about as usual.

The next time you take a trip around the country save at least three days, or more for Charlottesville & central Virginia and I will forgive you for the haste you were in last time.

Thanks for your thoughtfulness.
Sincerely,
Bill Vernon

Esso Standard Oil Company



907 WEST FIRST STREET • CHARLOTTE, N. C.

SALES DEPARTMENT
NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION
ALEX. A. DIFFEY - MANAGER
TORRENCE R. JONES - ASST. MANAGER

April 23, 1957

Mr. Walter C. Sparger
Mount Airy, North Carolina

Dear Sir:

Thank you very much for your letter of April 18, 1957 concerning your proposal for an anniversary celebration commemorating 30 years of service to your community as an Esso Dealer.

May I take this opportunity to congratulate you on being in business for nearly 30 years and to wish you continued success in your capacity as a vital part of the oil industry.

We are very much interested in your plans for a nice anniversary celebration and will have our representative in your area call on you in the very near future to discuss your plans for the celebration.

We feel that this is a fine way for you to announce to your community that you have been serving them in their petroleum needs for three decades.

Our representative will discuss this matter with you in the very near future. Thank you again for your letter.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R. B. Wheeler".

R. B. Wheeler

RBW:mb

MISHAWAKA RUBBER AND WOOLEN MFG. CO., MISHAWAKA, INDIANA

G. D. BABCOCK, *President*
R. V. CLEARY, *Vice President*
R. A. HERRLY, *Factory Manager*
L. S. LONG, *Secretary and Treasurer*
M. B. BARRICK, *General Sales Manager*

leather
and fabric casuals
summerettes
weatherproofs
jets
wool socks

Red
Ball

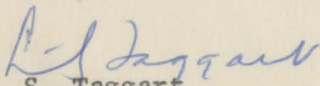
footwear
BY BALL-BAND

KJ:1185-2
June 26, 1957

W. C. Sparger
RD #3
Mount Airy, N. Car.

Congratulations on 30 years in business. We find that we have been supplying you with Red Ball Footwear for 30 years. Ordinarily, we cannot participate in special events because with some 45,000 merchants you can readily see that even though we spent only a few dollars with each one, the amount would be rather tremendous and we would have to add it to our prices which we are sure that neither you nor your customers would want us to do. Your 30th year, however, is something special and we are, therefore, sending you some balloons for the kiddies which we hope you can distribute and which we hope will do you some good.

With best wishes for at least another 30 years.


L. S. Taggart
Advertising Department

Cable Address: BALLBAND
Teletype—MISH 8716
Telephone—BLACKBURN 5-2181
Red Ball Trade Mark
REG. IN U. S. PATENT OFFICE 1901



ESSO STANDARD OIL COMPANY

June 27, 1957
Greensboro, N. C.

Mr. Walter C. Sparger
R. F. D.
Mt. Airy, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Sparger:

I have your recent letter in which you advise that you are contemplating on your 30th Anniversary on Sunday, July 14th, and I hope I will be able to attend, however, there are some plans in the making now that may require me to be out of this territory at that particular time.

I do appreciate your thinking of me and if it is possible for me to be with you, I will be with you on July 14th.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. G. Hicks".

J. G. Hicks
District Manager

JGH:ej

jets
fabric casuals
summerettes
weatherproofs
weatherproofers
clothing
wool socks

Red
Ball

footwear
BY BALL-BAND

bjc:1185-2
July 31, 1957

W. C. Sparger
Mount Airy, RD 3
N. Car.

Thank you for sending us a copy of the July 12 edition of The Mount Airy News which carried the story of your thirty years in business in Beulah, and your interest and leadership in civic affairs.

You are to be congratulated on your service to your community and it must be a source of great personal satisfaction to be able to look back through the years, knowing that you have contributed so much to the needs and comforts of your trade and that you have had an important part in the life of the community.

For twenty-nine of the thirty years you have been in business, we have supplied you with RED BALL Footwear and we look forward to supplying you with products we manufacture in the years to come.

C. C. Bernhardt

C. C. Bernhardt
District Service Manager

leather
and fabric casuals
summerettes
weatherproofs
jets
wool socks

Red
Ball

footwear
BY BALL-BAND

December 15, 1957

W. C. Sparger
Mount Airy, RD #3
N. C.

Dear Sir:

Five years ago I wrote you at the end of your 25th year as a "BALL-BAND Store" to tell you how much we appreciated the business and the cooperation you had given us throughout the years. December 31, 1957 will mark your 30th anniversary with BALL-BAND - a record of which we are very proud. Thank you, again.

