

# The Watauga Democrat.

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## News Items as Reported From Rural Watauga

Interesting News Items as Reported Each Week by Our Correspondents in the Several Sections of the County

### Valle Crucis

Miss Blanche Moretz of Limestone Tenn. spent the past week with her sister Miss Anne Moretz.

Mr. Dave Wagner of Roanoke has been visiting his relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Perry of Beaver Dams are visiting Mrs. H. B. Perry and family this week.

Mr. R. A. Farthing is building a handsome residence, Mr. Wilson Lowrance being the contractor.

Mrs. Sforle Caudill and family have recently moved into their modern new home just completed.

Bynum the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Harston Coffey of Dutch Creek died last Saturday of diphtheria.

Misses Flora Townsend and Anna Teaster have arrived to spend the summer at their homes after spending the winter in Florida.

Rev. Mr. Gribbon of Winston-Salem preached at the Episcopal church Sunday, and made an address Sunday night to the young people.

The Woman's Missionary Society met Saturday with Mrs. Ben Farthing.

A number of summer visitors are arriving. Mrs. Finley Mast's home has been filled to overflowing during the past week.

Mrs. Sallie Land, nee Parsons of Wilkes county spent the week end with her aunt, Mrs. D. F. Baird.

Mrs. Cunningham of Greensboro, gave a helpful talk to the Community Club Monday night.

Mr. D. F. Mast and Mrs. T. H. Taylor will attend the District Conference at Sparta this week.

### Deep Gap

Miss Zella Watson is planning to go out west to join her sister at Coffeyville, Kans. some time in August. She will attend the city schools of that place. We wish her much success while out in school and on down the journey of life.

Mr. I. S. Greene of Stony Fork is a very sick man as he has just returned from the Wilkes Hospital and perhaps will have to go back there for an operation for gall bladder trouble. The writer paid him a short visit last Sunday and found him unimproved.

Mr. A. G. Miller we understand will purchase some land which was a part of the estate of the late W. P. Welch, of his son Charlie which lies right along beside his present holdings here.

Alonzo just reaches out and does things in a big way when he makes up his mind to do so.

Mr. Cecil Miller will continue to stay in his store here at Deep Gap with his uncle during the ten days of the big sale now going on at A. G. Miller's place of business.

We often wonder why campers of the low lands do not pitch their tents in deep Gap during the summer. The people would be glad to give them space for their tents and would do everything in their power to make their visit pleasant. We hope other state papers will copy and spread this good news in their respective papers.

The Deep Gap Tie and Lumber Co are still pushing their railroad toward Deep Gap. The steel railings have arrived and the track is being laid down as fast as men can do the work.

We would like to see this place build up and a hotel here which will be overwhelmed with guests if one was in our midst.

If any one should read this and want any kind of information about Deep Gap just write W. A. Watson, Yuma, N. C. and he will tell you what you want to know with a great deal of pleasure.

Miss Ola Moretz is at the home of her uncle Mr. A. G. Miller on a short visit.

She has been staying at Boone and Meat Camp for quite a while and we are always glad to see her down here.

### Foscoe

her one of our good women passed away. Mrs. Wesley Coffey Saturday night. She was buried at her home, the Rev. Eber Gragg conducting the funeral services.

Miss Carrie Bingham is visiting Mrs. Henry Brinkley and others of her friends in Foscoe this week.

Mr. W. H. Byrd has taken the position of police officer at the Green Park Hotel, Blowing Rock, for the summer.

Mr. Childers is painting the church and school house in Foscoe. The school will begin the seventh of July.

The big band mill at Shulls Mills shut down the 21st of the month.

Our mail carrier Mr. Thomas Holloway holds his head up in the air these days. He can't see the mail boxes. He said "we have a fine boy."

Mrs. W. H. Byrd was called to Bristol to be at the funeral of her aunt Mrs. M. F. Presnell, who died the 17th.

Miss Aleta McCain has gone to Blowing Rock for the summer.

Mr. David Wagner is visiting in Foscoe this week.

We farmers would do well to pattern after Mr. L. L. Moody. If all could see his two acre potato patch, they would say it pays to farm.

If farming women will come to Foscoe, Mrs. Waters will show them her garden and they can see what an old woman can do.

## GOOD DAIRY COWS PAY WELL LOCALLY

Interesting Figures Result From Accurate Record Kept of Famous Watauga Dairy Herd.

