

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 1927

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## Board of Education In Busy Session

### Mass of Business Matters Considered in Two-Day Session; School Committees Named

The county board of education, composed of W. F. Sherwood, Bob Taylor, D. D. Dougherty and Smith Hagaman, county superintendent, was in session two days this week—Monday and Tuesday. There were a number of important matters acted upon, including a joint meeting with the board of county commissioners, at which meeting the matter of equalization under the new law, was considered. Dr. B. B. Dougherty, member of the state equalization board, being present and explaining the provisions of the act. The law provides for a 40-cent tax levy in each county participating in the \$3,250,000 equalizing fund; and Dr. Dougherty urged the necessity of an equal tax levy in the counties that will receive benefits from the fund. It was decided at a meeting of the state equalization board in Raleigh recently that each member of the state board make a round of his quota of counties, holding meetings with the various boards of county commissioners and boards of education. Dr. Dougherty has nine counties—Alleghany, Ashe, Watauga, Caldwell, Alexander, Iredell, Rowan, Columbus and Stanly.

The board on Monday received a delegation from Liberty Hill school district asking for consolidation of Liberty Hill and Baird's Creek districts. Petition was filed for future action.

Cove Creek presented a petition asking for an election to vote a special school tax not to exceed 12 cents on the \$100 for the purpose of erecting an additional building. This petition was approved and sent to the county commissioners to authorize the election, which was done.

Committeemen for the various school districts of the county were named as follows:

- Boone Township**  
Boone—W. G. Hartzog, W. D. Farthing, W. H. Grogg.  
Oak Grove—Steve Brown, James Kedges, Will Walker.  
Howard's Creek—J. J. Miller, W. B. Culler, F. B. Hodges.  
Rutherford—Grant Hodges, C. D. McNeil, Herbert Cole.  
Poplar Grove—Fred Winkler, Pink Winkler, Mrs. James Hodges.  
Liberty Hill—El Walls, S. B. Hayes, Fowl Hallars.  
Brushy Fork—T. L. Mast, Andy Coover, Ed Bingham.  
Boone (colored)—Ed Folk, Ronda Horton, Roxford Horton.
- Blowing Rock Township**  
Blowing Rock Consolidated—S. J. Statz, Grover Robbins, Colis Green, E. G. Underdown, Thomas Miller.  
Cool Springs—Roe Payne, D. S. Shores, Claude Shores.
- Blue Ridge**  
Bamboo—Geo. Keller, Ira Critcher, A. J. Edminsten.  
Aho—Granville Storie, Stacy Ford, Joseph Green.  
Penley—Millard Coffey, Linn Bradshaw, Roby Penley.  
Bradshaw—N. Storey, J. M. Wilton, Bradshaw, Alex Green.  
Cooks—C. M. Hamler, John Trexler.
- Middle Fork—T. C. Hodges, J. C. Ashley, Thomas Vandyske.**
- Beaver Dam**  
Timbered Ridge—A. C. Green, Ray Tester, John Ward.  
Bethel—Clyde Perry, James Sherwood, W. Y. Farthing.  
Forest Grove—Charlie Johnson, Don Hagaman, Raleigh Johnson.  
Reese—Will Wilson, J. R. Eggers, Lee Swift.
- Beaver Dam (colored)—A. W. Thompson, J. W. Moore.**
- Bald Mountain**  
Todd—Jessie Holeman, D. C. Howell.  
Castle—Will Byland, G. T. Parker, Joe Phillips.  
Riverview—E. F. Moretz, Gideon Moretz, M. S. Miller.
- Cove Creek**  
Cove Creek Consolidated—J. J. Mast, Hard Brown, Enoch Swift, W. O. Bingham, J. R. Horton.  
Silverstone—A. L. Wilson, C. C. Lowrance, H. P. Cook.  
Laurel Branch—Chas. Henson, Ben Henson, N. L. Mast.  
Mabel—Ed Williams, N. M. Church, Spencer Dishman.  
North Fork—R. A. Thomas, Hiram Green, John Isaacs.  
Zionville—Roscoe Bumgarner, Luther Miller, Bill Brown.
- Elk**  
Upper Elk—Ed Simmons, P. G.

## CLEAN UP! IS NOW THE SLOGAN IN BOONE

In another column will be found a notice from the mayor and board of aldermen of the town of Boone setting next week, beginning Monday, as Clean-Up Week. This is a most timely and important move on the part of the municipal body, and it is their purpose to enforce the order.

