

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 1927.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

COUNTY SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION AT STONY FORK

It is announced by officers of the Watauga County Sunday School Association that the annual county Sunday school convention will be held on Saturday and Sunday, July 2 and 3, in the Baptist church on Stony Fork.

Taking part on the program will be the following well-known Sunday school workers: Mr. D. W. Sims, Raleigh, general superintendent of the North Carolina Sunday School Association, and Mr. W. J. Vaughan, of Ashland, Ky., former field secretary of the Kentucky Sunday School Association.

In addition to these outside speakers, several of the best known Sunday school workers in the county will have parts on the program. The convention is interdenominational and workers from all Sunday Schools in the county are invited to participate in the work. The Watauga County Sunday School Association under whose direction the convention is being held, is one of the units of the North Carolina Sunday School Association. Each of the 100 counties in the state is now organized into a County Sunday School Association.

In charge of the arrangements for the convention are Mr. E. N. Hahn, president, and Miss Minnie Day, secretary. These officers are requesting the co-operation of all pastors, superintendents and other Sunday school leaders in the effort to make the convention a success.

Following a custom inaugurated several years ago, the officers have announced that again this year a pennant will be presented to the Sunday school having in the convention the largest number of representatives, 16 years of age and over, according to the number of miles traveled. It is expected that there will be much friendly competition for the pennant among the Sunday schools of the county.

LOCAL BOYS TO ATTEND CITIZENS MILITARY CAMP

Captain H. W. Edmonds, of Charlotte, National Guard officer, was in the county last week in the interest of the Citizens' Military Training Camp, established at Fort Bragg for young men between the ages of 17 and 21. The training covers a period of 30 days, all expenses being paid by the government and is in no sense a part of the army, but rather a student reserve corps.

Captain Edmonds enlisted locally Allen S. Adams of Boone and Albert Ferthing and Orville Hagaman of the Beaver Dam section. In the vicinity of Elk Park and Newland, the following young men will go: Robert D. Campbell, Rush Z. Crumley, Lindon E. Hamrick, Ben H. Sutton, Norman S. Winters, Plato E. Hicks, Jack E. Norman, Harold H. Allgood, Frank Buchanan and Lum Banner.

The camp will open on June 15, up until which time applications will be received. County Superintendent Smith Hagaman has a supply of application blanks and can give any information wanted in regard to the course offered.

NEWS OF A WEEK IN ZIONVILLE COMMUNITY

Zionville, June 8.—A number of people from this community attended the county singing at Aho last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Isaacs and children, of Cincinnati, Ohio, are visiting relatives here.

Misses Edna Thomas and Blanche Greer are attending school at Boone.

M. W. Eller of Butler, Tenn., was in the village the last week on business.

G. C. Greer who has been employed by I. Greer, has accepted a position with Smythe and Sons at Mountain City, Tenn., and left Monday to begin work.

Mr. and Mrs. Roby Roten and son-in-law, Mr. Hayes, all of Johnson City, were guests of relatives here last week.

Andrew, Charlie and Joe Storie, of Finley, spent a few hours in the village Sunday evening.

Lloyd Eller is in Tennessee on business this week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Greer and Mrs. Isaline Proffitt of Boone, were Sunday visitors here.

Fire in the home of Nicholas Lind, chemist of Charlotte, resulted in the finding by firemen in the attic of 1,000 gallons of beer, a 50-gallon still and a lot of empty containers of different sizes. The incident was reported to the police, but Lind escaped.

Introducing the Rev. Plato Albert Hicks

Personal Glimpses of New Pastor of Boone and Blowing Rock Baptist Churches

Under the caption, "Introducing Neighbors," the Statesville Land-Mark of April 25, carried the following sketch of the Rev. P. A. Hicks, who recently accepted the pastorate of the Boone and Blowing Rock Baptist churches.

Rev. Plato Albert Hicks, who has been pastor of Western Avenue Baptist church for the past four years, was born in Burke county, August 3, 1892, a son of Joseph and Mary Jane Hicks. He was one of eleven children, three sons and eight daughters. The father, one brother and two sisters have passed away.

During what is known as the "Cleveland panic," when Mr. Hicks was five years old, the family removed to Lincoln county, and two years later moved to a cotton mill at Lincolnton. "I began working in the mill at the age of eight," stated Mr. Hicks in recounting the period of his career spent in in Lincolnton, "and worked till I was eighteen, attending the public school about four months each year. When I began working I received ten cents per day and when I stopped working I was receiving the fancy wage of one dollar per day. I had operated most every piece of machinery in the mill and had been promoted to assistant overseer."

