

The Watauga Democrat.

A Non-Partisan Family Newspaper Published in and for Boone and Watauga County, the Leader of Northwestern North Carolina.—Established in 1888

VOLUME XXXIV

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY JULY 12, 1923

NUMBER 27

TEACHERS' MEETING

A teachers' meeting was held in the court house on Monday. We are informed that almost every teacher of the county was present, with a number from other counties.

This meeting of the teachers was largely for the purpose of organizing the school work for the coming term which opens the 15th of July.

Superintendent Hagaman, with the aid of several of his experienced teachers has worked out a complete course of study in every book in every grade, setting out the work for each week of the school term.

This will not only link up the home with the school, but it will be a great incentive to every teacher to keep up with every other school of the County—All schools doing the same work at the same time.

Prof. D. D. Dougherty and L. M. Hodges, members of the Board of Education were present lending encouragement to the work.

Prof. Dougherty made a very fine speech to the teachers for which they extended a vote of thanks.

Supt Hagaman tells us that he has large expectations for the coming school term, that he knows of no county that has a more united and loyal set of teachers than Watauga.

A WILD RIDE DOWN THE MOUNTAIN SIDE

(John A. Livingston in the Monroe Journal)

Paul Revere's ride may have been more historic but it certainly was not half as thrilling as one Josh Horne, Rocky Mount publisher, took the past week.

Coasting down a mountain in an automobile is thrilling enough to the native from the low lands without having a driver who delights in taking sharp turns on high gear.

When Horne left Flowing Rock after attending the press convention he had just 43 miles to Hickory to catch a train for the east.

Horne was afraid the driver would not realize the necessity of getting to Hickory on time, but he soon lost sight of that fear. He had increasing fears that he might soon make connection for another country far away from this mundane sphere.

As the car swung around a sharp curve Horne was particularly impressed with a three thousand feet precipice that stretched down into a mountain stream.

"Say, Mister, I don't have to make that train. Tomorrow will do just as well," Horne remarked dubiously.

The driver, without batting an eye, bore down on the gas and the automobile shot around another one of those curves. Two thousand feet of thin atmosphere was all that Horne saw on the down side of the mountain.

"Say, Mister, did you know that last year 3,787 people were killed by gas, and that 17 of them were asphyxiated, 21 died in gas explosions, and 3,749 were killed by stepping on the gas?" Horne queried the driver.

No response from the driver. He was too busy negotiating another curve. The back wheels skidded six inches; if they had skidded a foot the car would have rolled down a thousand feet before hitting anything solid.

"Haven't you got any parachutes?" Horne asked as another one of the zig-zag curves was reached, and he looked down the dizzy depths below.

It wasn't time for the driver to talk. He was bound to make the curve on high or he would be disgraced.

Horne saw it was no use. He was wasting breath. He became resigned to any fate. On and on the car coasted down steep inclines, around sharp curves, zig-zagging its way. Toward the bottom there was one of those dirt shelves on the mountain side. It was built straight out to a point and almost at right angles to it was the road leading below. All the driver had to do to run into nothing was to keep straight ahead.

As the driver started to take the turn he pointed over the side of the road.

"Man run off there last week," the driver remarked.

"I am not interested in what happened last week," Horne replied. "I am more interested in what may happen this week."

Within an hour the drop from the top of the mountain was over and Hickory was made without further difficulty.

NEW CENSUS GIVES BOONE A BIG INCREASE

According to the census recently taken by the town authorities the population of Boone is now more than nine hundred, exclusive of any of the A. T. S. Students, as compared with the 374 reported by the government. Some territory has of course been annexed, but not enough to make so great a difference. Certainly those of the school who are with us all the year, the average population is now 1300 to 1400.

A. T. S. NEWS.

Honorable Mr. Stroupe, of Cherryville, is enjoying a few days with friends amid the beauties of Boone.

Prof. C. Griggs, Superintendent of the Gibson School, was at the Appalachian Training School recently hunting teachers.

The Electric Light Plant at the Training School has been rebuilt and the School and town is in light again.

Miss Annie Laura Choate, a former graduate of the Training School delighted the student body on Saturday with several solos.

Mr. Paul Boyton, from Peabody Normal who taught in the summer school here last summer, spent a few days in Boone the latter part of the week to the pleasure of his many friends.

Mr. W. H. Gragg, a lumberman of Boone, is building on the old turnpike between the School and the town six neat cottages designated for summer and other residential purposes.

Mr. A. E. South on Saturday sold through a land company fifty beautiful lots in the northern part of Boone the location being known as Beana Vista, which is indeed well named.

Dr. Vardell, of Flora MacDonald College, at Red Springs, addressed the Training School Thursday on Scotland, giving a splendid description of some of the customs and characteristics of that wonderful people.