Throughout the years we have tried very hard to deserve the continued confidence of our good customers whose long record in business proves them to be far above average in ability in serving their trade. And, no matter what the future may hold, you can be sure we shall always serve you honestly and to the very best of our ability.

All of us here at BALL-BAND wish for you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

MISHAWAKA RUBBER & WOOLEN MFG. CO.

G. D. Babcock
G. D. Babcock
President

Cable Address: BALLBAND
Teletype—MISH 8716
Telephone—BLACKBURN 5-2181
Red Ball Trade Mark
REG. IN U. S. PATENT OFFICE 1901



THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

May 22, 1961

Dear Walter:

Thank you for your letter of May 2, which came in while I was in Europe. I covered several countries over there on business.

I have been in touch with Beulah and Ola, and called again on the 16th. They have both had a rough time, and I appreciate very much your writing me about them.

Hope you are feeling all right.

Sincerely yours,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "L. H. Hodges", is written over the typed name.

Luther H. Hodges

Mr. Walter C. Sparger
Mount Airy
North Carolina



THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

February 16, 1962

Dear Walter:

It was good to get your letter of February 5 and I appreciate very much indeed your writing. I'm still moving too fast although I carry a negro's prayer in my pocket which says, "Slow me down, Lord." Maybe I don't look at the prayer often enough.

Appreciate your reference to Beulah. I saw her at Christmas and hope I can see her again before too long.

I'm still hoping also to see you sometime at your place, but they've got me tied up here for a long time, it seems.

I don't want you to send me a ham but sometime I'll buy one from you.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Luther H. Hodges", is written over the typed name. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Luther H. Hodges

Mr. Walter C. Sparger
Mount Airy
North Carolina

FROM JUNE 1, 1959

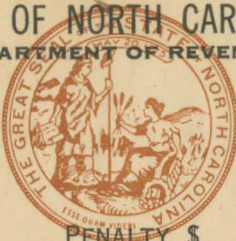
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

TO MAY 31, 1960

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

DATE: 5-26-59

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE PERSON, FIRM OR CORPORATION NAMED BELOW, HAVING PAID THE TAX REQUIRED BY LAW IS, SUBJECT TO COMPLIANCE WITH ANY OTHER APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF LAW, HEREBY LICENSED TO ENGAGE IN THE BUSINESS, OCCUPATION OR PROFESSION CLASSIFIED BELOW.



No.

16036

ADDITIONAL TAX OF \$25.00 WILL BE IMPOSED FOR FAILURE TO KEEP LICENSE POSTED.

SEC. 153 TAX \$ 10.00

PENALTY \$

TOTAL \$

Service Station

Walter C. Sparger

R-3

Mount Airy, N. C.

ISSUED BY COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE

Surry

7048

COUNTY

James S. Currie
COMMISSIONER



SEED DEALER'S LICENSE

Nº 3521

RALEIGH, N. C.,

12/5

1958

Walter C. Sparger

Route 3

Mount Airy, N. C.

Surry

RETAIL \$ 10.00

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL \$ None

LICENSE PERMITTING THE SALE OF

AGRICULTURAL, VEGETABLE AND FLOWER OTHER THAN
PACKET OR PACKAGE SEEDS

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1959

THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1959

N. C. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Ly. B. ...
COMMISSIONER

WINSTON PRINTING CO.



SEED DEALER'S LICENSE

Nº 2334

RALEIGH, N. C.,

12/4

1959

Walter C. Sparger

Route 3

Mount Airy, N. C.

Surry

RETAIL \$ 10.00

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL \$ None

LICENSE PERMITTING THE SALE OF

AGRICULTURAL, VEGETABLE AND FLOWER OTHER THAN
PACKET OR PACKAGE SEEDS

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1960

THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1960

N. C. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Ly. B. ...
COMMISSIONER

WINSTON PRINTING CO.

Ricky White
Walter Sparger

Sara
Sparger



Floyd Wood, Paul
Sutphin, Cozy
Sykes

Store Employees

Henley Goings was the first
full time employee at the store
He worked in the store and
delivered groceries, feed and
fertilizer to homes and farms.
When J.B. got old enough, he
liked to go with Henley in the
pick-up.





40th



And We'll Celebrate For The Next **40 DAYS!!**

SPARGERS celebrates its 40 years as an ESSO Dealer with this offer from the Tiger Team...