Good dairy cows are paying Mr. W. Wilson of Watauga County. How does he know? He knows because he has been keeping records on his herd supervised by the Dairy Extension Office of the State College. These records show conclusively that good cows do pay. During May the six cows kept by Mr. Wilson produced 6659 pounds of milk, which is 774.3 gallons or an average of a little more than four gallons per day for each cow. This milk was sold to a cheese factory at \$1.40 per hundred pounds which amounts to \$93.23.

The most interesting part of this performance is that this milk was produced chiefly on grass. The total value of the feed consumed during the month allowing \$1.50 per head for pasture charge was only \$31.52. This taken from \$93.23, the value of the milk, leaves a net profit of over cost of feed of \$61.71. This is an excellent return and besides most of the work in connection with keeping these cows was done at early morning and late afternoon, being times of the farmers day when it is hard to realize cash for his labor unless he keeps cows.

Mr. Wilson found from his records that last year two of his best cows returned more profit than the other four. These figures show beyond any question that good cows do pay, here on Watauga farms and Watauga grass. Poor quality cows may not pay but good producing cows do, and there is no reason why a farmer cannot have good cows. We often hear excuses rendered for not having the right kind of cows, but they are more excuses and not reasons.

The price paid for milk by the cheese factories has been ranging around \$1.40 per hundred pounds, and it is often said that this is low and that there is no money in producing milk and selling at this price. The figures on Mr. Wilson's herd constitute the best answer to this statement.

During May the average feed cost of producing a hundred pounds of milk in his herd was 47 cents. The market value of this milk was more than three-times the feed cost. Will it pay? The answer is that it DOES pay.

## MANY VISITORS AT THE A. T. S.

Student Body Comprised of Teachers from 65 Carolina Counties and 12 Counties in Other States.

The third week of the first summer term of the Training School was one of the most interesting thus far. A number of visitors were present during the week. Dr. Hayes, a friend of the school, was at chapel on the 17 and 21. Professor Williams of Mountain Park addressed the students very interestingly on the 17th. Mrs. Cunningham of the North Carolina Insurance Department talked to the school on the 18th in the interest of her work. Professor Henry Belk, a graduate of Trinity and now instructor in English in Wake Forest College, was at the school on the 18th and 19th and made a most instructive talk to the school. He is representing the Greensboro Daily News during the summer. Dr. Jas. E. Hillman, director of Certification in the State Department of Education was at the school from Thursday until Saturday leaving on Sunday morning for Raleigh. He made very instructive and helpful talks to the student teachers at Chapel on Friday and Saturday. Rev. N. R. Richardson and his wife and their son, Prof. N. R. Richardson formerly of the Mocksville School, now of Bessemer City, visited the school. Rev. M. B. Woosley, pastor of the Boone Methodist church conducted chapel service on Saturday and made a helpful talk. Prof. B. B. Dougherty went to Lenoir on business Saturday. A large number of the students and teachers went on trip to Grandfather Mountain on Monday. Mr. J. K. Perry of Cove Creek, father of Dr. and Prof. W. Y. Perry visited the school Saturday. Students and teachers of the school are busy and the work is moving on well. The student body consists of 500 ladies and 49 men and boys, coming from every part of the state and from six other states, representing 65 counties in North Carolina and 12 counties in other states, or in other words they represent seven states and seventy seven counties.

The Epworth League gave a play on Thursday evening in the court house to a large and appreciative audience and took in about \$100.

A number of the Baptist young people with Pastor Huggins went to Wilmington the last of the week to the B. Y. P. U. Convention.

Miss Lela Tuttle, a missionary of China, gave interesting and instructive talks at the Methodist church Sunday morning and evening.

## SUNDAY BAD DAY FOR AUTO WRECKS

Lenoir Folk Spend Week End in Watauga—Attend Services at Handsome Country Church.

(Mrs. A. R. Barlow.)

Lenoir, N. C. June 24.—The writer and family enjoyed a pleasant visit to Watauga last week end. It was our first time to attend a service in the handsome new church at Cove Creek, and it was indeed a joy to be there. The service was carried out in a beautiful way by the pastor Rev. Wilson.

For dinner we had in the home a large number of relatives and friends.

