

"The Mount Airy News 2-11-1932"

tinuance of the case. Other counsel appearing for Frazier are E. C. Bivens and R. A. Freeman.

Emmett Golden and Rhuby Golden were convicted of violating the prohibition laws. It was charged that they were the possessors of 45 gallons of liquor which the officers found in the woods near the Virginia line on the Pipers Gap road. Secreting themselves near by the officers waited until the Golden's came to the place for the spirits. No sentence has been passed.

Larceny charges against Coy Hazelwood and R. J. Matthews, colored, sent them to the roads for six months.

John Wall was convicted of a serious assault upon Will Chandler of Marsh township. Wall is indicted for other offenses and is to stand trial for them later. No sentence has been passed. Chandler stayed in the Martin hospital several weeks from the knife wound near his heart inflicted by Wall at a corn shucking near Wall's home nearly two years ago. Wall is said to have been drinking at the time.

Hillary Spann was sent to the roads for six months for violation of the prohibition laws.

## R. F. Clifton Passes Age 59

R. F. Chilton died Wednesday morning at his home on Price street of pneumonia and fever following an illness of one week. He is survived by his wife who before her marriage was Miss Essie Smith, of Virginia and five sons Coy, Troy, Beauford, Albert, Burgin and one daughter Iris Chilton.

Mr. Chilton was a carver employed with the Mount Airy Furniture factory and was fifty-nine years old. His funeral will be held from the Haymore Memorial Baptist Church at 3 P. M. this afternoon with interment in Oakdale Cemetery.

## Bottom Plays Basketball.

The first and second teams of the Beulah High school won over the Lowgan High school team...

the sale was that the lot graded down to a certain owners. This work will within the next few days as the architect can find ing plans and specificat expected bids for the erect building will be advertise

## Philathea Class Meeting Night

A delightful business meeting of the Philathea Central Methodist Sunday held in the home of Mr Collum Tuesday evening Juanita Dunman, Miss and Mrs. Walter Poore j with Miss Lib Daniel.

During the social hour followed the business session tests were held and proved joyable. Tempting refreshments followed the contests.

## Caught Selling Liquor In

## Three Arrested For Selling Spirits At D

Selling and delivering liquor at court house during the presence of Judge Hardin's court was Wednesday afternoon when Boyd and Cassell caught in the ladies' rest room at house with a pint of liquor. When they tried to deliver it to a customer, they were closely by the officers who he was selling it for a price at the camp lot. When they tried to place the officers found pints and Dewey Hodge pints in Hodge's old road.

The three were arrested. Hodge was able to give bond while Boyd and Hodge were placed in jail.

Tuesday officers Boyd, Vernon made a search of the house of Jack Wood, on Fish river west of Dobson and found a liquor outfit that had just finished a run. Three pints were found at Wood's house, the cond...



Rob Ambberg



Left: **Benton Flippen**, left, plays for a WPAQ-AM live broadcast with fellow Surry County musician Verlen Clifton. For more than 50 years, the "Merry-Go-Round," a live radio show of traditional music, has been broadcast every Saturday from the Downtown Cinema in Mount Airy to devoted listeners.

Right: Clogging appeals to feet of all ages at Asheville's Mountain Dance and Folk Festival.



Asheville Convention & Visitors Bureau

Far right: The clothes are as colorful as the music during Shindig on the Green in Asheville.



Asheville Convention & Visitors Bureau

There may or may not be lyrics in string-band music, but if there are, they are typically much less important than the playing. This is one way string-band music differs from its more popular and commercial offspring, bluegrass music, which features close harmony singing.

Bluegrass is also more likely to be concert or stage music and differs significantly in instrumental technique. Country music, so popular commercially right now, is, of course, also

an outgrowth of traditional music but has mostly left its community roots to go mainstream. Still, many musicians play it all, and the lines are blurred for most listeners.

For example, Doc Watson, one of our most famous home-grown musicians who hails from Watauga County, is generally regarded as possibly the country's best flat picker and one of the most influential country guitarists of our time. His name is mentioned in the same breath with Chet Atkins and Merle

## Liner Notes

### Keeping The Tradition Alive

Josh Goforth eats, breathes, and sleeps music. There's not much time for anything else when you compose, conduct your fraternity band, record CDs, play in several other bands, teach private lessons, and occasionally help out with your old high-school band. This is all in addition to being a student at East Tennessee State University, where he is majoring in, what else, music.