At the chapel exercises of the Training School on Saturday the children of the Observation School under Miss Pitts gave in a most pleasing manner a pageant of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, which was greatly enjoyed by all present.

In the Court House on Saturday evening a play, "The Confidential Clerk," a Drama in Four Acts, was given by local talent, under the direction of Mrs. M. G. Anders, to the great delight of an overflowing house many being turned away for lack of room. The proceeds were more than \$100.00 which will be used to help buy a piano for the new Methodist Church, which is very soon to be opened.

J. M. DOWNUM.

BRIGHT OUTLOOK FOR FARMERS

Durham Herald.

North Carolina's cotton crop, according to the government report, is in the best condition of any state in the cotton belt. The condition of entire crop, for the whole country is given at 69.9, while North Carolina's is 80, the highest of any of the larger cotton growing states. The cotton acreage in North Carolina is 1,704,000. Virginia, Arizona and California report better condition than North Carolina, but the acreage in those states is small, the real leadership in condition coming to the Tar Heel state.

This promises to be a great year for North Carolina farmers, as the indications for the two big money crops of cotton and tobacco are better in this state than in most of the others. Reports on tobacco are to the effect that the crop is large this year, and while it may not come up to the high standard of some other years, it will measure up better than in many other tobacco growing sections.

With prospects for larger cotton and tobacco crops this year than usual, and with better crops than most of the other states, North Carolina farmers should reap a rich harvest. The indications are also favorable for good prices in both crops, which will further enrich the farmers of this state. Of course many things can happen yet to put a crimp in those bright prospects, but unless that something does happen, the farmers are going to be in a good mood to celebrate Thanksgiving Day next November.

W. R. Case Cutlery.—Boone Hard ware.—Abvt.

PROGRAM

Sunday School Convention of The Three Parks Association To Be Held With Zionville Church, Saturday And Sunday July 28 And 29.

10:00 A. M., Saturday Organization.
Call Roll of Delegates from Sunday Schools

11:00 A. M., Sermon, by Walter E. Wilson
Dinner

1 P. M., "Building up the County Sunday School," Roy Dotson, E. J. Farthing, Dean Swift and W. S. Farthing.

2:30 P. M., Question Box

8:00 P. M., "Plan of Conducting a Sunday School where Different Denominations are Represented," D. D. Dougherty and Smith Hagaman

"What Definite Things Can Be Done to Improve the Teaching of Our Sunday Schools?" A. J. Greene and W. F. Sherwood

10:00 A. M., Sunday, Sunday School.

"Application of the Sunday School Lesson" A. W. Highsmith

11:00 A. M., Sermon B. H. Harrill
Dinner

1:00 P. M., "Would it be wise to Display the Literature Now in Use for the Grade Lesson?" W. Y. Perry and V. C. Howell

"Are our Sunday Scholars Keeping Pace with the General Progress of other Things?" J. H. Winkler, N. T. Byers and G. W. Robbins

All Sunday School Workers and Pastors are invited to attend and participate in the discussions.

L. C. GREER,
GEORGE GREER,
D. D. DOUGHERTY,

Committee.

JUDGE COUNCIL PROPERTY TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION

Mr. J. F. Moore, of the Boone Hardware Co., is in receipt of a telegram from friends in Greensboro representing a Real Estate firm, the text of which is as follows:

"Have bought Judge Council property. Will sell at auction August 14. Will develop into finest sale division in Western North Carolina."

The Council property is well known as the best available proposition in the vicinity and its development will be the biggest thing perhaps that has happened for our town.

CUTTER FIRES ON FLEEING RUM SHIP

(By The Associated Press)

Fifteen solid shots were fired from a coast guard cutter at a speedy rum runner tonight after her crew had been aboard a French ship on run, enjoying a Sunday afternoon social chat with the skipper. The runner escaped, as did another that had taken on a cargo of liquor for the shore.

The glancing craft paid no heed to a shot fired across his bow and managed to out distance the government cutter, although shells dropped near enough to his boat to send spray over her deck. The first runner eluded the cutter before any shots had been fired at her.

So close was the cutter to the rum boat at one time that the former's bootlegging captain as he defied their shells and ordered full speed ahead. The runner disappeared after reaching the shore near Highlands.

The thrilling chase after the rum runner started after the first boat had eluded the coast guard cutter. Crews of both had been aboard the French schooner Gerberville, one of seven ships now lying along the long mile stretch that composes rum row. Both boats had loaded their cargoes and were enjoying a glass and a chat before starting their dash to the shore.

Suddenly a lookout on the Gerberville shouted "cutter." The crews of the rum runners scrambled down "Jacobs ladder" and put out for the shore.

