

The Watauga Democrat.

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 1923

NUMBER 38

WORK ON LOST PROVINCE RAILROAD WILL BE BEGUN BY THE EARLY SPRING

EVE OF A NEW ERA

Three Routes Now Being Surveyed
by Chief Engineer Miller's Parties

Great Highway System

Ernest B. Hunter in Greensboro News
Jefferson Sept. 22—Ashe, Watauga
and Alleghany counties known as
the "lost provinces" are today stand-
ing on the threshold of a new and
brighter era.

For the better part of a half cen-
tury the people of these far north-
west counties of the state lying this
side of the majestic Blue Ridge have
dreamed of a first class railroad with
which to afford them an outlet to the
rest of the state and world, in
other words they have yearned to
become a vital force in the state.

This dream of half a century now
promises to be converted into the
real article. Next spring, if nothing
bobs up to forestall it, railroad con-
tractors will have their steam shovels
and other railroad building accou-
treaments blazing away in the heart
of the Blue Ridge. It will mean the
actual construction of the Appala-
chian and Western North Carolina
Railroad authorized by the last ses-
sion of the general assembly for the
purpose of redeeming the lost provin-
ces. For the building of the road the
legislature authorized a bond issue
with which to raise \$10,000,000 to
defray the expense incident to the
completion of the railroad.

Preliminary Surveys
Preliminary surveys are now be-
ing made over three routes across
the Blue Ridge:

West Jefferson to North Wilkes-
boro, thence West Jefferson to a point
in Tennessee connecting with one of
the roads forming a network of coal
carrying lines.

Boone to North Wilkesboro, thence
Boone to a point in Tennessee.

Sparta to Elkin thence Sparta to
West Jefferson.

The surveying parties are operat-
ing under the supervision of Frank
T. Miller, of Greensboro, chief en-
gineer of the commission appointed
by Governor Cameron Morrison to
study the feasibility and practicability
of building a trunk line through the
lost provinces.

Mr. Miller will submit to the com-
mission soon after the first of the
year his survey reports. The commis-
sion will then meet and select one
of the routes—the most feasible—
for the trunk line and immediately
award the contract for its construc-
tion. It is generally predicted in these
provinces that about five years will
be required to complete the railroad.

In some parts of the state the lost
province railroad is viewed with con-
siderable skepticism not to say alarm.
Some people have strong doubts as
to the feasibility of the whole scheme
they look upon it as an idle dream
of Tam Bowie, father of the railroad
bill.

It Will Be Built

But the road will be built! Nothing
now stands in the way of let-
ting the contract but the smashing
of the Bowie bill by the general as-
sembly and it must needs meet in
special session. Tam Bowie isn't wor-
rying over any rashness on the part
of the legislators in the event they
should meet in extraordinary con-
clave. He declares that not enough
votes could be possibly mustered at
a special gathering of the lawmakers
to smother his measure. He says that
a number of legislators who voted
nay when the measure was passed
have informed him that if they were
given another opportunity would vote
aye.

There has been a misunderstanding
in certain quarters as to the real
meaning of the bill. Some people be-
lieve that the state cannot enter into
the trunk line project until 51 per
cent of the stock has been subscribed
by towns, townships, municipalities
and individuals. This is a mistake.

The legislature authorized a bond
issue of \$10,000,000 without any pro-
viso attached to it with which to con-
struct the main line, a type A rail-
road from some point on the Winston
Salem division of the Southern rail-
way running across the Blue Ridge
connecting with one of the various
roads west of the Blue Ridge. The
commission is authorized to pro-
ceed with the road outside the state.

To Get Direct Line

The idea in tapping one of the

LOCAL PAPER MAKES HIM WANT TO LIVE IN WATAUGA

From a business letter from J. S.
Mullen of Dothan Ala., who antici-
pates going in business in Watauga
within the next year we take the
following extracts:

"The only objections I have to the
Democrat are that it has a tendency
to make a fellow who has seen the
beauties of Watauga want to give up
his business and move up there where
he can enjoy that wonderful climate
and scenery and the fellowship of
those big hearted, fair minded, stur-
dy mountain people. Having been born
in the Piedmont section of North Car-
olina and like many others thinking
I would find the grazing better else-
where I wandered down through S.
Carolina, over into Georgia, and into
Alabama. I have been returning to
the old home almost every year but
nothing seemed to make me want to
return to the good old State until
last year I heard of the good roads in
the mountains and decided to make a
little trip up into Watauga County.
I was amazed at the wonderful coun-
try there and began planning to make
another trip and see more of Watauga."

"I have done with what you
might call 'homesickness' to break
camp here and east my lot with you
good people."

"Unless my guess I am going
to live in Boone sometime within
the next few months if I can
figure out some way to eke out an
existence after I get there."

