

# The Watauga Democrat.

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## WATAUGA FARMERS TO TAKE TRIP TO S. CAROLINA

### EDUCATIONAL TOUR WILL BE STARTED TO YOUNG'S ISLAND ON FEBRUARY 26th

A delegation of farmers from western North Carolina accompanied by District Agent John W. Goodman and possibly other county agents will start Tuesday February 26th for Young's Island, South Carolina to observe the methods of growing crop trucking practiced by the farmers of that section. It is being demonstrated daily that we along the Blue Ridge located in the south and yet with a New England summer, have a great opportunity to produce late vegetables for the southern trade.

The farmers around Charleston have developed this truck growing business to a fine science, and are operating on a scale that to our farmers would appear tremendous.

The seed potatoes shipped from Watauga a few days ago went largely to the South Carolina Produce Association with headquarters near Charleston. County Agent Steele has just returned from the vicinity of Charleston and he states that the most impressive thing about their farming is the biggest of the way they do things. He states that one farmer is planting all the potatoes from this county, the two cars from Avery county, one car from Buncombe county, and three other cars from Maine. Some members of that association plant potatoes much heavier than he does. That association alone plants each year about 160 car of seed potatoes. This association of farmers covers a section only about forty miles in diameter. That doesn't look much like danger of overdoing the market with seed potatoes. They are growing spinach, lettuce, cabbage, onions and other things on the same scale.

It is hoped that a number of farmers from Watauga will go on this trip to South Carolina for the benefit as well as the pleasure they will derive.

## AGED CONFEDERATES FIGHT; ONE KILLED

Nashville, Tenn.—Death may write the closing chapter in the fight between two aged Confederate veterans at the State Old Soldiers Home here, when one of them, G. W. Hamby, 87, was fatally stabbed in a childish argument over whether a window should be raised or let down. Dr. T. G. Brackley, 91, the slayer, is in a serious condition due to injuries received in the encounter, and attendants at the home believe that action by the state in prosecuting him will be forestalled by his early death.

Dr. Brackley, confined to his quarters at the soldier's home is claiming that he killed Hamby in self-defense when the latter attacked him because he would not raise the window in his room.

## FARMERS' SOUTH CAROLINA TRIP

Any one who is interested in making the trip to South Carolina to study the method of growing produce in Charleston county will please let it be known at once. They will go by automobile and will leave Boone on Tuesday, February 26th and will go to the road Tuesday and Wednesday. Will be at Young's Island Thursday and Friday, and Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

The expense of the trip will be borne by each individual. He will make such arrangements with the car owner as will seem fair to each of them.

I hope that a number will go from Watauga County as I am sure you that it will be well worth your while.

JOHN B. STEELE,  
County Agent.

## RAILROAD SURVEY COMPLETED TO MOUNTAIN CITY, TENNESSEE

The surveyors of the Bowie railroad from Mountain City to North Wilkesboro have completed the survey. The survey comes by West Jefferson and crosses the Blue Ridge at Daniel's Gap with a thousand foot tunnel and into Wilkes tapping the Watauga railroad near Curtis bridge. The surveyors think it will be something like a month before all the three surveys are completed and a location decided upon.

## DENBY RESIGNS—AIMING TO SAVE THE PRESIDENT CHAGRIN

Washington, Feb. 18.—Secretary Denby's letter of resignation, based his action upon the fear that his continuance in the cabinet would cause President Coolidge "increasing embarrassment."

The letter said that "neither you (the president) or anyone else at any time has advised me to resign."

In reply President Coolidge wrote that he realized that Secretary Denby was acting under his "sense of public duty" and expressed deep regret.

Following is the text of President Coolidge's letter:

"My Dear Mr. Secretary:

"Your resignation has been received. I am conscious that you have tendered it from a sense of public duty. It is with regret that I am to part with you. You will go with the knowledge that your honesty and integrity have not been impugned. I treasure and reciprocate your expressions of friendship. I shall remember the fine sense of loyalty which you have always exhibited toward me, with much satisfaction and always wish you and yours contentment and success.

"Very truly yours,

"Calvin Coolidge."

Secretary Denby's letter of resignation is as follows:

"My Dear Mr. President:

"Heretofore I have verbally expressed to you my deep appreciation of your strong message in regard to the Robinson resolution.

"No one appreciates better than I how difficult your situation has become. I fear that my continuance in your cabinet would increase your embarrassment. Therefore I have the honor to tender to you my resignation as secretary of the navy.

"As there are a few pending matters which should receive my personal attention I suggest that my resignation be accepted as of the date of March 10, 1924.

"It will always be a gratifying thought to me that neither you or anyone else has at any time advised me to resign.