A column of black smoke poured from the cutter, showing that full speed had been ordered for the chase. She headed in a diagonal direction to that of the runner, hoping to head her off. The distance was too great however, and this boat proceeded to shore without trouble. The other boat had been slower in getting away from the Gerberville. The cutter changed her course and put out after her, but with the "bone in mouth" the government boat was unable to keep the pace set by the speedy liquor carrying craft. The fifteen shots were fired in twenty minutes, all the shells falling near the boat, but none striking her.

The escaped craft was believed to be the same one which was fired upon some weeks ago and whose captain at that time also defied his would-be captors.

The coast guard captain turned his attention to other members of

CONGRATULATIONS, LADIES OF THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY

When you want a piece of work done and done quickly and well, get the ladies of Boone interested, and look out for results. The ladies of the missionary society of the M. E. Church South have just accomplished a feat that, to us, seems worthy of the highest commendation. For some time they have been figuring on a steel piano for their new church, the piece of which was something above \$500.00, and have been working ardently to that end. Today the much coveted instrument is on the way, and all the money, save about \$30.00 in the treasury with which to pay for it. On Saturday evening last, in a supreme effort to carry out their laudable design, they gave a play in the court house entitled "The Confidential Clerk", which was, indeed, a very great success. The crowd in attendance was so large that many were turned away after the court room and galleries had been crowded to their utmost capacity. The receipts amounted to \$130.00 and the play came fully up to the most exacting in the crowded audience, and reflected much credit on the promoters and the actors as well. Again let us say congratulations.

WHICH PAYS THE BEST?

Mrs. T. P. Adams, of Zionville, who is getting to be quite a poultry raiser, was in to see The Democrat Tuesday. She said there had been hatched in her yards so far this year 1,300 pure-bred White Leghorn chicks, many of which were sold as soon as they were taken from the incubators. However, she retained a goodly number for herself, and after cutting out all the roosters and marking them, she still has 200 pullets that will begin to lay within the next 6 weeks or two months. She also has a flock of 100 hens carried over from last year. She was asked how the poultry business pays, when compared with cattle raising on the farm, and she gave us the following little story in reply: "Soon after Mr. Adams and I were married I insisted that he build me a poultry house, but he was inclined to put me off, saying that he intended putting his surplus in cattle, so he added to his herd that spring, several head, his output being \$150.00. I invested \$15.00 in the poultry business, and on through the season kept a perfect expense bill, and when my little flock was disposed of I found that my \$15.00 had netted me \$80.00, while my husband, on his investment of \$150.00, only had a clear profit of \$8.00." The lady is most enthusiastic over her work and says give her hens instead of cattle every time for money-making on the farm.

COMFORT IN AGE

I rest beneath my upas tree, when comes the closing of the day; there's comfort in this though for me—I have my package put away. Where you banks steadily towers uprear, I have my modest little pile, and there I journey twice a year, and clip some coupons with a smile. I have enough to pay the price of all I'll need while I remain, to purchase hats and books and rice and gas and casings for my wain. The kindly gods I often thank now that I'm old and halt and gray, that I have roubles in the bank, a modest parcel put away. Youth says, "We'll go while we're young, for we shall be a long time dead; while yet our withers are unwrung we'll paint the village red." And it is well to have your fun while you are sound in mind and limb, to blow a portion of your mon, and waltz through life with pep and vim. But it says you should recollect that youth is transact as the dawn; some day a gray hair you'll get, and you will know that youth is gone. So if you salted down a dime before you blew in four or five, you'll think your prudence was in time, when life's dark wintry days arrive. I rest beside my garden gate, and croon these words, the evening long: "I'm thankful that I saved a crate of coin when I was hale and strong."—Walt Mason.

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the rum running fleet, who were out in considerable numbers today, and several were stopped but no liquor was found. Besides the Gerberville, which is a five mast auxiliary schooner there were two steamers and four small schooners on the row.

THROGGS PAY LAST RESPECTS TO CALVIN J. COTTRELL

Mr. Calvin J. Cottrell, a prominent citizen of Boone, passed away on Sunday afternoon, following an illness of several months duration.

The burial was conducted on Monday afternoon from the Baptist church by Reverends Huggins and Brinkman, Professor, D. D. Dougherty and I. G. Greer, on behalf of the Appalachian Training School paid beautiful and fitting tribute to the deceased.

Mr. Cottrell was a native of Caldwell County, but for the past forty years has been a resident of Watauga, and the masses of people who gathered together on Monday bore testimony to the esteem in which he was held. He has been associated with the Training School for a good many years, was an earnest supporter and believer in education, and a consistent member of the Boone Baptist Church. A Confederate soldier, as brave as the bravest, he shed his blood and almost gave his life for this glorious Southland. He was a good citizen, a kind neighbor and was loved in his community.