"I read the Democrat very much
especially the scenic and historical
stories. I especially enjoyed the ad-
dress of Hon. F. A. Linney at the
North Carolina Bar Association."

WATAUGA TO HAVE FOUR COM. FAIRS

Stony Fork October 2nd
Elk, Wednesday Oct. 3
Cove Creek October 4th
Windy Gap, October 5th.

There will be four community fairs
held in Watauga county next week
on the dates given above. There will
be besides the exhibits, plays games
and speeches. The judging in the
men's department will be done by
Mr. A. G. Hendron, County Agent
of Wilkes County. The Women's
Department will be judged by Miss

These communities have made special
preparation both in regard to
exhibits and entertainment and a
pleasant and profitable day is antici-
pated by those interested in putting
on these fairs.

Each community has elected officers
to supervise each department, and
every department seems to be
ready for the coming events.

MILES LOVE MAKES ESCAPE FROM JAIL

Murderer of His Own Child Now at
Large—Parties of Officers Search
For Slayer in Vain.

On Thursday night of last week
one Miles Love held without bail on
the charge of murdering his own child
and a young fellow Baldwin a Federal
prisoner charged with violating
the prohibition laws, made good their
escape from the jail in Boone.

Mr. Hayes, the jailer, who was
called away hurriedly, failed to lock
them in the cell, and they had nothing
to do, later in the night, but re-
move a few bricks under a window,
and pass out, without the knowledge
of the other ten prisoners incarcerated
there. The escape of Love is in-
deed deplorable as he is considered
a desperate character and is charged
with the most horrible crime imagin-
able. Of course the officers made im-
mediate efforts to recapture him, but
as we understand it, got no accurate
clues as to his whereabouts. In fact
to capture him now would be about
the same as trying to catch a fox in
the mountains.

However the officers will do all in
their power to catch him, and we can
only hope that he will be brought to
justice.

WATAUGA RAISES 95 PER CENT OF NEAR EAST QUOTA

Watauga county raised \$574.80
for the Near East Relief this year,
according to official figures just an-
nounced by Col. Geo. H. Bellamy,
state chairman of this great humani-
tarian organization. This is ninety
five per cent of the county's \$600
quota.

In announcing these figures Col-
onel Bellamy paid tribute to J. M.
Downum of Boone county chairman
who was in charge of raising this
sum, and all of those who helped Mr.
Downum. Official figures were \$216.
in cash, \$90 in unpaid pledges on
June 30 last, and \$268.50 in cloth-
ing. Mr. Downum had many difficul-
ties to overcome the foremost of
which is the misconception in the
public mind as to the continued need
in the Bible lands.

As the Near East relief in its
definite child saving program works
from year to year, results of work from July
1 to the following June 30 are only
announced. During the past fiscal
year Mr. Downum endeavored to raise
the \$600 required to feed, clothe and
educate the ten little children now in
North Carolina orphanages in the
Near East and dependant on Watauga
county for their very lives. Sixty
dollars takes complete care of a
child for a year, so efficient is the
work of the near east relief over-
seas.

The report will also show that
North Carolina greatly over-subscrib-
ed its quota. Over one thousand
volunteer workers, good Christians,
men and women, marshalled to-
gether and directed by Morris A. Beadle
state director, made possible the rais-
ing of this magnificent sum, Col. Bel-
lamy declared.

He stressed the fact that the end
of this great work is not yet—that
until the Allied Powers make some
provision for these homeless Chris-
tian wanderers who made such great
and successful sacrifices during the
world war and were abandoned to a
fate worse than death by their for-
mer allies, they cannot become self-
supporting.

The spectacle of an entire nation
being saved by another people 2000
miles away is without a parallel in
history, declared Col. Bellamy. In
conclusion he declared that if Amer-
ica does not feed them and keep
them alive now they will starve and
our splendid work of the past five
years will have been in vain. No other
nation in the world appears to be
humane or Christian enough to do
this, he stated.

THE FORD IS GUILTY OF ANOTHER MISDEMEANOR

We thought the Ford had been
guilty of everything in the catalogue
but now we have something new that
it has gone and done. A Fordson
tractor is running a kraut factory.
When you visit the kraut factory
you will at first be mystified at where
the power is coming from, but if you
will go under the floor you will find
an innocent looking little Fordson
sitting there singing a little song as
it keeps the room above full of noise
and excitement. There are ten belts
that have to be pulled and it seems
that a great deal of power would
be required to drive them, but we
are told that the Fordson is throt-
tled down as low as they can get it
and it still pulls everything at the
desired speed with apparently no ef-
fort. It seems that the Ford has done
everything now except run a hot dog
and oil pickle factory and we are ex-
pecting to hear of that any day.