Goforth began playing piano at church when he was 4 years old in his home county of Madison. His uncle gave him a guitar in the sixth grade, the same year he heard balladeer Sheila Adams perform traditional music, and a whole new world opened for him. The music wasn't new — he had heard it all his life. But he saw and heard it in a new light. He realized that men he had seen around since he was a little boy were also musicians. That same year, Sheila invited him to play at the Mountain Dance and Folk Festival in Asheville, and he saw instruments he hadn't seen before. Now he can play all those instruments — mandolin, banjo, fiddle, you name it.

He plays in the top bluegrass band at East Tennessee State and still plays in several bands when home on weekends. "I play whatever instrument needs to be played or what I feel like playing," Goforth says. "Sometimes you just feel like

playing one instrument more than the other." He composes the same way. "Sometimes I feel like composing a regular fiddle tune, but another time I might compose overtures for wind instruments."

What drives the young man to live his life so immersed in music? According to him, "85 percent of the drive is getting other people started in music and keeping the traditional music alive. The other 15 percent is because I have so much fun."

### His own style

Benton Flippen has been playing music since the early 1930s and, in the ensuing years, has collected a large crowd of admirers of his style. According to Paul Brown, fellow musician and radio producer, "Ambling quietly forth from a musical family, he has taken the traditions around him and molded them into something unique to suit himself. Along the way, he's often astonished and delighted others."

Along the way, he has also accumulated a shelf-full of trophies and ribbons for his work, including the North Carolina Folk Heritage Award in 1990.

Flippen was on hand for the test sessions of WPAQ's live radio show before its premiere in 1948 and became a regular on the program, which still broadcasts live every Saturday in Mount Airy. "Though

many people came through WPAQ on their way to some fame and fortune, Benton was among dozens who performed brilliantly on the radio but stayed at home, working hard, raising families," says Brown in the liner notes for Flippen's 1994 CD "Old Times, New Times."

Flippen has composed a number of memorable tunes and rendered old standards with flair. Several of his fiddle tunes are in the repertoires of some of the best old-time string bands. He has been associated with some of the finest musicians and bands of the music-rich Round Peak area, including the Green Valley Boys and the legendary Camp Creek Boys. He has been a member of the Smokey Valley Boys since the early 1970s.

He's a man of few words, communicating powerfully and eloquently through his music. But on occasion, such as the night when he played "Sally Ann" and Tommy Jarrrell followed with his own version of the song, Flippen is known to put words to his thoughts.

On that night he was heard to comment: "No point to sound just like the other man. Don't even try 'cause you can't. You've got to sound like yourself, have your own style. That's the way it's supposed to be. Like the old man said, it's all creamed 'taters, just fixed a little different."

Obit for Esther Newman Clifton

Esther Newman Clifton died on 1 March 2000. She was born on 14 Sept. 1910 in Blackford County IN. She graduated from the Montpelier High School at the age of 16 As a Honor Student. Upon moving to Fort Wayne, she was employed as a secretary at the General Electric Company. In 1933 she married Ted K. Clifton.

Esther was a member of an all girl orchestra, called "Rainbow Girls". She served as Girl Scout leader of the Fort Wayne Children's Home. Esther also served several years as president of the Washington Township School. As a member of the Eastern Star she was a past matron. Esther was a member of the Crescent Community Home Ec.

She was active as a Radio Amateur with the Federal Issued call of W9PFO and member of the Fort Wayne Radio Club. Additional hobbies were working Crossword Puzzles and Genealogy. She was a member of the DAR. A life member of the Royal Order of the Crown of Charlemagne of USA through Gov. Jeremiah Clarke.

Esther was the mother of three children, son Paul K. a daughter Carmen K. both deceased. A son Jon David, grandsons James N. Chad Elder of Fort Wayne and Paul Kenneth Clifton of Salisbury, NC. Benjamin and Edward Wellman of Tucson, AZ Granddaughter Mary Elder of Ft. Wayne. Two nieces Kay Rains of Portland, OR. and Sedonna Roush of Marion, IN. A great-grandson. Jon Jeffery Clifton and 3 great-granddaughters, Brianna, Maya and Nora Elder.

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*By Ted K. Clifton*

Esther was a member of SCGA for many years. She researched the Dunnagan, Jeffries, Martin, Swaim and Teague families. We were very sorry to hear that Esther died March 1, 2000. Our condolence to her husband Ted and their children Paul, Carmen and Jon David.