Our trip home Sunday p. m. was full of excitement as we came upon five different automobile wrecks on each side of Blowing Rock within a distance of 15 miles.

Two very narrow escapes were made Saturday going up on account of the lack of brakes on the motor vehicles meeting us. Surely people should realize the danger of those mountain roads of having no brakes.

Let me say to the women of the W. M. U. of the Three Forks Association that we have a letter from our state president Mrs. W. N. Jones stating that she is planning to be with us in our associational meetings in September, that is in Three Forks, Caldwell and Catawba River Unions.

### Mabel

We are having nice weather here now. People are very busy hoeing corn.

Mr. Marion Thomas is at home this week.

Mr. and Mrs. John E. Combs were visiting Mrs. L. S. Isaacs Sunday.

Rev. James McSwain and family spent the day with Mrs. Spencer Miller Wednesday.

Miss Hazel Sutherland is visiting her grandma this week. Mrs. J. B. Johnson.

Mrs. L. S. Isaacs and little daughter Ruth took dinner with Mrs. John E. Combs Thursday.

## GROWING SEED IRISH POTATOES WILL BRING IN THE GOLD COIN

John B. Steele, County Agent for Watauga Relates Story of the Great Opportunity of the People Living 3300 Feet Above the Level of the Sea.

By HENRY BELK, in the Greensboro News.

Boone June 20.—If farmers of western North Carolina continue to develop a new crop introduced commercially for the first time last year it will be only a matter of a few years until they have a new source of revenue which should bring them not less than a million dollars annually. Farmers of Avery, Watauga, Henderson, Buncombe and any other county which has an altitude of 3,000 feet can benefit from the new crop. John B. Steele, county agent for Watauga, related the story today. Growing seed Irish potatoes is the new venture.

Irish potato growers of the eastern counties of North Carolina, of South Carolina, and of Florida each year are forced to purchase from northern markets seed for another crop. Their total purchases run into the millions annually. Most of the seed purchased comes from Maine and northern New York.

"There is something in the climate of these southern states that seems to prevent the potato from keeping from one season to the other for seed," Mr. Steele explained this morning. "I suppose that it is because the thermometer stays too close to the top of the indicator, a good part of the year."

In 1920, John W. Goodman, now district agent for the western counties, with an office at Asheville, was county agent in Avery County with an office at Newland. While here Mr. Goodman studied the seed potato problem carefully. He saw that the

## DEATH CLAIMS MISS VIRGINIA HODGES

Attractive Young Local Lady Passes Away Yesterday Morning. After Four Days' Illness.

Yesterday morning at 3:30 Miss Virginia, the attractive 20 year old daughter of our townsman, Contractor W. B. Hodges died at the home of her sister Mrs. J. F. Carter in this city.

Miss Hodges had been ill for but a few days, and many of her friends did not know of her indisposition until the end came, news of which was a decided shock to those who had known her. Deceased was a very attractive personality, smiling and of a pleasing disposition which endeared her to the hearts of her friends. She knew the end was coming, and talked pleasantly with those about the bedside until a few moments before the summons came.

The citizens of the town extend their deepest sympathy to the bereaved relatives.

Interment was in the cemetery near Poplar Grove Church yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

### Baptist Church

Sunday School next Sunday at 9:30 a. m. This change in time is made in order that those attending the Fifth Sunday Meeting at Meat Camp may reach there in time.

B. Y. P. U. meet at 8:30 p. m.

Prayer service and choir practice on Wednesday at 8 p. m.

Rev. F. A. Rower of Margantown will supply the Baptist church at Blowing Rock during the month of July Preaching every Sunday.

The pastor and his family leave Tuesday for Pleasureville, Ky. where they will spend the month of July in a little vacation. Arrangements will be made to supply the pulpit during the absence of the pastor.

## STATE MILITARY FORCE NOW 3,000

The National Guard of North Carolina stands well up in the rating of the United States War Department inspectors and numerically heads the list in enlistments of the eight southern states in the Fourth Army Corps area, according to the Adjutant General J. Van B. Metts of the North Carolina National guard.

The officers and the enlisted personnel of the state military forces number approximately 3,000 the adjutant said.

All units of the national guard are subject to the call of the president in the time of national emergency and subject to the call of the governor in time of state emergencies such as riots, mobs, jail storming parties and disasters, it is explained.

