

# The Watauga Democrat.

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## WINTRY WEATHER PLAYS HAVOC IN RANKS OF THE BOLL WEEVIL

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS ESTIMATED SAVED TO FARMERS OF THE COTTON GROWING STATES BY RECENT COLD WEATHER—WAS WORTH TONS OF POISON

A Concord dispatch says:

Plumbers, coal dealers and garage men were not the only class of laborers who benefitted from the cold weather which swept over this section of the country recently, causing water pipes to freeze and burst, coal supplies to decrease with unpleasant rapidity and auto radiators to freeze. Claiming even greater benefit than these from the cold are the farmers who feel that millions of boll weevils were killed and millions more deprived of birth by the wintry weather that carried mercury the lowest since 1918.

Local authorities wise in the ways of the weevil declare they are unable to place a definite estimate on the money saved by the weevils destroyed, but they estimate that millions of dollars were saved throughout the cotton belt and that the benefits resulting from the freeze far outnumber the damages.

Weather like that of Saturday and Sunday when the mercury for hours flirted with the zero mark, was undoubtedly very damaging to the weevils hibernating in and near cotton fields, one cotton expert of this county pointed out, and he expressed the opinion that the freezing weather was worth tons of poison that would have been applied to the crop after it began growing.

"In order to live through the winter months," another expert pointed out, "the hibernating weevil must eliminate a certain percentage of his body moisture. Under favorable dry weather the weevil is able to do this, but rains penetrate to his hiding places—under the bark of stumps, in straw and stalks of last year plants and other places—and if the damp spell is followed by freezing temperature the weevil freezes and bursts like so many of the water pipes in the cities have done."

R. D. Goodman, county farm agent for Cabarrus county, declared that while the cold snap undoubtedly killed many weevils, this fact does not mean that the weevil is necessarily wiped out. Under the ordinary weather conditions, Mr. Goodman pointed out, only a few of the weevils which take cover in winter survive, but the few that do survive can multiply so rapidly that it is not impossible that the 1924 crop will be damaged by them.

The severely cold weather of 1917-18, Mr. Goodman stated had something to do with the delay of the weevils in reaching the Piedmont sections, but there is great difference between such weather as the south experienced that winter and the weather so far this winter. If the weevils that do survive, the rigors of the winter are favored with cloudy rainy weather during the month of July, the weevil army will be as large as ever and may accomplish as much damage to the 1924 crop as it did to the 1922 and 1923 crops, Mr. Goodman said, adding in conclusion that without question millions of dollars had been saved to the southern farmer by the icy blasts which swept from the north Saturday and Sunday.

In North Carolina the mercury was lowest at points where no cotton was raised, but for the entire state the temperature was unusually low. In this and other cotton growing counties of the Piedmont section the mercury was only a few degrees above zero at the highest, and what is true of this state is true of other states which produce large cotton crops. Even in Texas where millions of bales are raised each year, unusually cold weather prevailed last week, and from the Lone Star state to northern Florida, then up the Atlantic seaboard and across the south eastern states, the wintry winds carried their intense cold to practically every cotton producing state in the south.

Deferred from last issue: A beautiful and most delicious birthday dinner was served last Sunday at the Commercial Hotel by Mrs. Qualls in honor of her sister-in-law Mrs. G. P. Hagaman.

### FINELEY P. MAST DEAD.

Mr. Finley P. Mast, one of Watauga's most aged and beloved citizens died at his home at Sugar Grove last Saturday. Heart trouble, following a severe attack of cold, was the cause of his death. Mr. Mast was about 92 years old. He was married to Miss Rhoda Smith in Jan. 1866. To them were born six children, four girls and two boys, all of whom are living, but none were present when Mr. Mast died.

He had been a member of the Cove Creek Baptist Church since 1881, and lived fully up to his Christian profession through all the years. We are told that he was temperate from his youth up, and had no disposition to knock his enemies or boost his friends. He lived a quiet, unassuming life, having firm convictions of his own, but respecting those of others. He was a loyal member of the Masonic Fraternity and was, we think, a member longer than any other man in the county. He was buried with Masonic honors on Monday. Truly a good man and a worthy citizen has passed to his reward, and he will be sadly missed in his home, his church and in his community. Peace to his ashes, respect to his memory.

### FAIL TO FIND TUT'S JEWELRY

Expected to Uncover Considerable Treasure in Shrine But it Was Empty of Gems.