When property owners are abstinate and fail to comply with the ordinance, it will be done by the town at the expense of the owner. Last Saturday the paving and walks of the town were thoroughly cleaned and washed, which added very much to the appearance of the streets. But in every direction are unsightly things. Vacant lots, covered with scrap paper and almost every other kind of debris. In the rear of many of our business houses refuse, which has been accumulating for the past year, is piled high.

This is not only a main street clean-up, but a thorough one and it is hoped that every citizen of the town will co-operate fully with the officers who have done, and are still doing, all they can to make Boone a better town in which to live. The public square needs beautifying, and then some stringent laws for its protection enacted. Flowers and small shrubs planted along the walks in the residence sections would add much to the appearance of things. We have the prettiest little city to be found, and when the campaign is ended let's see to it that we have the cleanest one.

## NOTICE TO TEACHERS

It is ordered by the Board of Education that no one will be permitted to teach in the public schools of Watauga county who does not have some kind of state certificate. Those who expect to teach this year should bear this in mind.

- Carroll, Joe Wheeler**  
Lower Elk—Rufus Carrol, John Hendrix.
- Laurel Creek**  
Phillips—Oscar Ward, Oscar Phillips.
- Rush Branch—G. A. Edminsten, W. L. Glenn, W. J. Love.**
- Windy Gap—Lewis Harmon, H. G. Hagaman, Ira Edminsten.**
- Johnson/Walter Ward, Wm. L. Ward, W. J. Farthing.**
- Kellerville—Lee Presnell, L. J. Presnell, Will Harmon.**
- Meat Camp**  
Miller—D. C. Coffey, W. W. Miller, Avery Green.  
Green Valley—Sam Norris, R. A. Greene, S. F. Ragan.  
Tugman—W. W. Holman, Grady Tugman, B. F. Davis.
- Winebarger—A. W. Hodgson, Henry Proffitt.**
- Chestnut Grove—Will Lookabill, Walter Greene, Carl Eyers.**
- Rich Mountain—G. F. Culler, L. E. Beach, Wayne Miller.**
- North Fork**  
Thomas—J. R. May, Roby A. Thoms, F. M. Thomas.  
Pottertown—Rom Potter, R. F. Miller, Alex South.
- Stony Fork**  
Dee Gap—H. E. Greene, Arlie Brown, Charlie Watson.  
Stony Fork—Mrs. J. G. Green, D. L. Wellborn, Elster Green.  
Mt. Paron—Jake Miller, Everette Watson, Smith Church.
- Shawnee/Chaw**  
Cool Springs—James Michael, W. L. Welch, Frank Chappel.  
Matney—A. M. Miller, J. L. Triplett, Lee Carringer.
- Watauga**  
Valle Crucis—W. W. Mast, C. D. Taylor, Auburn Farthing.  
Clark's Creek—L. A. Lowrance, Charlie Clark, James Byrd.  
Dutch Creek—P. R. Lester, E. C. Welch, W. J. Baird.  
Shull's Mills—Caleb Garland, Mrs. J. A. Woody, G. W. Robbins.  
Foscoe—Charlie Moody, G. B. Calloway, Charlie Rowe.  
Grandfather—Mrs. L. M. Hodges, John Fox, A. T. Townsend.  
Whiting—Finley Gragg, D. W. Church, D. H. Wright.  
Baird's Creek—Lonnie Greene, I. N. Minton.  
Boone's Fork—Blaine Coffey, H. C. Hollifield, J. A. Gragg.
- Springfield is the name of 49 communities in the United States five in Canada and one each in South Africa and New Zealand.**

## Coolidge and Smith, Says Senator Borah

### Thinks Both Republican and Democratic Parties Will Endorse Prohibition

The eighteenth amendment and its enforcement will be endorsed next year by both big parties, and their standard bearers will be President Coolidge and Governor Smith of New York, in the opinion expressed by United States Senator William E. Borah in an address before the Utica, N. Y. Republican club last week.

"The venture that the Republican party in national convention declares for the 18th amendment and its enforcement," the senator said. "I venture that if Governor Smith is nominated for president, he'll declare for the 18th amendment and its enforcement, and not only that but will make the people believe in it."