Officers and men, it was stated, are paid for drill duty, which usually is four times a month, the limit being 30 days per year for enlisted men, and 48 days per year for officers. However when in camp the officers and men receive the same pay, as do the soldiers of the regular army of the same rank.

better.

One year's experiment was not considered sufficient for a fair test and the work was continued for three years in this experimental stage. In July 1922 John B. Steele a graduate of State college and the man who related the story, came to Boone as county agent for Watauga. He became deeply interested in the work which Mr. Goodman had started. Last year Mr. Goodman was called to Asheville as district agent and the potato mantle fell directly to young Mr. Steele.

Last spring he interested some 40 farmers in this county in the proposition and they planted 20 acres in potatoes. From this 20 acres of ground they harvested 5,000 bushels of potatoes. The families of the 40 farmers used a quantity of the harvest, 3300 bushels were sold as seed—most of the amount to South Carolina farmers, and some 1600 bushels were kept for planting this year.

For the 3,300 bushels shipped to the South Carolina farmers, the Watauga men received approximately \$6,000. Only 20 acres had been planted in the potatoes. A little division shows that the farmers received \$300 an acre or an average for their work not counting family consumption and

## WINSTON VISITORS GIVEN RECEPTION

150 Leading Citizens of Winston-Salem on "Good Fellowship" Tour of Lost Province Region.

The city of Boone is honored this morning to have as guests 150 of the most prominent business, professional and civic leaders of Winston-Salem.

The party known as "Know Your State Tour No. 1" arrives here at 7:30, and will leave for Jefferson at 9 o'clock.

The citizens and business men of the town have joined hands with the school authorities and besides serving them a good old fashioned mountain breakfast, the visitors will be accorded more formal welcome at the A. T. S. auditorium. Arrangements have been made for hearty reception of the party in the various towns and villages, and nothing is to be left undone that would add anything to their pleasures.

The object of the expedition composed of 53 automobiles, is primarily that of establishing more friendly relations with the people of the "Lost Provinces." To this end the local citizens are expected to turn out en masse and meet and mingle with the distinguished visitors during their brief sojourn in the metropolis of the Northwestern region. The two days trip as planned will permit short stopovers at all points of interest in Wilkes, Watauga, Ashe and Alleghany.

On behalf of the citizens of the town and country at large, we would extend to the folks from North Carolina's great industrial city a most hearty welcome. We are glad you came. May your short stay in the balmey breezes of this God-favored county be pleasant, and may your coming add to that friendly relationship that has so far existed between us to our mutual benefit.

## THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE OF MUCH INTEREST TO THE MANY LOCAL FRIENDS OF THE BRIDE, FORMERLY MISS ELIZABETH PENN, OF BOONE.

Mrs. William Columbus Coffey announces the marriage of her daughter

Mrs. Elizabeth Penn Seay to

Mr. Garland Estes Vaughan on Tuesday the seventh of June One thousand, nine hundred and twenty four

Lenoir, North Carolina

Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan will be at home after the tenth of July at 2125 Rivermont Avenue, Lynchburg Virginia.

Two farmers of Edgecombe county sheared 15 sheep this spring. The sheep were of the same breeding but one lot was grazed on cover crops all winter and the other was not. The sheep grazed produced 101 pounds of wool and the others produced 16 pounds.

Six hundred houses and barns have been painted in Cleveland County since the paint campaign was begun in that county, reports Mr. Lawrence farm agent for the State College.

seed kept for this year.

"You can compare that with your cotton and tobacco averages, if you want to," said Mr. Steele.

This year 65 farmers are planting 65 acres. Some 15,000 bushels for seed should be realized from this planting. Although it is a little too early to estimate the value of the crop accurately, Mr. Steele thinks that it will bring the farmers around \$20,000.

This will mean that the 65 farmers will find themselves with an extra \$20,000 in their pockets. Not until last year did they know that such a source of revenue existed.

"And in cultivating the potatoes they will not sacrifice their corn, wheat or other crops. This 65 acres represents little patches here and there."

North Carolina alone buys each year \$1,000,000 worth of seed potatoes," said Mr. Steele.

"We can grow every bit of this 1,000,000 worth of seed right here in our western counties—Watauga, Avery, Henderson, Buncombe and others. Selling in North Carolina alone will leave South Carolina and Florida untouched. Florida buys more seed than North Carolina and South Carolina almost as much."