The anticipations of the excavator that another cache of treasures notable jewelry, might be disclosed between the second and third shrine of Tutankhamen's canopic sepulchre have not been realized.

After one of the most arduous pieces of work he has undertaken since the discovery of the tomb, Howard Carter has succeeded in dismantling the front section of the lid of the second shrine, thereby revealing a greater part of the third casket, and affording a glimpse into the space between the second and third shrines.

It is understood nothing was found in this space. On the other hand the third shrine stands revealed as one of the most beautiful of those surrounding the Pharaoh's sarcophagus. It is brightly gilded and like the rest, abundantly inscribed with hieroglyphics, with golden ornamentation running around the cornice, and a roof of brilliant shining red. The inside of the roof of the second casket is painted with figures of the gods, representative of the protective device of hawks' wings outspread and the cartouches of the king.

The front section of the roof was deposited in the anti-chamber of the tomb, and the other section will be attacked tomorrow. During the course of the morning the remaining portion of the linen pall, swathed in cotton wool, was removed to the laboratory together with a cardboard box containing the more than 400 gilded rosettes with which the pall was be-spangled.

Mrs. Percy Newberry, head of the Embroiderers' guild and wife of the eminent archaeologist who is aiding in the work at the tomb, has undertaken to reconstruct the pall.

### TRIPLETT NEWS

Mr. H. C. Hodges, Millard Watson and Baxter McKendry went to Boone Monday on business.

Mr. A. J. Miller with his Ford took Mr. R. K. Bingham to Lenoir, N. C. Monday.

Miss Froyne Miller returned from the Watauga Hospital two weeks ago. She is getting along fine.

The Christmas tree at Mount Ephraim school came off nicely without any disturbance.

Mr. T. D. Greer, Brady Cox and Leonard Carrol returned from Winston Salem Saturday where they were looking for work.

Infant of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Greer died Monday of pneumonia fever.

Mrs. Nancy Hayes who has been ill for some time is improving.

Tom arheel says that this recent cold weather gave him a powerful appetite and he wonders if he gave his chickens and cows enough to eat so they too would keep warm.

## The Old Stone Church at Banner Elk

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(By Nell Rosalie Cardwell, Knoxville, Tenn.)

Far away among the shadows

Of the North Carolina Hills,

Far beyond the restless cities

With their sorrows and their thrills,

Stands a grand old rough stone temple

With its steeples towering high,

Tippling as it were to reach and kiss the blueness of the sky.

Massive stones all linked together

Till they look almost as one, . . .

While the gorgeous stained glass windows

Reflect a rainbow in the sun,

But when the silent shades of evening

Creep across the distant hill

You can hear the church bell calling,

For all is calm, yes all is still.

Then as the shadows softly lengthen

Thru the windows, 'cross the pew

There seems a sacred benediction

Somehow hovering over you.

While the organ and the chorus

Take up the tune we all love best,

Thanking God for his great goodness,

For all his love and tenderness.

It is this grand old church that guides us

As a light house in the storm

Reflecting 'cross our wayward journey

"Peace, sweet peace, for Christ is born."

A beacon light across the pathway

That offers Christ to all who come

To Him for pardon and for power

This grand old church of Mountain Stone.

### HOW TO PREVENT FIRES

Recently the Worth While Club together with the Chamber of Commerce offered prizes to the children in the different grades of the public school for the best letters submitted on a given subject. The letters were handed in and we are privileged to print one of them each week, the following being No. 15 or the prize winner in the Sixth Grade:

Fire is one of the most dangerous things in the world. In the United States there were 83,000 dwellings burned; 50,000 lives lost and \$250,000,000 dollars destroyed by fire annually. Means should be adopted to prevent this great loss and suffering. If \$250,000,000 were saved it would clothe and feed many an orphan child who is now suffering.

Carelessness is the greatest cause of fires. Matches should be handled with care and not thrown in waste baskets or on the floor where mice and rats would be liable to find them. The way in which mice and rats cause fire is by carrying them in their mouths with the end that strikes next to a ceiling. When a match flames they drop it and a fire soon starts. If children can get matches they will try experiments such as building a fire in the middle of the floor. For instance a small boy undertook to scare a hen off her nest by setting it on fire which resulted in burning the barn and dwelling house.

