

uplifts of the Cumberland plateau, a region of much beauty, and the most intensively exploited coal area in the State. Coal towns and camps are numerous.

BOONE CREEK (R), 77.9 *m.*, and BOONE HILL (R), near the headwaters of the Kentucky River, are reminders of Daniel Boone, who with several companions hunted in this county. John Fox, Jr. (*see Tour 17A*), made the region pierced by US 119 the locale of two of his best-known stories, *The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come*, and *A Knight of the Cumberlands*.

Many old customs and folk superstitions have survived with great tenacity (*see Tours 1 and 18*) in these mountain fastnesses. Many peculiarities of speech, song, custom, and belief are a heritage from English and Scottish-Irish ancestors. A couple contemplating marriage is "called out in meetin'" at least once prior to the marriage ceremony. So steadfast is the belief that a bride must start her new life in a new pair of shoes, that if the family is unable to buy a pair it becomes a matter of neighborhood concern, and the ceremony must wait until the bride can be newly shod.

Slat sunbonnets, of calico or any bright-colored material, are the usual headgear of the hill women; for after marriage a woman, however young, is expected to don "decent duds," discarding bows, beads, and earbobs. Dark colors are substituted for the vivid pinks, blues, reds, and lilacs proper for girls.

If horses and mules are restless at night, if they prance and snort, everyone is sure that evil spirits are trying to mount them; many persons braid corn husks into the manes to ward off this evil.

The "Elf Knight," a version of the old English ballad, the "Six Kings' Daughters," "Barbara Allen," the "Little Mohee," and "Madge Wildfire's Song" are often heard in this country.

US 119 crosses the North Fork of the Kentucky River, 80.7 *m.*, which twists and cuts its way through several hundred miles before joining the Ohio.

At 88.4 *m.* is the junction with State 15 (*see Tour 2*).

PINE MOUNTAIN looms in the distance at 90.1 *m.* Over a part of the timbered, craggy ridge extends the Trail of the Lonesome Pine. The northern flank of the mountain, blanketed with dense stands of timber, hems in the country as far as the eye can see. The road, beginning its winding ascent of the mountain, follows a shelf below high overhangs of limestone. During the climb small mountain cabins are seen clinging to the sloping side far below, looking like doll houses in the distance.

At 93.7 *m.* is the summit of Pine Mountain (2,600 alt.). Here is a junction with a dirt road.

Left on this road 3 *m.* to a FIRE OBSERVATORY (*open*) on one of the highest points in the region. It affords a magnificent view of the Appalachians. The distant blue-veiled horizon to the east is formed by the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia.