

Local Affairs

Mrs. Horton, of North Wilkesboro, widow of the late Dr. W. P. Horton, of that town, was in town a few hours last Sunday. She was accompanied by her son, Mr. Archie Horton.

Rev. Mr. Wilson, a Baptist minister from Burnsville, has rented one of the buildings owned by Miss Pearl Hodges on Green Heights, and will move in in the near future. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are now at training in the Summer School here.

The Public School, Boone district, opened Tuesday morning with a very large attendance. The first three months will be taught by a faculty selected from the Training School, and used as an observation school by the teachers in the Summer Term.

Miss Mary Kennedy, who has many friends in and around this place, and who now holds a responsible position with the Oxford Orphan Asylum, is spending a few weeks in Boone.

Miss Maude Wineburger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wineburger, Coeburn, Va., who recently graduated with highest honors from Coeburn High School, has entered the summer school at the A. T. S., and will probably teach in this state.

Mrs. Anders, who has spent the past nine months at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Pennington, Ashe county, N. C., is at the home of her son, Dr. Mc G. Anders, in Boone, for the summer. Her many friends in Boone and Watauga are delighted to see her back.

Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Hodges of Cranberry attended services at the Baptist church and near Boone Sunday. The Dr. told us that he intended to rush work on his new home on Green Heights, just as rapidly as possible, and will move to Boone just as soon as the building can be occupied.

Rev. Mr. Long, Presbyterian minister, located at Banner Elk for this summer, came over Sunday, and intended to preach at 11 o'clock, attended services at the Baptist church, which he much enjoyed. Mr. Long will preach morning and evening in the Episcopal church in Boone on the 2nd Sunday in July.

Mrs. R. M. Taylor, of Fort Dodge, Kansas, who was called to Boone on account of the illness and death of her father, Mr. W. T. Blair, sometime ago, left Tuesday for Lake Como, Penn., where she will spend a while with her sister, Mrs. Merriman, before going to her Kansas home. She was accompanied by her sister, Miss Blanche Blair, of Blowing Rock, who will remain with her for some time.

Rev. N. D. Yount, who for the past five years has served the Lutheran churches on this charge, as pastor, in a most acceptable manner, has been called to Shelby, where he will make his home while serving as Western Field Missionary of the United Lutheran Synod of N. C. Mr. Yount, has made many friends in this charge, and he left yesterday for his new field of labor.

Mrs. W. H. Norris, whose serious illness, we noted last week, passed to her reward Friday, she remains being laid to rest in the family burying ground on Meat Camp, Sunday. The children, so far as we can learn, were all present when the end came. Truly it can be said that a good woman has been called home. The Democrat extends sympathy to the bereaved, especially to the aged husband, who is left alone, the children all having homes and families of their own. Doubtless he will spend his remaining

MRS. L. W. FARTHING PASSES

Mrs. Farthing, widow of the late Rev. L. W. Farthing, of Watauga Falls, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. John Ward, on Thursday morning, after a protracted illness. Mrs. Farthing was 82 years of age and it can be truthfully said of her that her long life was indeed a benediction to her loved ones and others with whom she came in contact. She was a devoted mother, a kind neighbor and, best of all, she was a devoted christian lady. She is survived by two sons and one daughter. Mr. W. D. Farthing, assistant cashier in the Watauga County Bank, Mr. L. M. Farthing, Cashier of the Valle Crucis Bank, and Mrs. John Ward, at whose home she died.

FOR SALE.—A well broke four-year old horse. See or write J. R. Hampton, Blowing Rock, N. C.

"There isn't a dollar's worth of watered stock in our company, Mr. Jones. How much do you want?"

Farmer Jones—"Young man, the next stock I buy will be able to walk—and I'll tend to the watering myself."

MR. J. E. GARNER DIES AT SHERIDAN, WYO. HOME

Mr. J. E. Garner, formerly of Watauga, but for several years a resident of Sheridan, Wyoming, died at his home on May 24, after a long illness. Mr. Garner, ("Little Eli"), was quite a property owner in Watauga, and was one of the big-hearted, liberal kind, that won friends for him from every walk of life. He was an enthusiastic Mason, and his body was laid to rest with full Masonic honors on May 27. Mrs. Garner survives him. His near relatives live in Wilkes county. The news of his death will bring sadness to the hearts of many in Watauga.

AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Milton Farthing will conduct the prayer service Thursday night at 8:00 o'clock.

The pastor preaches Sunday morning on "Transformed and Transforming," and Sunday night on "The Ladder of Progress." Time of service 11:00 a. m. and 8:00 p. m.

Sunday School 10:00 a. m.

B. Y. P. U. at 6:30 p. m.

Teachers and visitors are cordially invited to attend these services.—F. M. Huggins, Pastor.

ORGANIZATION OF B. Y. P. U.'s IN WATAUGA

Miss Rebecca Ward, of Lumberton is doing B. Y. P. U. work in the County. She has conducted classes at Blowing Rock, Pleasant Grove, Bethel, and is now at Timbered Ridge. She leaves Monday for Avery County. A union was organized at Blowing Rock, Bethel and Pleasant Grove. It is hoped that Timbered Ridge will organize. Miss Ward is very efficient in her work and great good will, it is hoped, will result from her work.—F. M. Huggins.

North Carolina newspapers will have the improvements they have made in their mechanical plants during the past year reviewed by M. L. Shipman, commissioner of labor and printing and also historian of the North Carolina Press Association, when the organization meets in Blowing Rock the latter part of this month.

Mr. Shipman has addressed a questionnaire to each member paper in the state asking for the improvements made, changes in management, subscription and advertising rates and new plants in operation of general interest.

SINGHAM SCHOOL FOR BOYS IN BAD WITH UNCLE SAM

(Special to The Observer)

Preston Lewis Gray an d Bingham Gray, heads of the Bingham school at Mebane, charged with using the mails to defraud, are scheduled for trial at United States courts here, western North Carolina district, at the December term. The grand jury of the court returned a true bill against them late Tuesday.

The Grays are charged with putting out a grandiloquent line of advertising for the school, over-painting the picture, thereby inducing parents to send their sons to it when, it is charged, the school didn't come anywhere near the ads. Some parents of Kentucky boys a few months ago became so enraged at such tactics that they tried to speed young Bingham Gray back to Kentucky to stand trial, but Governor Morrison refused to honor extradition papers, with the result that the Sheriff of Iredeed boarded the train at Statesville and rescued the young man.

The two men under indictment are in no way connected with the Asheville Bingham school, nor is the Asheville school in any way connected with the case.

SLAYS BROTHER AND THEN KILLS HIMSELF

(By The Associated Press)

One brother is dead, self-doin and the other prostrate from the effects of six revolver shots, lies critically injured at his home six miles south of Johnson City as the result of a dual tragedy enacted early Saturday morning when Paul Saylor, aged 46, shot his brother, James Saylor, aged 53, and then, returning home shot himself in the temple, dying instantly.

The motive for the shooting is found in court records which constitute a complaint for a bill of divorce filed by Bessie A. Saylor against her husband, Paul Saylor, filed January 23, 1923. In her will for a long time they lived together happily, but for the last few years, Paul Saylor had taken to drink and had become quarrelsome and abusive and that he had persisted in making charges involving her honor and integrity and impeached her character and virtue as a woman.

COMMERCIAL PRINTING OF EVERY KIND BY RIVERS PRINT. CO.

ALLEGHANY TO OBSERVE THE 4TH OF JULY WITH GALA DAY

(By L. I. Hampton)

On July Fourth Sparta and Alleghany county are figuratively speaking, going to "put the big pot in the little one" and stage such a patriotic celebration as has been seldom seen in these age-old mountains in general.

It will be a big day. Representative Tam Bowie of Ashe county, author of the famous \$10,000,000 railroad bill to redeem the "Lost Provinces", will be one of the principal speakers, and Governor Rufe Doughton, state highway commissioner, whose home is here will be another. There will be band music, a parade, a picnic style dinner spread on the grounds for everybody and athletic events including a "scrub" race and a prize fight between a local mountain "bully" and an outsider.

From Galax to Winston-Salem have gone the invitations to everybody to attend the big Fourth of July celebration and a cordial mountain welcome will be extended to all who come. From present plans it is expected that the "mountains will shell out" and few in the hills and coves except the sick and afflicted will be left behind when the "great day" comes.

Chairman Will Reeves, of the committee in charge of the celebration, is already in touch with band and amusement leaders. He has extended an invitation to the business men of Winston-Salem, Elkin, Mt. Airy, Dobson and other points to be present to help celebrate the occasion and to enjoy a little "mountain hospitality."

There is no auditorium in Sparta or for that matter anywhere in this part of the country sufficiently large to accommodate the vast crowd expected on the Fourth, so the speaking and band music will take place in a large, shady grove in the open air. Occupying the speakers' stand will be many prominent citizens from this and adjoining counties and provisions will be made to make the audience comfortable while the scheduled exercises are taking place.

Delegates from Winston-Salem, from Elkin and other points east of the Blue Ridge, now being the "Ridge" and winding through the Elkin-Sparta stretch near to Roaring Gap as it approaches the crest of the mountain.

Arrangements are being made to open the highway at that time, although the official opening of the road will not be made until early in September, next, when a statewide good roads rally and celebration will be held here.

Barbecued Pig, fried chicken and other meats of all kinds, mountain honey and many kinds of delicacies will be found on the free-for-all picnic dinner to be spread on the Fourth of July. The dinner will follow the speaking events and in the afternoon a baseball game, the races, a prize fight and other athletic sports will be in order.

Plans are already complete for the big Fourth celebration and Sparta is getting ready to offer its fine hospitality to the great host of visitors expected from the outside. "Come to the mountains of Alleghany and get cool" is the slogan and it is planned to urge the visitors to spend a night in this beautiful town.

FISHERMAN AT LONG KEY HARPOONS A SEA MONSTER

Miami, Fla., June 12.—A message received today from Long Key, where yesterday a sea monster estimated to weigh 20,000 pounds was harpooned by a party of fishermen, stated that the battle to get it ashore still was in progress. More ammunition was received by the party today after 50 shots had been fired into the monster last night, and it still showed fight.

The fish was classified as belonging to the class of Rhyndon by Louis L. Mowbray, former director of the Miami aquarium and now connected with the New York aquarium which is at Long Key. Mr. Mowbray hopes to obtain the fish for the American Museum of Natural History and has wired to New York for expert taxidermists.

The message stated that the party was making its way slowly to shore, but tonight it was impossible to communicate with the fishermen and it was not known whether the monster had been landed.

WOODROW WILSON SERENADED BY SHRINERS

Woodrow Wilson was serenaded at his S street home by Shriners patrol from Greenville, S. C., which sang "Dixie" under his window, and then, at his request, followed it with "The Star Spangled Banner."

Then the singing was over the former president smiled and waved his approval as one member shouted: "We are one hundred per cent for you in South Carolina." He led his brother Shriners in "Three cheers for Wilson."

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WATAUGA COUNTY BANK BOONE, N. C.

NERVE EXPLOSIONS

Do you ever get up in the morning "out of the wrong side of bed" and find everything goes wrong during the day? Buttons come off. Spoons break. Breakfast toast is scorched. The street car is late and empty, so there's no seat for you.

As the day progresses, it seems that there's a conspiracy afoot to make you irritable. All the traffic walkers and half-wits in the world arrange to get in your way.

The fix is follows. Fingers are clumsy, refuse to obey your brain readily, and you break things from dishes to pencil leads.

The mailman apparently has joined the conspiracy. He brings the wrong kind of letters—disappointments, bills.

Everything is out of sorts. Like the Irish soldier, you decide "everybody's out of step but me."

Most of us have enough of the superstitious lurking in our brains to make us believe that bad luck is shadowing us on the days when everything goes wrong.

The simple truth is our nerves are on edge, probably due to something we ate the day before, or to our blood pressure being too low or too high.

Life at such times seems more aggravating than usual. But the trouble is in ourselves, not in life or the people we encounter. They average about the same, day in and day out.

For instance: We saw a man rush into an office building. As he went through the revolving door, he decided that the party in front of him was a slow-moving moron, so he swung the door viciously in a nobly-attempted to kick down the stranger in his path. Nerves. Meeting the same stranger under similar circumstances next day, the man (if feeling normal) probably would trail the stranger placidly through the door and maybe pause to borrow a match and exchange the time of day and home brew recipes.

There is nothing quite as cranky as a drunkard or other dope fiend recovering from a debauch, with nerves on edge—a hangover. All of us at times feel the same way, without any preliminary debauch.

We have similar lost control of our nerve force. The pipes are leaking, eager to explode.

What can we do about it? Well for one thing, we can keep our selves under control by a determination to maintain a placid and easy-going state of mind. Ruination of the whole day dates from the first yielding to anger when the button comes off as we start to dress. The more we yield the more we allow ourselves to become irritated, the higher the pressure mounts in our internal mechanism.

A good motto, when nerves are on edge, is: "Oh, well, nothing nor nobody is worth getting mad at. A hundred years from now, what difference will it make?"—Exchange.

NORTH CAROLINA HAS HIGHEST BIRTH RATE

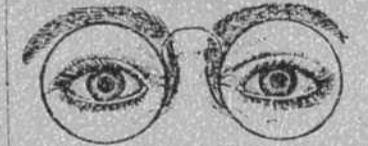
A decline in the birth rate and a slight increase in the death rate in 1922 was shown in provisional census figures today for the year announced today by the Department of Commerce.

For the 24 states reporting birth figures the rate for 1922 was 22.7 for each 1,000 of population against a rate of 24.4 for 1921. For 33 states the death rate last year was 11.8 against 11.6 for 1921.

North Carolina reported the highest birthrate, 30.2, while a rate of 18 for the state of Washington was the lowest. Death rates in the 33 state ranged from 14.7 for Maine to 8.1 for Idaho.

North Carolina's birth rate in 1921 was 31.2 while that state's death rate was 11.5 for 1922 against 11.3 for 1921.

COMING DR. A. W. DULA



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