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Watauga Democrat

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MANY ATTEND ROAD MEETING

Sixty Delegates From Five States Gather in Morganton in Interest of "Scenic Route From North to the South"—Organization Perfected

A road meeting of national importance was held in Morganton on December 19th. The purpose was to discuss plans by which the new proposed scenic highway connecting the North and South could be perfected. Sixty delegates from five states were assembled at the Caldwell Hotel at two o'clock. The states represented were Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. The chief promoter of the meeting was Mr. H. H. McKee of Wilmington. After lunch the meeting was called to order by Mr. A. M. Kistler of Morganton. A temporary organization was perfected by electing Hugh McKee chairman and H. G. Greer of Boone secretary. The chairman stated the purpose of the meeting. The proposed route, leading out from the great northern cities, will swing down through the Shenandoah valley and by Independence and Galax, Va. Coming on to North Carolina it will connect the scenic sites of Sparta, Jefferson and Boone, Newland and Bryson and enter South Carolina via Spartanburg. From Spartanburg it will reach Florida via Avonlea, Fla. and going thru Jacksonville and on South Mr. McKee recently visited every town that will be touched by this great proposed route. Every town was represented at the meeting. From the promise made by these representative citizens it looks as if the road will soon be a reality. This line when completed will unquestionably be one of the greatest drives in America. This was the opinion of every man who spoke. At the close of the meeting a permanent organization was perfected by electing Hugh McKee of Wilmington president, A. M. Kistler of Morganton treasurer, and Miss Beatrice Cobb of the News-Herald of Morganton secretary. The vice president and directors were received from each state. The purpose of this organization is to rush as fast as possible the completion of the proposed road. North Carolina is ready to do her part. The counties and towns through which the road is to pass can well afford to do the part in every way possible to aid in the construction of this line, to be temporarily known as the scenic route between the north and South.

Farmers of Western North Carolina will want a copy of the November Bulletin of the State Department of Agriculture, "The Mexican Bean Beetle in North Carolina." This will be sent free of charge on application to the Editor Extension services, Raleigh.

THE HOLIDAYS ENJOYED LOCALLY

The Popping of Firecrackers—Giving of Gifts to the Needy, and Eating of Good Things Characterize Christmas in Boone.

Christmas in Boone passed off in a very fitting way, the absence of alcoholic beverages being more noteworthy perhaps than ever before. Some annoyance was occasioned by the various sizes of fire-crackers used by both the big boys and little, especially by the passers by who often were made to step swiftly when one of these miniature grenades was made to "go off" under foot, but the smoke has cleared away, and we take it this bit of fuss was practically harmless, or at least intended so.

Both the Baptist and Methodist denominations provided liberal funds for the empty stockings and every needy person in the town or countryside, too poor to buy for themselves or loved ones was amply provided for. This of course was the crowning feature of the glad season. Many Christmas turkey dinners, receptions and other sorts of functions were given to invited guests in numbers of homes, and of course were much enjoyed, but at last the real pleasure of the Christmas time is to provide a bit of pleasure for the less fortunate ones, and Boone never lags in this duty for truly, "He who giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord."

A. T. S. WILL OPEN NEXT MONDAY

Earliest Work, Growing Friendships Uplifting Associations, Characteristics of Closing Days Before Holiday Season.

School has closed for the holidays and will open again on Monday, January 5. The last week has been somewhat of a recapitulation of the semester; earnest work, growing friendships, uplifting association, thrilling athletic and an encouraging vision of future usefulness have all claimed attention. The closing periods were of drawing interest. Mrs. Howe, with her class in education, gave a unique presentation of the story of the nativity. Prof. and Mrs. Greer commanded our attention with folk lore and ballads to the accompaniment of the dulcimer. Mrs. Bouse with her class in music directed our thought to the spirit of the season with some of the world's fine Christmas songs. Rev. Mr. Higgins announced for conduct in harmony with the Christmas occasion, and the young man's quartette made us laugh with some of the popular air.