This is not speaking in disrespect for Governor Smith, but in eulogy of his great ability. From the time he leaves Manhattan Island and crosses over into the United States he'll be for the 18th amendment and its enforcement.

In an address at Syracuse university, Senator Borah predicted Coolidge and Smith would be opponents.

"Do you think President Coolidge will run again?" the senator was asked from the audience.

"I think he is entitled to the nomination and can have it if he wants it," he replied. "He would be a strong candidate."

"What do you think of Al Smith's chances for the Democratic nomination?"

"Your governor seems to be the accepted candidate at the present time. I feel quite sure he will receive the nomination, as he seems to have everything his own way right now."

## TOO EXPENSIVE

Washington, March 31.—Senators Simmons and Overman were notified today by Second Assistant Postmaster General Glover that it would cost the department \$3,595.94 per year to give the mail service that the chamber of commerce of Boone and individuals desire between their town and Cranberry.

It does not seem that the department would be justified in making the change requested in this case," Mr. Glover added.

## MR. BRYAN IMPROVING

It is a rare pleasure to note that W. L. Bryan, Esq., whose illness we have mentioned from time to time, seems to be very much improved. The Democrat called on him Wednesday morning and found him in his chair, feeling fine and laughing, chatting and asking for the news as of yore. Just now it seems that he is in a fair way to recovery.

## BULWINKLE FOR LINNEY

Washington, March 31.—Appointment of Frank A. Linney, of Boone, as judge of the new created district in North Carolina, was proposed to President Coolidge yesterday by Representative Bulwinkle, Democrat, of North Carolina.

## DR. MOOSE'S MOTHER DEAD

Dr. O. K. Moose received a telegram Wednesday morning announcing the death of his mother last night at her home near Concord. Dr. Moose left immediately to attend the funeral. Mrs. Moose was 81 years old.

Taylorsville, April 2.—Hobson Head, son of James Head, of near Hiddenite, Alexander county, was killed suddenly this morning when a tractor which he was riding overturned. Hobson was logging in the woods. The tractor was being ulled by mules when a chain gave way. The tractor turned over and pinned young Head beneath. Almost instant death followed.

—Fifty-seven years ago an American tourist, climbing Mont Blanc, threw his pistol away during a blizzard. The pistol has recently been found in a shallow stream at the foot of the glacier.

—The Jefferson Bible is a work of 46 pages compiled by Thomas Jefferson, of passages from the four Gospels cut out and pasted in a volume according to a scheme of his own.

—The Babylonians were the first to use the arch in building.

## Ways To Poison Mexican Beetle

### Insect Caused Much Damage to Bean Crop in Watauga County Last Year

The Mexican bean beetle caused great damage in Watauga county last season. This pest feeds on beans, preferring the common garden beans and lima bean mostly, but in many instances it attacks cowpeas as well as bean crops.

Those who were in the infested areas last year should make preparations for poisoning the bean beetle this year.

The infested area last year included all of the western part of the state and spreads at the rate of about 30 miles a year, and will destroy the garden beans before their presence is noticed.

Spray or dust to control the bean beetle using one of the following formulas:

Magnesium arsenate used at the rate of 1 pound to 50 gallons of water makes an excellent spray. Magnesium arsenate used as a dust should be diluted with lime at the rate of 1 to 5 pounds of lime to each magnesium arsenate, depending on the number of beetles present. (Magnesium arsenate can be bought mixed ready to dust on the plants).

Calcium arsenate may be used. For a spray use 3-4 pound of calcium arsenate with 1-2 pounds hydrated lime to 50 gallons of water (or 1 ounce of calcium arsenate and 2 ounces of hydrated lime to 4 gallons of water). When used as a dust, not less than 5 pounds of hydrated lime should be used with 1 pound of calcium arsenate. From 1 to 4 applications may be necessary according to the number of beetles present.

Calcium fluosilicate should be used only as a dust in the following proportions:

Calcium fluosilicate, 1 part.  
Hydrated lime, 3 parts.

In dusting or spraying care should be observed in applying the poison to the under surface of the leaves. Most of the feeding is done on the under surface of the leaves.

An angle nozzle should be used turned upward in spraying and in dusting the nozzle of the duster should be turned sideways.

Bean plants are very sensitive and easily injured by sprays or dusts. Therefore, extreme care should be exercised in securing the proper poison and in preparing the spray or dust.