"On September 23, 1906," continued Mr. Hicks, when asked for further information concerning his career, "I was baptized into the fellowship of River View Baptist church. Two years later I was elected superintendent of the Sunday school, and also taught the men's Bible class."

"In the fall of 1911, feeling that God was calling me into the blessed work of the gospel ministry, I entered South Fork Institute, a Baptist high school located at Maiden, N. C., and was given license to preach the same fall. I took a four years' course in three years and graduated May 15, 1914. While here I paid my expenses by serving as janitor of the Administration building and serving Bethany Baptist church at Hilderbran. A very interesting coincidence is that both positions paid me the same salary—five dollars per month."

"In the fall of 1914, three great things happened in my career: I got married; the World War started, and I entered Wake Forest College with my young bride by faith, with just enough money to reach Wake Forest. I married Miss Diere Whiteside, of my home community, my first and only sweetheart. She was a real companion to me in my struggles at Wake Forest and at the Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky.

"The first two years at Wake Forest I paid most of my expenses delivering the Raleigh Evening Times, working with my good friend, the late Lieutenant B. W. Maynard, the 'sky pilot.'"

Mr. Hicks was ordained to the full work of the ministry July 18, 1915, and served the following churches in connection with his last two years in college: South Henderson, Kennansville, New Hill and Pleasant Plains Baptist churches.

Mr. and Mrs. Hicks have two boys, both being born during their residence at Wake Forest—Jeter Joseph Hicks, born May 12, 1915, and Paul Albert Hicks, born January 2, 1917.

On the 24th day of May, 1918, Mr. Hicks received the A. B. degree at Wake Forest College. On the following September, he was asked by the home mission board to serve as pastor at Camp Greene, Charlotte, and in connection with this camp he was called as pastor to Chadwick Baptist church. He served as camp pastor 18 months until the base hospital closed, at which time the Chadwick church became self-supporting, by reason of the fact that the membership had almost doubled, and he remained as pastor there until September, 1921, when he went to Louisville, Ky., to enter the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

While a student at the seminary, Mr. Hicks served two half-time churches in the state of Indiana, one at Burney and the other at Shelbyville, which he found to be a very delightful field of work.

After receiving his Th. B. degree from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville in May, 1923, Mr. Hicks and family left for Statesville, which he designates as the "best town in the Old North State," and he is today enjoying his sojourn and labors here. During his

FOR THE RELIEF OF STORM SUFFERERS

The Watauga Democrat and the local Chapter of the American Red Cross acknowledge receipt of the following contributions for the benefit of the storm sufferers in the Mississippi valley:

Previously reported \$437.72
Middle Fork Ch. 9.00
Lee Cavender 1.00
Total \$447.72

NEW AUTOMOBILE LAW BECOMES EFFECTIVE JULY 1

Application blanks are now in the hands of automobile owners for the purchase of new license tags, which are good from June 30 to January 1, 1928. These tags will be sold for half price, plus 25 cents, which is to take care of the extra cost of changing the system from the fiscal to the calendar year. It is noted that it is a violation to display a new license plate before July 1.

Several other new sections have been added to the general state automobile laws. Beginning with the new fiscal year, cars may operate at a speed of 45 miles per hour, provided there is no tendency to recklessness. Officers will make a written report of every accident occurring in their jurisdictions. This information will be furnished the various solicitors.

The new law will also deal severely with the "hit-and-run" driver. Those failing to stop when an accident occurs may suffer penalties as high as 30 days imprisonment or \$5,000 fine or both at the discretion of the court.

The penalty for driving a car while intoxicated, first offense, is 30 days to one year in prison, or a fine of \$100 to \$1,000 or both. On second offense the defendant cannot be confined to jail less than 90 days, and in the discretion of the court may also be given a fine not exceeding \$1,000. In no case has the court power to suspend judgment on payment of costs.

Another feature of the law is that wagons, horses, etc., as well as cars shall display danger signals while traveling on the highways at night. Motorists class this as the most outstanding safety measure of the last general assembly.

The headlights of automobiles shall be focused so that the beam will not raise more than 12 inches from the road at a distance of 75 feet. Official testing stations will be arranged in towns throughout the state, which may issue certificates showing headlights have been properly focused. This certificate must be carried in the car at all times.

In driving on the highways of the state the motorist on the right will continue to have the right of way, except when driving from a private alley into a main thoroughfare and motorists must give signals when starting, stopping, turning to the right or left. The law forbids coasting down hill with gears in neutral, passing a car at the crest of a grade or on a curve. The new speed law applies only to stretches of open road. The thickly settled sections are protected by that part of the law giving municipal or county officials power to make regulations to govern local conditions.

four years here, the Western Avenue Baptist church has greatly increased in membership and a Sunday School annex to the church has been built, which gives the church the distinction of having one of the most complete and modern departmental Sunday school buildings in the state.