"I assure you again of my appreciation of the many courtesies you have shown me and of your last great act in refusing to accede to the demand of the senate that you ask my resignation.

"With cordial regards to you and Mrs. Coolidge, and with best wishes, I am,

"Edwin Denby."

At the same time he made public his correspondence Secretary Denby also listed a statement saying:

"I challenge investigation before an unprejudiced tribunal. My actions to safeguard the interest of the government and the navy were undertaken openly and in good faith, and were based upon the best obtainable information.

"It has not been proven, nor do I believe that it can be proven that my action was not beneficial both to the government and to the navy.

The statement said further that his reason for resigning were set forth fully in his letter to President Coolidge.

"My resignation is to take effect March 10, which gives plenty of time for impeachment proceedings to be begun," he said. "Therefore anyone who says that I am resigning for fear of impeachment, simply lies."

Attention was called to the fact that he had "explained" the first case made on the naval reserves to a senate committee on May 4, 1922, "within a month after the start of the first case." The statement then quoted at length some of the questions and answers recorded in the hearings of the sub-committee of the senate appropriations committee in the course of inquiry as to naval estimates for the fiscal year 1923.

These quotations related to the drainage of Teapot Dome.

The secretary then went on to say he resigned "gladly and fearlessly."

"I am able to fight my own battles," he concluded, "but I cannot fight slender protected by senatorial immunity."

Mr. Denby pointed out also that as a private citizen he would still be subject to legal action "if I have committed any offense against the law."

"The disaster" that had overcome the oil reserve plans the secretary said was that a "serious charge of corruption had been laid against them, which charge lies entirely outside the navy department or any of its officials."

## WISE SELLING ONE GREAT FARM NEED

### Highly Important to Organize Agriculturally, Says Bernard Baruch

### A BIG FINANCIER'S VIEWS

"I approach the subject of farming in a very simple way," says Bernard Baruch, big New York financier, who is a trusted farm leader. He goes on as follows in an interview granted George Rommel in a recent issue of Farm and Fireside:

"I approach this subject of farming in a very simple way. You produce something. The first problem is to get as much as you can for it, so that you can get the other things you need that you do not produce. That might be a watch, a button, a necktie, a pair of shoes, a hat or sugar. How can you do that? The best way is to put your produce into the hands of a highly specialized agent. The only way we worked that out was by cooperative marketing.

So after getting everybody to agree to cooperate and put their outputs in one place, we should get the smartest specialists in the world to sell it for us. That is intelligent, isn't it? That is the first step.

"After I have attained the highest prices for my product, I am going to see if I can get cheaper the things I need. There's the question of transportation comes in. Transportation affects the farmer in the sale of his product, because if the cost is too high it may limit his market—where he can send his product. For instance, if the cost of rail transportation of potatoes into certain markets having water transportation is too high, potatoes from Denmark or Sweden, or wherever they might come from, might be obtained cheaper than certain domestic shipments by rail.

"The farmer is also affected by the cost of transportation of the things he buys. But transportation is so basic to everything it is useless to discuss the wisdom of good transportation. It is like talking about the wisdom of getting pure air. Transportation is just as much a part of our daily life as air and water. The matter of good transportation or bad transportation, or no transportation, is not the question, the real point is how can we get the best, the cheapest, and the most effective transportation.

"Transportation at its best and cheapest will have a tendency to improve the condition of the soil. To improve the condition of the soil, you must have something to sell you can further to sell it, thereby widening his market, and if he wants to buy his selection is made wider. If we had a cooperative marketing system the railroads could be helped by moving wheat as is wanted, and not rushing it to market during a limited period. In that way the roads would not be congested right after harvest, and the financial market would be helped at the same time.

"Transportation is an important question, but if I had to specify the important problems before us today (I do not know which I would put first, they are both of such great importance) I would say the foreign situation and the domestic agricultural situation. They are so interrelated that they cannot be put one first and the other second. Part of the agricultural situation is the transportation problem. It is easy as you say, that the farmer feels that the transportation problem will be solved, so far as it is concerned, unless the price of transportation comes down. What I think we ought to do first, however, is to see that we are organized agriculturally so we can get as much as is possible to get fairly in the markets of the world. We cannot get it by selling in hundreds of thousands of competitive units, to a very few buyers, can we? And everything the farmer buys is sold to him at more or less controlled prices. My theory about this whole thing is not to pull anybody down, but to bring the farmer up to the economic level of other classes, and to keep him in a position where he can remain on a par with other men. We must do that, not by legislation, but by intelligent co-operative effort on the part of the farmer—not politically, but economically; and it is possible to do so.