FREE RC COLA

AND OTHER REFRESHMENTS

FREE GIFT ITEMS

SPARGERS has been in the same location for 40 years serving you the finest in ESSO products, general merchandise and groceries...

We're holding a First Class Anniversary Sale for You, Our Treasured Customers



FREE!

One Carton RC COLA
FREE with the purchase of
10 GALLONS
of New Extra Punch

ESSO EXTRA

Just Look At These Anniversary Prices—

Twin-Pack Potato Chips (reg. 59c) **39c**

Nescafe COFFEE (10 oz. jar) **\$1.29**

RC Cola carton **39c** SNOWDRIFT 3 lb. **69c**

Sealtest

SUGAR

1 10

ICE MILK

1 1/2

29c

GASOLINE

— or —

A 4-Quart Oil Change
of the

PROTECTOR

the new ESSO Uniflo 10W-40 Oil



SPECIAL
For Our
40th Anniversary
Any Item
In This Group

ONLY —

40^c

SUGAR 10 lb. bag \$1.19 **ICE MILK** 1/2 gal. 57c

DUNCAN HINES CAKE MIX 3 for \$1.00

BAMA MAYONNAISE quart size 45c

BAMA APPLE JELLY 18 oz. size 4 for \$1.00

Easy-Off Window Spray
Wizard Household Spray
Deodorizer
11 - Qt. Plastic Pails
10 oz. Eagle Oilers
(Squirt Cans)
6 and 8 In. Combination
Slip-Joint Pliers
6-Foot Steel Tape
Hack Saw Frame - Blades
Ice Cream Scoops
14½ by 10½ Inch
Cookie Sheets
10-oz. Bama Strawberry
Preserves
Giant Size
Colgate Toothpaste

Whisk Brooms
9-Inch Cake Pans
Silicone Ironing
Board Covers
5-inch Fine
Mesh Strainers
12-oz. Peter Pan
Peanut Butter
Family Size
Lipton Tea Bags
Kellogg's Variety
Cereal Pack
7-oz. Angel Flake
Coconut

CLEARANCE

TO CLEAN THE SHELVES
One Group Of

SHOES
and
DRY GOODS

Savings
Up To **50%**

**SHOP WITH
CONFIDENCE**

SPARGERS

**FRIENDLY
SERVICE**

Open Six Days A Week 6:30 A. M. To 9 P. M.

N. C. 89 At BEULAH



Happy Motoring!

Route 6, Box 275
MOUNT AIRY, N. C. 27030
Phone: 352-4200

Employees at Walter C. Sparger Store

Brady Wood
Henley Goings
Lawrence Atkins
Woodrow Snow
Coy Sykes
James Carpenter
Paul Sulphur
Floyd Wood
Gilmer Miller
Franklin Llewellyn
Glenn Burcham
Edward Nixon
Donald Wood
Boyd Goings
Elmer Hodges
Clifford Amburn
Vernon Clifton
Kenneth Bennett
Billy Ray Turney
Pee Wee Gillespie
Bobby Snow
Jimmie Snow
Ricky White
J.B. Sparger
Gladie Sparger
Carol Sparger
Charlie Snow Jay Nixon

8C—The Mount Airy NEWS.

Friday, July 14, 1967.

Sparger Has Family Store's 40 Birthday

Established in 1927 by Walter C. Sparger, the grocery and service on NC 89 at Beulah has since become a familiar sight and trading spot for hundreds of

citizens.

This year, the founder's son, J. B. Sparger, who is the present operator, is conducting for 40 days a special anniversary celebration in this the 40th year of operation for the business. The senior Sparger officially retired from the business the first of the year.

The store began as a sort of general merchandise store, but in a few years the age of "specialization" came along and the business joined the trend, offering service station products and groceries.

"Now it looks like we're sort of getting back into the general merchandise field," smiled the present operator. "Things sort of run in cycles and we're trying to keep up to date."

It takes three men to run the store now, J. B. Sparger and two assistants, Boyd Goins and Ronald Gillespie. With all the duties of waiting on customers and restocking the shelves regularly, they all manage to stay busy.

The current celebration will see free refreshments given, as well as special prizes and gifts, plus a number of specially priced items from the store's shelves.

LUTHER H. HODGES

NO. 3, THE GLEN

CHAPEL HILL, N. C.

July 24, 1969

Mr. Walter C. Sparger
Route No. 6
Mount Airy, North Carolina 27030

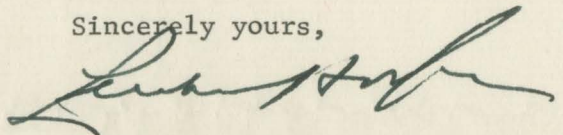
Dear Walter:

Thank you so much for your letter received at the time of our tragedy. Martha's death is indeed a terrible loss.