LOCAL AMERICAN LEGION POST PRESENT NOVELTY MINSTREL MONDAY EVENING

Best Local Talent Play Ever Presented In This Town Will be Unusual Attraction.

The American Legion Post of Watauga
takes pleasure in announcing to
the general public that next Mon-
day evening Oct. 2, at 8:00 they will
present "The Novelty Minstrel Show"
under the auspices of the Home Tal-
ent Producing Co., of Atlanta, Ga.

A very enthusiastic Little Georgia
cracker, Miss Marie Davenport is al-
ready in town coaching the show.
Don't refuse her boys when she asks
you to be in her play. The cast will
contain about 80 men and you'll be
amused to see how your friend

MANY SCHOOL TEACHERS ATTEND BOONE MEETING

A county wide teachers meeting
was held at the court house on Sat-
urday September 22. Superintendent
Hagaman tells us that the attendance
was good, almost every teacher in the
county being present.

A number of subjects relating to
the welfare of the public schools
were discussed by the teachers. Rev.
Huggins conducted opening exercises
made a good talk on "The Teacher
as a Leader" Importance of Super-
vision of Play was discussed by M.
H. Norris and Walter E. Wilson. The
fact was brought out that the law
requires that the teacher must be on
the playground at the noon hour.

Miss Annie Stanbury talked on
"How to Keep the Community Inter-
ested in the School." "Which Governs
Better a Smile or a Frown" was dis-
cussed by J. Frank Wilson. "How I
Teach History" was presented by W.
Y. Perry who is teacher of History in
the Cove Creek High School. How
I Teach Health" was discussed by
Miss Theodosia Watson. "Importance
of Daily Preparation" was discussed
by Walter E. Wilson and others. Ef-
fects of the teachers personal habits
was discussed by Ron Davis.

In addition to these excellent ad-
dresses, the Reading Circle work was
arranged for this year, also reports
by the teachers from each school on
the progress and problems of each
added much to the interest and profit
of the meeting.

The discussions were largely by
new talent and were of a very high
order. These meetings are very in-
spirational as well as educational to
the splendid teaching force of our
county. A number of visitors were
present. These are always welcome.

COVE CREEK FAIR TO BE BIG EVENT

Interest Grows in Plans for Commu-
nity Event at Cove Creek High on
October 4th

Plans are going forward rapidly
for an A-1 Community Fair at Cove
Creek High School on next Thurs-
day, October 4th. The various com-
mittees are at work and interest is
growing every day. It is hoped that
every home in this entire section will
be represented in the exhibits of some
one or several of the departments.

Everything produced or manufac-
tured on the farm will be accepted.
On account of its length the com-
plete premium list will not be pub-
lished but it is hoped every family
can secure a copy for their direction.
In addition to what is printed on the
premium list, (which includes the
pantry, sewing, kitchen, mechanical,
feed crops, orchard and garden truck
and vegetables and flower department
there will be premiums awarded on
livestock, poultry and relics. Just at
this point perhaps it would be well
to state that the premiums this year
will be blue and red ribbons.

Special attention is called to any-
thing in the way of relics or antique
things that you may have that would
be interesting to show the contrast
between the present custom and
those of the past. Any old piece of
furniture, clock, gun, uniform, sword
kitchen utensil, farm tool, family
bedroom or other article of histor-
ical importance would be gladly ac-
cepted.

Attention is also called to the me-
chanical department. Any article
made by hand, as carving, etc. or any
mechanical device invented or any-
thing whatever pertaining to the me-

WATAUGAS FIRST KRAUT FACTORY IS NOW RUNNING AT FULL BLAST

AT THE TRAINING SCHOOL

Prof. Chapel Wilson, professor in
the Normal Department of the Appa-
lachian Training School went to Char-
lotte on Saturday to be examined by
the Vocational Board.

Some features of the services in
the churches in Boone on Saturday
were rather unusual. In the morning
at the Methodist Sunday School, Pro-
fessor O. L. Brown who has been
Superintendent of the Sunday School
for four years, made a short talk ex-
pressing his interest in the work and
his appreciation of the cooperation
of the people. Mr. Brown goes to
Emory University to study for the
ministry so many expressed appre-
ciation of his work and best wishes
for his success. Mr. John Steele who
has been elected Superintendent for
the next year, was appointed by the
pastor to fill the vacancy until next
conference. In the afternoon Profes-
sor I. G. Graer, of the Department of
History of the Training School by the
invitation of the Women's Mission-
ary Society of the Church gave an
address on the subject "Trend of
the Races." Professor Graer took
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books of three noted writers on this
subject and from these drew a large
number of very important facts in
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and made a splendid address which
the large audience greatly enjoyed.