"But I would not give you thirty cents for all the organizations in the world, or for all the machinery in the world, if you did not get the brains. That is the principal thing

## ORGANIZE POULTRY ASSOCIATION

### Watauga Poultry Raisers Start Something New for this Part of the Country.

A number of the poultry raisers in the Mabel and Silverstone sections have joined in an organization to be known as the Rich Mountain Poultry Association. The members hope to buy and sell more advantageously through co-operation. Mrs. T. P. Adams of Zionville is President and Dr. F. M. Greer of Mabel Secretary.

The Association will sell hatching eggs, baby chicks and guaranteed commercial eggs. It has an incubator capacity of about 2,200 eggs every three weeks. The combined flocks of the association carry the blood of about a dozen 399 egg white leghorns and boast some phenomenal layers.

Something has developed in the town of Richfield which may eventually become of nation wide interest especially in the medical and scientific world.

Trudell Ritchie, the 16 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Ritchie of that place, had been deaf and dumb from birth. Up until a few days ago he had never heard a sound of any kind. Several days ago a radio outfit was installed in the Ritchie home. In some way, no one knows, how, young Mr. Ritchie, the deaf and dumb man, became interested and suggested that he try on the head gear. He was allowed to so and, after the apparatus had been arranged and regulated to the best advantage, the boy's face registered a delight which it had never done before. He made known to those present that he had actually heard a sound.

However at first the sound was not very plain. After some readjustments of the apparatus he made known that his hearing was more distinct than at first. He now claims that he can hear distinctly over the radio although he cannot hear anything otherwise. The amplifier has been tested out, but young Ritchie does not seem to be able to hear anything that way. The remarkable part of it is that the young man through some indescribable instinct or intuition seems to be able to distinguish the various kinds of music which he hears on the radio, but he cannot tell whether it is a piano, band or vocal music.

The young man is said to be well educated in the mute language but this is the only means which he has had in the part of getting an idea of music or as to the means of distinguishing between various instruments of music. Young Ritchie's father has had a very expensive outfit installed in his home for the pleasure of the deaf and dumb son who seems to get extraordinary pleasure out of listening.

The incident has created quite a bit of talk throughout the Richfield section, and many people from near-by towns have gone to Richfield to be convinced as to the truthfulness of the report. It is believed by many that the discovery of a means of starting on the part of this deaf man may lead to important developments in the scientific world. Nothing like it has ever been heard of before.—Stanley News Herald.

Work with tobacco was a new feature of extension activity by agricultural workers of the State College last year. At least 30 demonstrations in growing better tobacco were staged by the tobacco specialists working with the county agents.

In life—brains. It is brains that count. Take banks, trust companies, steel mills. What is it that makes one successful and the other a failure. Brains or the lack of them?

"Another thing. We have to have men with the rare combination of heart and head to handle the enterprise, and that is a very rare combination. We should modernize the selling of farm products. Farmers are specialists in production, and I want them to get together and employ specialists in selling—men who know how to meet the markets, and know how to study the conditions, and after studying them, know how to interpret them."

## WATAUGA FURNITURE CO. IS TO CHANGE HANDS

Just as we go to press we learn that the Watauga Furniture & Lumber Co. is about to change hands. In fact the trade has been closed but the papers necessary have not been completed. The owners, Mr. E. N. Hahn has sold the lumber and furniture business to Messrs. W. R. Gragg, B. P. Moody, Poly Wyke, and F. M. Maffeo, but has retained all his real estate, buildings, machinery, etc. We have no idea as to what the consideration is. It has been a good business from the first and has been growing in volume all the while. The business that has been so successfully conducted by Mr. Hahn goes into good hands as the purchasers, save Mr. Gragg, are fine workmen and he has had considerable experience in the sale of finished lumber. The Democrat predicts for the company great success as this has proven to be a good field for a plant that handles building material of all kinds.

### DEAF FROM BIRTH, LAD HEARS RADIO MUSIC

### ITEMS FROM THE APPALACHIAN SCHOOL

Examinations at the Appalachian Training School were given the past week. The spring term begins on Tuesday the 19th. More have enrolled this far than at any previous winter term, and others are expected at the beginning of this term to enroll in the Normal Department.

Prof. D. D. Dougherty, treasurer of the Training School, who has been off for some time on important work, has returned to the pleasure of his many friends.

The Training School and all of President Dougherty's friends are sorry to learn that he had a collapse at the postoffice on Friday evening, and would have fallen had not someone caught him. A doctor happened to be present and rendered immediate aid. His many friends hope that he will soon be in his place and he asks the writer to say to his friends that he is getting on all right.