A GREAT REVIVAL

The Rev. Taylor, now pastor of the Watauga Circuit, closed a series of meetings in Valle Crucis recently that from reports, are the most wonderful ever held in the county. From the very beginning there was much interest taken, the church being crowded to overflowing at almost every service. The other churches joined in prayer and what they could to make the revival the great success it culminated in. The pastor did all the preaching in the meeting that continued for more than two weeks, at the close of which it was found that there had been 150 conversions (most in the latter majority) and that the community had undergone the greatest religious awakening ever known in this section of the state. One of the good members from that section told the Democrat that now there is a larger attendance at prayer service on Wednesday nights than formerly attended the regular church services. On Friday before Christmas at the request of the people of the community Mr. Taylor began services at Benson's chapel which are still in progress, with a likelihood of continuing until next week. The services are well attended and the promise for another great harvest for the Master is flattering.

FORD CAR PROVES A DELIVERER TO FOWLS

Something rather unusual happened Monday while Mr. Hester, local sewing machine agent was driving his flivver along before the county home at a lively clip. He noticed a large chicken hawk sitting on a limb watching some turkeys and chickens in the road. Mr. Hawk however made his nose-dive a trifle late for he came in contact with one of the fenders on the car and fell dead near his intended quarry. From this story we would surmise that while Fords have been used for everything else, this is the first case of competition with ammunition in destruction of pestiferous "varmints."

Rev. S. E. Gregg will conduct the Advent services Sunday at eleven o'clock in the Episcopal church and Rev. W. L. Trivett the evening service at 7:15. A cordial invitation to attend the services is extended to all.

3,000 RATS KILLED BY WATAUGA BOYS

County Agent's Rat-Tail Contest Has Closed—Business Houses of City Award Cash Prizes to Winners in Relentless Warfare on Pests.

The rat tail contest which has been conducted by the county agent through the schools closed on December 20 with a total of 2,701 rats killed. This contest was made possible by the cooperation of a number of people in the first place prizes were offered by local concerns, the school teachers furnished their encouragement and cooperation and the boys and girls themselves killed the rats.

The first prize was won by Dewey Bingham at Kutherford, who sent in 250 tails and won a prize of \$10 in gold given by the Watauga County Bank. The second prize was won by Clay Penning, Zionsville, who sent in 131 tails, and won a prize of \$5.00 in gold; Frank Wyke, Boone, 143 rat tails, \$2.50 in gold by the Boone Hardware Company; fourth prize, Rolf Wilson, Trade, Tennessee, 130 rat tails, \$1.00, Davidson Department Store; fifth prize, Jay Trickett, Trigg, 129 rat tails, \$1.00 given by the Cash Grocery Store; sixth prize, Manfield Moore, Trigg, 117 rat tails, Boone Clothing Company. There were only forty-two boys and girls who took part in the contest, but these 42 came near reaching the 3,000 mark.

It seems conservative to estimate that each of these rats killed, taken or with their offspring, for the next season would have easily done a dollar's worth of damage. This being true it is safe to say that this campaign has done the county \$2700.00 of good judging from these figures the campaign was a great success, but Mr. Steele does not seem to be satisfied with the results. He states that out of the 135 teachers in the county only ten gave active cooperation. The others were either too busy or else that the matter was not of sufficient importance to claim their attention and thereby deprived their children of the fun and their community of the benefit to be derived from such campaigns. He states that he expects to try it over again next year and is going to try harder to get each teacher to give their children a chance. He says that according to his idea of the rat population of Watauga we should kill 10,000 rats in our campaigns next year.

DUMB DAN SELLS 'EM

Producer: "Your comedy is rather funny but I'm inclined to think the jokes are too coarse."
Scenario Writer: "Well, won't they be screened before the public sees them?"

WOULD TEST COWS FOR TUBERCULOSIS

Representative of Department of Agriculture Seeks to Interest Watauga in Eradication of Disease—Will go Before Board Monday.

A Department of Agriculture employee has been in Watauga recently in an effort to have the county institute a campaign against tuberculosis in the cattle.