## FISHING LICENSES NOW ON SALE AT CLERK'S OFFICE

New state, county and non-resident fishing licenses arrived at the office of the clerk of the court Tuesday and are now ready to be dispensed to prospective anglers who wish to take advantage of the season which begins soon.

The state license costs residents \$2.00 and non-residents \$3.00. The county license is \$1.00 for all. A button is given to each licensed man bearing the number of his certificate.

Clerk South stated Wednesday morning that he received only 50 better call at once, as the small number will hardly last very long.

## BOONE ROUTE 2 NEWS

Boone Route 2, April 6.—Mr. and Mrs. Alex Tugman made a business trip to Silverstone last Wednesday.

Rev. W. E. Moretz, of Elk Park, visited home folks on Grassy Creek last week.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Tugman last Thursday, a son.

Messrs. Willet Moretz and James Main made a business trip to Mountain City last week.

Married on last Sunday at Trade, Tenn., Mr. Whit Main and Miss Hazel Miller. The bride is the daughter of Mr. Claude Miller of Meat Camp, and the groom is a son of Mr. Jacob Moretz.

Mr. and Mrs. Noah Church visited the family of Mr. Church's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Church, Sunday.

## REGIONAL CONFERENCE

On Tuesday, April 12th, Dr. S. H. Templeman, pastor of the First Baptist church of Elizabeth City, Rev. A. C. Hamby, superintendent of missions for western North Carolina and others will conduct a regional conference in the Boone Baptist church from 10 a. m. to 3 p. m. in the interest of the Baptist world program.

All Baptist pastors, deacons, Sunday school officers and teachers are especially invited to attend the conference.

The Ladies' Missionary Society will serve lunch at the noon hour.

## MR. ROBBINS SUCCEEDS IN NURSERY BUSINESS

### Mr. Ed. Robbins, of Pineola, owner of the Kelsey nurseries, now the "Gardens of the Blue Ridge," was a week-end visitor in the city. When Mr. Robbins took charge of the business years ago, his shrubbery was little in demand; but by constant advertising and sticking closely to his business, it has grown enormously, and today is one of the most successful enterprises in the mountain section of North Carolina.

Mr. Robbins is not much to blow his business, far from it, but he gathered a few interesting facts from him that we take the privilege of publishing. He said that in his nursery he now has more than a million, four hundred thousand marketable shrubs and plants, covering almost every species of plant and tree life to be found in the mountains.

"Last year," Mr. Robbins said, "my operating expenses were \$70,000, my traveling expenses \$2,000 and the federal government touched me for \$2,000 income tax." When this outlay is considered, with a substantial and increasing net profit for the owner, one can have a little idea of what Ed Robbins and his business means to the little county of Avery.

He recently purchased another farm and is stocking it to supply, as far as he can, the constantly growing demand for ornamental shrubs, trees and flowers. The nursery, if we are not mistaken, was started by Mr. Harland Kelsey, of Linville, in 1887, but he made no very great success of it.

## MRS. WOOSLEY HOSTESS TO FRIDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

Twenty-four guests enjoyed the meeting of the Friday Afternoon Club with Mrs. M. B. Woosley on April 1st, when at the same time she celebrated her ninth wedding anniversary. The reception hall and living room was tastefully decorated with potted plants and spring flowers. The program for the afternoon was interesting and appropriate.

"Melody of Love" and "Harmonies" were played by Mrs. A. E. South. "The Lovers," a humorous poem, was read by Miss Annie Stanbury. Two solos, "Thank God for a Garden" and "The Barefoot Trail" were sung by Mrs. Oscar Hardin. A clever contest, "Girl's Names" was entered into next, and Mrs. I. G. Gray won the first prize, two pretty linen towels. Mrs. John Steele won second and presented two attractive painted candles. At the conclusion of the program the guests were invited into the dining room, which was effectively decorated with pink and white carnations. Dainty cards, suggestive of spring, marked the places of the guests, and the favors were pink baskets filled with mints. A tempting two-course luncheon was served. The color scheme of pink and white was carried out in the last course.

The club members presented Mrs. Woosley with an attractive willow fruit tray as an anniversary gift. Miss Edna Wilkins, of Greensboro, was the only out-of-town guest.

The next meeting will be held with Mrs. Will Walker on April 15 at the home of Mrs. Pearl Hodges on Green Heights.