The doctors advise that I am out of danger and have permitted me to leave the hospital. However, they say it may be many weeks before the injured back and foot have healed sufficiently for me to move around.

Thank you again for remembering us. I hope that Mrs. Sparger is recovering well after her operation. Give her my best wishes.

Sincerely yours,



Luther H. Hodges

LHH:cp

*Mr. Harship came by
2 days ago.*

At Ray's 4,000 Hams Cure Old Timey Way

By Otis Gossman
Business-Farm Editor

MOUNT AIRY — Ray Goad tells the story of a gentleman from the north who received some country ham cured the old fashioned way. The gentleman, after getting a whiff of the heady aroma and then eyeing a rather heavy coating of mold on the outside of the ham, promptly dispatched everything but the aroma into the garbage.

A few hundred feet from the office here where Goad watches over his 21-chain restaurant operation is a new building that would give the gentleman from the north an uneasy pause. But for those addicted to country ham cured over the long route, the building is apt to cause a certain watering of the mouth.

At the moment the building is home for about 4,000 hams averaging about 18-20 pounds each. Building and contents are worth about \$75,000.

Now ham houses are nothing new under the sun. What is new is that the smaller ones which have been responsible for turning out long-cured country hams have fallen upon hard times — the result of a recently enacted state inspection law.

Rather than unleash the money—even if they had it—to bring their operations up to par, most operators have simply called it quits. Some people would hold that this is a good idea but at the same time it comes pretty close to spelling finis for the old method of turning out hams.

Quick Cure Method

One of those who decided to call it quits was Walter Sparger, a 72-year-old gentleman from Low Gap who has been curing hams commercially for about 40 years. More important, Sparger had been supplying Ray's Starlight Restaurant here with country hams.

The prospect of losing his supply and having to buy the 90-day "quick-cured" hams gave Goad sort of a nervous stomach. Goad is just like that with the country hams that greased his path from a side-of-the-road eatery in Pinnacle 15 years ago to a chain grossing several million dollars annually today.

The solution was an arrangement with Sparger whereby Goad would put up the building and Sparger would put up the know how. Apparently the plan is off to a good start.

Sparger, incidentally sees nothing wrong with the



Staff Photo by Jim Keith

Walter Sparger and Ray Goad examine country hams curing the old-fashioned way.

"stockings" and hung up. The stocking help give the ham its shape. The first batch will be ready about July.

The second 2,000 (those in the photograph) were scheduled to be hung up just before the weekend.

Most of the hams are destined for the Starlite here, another on Stratford Road in Winston-Salem scheduled for early summer opening, and still another in Virginia.

Goad is enough of a businessman to know that the costs related to his country ham operation will not be recouped easily. Basically it boils down to a merchandising matter—having something no other restaurant is likely to have.

"Competition is getting keener all the time and you have to look for new ideas," was his way of putting it. Whatever the reason, it's sort of reassuring to see something done the old way linger around a while longer.

The hams themselves are bought from commercial packers the day after slaughter. From then on out the state keeps a watchful eye on the process — checking the temperature of the meat and even keeping the inspection stamp under lock and key at the ham house.

The wood stanchions in the house are not allowed to be either painted nor stained, to cite just one of the rules the operator must live with.

Sparger's reputation has even received the blessing of Col. Harlan Sanders the founder of the Kentucky Fried Chicken chain.

Once he paused for breakfast at Ray's Starlite here and apparently was so impressed by the country ham that he asked where they came from. He later visited Sparger to arrange for a supply but was politely turned down. Sparger said he had all the business he could take care of.

And he still does.

1970

quick cure method used by virtually all the commercial packers. He says it's fine if one is willing to accept "just half the flavor."

Once a Year

The quick cure method obviously is more economical. It takes about 75 days rather than five or six months. It can be done all year long. Shrinkage is about 10 per cent compared to 20-25 per cent via the longer method.

The old method, basically, is the one used for uncounted years by farmers. The hogs were killed once a year during the cold November and December months. The hams were then salted down in a prone position for a month or so before being hung up. The salt penetrates slowly to the bone, making refrigeration unnecessary.

A really first rate country ham, according to Goad and Sparger, is one just over a year old. Kept much longer than that and the meat is apt to become a little stringy and what have you.