Mr. Hicks finds his life so crowded that he takes little time for recreation and sports. However, he occasionally enjoys playing tennis and goes on an old-fashioned rabbit hunt once every two or three years. "I go fishing about once each year, but strange to say, the fish never bite on the day I go," he remarked in speaking of his unsuccessful experiences as a fisherman.

Here are some of the mottoes, which Mr. Hicks adopted for daily life: "Be Clean," "Be Honest," "Do a Good Deed Every Day," "Don't Talk if You Have Nothing to Say."

There is a revival of interest in sheep growing in North Carolina.

Hauntings In and About Blowing Rock

Interesting News of Past Week From Famous Resort Town

Blowing Rock, June 8.—A loan of \$500 for building the new Blowing Rock school has been approved by the state board of education, according to a letter received early this week by County Superintendent Smith Hagaman from A. T. Allen, state superintendent of public instruction. The money, the letter said will be available December 15.

On receipt of the letter, the county board of education ordered that the present Blowing Rock school building be sold and advertised at once. It will be removed to make room for the new building.

E. A. Poe, architect, of Lenoir, is now at work on preliminary pencil sketches of the plans for the new building.

Blowing Rock, June 8.—Thomas H. Coffey, Watauga county representative in the legislature, last week added the assurance of the state highway commission that Highway No. 17, only entry to Blowing Rock from the south, will not be closed.

While Mr. Coffey was in Raleigh on business last week, he visited the highway commission and asked for confirmation or denial of the report that the road would be closed to all traffic and opened as a completed road two weeks later. Mr. Coffey was assured that the road would remain open and that the workmen would not in any way impede traffic.

It has been reported that one of the negro convicts on the road to Lenoir has escaped. He is the one who slashed another severely last week in a quarrel with one of his companions. It is not known here what measures are being taken to apprehend the negro.

New summer businesses are opening rapidly here. Ballew's cash drug store has opened for the summer, as has also the Pastime Theater in Mayview Park. A fruit store has been opened near the postoffice. The Hob Nob Tea House has been renovated and put in condition for the opening June 15. Blowing Rock Hotel is scheduled for opening on that date also. Mayview Manor, as well as the annex, is now open for guests.

Herman Cone's new \$65,000 summer home here is approaching completion. The house is almost finished, except the painting and interior decorations and a few other finishing touches, and the rock retaining walls around the grounds have been completed. Mrs. Elliott Reed's new \$20,000 home will soon be ready for occupancy.

The increase in shipments of merchandise to Blowing Rock has made it necessary for the Smith-Kirby Transfer company to put additional trucks on the run and to begin using its new freight and baggage station before it was completed.

A lively house party from Columbia, S. C., is spending a happy week at the cottage of Mrs. Washington Clark near Mayview Manor. Mrs. McDowell is chaperon, and the other members are Miss Seibels, Miss Knowlton, Mr. Mills and Mr. Bryan. A week-end party from Salisbury was registered at Mayview Manor. They are Eva Bullock, Virginia Hawkins, Margaret Dupuy, Lulia Frank, Ann Thorpe Reynolds and Nol Pridgen.

Among the week-end registrations at the Martin cottage were Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Brantly of Wilmington, Miss Alene S. Grosche of Spartanburg, S. C., Miss Louise W. Roth of St. Paul, Minn., C. Meadows of North Wilkesboro, W. J. Woods of Winston-Salem, Mr. and Mrs. Richards of Johnson City, Dr. and Mrs. A. B. English of Bristol, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Kemp Clendinning of Greensboro are spending the week at the Martin cottage.

The first June wedding in Watauga county was that of I. E. Story, of Blowing Rock, to Miss Emma Flowers, daughter of A. C. Flowers of Hickory, which took place on the evening of June 1 at the Methodist Episcopal church in Boone. Following the wedding, the bridal party, relatives and intimate friends were entertained at the home of Mrs. Pearl Hartley of Boone, sister of the groom. On the following day they were again

NOTICE TO LEGIONARIES AND EX-SERVICE MEN

All ex-service men and members of the American Legion Post No. 20, are requested to be present at the American Legion Park on Friday morning, June 10th, at 9:00 o'clock to help put the park in shape for the Fourth of July Celebration. Bring along a pick shovel, mattock or hammer. The Auxiliary will serve dinner. This work is not confined to ex-service men, but to any citizen who wishes to help.