## GIRL WHO SWORE MAN INTO PRISON GOES THERE HERSELF

Harlan, Ky., April 4.—Marie Jackson, 27 years old, pleaded guilty in circuit court today to false swearing and was given the maximum sentence, five years in the penitentiary. The Jackson woman testified against Conda Dabney, of Coal Creek, Tenn., at his trial for the murder of Mary Vickery. Her testimony resulted in his being sentenced to life imprisonment. He was pardoned when the Vickery girl returned here March 10.

Dabney said the Jackson woman "swore me into the penitentiary because of jealousy." Miss Jackson admitted that she had testified that she saw him slay the girl and throw her body in an abandoned mine "because we had a falling out."

## FISH LICENSES

Fifteen thousand game fishermen's license cards and buttons were distributed to the county court clerks of North Carolina by the state department of conservation and development last Friday. The angler's license tax became effective upon its ratification by the legislature on March 2, but enforcement awaited consolidation of the fisheries commission with the conservation department on April 1.

## Mountaineers Are Just Plain "Folks"

### Are as Law-Abiding and Intelligent as Any People. Newspaper Story to Contrary, Notwithstanding

By ILLIAT JOHNSON

Jefferson, April 6.—There are two groups existing today from whom the true mountaineer should pray for a true deliverance. The first is the group of orators and writers that patronizingly refer to "the purest Anglo-Saxon blood on the American continent." The other is the group of ultra-smart newspaper and feature writers who depict the mountaineer as an uncouth, unlearned, ignorant and lawless type—living a strange life and speaking a strange tongue.

I am a mountaineer and my forebears have been mountaineers for many generations. My experience and observation at home and abroad have led me to the conclusion that we are just "folks." In some ways we may be behind and in other ways a little ahead of the pure-sion.

A study of the names of leading families, say, in Ashe and Watauga counties, would convince any one of the pure poppy-cock in the "purest Anglo-Saxon blood" myth. I am thinking just now of the following leading families in this section and their ancestry as traced by reliable historians: Holtzclaw, German; Elrod, French; Mast, Swiss; Ballou, French; Michael, Dutch; Grubb, German; Brown (at least one leading branch), Dutch; Shull (formerly Schull), German; DuVall, French; DeBaro, French. This list might be materially increased.

These are among our leading families. They have honorable ancestry. They are just as high types of citizenship as their neighbors of Scotch and English descent. We have in these mountains a fine admixture of the bloods of the nations of Europe. True, we are largely free from the taint of low-class immigrants. But we are not unexpurgated, pure from Chaucer and Shakespeare. We are "folks."

My little son is an average mountain youngster. I shall not teach him to be an ancestor worshipper. Going back a few generations, I find in his ancestry Scotch, French, German, Dutch, Swiss—and a few others. He may not have a more Anglo-Saxon blood than a baby born on a sea-shore, likely not as much. But I think he is just as good as if he did have.

For the second group, I have, though it may sound paradoxical, a deeper sympathy and a more profound contempt. I write a bit for the news columns of newspapers and realize the temptation to give to color human interest, the usual, perhaps naturally, writers see the opportunity to obtain results by grotesque and untrue pictures of the mountaineers, their cabins and their moonshine stills, their legends and "eighteenth century" manners, their story and screen, as well as the columns of newspapers and the pages of some of our leading magazines have given the public recently these distorted pictures of our people. To prove that my people are just human, I might say here that they resent such misrepresentations. Whether it is in the form of propaganda or appeals for funds for some mountain mission school, whether it is the inspirational story of some mountaineer who has won success, whether it is a gripping account of some mountaineer "killing," it is none the less unfair to a great people and unfair to the reading public which wants facts and not flattery of the unknown or slander of the unfamiliar.

A recent newspaper story describing the arraignment of Herbert S. Wagner at Boone, Watauga county, for a double killing, occurring last Christmas day, erred on both sides of the ledger, according to the deliberate opinion of many citizens of the mountain section. I was present at Boone on this occasion and while perhaps not as observant or as well trained to detail as the writer of the newspaper story in question, I am convinced of its inaccuracy in several points. The story was well written and no doubt made good reading for the public with its distorted conception of the mountain people.

But there are statements in it which demand a reply, for the sake of historical accuracy and for the sake of the good name of the citizenship of Watauga county. The writer of the story says that "the trial... is a climax of another of those mountain killings which, to the lowlander, are

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