At night in the Baptist Church the
Young Ladies' Missionary Society
known as the Y. W. A. gave a Mis-
sionary Pageant showing the value
of the State Missions. The first
number on the program was a beautiful
duet sung by Misses Ruth Coffey and
Lucy Moretz, and following this came
a number of young ladies represent-
ing the various interests of the church
that are fostered by State Missions,
who by dialogue and song impress-
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missionary work on one young lady
representing a doubter. The pageant
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(Continued on page two)

WATAUGA MAY GET FISH HATCHERY

Decision of State Commission Large-
ly Upon the Inducements Offered
By Local Citizens.

According to the latest advices to
the President of the Chamber of Com-
merce from the State Fish Commis-
sion, that body may be more or less
favorably inclined toward establish-
ing a fish hatchery in this section.

The other point under considera-
tion is in Alleghany county, and the
citizens having offered free of all
costs the necessary lands selected by
the commission, it is now rather up
to the people of this section what
shall be done. Before we will stand
equal chances with the neighboring
county, it will be necessary for us
to offer equal inducements. An ef-
fort will be made by the Chamber
of Commerce to interest the county
commissioners in helping to buy suit-
able lands for the location of the
fisheries, and if nothing can be done
it is probable that the money will
be raised through private subscriptions.

If this could be landed it would be
one more thing worth while for this
county, and every effort possible is
being put forth to bring the Commis-
sion to the fullest understanding of

BEGAN THURSDAY

Watauga's Most Promising Enter-
prise Running at Full Capacity.

Prospects Are Bright

If you haven't been in Boone for
the last few days it is time for you
to come again, for there is something
new for you to look at. Out on the
West end of town there is something
new under the sun going on, at least
it is new to most of us. It is a full-
fledged kraut factory running at full
speed. Last Thursday the factory
made a trial start and ran at inter-
vals during the week, making one 25
ton tub of kraut. This week there is
a string of trucks and wagons haul-
ing in cabbage and this wonderful
new plant is shaving them into kraut
that looks like a bank of snow. The
workmen are new of course at this
job, and it will take them a little
time to develop their maximum effi-
ciency, but even now they are mak-
ing about fifteen tons of kraut per
day.

The cabbage are first trimmed, re-
moving every speck of green or dam-
aged leaf, then the core is sliced by
a little machine made for the purpose
then they are carried on a conveyor
belt to the cutter. This cutter seems
capable of handling as many cabb-
age as can be put into it. The heads
are sliced so that the kraut is in
long delicate threads. This shredded
cabbage is then put into large cy-
press tanks which hold about seven
thousand gallons, where it is left
to ferment. It will be about a month
before we can sample the product
but those who visit the plant believe
that at that time there will be enough
for all.

Later the power for this plant
will be furnished by a steam engine
but at this time a Fordson Tractor
is running the thing, and judging by
the steady purr that it sends up
from the basement it is tickled over
its new job.

An up-to-date steam pressure
plant is being installed that will
put up fifteen thousand cans per day.
This kraut is to be sold in tin cans,
eighty pound tubs and in barrels as
the market demands. The plant is in
charge of Mr. H. Neal Blair who has
been in the kraut game all his life.
The people of Watauga thought he
had been manufacturing in a whole-
sale way, but we now find that his
business was a small infant compar-
ed with the present operations.

Mr. Will Winkler is acting as the
salesman and has covered most of the
territory within trucking distance of
this place. Practically every store he
has visited has given him a trial or-
der and many have already given re-
peat orders, even before the first
delivery has been made. The manage-
ment is certain that if the product
comes up to expectations that the
selling end will be the easiest part
of the game.

There is another side to this busi-
ness that the growers are not losing
sight of. The manufacture of kraut
makes it possible for the Association
to grade their cabbage, and put on
the market as cabbage, only those
heads that are medium sized, hard
and without waste. Such cabbage can
be handled by the groceryman with-
out loss and the purchaser doesn't
have to trim away half of his pur-
chase.

This paper is no prophet but it
seems to us that unless there should
be some mismanagement this busi-
ness is destined to be one of Watauga's
most profitable undertakings. It
seems to us that if County Agent
Steele has done nothing more than
put this cooperative undertaking on
foot, that all expense of putting on
county agent work would be well re-
paid. We hear of cooperative market-
ing in other sections of the country
in connection with cotton, tobacco,
peanuts, peaches, apples, oranges and
other things, but we believe that none
of them will be worth more to the
farmers participating with than the
kraut factory will be worth to the
cabbage growers of the county.

the advantages offered by Watauga
for an establishment of this sort.

It is announced that the Fish Com-
mission will be in Boone on October
10th and it might be well for those
of the farmers who have suitable lo-
cations for the hatcheries get in
touch with them so they can see the
lay of the land.