Students of medicine claim to know that tuberculosis may be transmitted from a tubercular cow through her milk to human beings, the disease sometimes failing to manifest itself until years later. Watauga will be asked next Monday by those sponsoring this movement to cooperate with the state and national government for the eradication of tuberculosis in the cattle locally, sharing with them in the expense to a nominal extent. Animals found with the disease would be killed and the owner paid for the animal by the government. Considerable interest has been manifested and it is expected and at least hoped that the commissioners may give the proposition an unprejudiced hearing.

BOONE'S FINE NEW TOURIST HOTEL

Herewith is Published an Interesting Story Taken from the Wilkes Patriot, Dealing With the Possibilities of Our City as a Tourist's Mecca.

The Patriot in a recent issue published a story of the Boone Trail Highway and the possibilities it offers for a tourist hotel in North Wilkesboro. Our people are beginning to think and definite steps are being made toward interesting capital in this great improvement.

Today the building is nearing completion and the one hundred thousand dollars invested has been raised by local men. A lobby that will make the leading tourist hotels of the country, turn green with envy greets the eye of the visitor when he enters. Open fire places add comfort and cheer to its beauty. All modern conveniences—lights, tub and shower baths, telephones mean heat etc. are being installed throughout. Of the 51 rooms 35 have private baths. Suites ranging from two to four rooms each have been arranged to care for the wants of the higher class trade. A roof garden facing the mountain range is another feature of this modern resort. Two dining rooms, public and private, with all silver service, will add a distinctiveness to the place, unexcelled outside the larger cities. The spacious kitchen has every convenience known to man with which to facilitate the preparation of food. Refrigerator rooms, a laundry, barber shop, pressing parlor, etc. in the full basement, affords the service offered only by metropolitan hotels. Everything is modern and the guest who spends a week or stops for the night can easily forget that he is in a country town.

The grounds have been laid out by a landscape gardener and the building committee is taking great care that nothing be neglected on the exterior that might cast reflection on the interior. A swimming pool, tennis court and other amusement features are embodied in the plans. The property has been leased to a company which operates a chain of tourist hotels throughout the south, and the rents received on the five year contracts have proven very satisfactory as an investment. The management guarantees to put men in charge of the work who understand the business and to furnish all minor necessities that will offer additional comfort to the guest.

"BOB" HONEYCUTT INJURED WHILE HAULING LUMBER

R. L. Honeycutt, well known about the town and throughout the county met with a most unfortunate accident last Saturday. While hauling lumber on the Boone-Blowing Rock road he broke both bones in one of his legs, a few inches above the ankle. Dr. Perry set the limb, and the patient is resting as well as could be expected, the injury considered

DYNAMITE RENDS BUSINESS HOUSES

Blowing Rock Boys Use Sticks of Powder as Fire Crackers—Postoffice and Bank Among the Buildings Damaged—5 Arrests Made.

At 2 a. m. Christmas morning the citizens of Blowing Rock were aroused from their slumbers by the explosion of dynamite on the streets. Upon investigation it was found that a number of young men in a Ford touring car were throwing sticks of lighted dynamite in such directions as they thought might result in the most damage to property. The first shot was fired in front of the Reeves building, and the car moved on up street where practically every plate glass in the new postoffice building was demolished, to say nothing of shattered and cracked walls and smashed glass of smaller dimensions. Mr. Craig was perhaps the heaviest loser due only to the fact that he had the most glass to break. The Bank and the Holmhouse and Green stores did not escape the vandals. Each in turn got the effects of the great explosion, which left ruin in its wake. The car passed on out to the Campbellville road and was seen no more that night at least. It was reported when day broke that the dynamite had been stolen from the powder house of the state road crew working near the town, there being a lot of it missing.

Seizure was sufficiently strong against five young men that they were arrested, Fred Young, Claude Tenace, Howard Ozment, Oscar Pitts and Hal Ward were arranged for a preliminary hearing yesterday afternoon, and were held in court in the sum of \$1,000 each, on the exception of Ward who made his escape. The bonds were speedily filled, as none of the prisoners have been brought to jail.