Half of the hams in Goad's building were placed there in December and now have been put in

Ham

*Donna - Donna Entertainment Corporation
Post Office Box 15385 Nashville, Tennessee 37215
(615) 373-2340*

April 7, 1980

Walter C. Sparger
Box 275 Route #56
Mount Airy, N.C. 27030

Dear Mr. Sparger:

Thank you so much for your nice letter and for filling me in on some of the particulars on my relatives that I never had the pleasure of getting to know. I would love to be at your family reunion but my schedule just won't permit it. I do hope my father and his wife will be able to be there. I think they would really enjoy it.

Nonetheless, I hope everyone has a wonderful time of fun and sharing and getting reacquainted again.

Love,

Donna Fargo
Donna Fargo

*I Donna was Walter Sparger's
great great niece.
Her father Oliver Remy Vaughan
Her Grandmother was
Zora Sparger Vaughan
Her Great Grandfather
was William H. Sparger
(half brother of Walter C.
Sparger)*



Our Hometown Happiest Girl
Donna Fargo



WHEN THE TOAST BRANCH OF the First National Bank opened its doors for business at 9 o'clock Tuesday morning, Walter Sparger of Pine Ridge, a 50-year depositor with the bank, was the first customer to make a deposit in the new branch facility. Standing by to watch the ceremonies is D. C. Rector, president of the bank. Garnett Fawcett is manager of the branch bank, located at the intersection of N. C. 89 and Franklin Road.

—NEWS photo.



Beulah Ruritan Club members have reason to be celebrating with the burning of a note that paid for the purchase of 16 acres of land on which they built a lake and picnic area. The note also helped pay for the remodeling

of the club house. Walter Sparger (left) honorary member of the club and Glenn Robertson (right), a past president, are pictured at a note burning ceremony held at the regular monthly meeting of the Beulah Ruritan Club.

jets
fabric casuals
summerettes
weatherproofs
weatherproofers
clothing

Red
Ball

®
footwear
BY BALL-BAND

March 8, 1960

W. C. Sparger
Mount Airy, RD #2
North Carolina

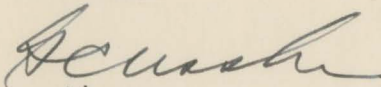
Dear Mr. Sparger:

Our Credit Men occasionally express regret that in our work it so often seems that we are least acquainted with our best customers. Merchants whose checks are always on time and whose credit is firmly established for their requirements do not represent the customers who seem to make the credit man's job a part of most every business these days. Perhaps it is a compliment to you, and to a well-managed business, that our contacts have been so few.

We do have occasion to handle your orders and to process your checks and remittance information, and over the years the fine way in which you have handled our account has established a feeling of sincere regard and appreciation. It has been a real pleasure for us to have you as a customer.

This brings us to our purpose in writing, to express our thanks and appreciation not only for your patronage, but for the very satisfactory manner in which your account has been handled during the years of our association. We very much hope there will be many more such years ahead of us, and that our RED BALL Footwear will continue to have the opportunity of contributing in some measure to the success of your business.

Sincerely,



G. C. Ussher
Credit Manager

NEW YORK SALESROOM • 1372 BROADWAY

N & W Industries, Inc.

Manufacturers

Turner Togs

SPORTSWEAR & LEISUREWEAR



WORKWEAR

LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA

FACTORIES
LYNCHBURG, VA.
ROCKY MOUNT, VA.
JACKSON, MISS.
MAGEE, MISS.

August 20, 1962

Mr. W. C. Sparger
Mt. Airy, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Sparger:

Thank you for your letter received today, August 16th, together with your check covering balance on your account.

Mr. Sparger, in the business world we spend so much time ironing out discrepancies and following up those accounts that do not pay as promptly and consistently as you do, that we often times overlook our pleasant business relations.

We want to congratulate you for your long and successful business operation, and we do want you to know even though we haven't expressed it, we appreciate the business you have placed with us and the fine manner in which you have handled your account.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

N & W INDUSTRIES, INC.

V. A. Laverty, Credit Manager

VAL:nw



THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

August 1, 1962

Mr. Walter C. Sparger
Route 3
Mount Airy, North Carolina

Dear Walter:

This acknowledges your letter of July 23 written from Boone, N. C. I suppose you are back home by now.

I understand you are entering the Baptist Hospital and I hope you get along all right.

I am still working hard, but I am feeling fine.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "L. Hodges", is written over the typed name. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke and a small loop at the end.