The almanac tells that the moon is called the governing planet this year, and it further says that the quality of the moon is cold, moist, changing. Now the scientists say the moon has nothing at all to do with the weather, but if they were at Boone, and perhaps other places, they would realize that the weather thus far for the year has lived strictly up to the characteristics of the moon.

The young people of Boone enjoyed some Valentine socials a few evenings ago. At the Methodist church the boys and girls were present in

the basement of the church, to which a number of young people besides the young members were invited. The decorations and refreshments were in harmony with the occasion and it was a pleasant time for the young folks. Also on the following evening a most enjoyable social gathering was given at the splendid home of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Cornell. The home was most beautifully decorated and the young people after some hours of social pleasure enjoyed greatly the most delicious refreshments, for which the splendid home is noted.

Miss Annie Stanbury at the writing is sick and her friends and students hope she will very soon be well.

J. R. DOWNUM.

### VALENTINE PARTY

Miss Nettie Winkler entertained her many friends on Elk with a Valentine party Thursday evening, from 6 to 9. Many interesting games were played and a prize was given for securing the highest score, which was won by Miss Nettie Winkler, a nice box of candy.

The same scheme was nicely arranged and while with they had been hanging out around the room.

The party was enjoyed by all present.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Greene and Miss Nettie Winkler were sorry to see them leave after being in the community for six months. We all hope that they will return for the next school. They are missed in Sunday School as well as from the public school.

Advertisers are teaching lessons which nations might take to heart. If they would advertise to each other we would have no more war.—Lord Leverhulme.

"Neglect taxes" are the taxes paid for not keeping the farm equipment and outbuildings painted and in repair.

## SAYS ALL WE NEED TO HAVE THINGS OUR WAY IS PEP

### W. W. Stringfellow Writes Inspiring Letter on Possibilities of this Section as Tourist Resort.

Watauga Democrat:

I have received a letter from your Chamber of Commerce asking me if my offer still held good to help in a scheme to beautify homes along the highway and instead of writing to them am going to answer yes, thru your paper, so as to reach at once more of the people, for the plants from the woods should be set out next month and those from the nursery, such as roses, about April 1.

I am sorry to learn from your paper that a number of members of your Chamber of Commerce are affected with "sleeping sickness." I am glad to say from what I see and hear of the Old North State that this is a disease that is not now often found within its borders. If Boone and its vicinity which expect to see some of the hundreds of thousands of dollars that are now going to pour into the state from thousands of tourists as a result of the good roads movement, they have got to make their town and highways attractive to the eye. Your beautiful scenery and climate you have had always, and as far as summer tourists are concerned there has been little doing, and those who expect to get the desired results with no effort on their part are going to get left, for other parts of the state are waking up, beautifying their towns, building attractive hotels and boarding houses with modern conveniences with plenty of water and kept in a clean and sanitary condition, and these are the places that are collecting the crowds and their dollars, and until you get on the band wagon you will continue to live and feed on each other instead of on tourists. Now with your good roads and a railroad few places with your altitude, with good team work of your citizens, have a better chance to attract the tourist.

Let others build their fine high priced hotels and cater to the few of the big rich—what you, in my opinion want are the smaller hotels and boarding houses where the multitude can secure good clean country fare at reasonable rates—but still to you—profitable rates. The very high prices of the big hotels are keeping thousands of people who would like to go to the mountains away, and you can secure them. Get together, pull together and go after them. You have the finest climate and most beautiful country on earth, a fine citizenship with plenty of brains, all you want is a little more pep. It is in the air. Get some of it.

I have written so much that I have left no space for fear of tiring you, so tell you my ideas of the "Country Beautiful" but will write this for your next edition.

Very Sincerely,  
W. W. STRINGFELLOW  
Ammonite, Alabama.

### Ston Rogers Found Dead in Bed

North Wilkesboro Hustler.

Mr. W. W. Rogers received a letter from relatives in Watauga County, and was told they survived the influenza, and that Mr. W. W. Rogers was dead.

Ston Rogers, who at one time lived in North Wilkesboro, Mr. Rogers was on a visit to his home in Alexander county when the end came. He had believed that night as well as common and the next morning when called for breakfast was found dead in bed. Mr. Rogers was a carpenter by trade. His father, Mr. Will Rogers, helped to build the brick store building on corner of 11 and 10th streets now occupied by Smoak brothers.

This is the first information the Democrat has had of the death of Mr. Rogers. He was a good friend and citizen and we are grieved to hear of his death.

### LIVED AND DIED WITH WILSON

T. S. Tinsley a farmer of King George county, Va. whose birthday was the same as the former President Wilson's and who became ill at the same time President Wilson was stricken, died 2 minutes after Mr. Wilson died, death being due to pneumonia.