

Looking Back

50 Years Ago
Thursday, November 7, 1929

Beulah High School is progressing nicely under the direction of Prof. P.G. Bolick as principal. The faculty is composed of the following: High School department, Prof. P.G. Bolick and Mrs. Catherine Heron; the grades, Miss Gladys Robbins, Mrs. P.G. Bolick, Mrs. Stella Gillespie and Mrs. C.F. Carson. Enrollment to date, 60 in high school and 150 in grades.



Beulah School like it was when I entered school. It burned

Jan. 18, 1938. Mama then taught me at home the rest of year

"I would like you to close your eyes and think of the old Lone Ranger series when the announcer said, 'Now return with me to the days of yesterday.'

"Let's go back to Mount Airy of the 40's. What a wonderful place to live. Everything you needed was on Main Street. You could walk from South Main to North Main in less than 10 minutes. We had three movies on Main Street - The Grand, The Earle and the Center. The Grand was a magnificent place. Remember the long walk down the seating area? You could stay all day on Saturday for a dime. And remember the balconies of the Grand and the Earle?

"There were four drug stores on Main Street and one at the Square. Big tobacco warehouses were right in town. There were two hotels - The Blue Ridge and Willow Hotels. The pool hall was right next to the Canteen and Dixon's Record Shop around the corner from Turnmyre's. You could go in and play a record before you bought it. With all the industry, there was work for everyone.

"There was Pete Powell's Drive Inn on one end of town and the Derby on the other end. You walked every where you wanted to go. I could go on all night naming all the places, sites and sound of that wonderful Camelot called Mount Airy. I have often wondered what it might be like to go back in time and be there once again. I don't think we really appreciated the wonderful life that we had. We could make a movie and call it, 'It's A Wonderful Life.'

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the Beulah High School, ten miles northwest of Mount Airy, on Wednesday, the fire being discovered about 5:30 in the afternoon. Those gathered at the scene of the fire were helpless to fight it as they had no water supply and the wooden timbers of the interior were soon a mass of flames. Supt. Comer announced that a new school would be built in the near future and that for the remainder of the school year the students would be taken care of at Dobson, Franklin, and Lowgap schools, with the teachers being distributed among these schools according to the needs while the new school is under construction.

The Mount Airy News,

January 27, 1938.