Luther H. Hodges

jets
fabric casuals
summerettes
weatherproofs

Red
Ball

®
footwear
BY BALL-BAND

December 14, 1962

W. C. Sparger
Beulah RD#3
Mount Airy
North Carolina

Dear Customer:

It is a great pleasure to write you on the occasion of a significant anniversary -- your 35th as a BALL-BAND Merchant -- 1928 through 1962. Please accept our sincere appreciation for the business you have given us during all these years.

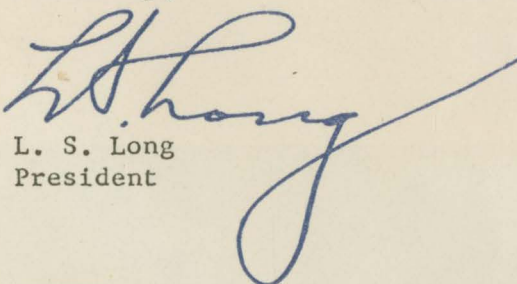
It is our belief that the success of any manufacturer depends in great measure upon the success of his customers. With this conviction in mind it has been and will continue to be our earnest endeavor to give you complete service to help you sell additional RED BALL Footwear readily and profitably.

As we look back at the changes that have been made over the years in consumer footwear needs and demands, we take pride in the fact that RED BALL Footwear has led the way in the development of new constructions, new materials, and new styles which our dealers have found profitable to sell with complete assurance that their customers will be satisfied.

By constantly striving to serve you better and to stay in the forefront with goods of finest quality and style, we shall seek to merit in the years to come the pleasant relations we have enjoyed with you during the past thirty-five years.

With the Season's Greetings.

Cordially,


L. S. Long
President

Cable Address: BALLBAND
Teletype—MISH 8716
Telephone—BLACKBURN 5-2181
Red Ball Trade Mark
REG. IN U. S. PATENT OFFICE 1901



RAMON'S BROWNIE CALENDAR

The
Little
Doctor

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PHONE 352-4200 RFD 6, MT. AIRY, N.C. 27030
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Hardware Groceries Feeds

The
Little
Doctor



our **GUARANTEE**-Your money back on RAMON'S if not satisfied

1979 DECEMBER 1979
SUN. MON. TUE. WED. THU. FRI. SAT.

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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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30	31					

January-1980

1980 FEBRUARY 1980
SUN. MON. TUE. WED. THU. FRI. SAT.

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

Little Brownies forecast probable weather conditions for following days. Moon's phases in Central time; for Eastern time add 1 hr. Mountain time deduct 1 hr. Pacific time deduct 2 hrs.

Sun.

Mon.

Tue.

Wed.

Thu.

Fri.

Sat.

SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC

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2

3

4

5

Date _____ 19____

M

[illegible]

Since we began serving your community nearly forty years ago, a lot of changes and progress has been made. We believe most of these changes have been for the best. We have better churches, schools and medical facilities, better financial facilities available to us. We now have telephones and electric power. We have a much improved system of roads enabling us to go to town, trade and be back home in a few minutes. This was an impossibility years ago. We would like to think we have been of some service to the people and community during this time helping to bring these things to pass.

After much thought, beginning in January, Spargers is going to have to change completely to cash or Esso credit card. This change we didn't want to have to make, but as prices keep going up and the margin of profit gets smaller, a cash business is the only solution we have at this time.

When you have weekly and monthly accounts with balances of \$25 to \$100 and yearly accounts with balances of several hundred dollars and then multiply this by a large number of accounts, you come up with many thousands of dollars. Of course, when we started this credit system in 1927, the credit sales didn't amount to very much.

The way we have handled the credit business in the past was by buying from the wholesale houses on credit ourselves and paying them as our customers paid us. Today we can buy from only one wholesaler on this basis and they have only a limited variety of merchandise. To provide you with the kind of merchandise you want, we will have to buy for cash and sell for cash.

Your community is better and more progressive than ever. You deserve a better and more progressive service for your personal, home, farm, and auto needs. With your support and patronage, Spargers in the next few months will try to provide better facilities, service, merchandise, and prices.

Your business and trust that have been given to us in the past has been greatly appreciated. We hope we can continue to be of service to you in the future.

We wish for you and your family a prosperous and happy New Year.

SPARGERS

J. B. Sparger
Boyd Goings
Ronald Gillespie

YOUR PERSONAL, HOME, FARM, AND AUTO STORE

Phone (919) 352-4204

WALTER C. SPARGER

Route 6, Box 275
Mount Airy, N. C. 27030