Kerosene is another great cause of fires. It should be handled even more carefully than matches. Oftentimes on picking up a paper we read of some woman or child being burned to death by trying to start a fire with oil. Kerosene should be kept in a room away from fire as it is liable to get hot and explode.

Lamps which burn oil must be free from dust and the burners open good or the oil will come in contact with the blaze and cause great trouble.

Above all fire danger gasoline is the greatest. If it is near fire the heat draws it, and it sometimes blazes before the heat reaches it. By all means kerosene and gasoline must be kept separate, as kerosene may be used for purposes which gasoline cannot. Clothes that have been cleaned with gasoline should be kept away from fire. Oil stoves should be treated as lamps, that is keeping them free from dust.

Then in building a house the walls should be made rat proof, the chimneys and flues built so that fire can-

not escape anywhere. The brick must be chosen with care and the plastering kept clean.

To be sure brick buildings are better, especially in towns where the houses are close together. But of course everyone cannot afford these so they should prepare to have water ready and a large rubber hose so the fire may be checked. That would be much cheaper than to rebuild.

A day every two weeks should be set apart for cleaning up day. So all paper and trash may be kept away from a building as fire will start in litter.

Teach everyone to throw their cigarette stubs in the fire, or be sure they are clear from fire before throwing down.

Many houses have been burned by careless smokers.

Unlearned and careless people start many forest fires which burn many houses at once. I think the first way to prevent this is to teach fire prevention in school. Of course the older people will have to learn by experience. But the children may be trained so that when they are older and go hunting or camping they will not build a fire and leave it burning, or when it cannot be quenched at once.

### SCORE ANOTHER ONE FOR TOWN OF BOONE

Winston Salem Journal  
"Boone, in the mountains, appears to have been the coldest spot in the State," says the Associated Press in reporting the eccentricities of the mercury in North Carolina during the last three days.

Now, maybe everybody will believe what the Journal so long has been insisting is true, namely, that the choice summer resort section of North Carolina is in the mountains of the Northwest. That's where Boone is.

Mind you, we have never recommended the Northwest as a winter resort. But for summer living that is living it has the world beat. Don't forget that the same forces of nature that drive the mercury to the bottom in winter keep the mercury down in summer.

The coldest spot in the state in January is also and always the coldest spot in the State in July. All those who found the Boone Trail last summer know what we say is true.

## SCULPTURED HEAD OF GENERAL LEE WILL SOON GAZE FROM STONE MOUNT

DREAM OF AGED DAUGHTER OF THE OLD SOUTH WILL COME TRUE SATURDAY WHEN BUST OF DIXIE'S LEADER IS UNVEILED

### A GOOD LADY PASSES

Mrs. Jasper Thomas of Mabel, died at her home last Friday after an illness of several months. Interment was made Sunday at Union Church. The Revs. L. A. Wilson and A. J. Greene conducted the funeral. Mrs. Thomas had been in declining health for quite a while, but everything her husband and children could do for her was done. She spent some time at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore and has since been under the care of some of our best local physicians. She was, before her marriage, Miss Wilson, born and reared in Watauga. She was a consistent member of the Baptist Church for many years.

While some shadows, deep and dark, settled over her, she bore them with all the Christian fortitude possible. A gentleman who had known her intimately for many years was heard to remark: "She was a good woman." What five words could say more?

Mrs. Thomas was the mother of 12 children, 10 boys and two girls, nine of whom with the sorrowing husband, survive her, to whom the Democrat extends sympathy.

Deputy Collector, Marion Thomas one of the sons, was down-state when the mother was nearing the dark river, but was wired for and arrived a few hours before she died.

## WITH THE LOCAL CHURCHES

### METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday School at 10 a. m. J. B. Steele, Superintendent. A large attendance was present last Sunday. Each member can make the school grow.

A Worker's Council will be conducted Sunday at 2:30 p. m. All teachers and officers of the school are called to meet at this time.

Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. by the pastor.

Epworth League 6:15 p. m.

Wednesday prayer service 7:00 p. m.

A welcome is extended to all.

### AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School 10 a. m. W. R. Gragg, Superintendent.

Preaching 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.

E. Y. P. U. at 6 p. m.

Prayer service Wednesday at 7 p. m. Choir practice after prayer service.