A good Christian gentleman sleeps under a bank of flowers placed there by loving hands and many are the sad hearts. His has been a busy life, but he rests now, and rests well.

Deceased is survived by four children: D. J. of Boone; J. E. of Virginia; Mrs. Floy Mast, of Boone and Mrs. J. S. McBride, of Sugar Grove.

Mr. Cottrell was 80 years of age and one of the oldest members of Watauga Lodge No. 273 A. F. & A. M.

A COMMUNITY FAIR THIS FALL

On last Thursday night the citizens of the Zion Hill and surrounding communities met at Windy Gap school house and organized for a Community Fair this fall. The officers and chairman of the various departments were elected and other plans made in such a way that is bound to bring results. The school house was practically filled with interested citizens and the spirit that was shown makes it easy to predict that they will not only put up a good exhibition but that there will be other enjoyable and educational features that will make the day one to be long remembered and one to be proud of.

The County Agent was on hand at this meeting to give assistance and encouragement. He states that he has never known the spirit shown on this occasion to fail to bring results.

This brings us to a question: Why do not other communities in the County do this same thing? Communities are holding these Community Fairs annually. They have found them a great source of pleasure and education.

What other Counties can do so can Watauga. It is a part of the County Agent's duties to assist in promoting this sort of thing and the communities that are expecting to hold a Community Fair would make no mistake by calling on him to assist them.

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COUNTY OFFICIALS CAPTURE HUGE DISTILLERY

Suspense Scene of Unusual Raid— Sheriff Assisted by City Police

Possibly one of the most successful raids that has been made in Watauga on the blockaders, was effected on last Friday afternoon in the Sampson section of the county, by Sheriff C. M. Critcher, Deputy George Hayes and members of the local police force.

The Sheriff had information on Friday morning as to the probable location of the plant. He went with his informers and was successful in finding the outfit, got within possibly less than one hundred feet of the still, and had a good view of the four who were on duty with guns in hands. The odds of course were heavily against the men of the law, and the Sheriff's companions being unarmed, he wisely decided to return to town for the other officers.

On the return trip the still had been stopped, and the noise of the water running into the huge condenser, which had previously kept the blockaders from hearing the approach of the raiders, was no longer. This gave the faithful canine a chance to use his ears, and just as the officers were practically ready to swoop down upon the offenders, the spotted guardian of the innuiss master's business, bayed the Sheriff's bunch, the moonbeams shut several rounds in their direction, and fled in a hail of bullets.

The still, captured, was of almost fifty gallons capacity, and together with the worm, was of solid copper throughout. Twenty gallons of corn whiskey was found, six barrels of beer, and a beer vat or box holding possibly 100 gallons. There were three axes, a cross cut saw and other things less note-worthy.

However the most unique part of the thing were the living quarters of the moon shiners, situated under the mountain about two hundred yards from the stillery, under a cliff of rocks. The room provided under the ledge was of ample proportions for the accommodation of several persons, the shelter was perfect, and no inclemency of the weather could interfere with the comfort of its occupants. There was bedding, quilts, feather pillows, while from pegs in the crevices hung a looking glass, clean shirts and freshly laundered overalls. There were a number of pairs of shoes and oxfords, while among the smaller things were a fountain pen and deck of playing cards. Cooking utensils of all kinds were in evidence, a quantity of canned goods, meal, meat, etc. Supper was being prepared and a big wood chunk or ground hog was to have been the main dish, as it had been nicely prepared and well cooked.

The officers are justly elated over this capture, and are to be congratulated.

ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT AGAIN IN OPERATION

The electric plant of the New River Light and Power Co. which has been out of commission since back in March is again running. There has been some delay in getting the necessary repairs for the machinery, and this being taken into consideration, the work has been done in record breaking time. The school authorities and the men on the job at the plant have done a fine piece of work and are to be praised for their efforts in getting the service restored.

Work has been started on the new plant on Middle Fork and it is expected to be in operation this year.

MABEL NEWS

Mr. J. H. Eggers, who has been at work in West Virginia for several months has returned home.

Mr. David Younce, a former citizen of this county, is visiting relatives in this part of the county. He lives in Maryland and is engaged in the dairy business. Miss Alma Robinson, his niece, and his son, Sherman came with him.

Union Singing class is making preparation to take part in the singing contest at Wilkesboro on the 21.

Deputy Collector Thomas spent the week end with home people.

Mr. John Eggers who has been sick for several months is slightly improved at this writing.

Mr. Bob Thomas, of Tennessee, spent the week-end with relatives.

Aunt Mattie Younce is visiting her children at Elizabethton and other points in Tennessee.