Duke University is Now a Reality

Raleigh, December 30.—Duke University got its amended charter today when President W. F. Few, Prof. R. L. Flowers, both of the institution, Joseph G. Brown of the Board of Trustees and Rev. W. A. Stanbury pastor of Edenton Street Methodist Church of Raleigh, called at the office of the secretary of state and took out the additional papers.

There was not a little lament that Bishop John Carlisle Kilgo could not come to see his institution come to such a fruition. The Bishop first interested the Dukes greatly in the Methodist's daring and perhaps no one man ever inspired so much confidence as he did. It is true that he was dead set against football and the return of the institution to the laic may have changed his attitude eventually toward it. And then it may not. Anyway, when men talk about millions from the Dukes to education they find it hard to dissociate Bishop Kilgo, long its president and later of its directorate.

Sees Moon With Farm Resources

Chicago.—The moon has agricultural possibilities which some time may help to solve the food problems of the earth, Harold Hotelling of the food bureau of Leiland Stanford university today told the convention of the American statistical association.

"From what we know of the operation of atomic energy," he said it is perfectly good possibility that time in the future we may be able to exploit the agricultural resources of the moon."

MONT WELLBORN SHOT AND KILLED

With Christmas Comes Watauga's Part of Disaster—Little is Known of Killing. Other News from the Deep Gap Section.

Mont Wellborn was tried at Roca Point Saturday to answer to a charge of killing Mont Wellborn, Jr. of Mt. Zion on Christmas day. According to the evidence Wellborn came to Greene's home and they together had been drinking. No one outside of the family was present when Wellborn met his death, hence the scarcity of detail. The defendant, however has stated that Wellborn was striking at and running after him with a knife, and that he punched him down with the shot gun and killed him as he began rising to the floor. Greene is in Boone jail awaiting further orders regarding a bond.

Mr. A. G. Miller has moved into a room of his new residence, where he spent Christmas. The remainder of the building will be completed as rapidly as possible. Misses Dollie Greene, Sallie and Betty Wellborn visited at the home of Alfred Watson on Christmas evening. Everything was quiet at Deep Gap on Christmas day. It was reported that strong drink was in evidence in a house a day or so before Christmas. We are glad that men will let whiskey alone on Christmas as well as every other day in the year. Mrs. Ida Weich has been visiting at the home of her father and mother Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Tisher. She spent the holidays here.

We note in our last Democrat that Mr. Clyde Winebarger had written a timely article on the changes of time Mr. Winebarger, if you will send me your address I would like to give you some information along the writing art, for I believe you have real talent along this line. We also noted a striking writup from the correspondent at Faison. You said some big things when you spoke about the Boazberry Brothers and the school which they have built up in Boone. As to our will power in regard to our work, we can only say that we are doing the best we can.

We have heard a report of fighting and shooting over in the "Coves of Wilkes" by two young men. It seems that whiskey is still flowing over there enough to make every man brutal enough in two or three counties. It does look like this liquor strong hold could be broken up if it takes the militia of the State to round them up. The solicitor should prosecute hard and the judge should be stern in passing sentences. Whiskey and bloodshed dominate this section and how long this will go on the Lord only knows, if something is not done to clean it up. A few moonshiners over there are ruining the life blood of two or three counties.

FIND DEAD BODY OF AGED CITIZEN

"Pete" Auton, Living Near Boone, Found in a Horribly Mangled Condition Respected Citizen—Interment Monday.

Mr. Peter Auton, an aged citizen who lived alone in his humble home within three miles of Boone, was found dead in his yard Saturday, and from appearances life had been extinct for some time, and the body was thoroughly frozen.

Some hogs about the place had attacked the dead, and practically all the flesh from his face, neck and chest had been torn away—in fact he was mutilated beyond recognition. He was not seen alive after Wednesday evening, when some girls went to his home to buy some apples. He closed his door and went with them to the barn to get the fruit. They paid him 25 cents and that was the only money found on his person. He was undoubtedly stricken down on his return, death probably having been sudden.

"Pete", as he was familiarly known, was about 80 years old and the county never had a more honest upright citizen than he. Honest to a cent, possessing a lot of native ability, he was respected by all. The remains were interred in the Winkler burying ground Monday.