Jan. 16th has been suggested as a day of prayer and fasting in the interest of our denominational work. The prayer service Wednesday night will be in the interest of our work. We hope to have many out for this service. The finishing of the 75 Million Campaign is a spiritual task. Let us call upon God for his power and leadership. The time has come to pray.

Next Sunday a collection will be taken for relief in the East. Every one ought to make a contribution to those suffering without food and clothing. We have plenty. We do not suffer for food or clothing, but there are many who do. Should not common human sympathy prompt us to do so? A collection at this season is being taken throughout the Southern Baptist Convention. Gifts do not count on pledges to the campaign.

The ladies of the church are having their week of prayer this week.

W. R. Gragg resigned as clerk of the Church Sunday, and G. W. Gragg was elected to succeed him.

The Senior B. Y. P. U. reorganized Sunday night. The officials had a meeting Monday night and planned for the work of the quarter.

The construction of the new church at Blowing Rock is going forward satisfactorily. When completed this building will be, not the most expensive, but perhaps the most unique and attractive of any.

### SPELLING BEE AT THE VALLE CRUCIS SCHOOL

There will be an old fashioned spelling bee at the Valle Crucis Mission School Saturday January 26th under the auspices of the Parent-Teachers' Association. Everybody is invited to come and enjoy the fun. Admission only ten cents. The state adopted spelling books will be used.

ATLANTA, GA. Jan. 15.—The realization of a dream will come true for Mrs. Helen Plane, 90 year old daughter of the Confederacy in the unveiling next Saturday Jan. 19 of the sculptured portrait of Gen. Robert E. Lee's head in the side of Stone Mountain located 20 miles from here.

It was Mrs. Plane widowed in the war between the states and a charter member of the U. D. C. who first conceived the idea of a memorial to the Southland's chieftain on the side of Stone Mountain. But her mental picture was confined to the bare head of the chieftain.

When other members of the U. D. C. took up the plan and called in Gutson Borglum, the sculptor, it was elaborated to depict in granite the figures of Lee, Jackson, Davis four other distinct characters to be named later and a spread of sculpturing to portray the men who followed them.

Mrs. Plane has been selected to unveil the chieftain's head Saturday. In addition to the hundreds of veterans who are expected to come from all parts of the south, governors of several southern states will attend.

The program for the exercises as decided upon so far provides for the day's oration to be delivered by Dr. Plato Durham of Emory University, and the benediction to be pronounced by Bishop Benjamin J. Keiley of the Catholic diocese of Georgia.

General W. B. Haldeman, commander in chief of the United Confederate veterans has sent word that his health would not permit of his leaving home at Fort Myers, Fla., but he has designated General Julian H. Thomas to represent him. General Haldeman in military orders has urged all veterans to come who find it possible to do so.

### WORTH WHILE CLUB

The Worth While Club held its regular bi-monthly meeting at the home of its president, Mrs. L. L. Bingham Friday Jan. 11th. The house was thrown en suite and tastily decorated with baskets of evergreens.

After devotional exercises an unusually long, but nevertheless interesting business session was held.

Encouraging reports were given by the various committees for other work. New committees for other work were appointed by the president. The program committee had planned a peace program for the afternoon.

This program was a continuation of the program of the Dec. 14 meeting. Papers on World Destruction and a World Court have been prepared and were read by Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Huggins.

A pleasant social hour was enjoyed by the members present.

A word contest on nations was entered into with the usual spirit of fun. Mesdames Huggins, Hagaman and Hartzog tied for the prize. Mrs. Hartzog won with her usual luck in a draw.

The hostess' ability to make good sandwiches was proven by the variety of dainty sandwiches served with equally delicious coffee followed by mints.

The next meeting of the club will be with Mrs. Frank Moore Friday Jan. 25.

### IS THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WORTH WHILE?

Is the Boone Chamber of Commerce really worth while? Is it worth while for the business and general interests of the county and town? If it is why should not each one be on hand each Saturday night at 7:30? Perhaps no one hours of the week days will mean as much for your own business and the general interests of both the town and county as the hour you may spend at the Chamber of Commerce on Saturday night. Will you be present next Saturday night at 7:30 sharp? If the Boone Chamber of Commerce is not worth while let us kill it and bury it, not murder it by negligence. We are at your disposal.

Yours faithfully,

W. H. GRAGG, Pres.

J. M. DOWNUM, Secy.

January 14, 1924.