AMERICAN BIRDMEN GET OVATION IN BERLIN

Clarence Chamberlain, American aviator, arrived in Berlin Tuesday afternoon in his Bellanca monoplane Columbia, at the termination of a new record flight. The pilot was accompanied by Charles Levine, New York millionaire and financial banker.

The plane was forced down only 70 miles from Berlin after the gasoline supply had been exhausted at the end of a 4,100-mile flight in a period of 44 hours, having been in the air ten and a half hours longer than Captain Lindbergh on his New York to Paris flight. The plane suffered a broken propeller as a result of the forced landing, hence the delay in reaching the German capital.

One hundred and fifty thousand German people were waiting on Tempelhofer field when Chamberlain's plane, escorted by fifteen German planes, came in sight. The reception was altogether enthusiastic and the fliers were hailed as conquerors. The crowds were effectively policed and there was a noticeable absence of confusion in the plans. Elaborate plans have been made for entertaining the Yankee fliers. A feature of the gaieties will be the reception by President Von Hindenburg.

14-HOUR SHIFT WILL SPEED HIGHWAY WORK

A fourteen-hour shift has been put on by the engineers in charge of the construction work on the Lenoir and Blowing Rock road. This emergency step was taken in order to rush the completion of the road before the main rush of tourists begins to the mountain region. With the base and first top coat of stone on, there will be little rush in putting on the finishing touches. All will be ready for the last two inches of fine crushed stone by the first of July, according to District Engineer C. S. Currier. Currier's plan to secure detours makes it necessary to keep the road open for traffic at all times.

Mr. Currier has also given out the information that the road connecting Boone and Sparta should, with favorable working conditions, be completed by the first of the year.

REV. SHERMAN NEW PASTOR OF ADVENT CHURCH HERE

Rev. L. B. Sherman, of Lake City, Fla., has accepted the pastorate of the Boone Advent Christian church for the summer months, and conducted his first services last Sunday morning and evening. The minister comes here hoping to be physically benefited by the mountain climate.

Rev. Sherman says he has been in the ministry for about three years, walking off one of Uncle Sam's battleships to take up his great work. He is a marine engineer by profession and a preacher by choice. He has been chief engineer on more than a hundred American steamers, has served as superintendent of shipyards and served four years in the submarine division of the navy.

The engineer-preacher comes to this work here with high recommendations, has had remarkable success since entering the field and the church, which has not had a regular pastor since the death of Elder R. N. Baldwin, welcomes him.

Dr. Henry D. Phillips of Columbia, S. C., has arrived and opened his new summer home in Laurel Park. He will have charge of the church of St. Mary's of the Hills during July.

Increased Pensions for Veterans and Widows

First Check Under New Law Will Be Received in December of this Year

The check of the superior court of Watauga county and the county pension board have received the following letter from Baxter Durham, state treasurer, in regard to pensions of Confederate veterans and widows of veterans:

The general assembly of 1927 made certain changes in the pension laws of the state. A soldier who is totally blind or who has been paralyzed and is totally disabled by reason thereof, will hereafter draw \$420 a year, payable monthly through the clerk of the court, instead of \$300 as heretofore.

All other Confederate soldiers now on the pension roll, or who are eligible for pension under the general pension law, will draw one dollar a day, payable semi-annually. The first payment will be in December, 1927 and the second in June, 1928.

The marriage date was also changed. A widow in order to be eligible for pension must have married prior to January 1, 1880, but widows now on pension roll by reason of some previous statutes will not be taken off.

Class "A" widows who are blind in both eyes or totally helpless and confined to the house will receive \$300; all other widows \$100.

Except as mentioned above, the general pension law has not been changed. The property qualification is still in the law.

The legislature appropriated for the year beginning July 1, 1927, \$500,000 for widows and \$900,000 for the soldiers, and for the year beginning July 1, 1928, they appropriated \$500,000 for widows and \$600,000 for soldiers.

The county pension board will meet at the courthouse here on the first Monday in July. Any soldier or widow who desire further information concerning the provisions of the new law, or who by reason of infirmities entitle them to re-classification, should appear before the board at that time.

BIG BUSINESS WILL TUMBLE, SAYS ROGER W. BABSON

That big business as represented by the great industrial lines is riding for a fall through the inevitable working of the business cycle which has been operative since the time of the fat and the lean years of the pharaohs of Egypt, and that with the swinging of the pendulum of prosperity back to agriculture there might be a return to power of the Democratic party, was the statement of Roger W. Babson in a talk before a body of representative Florence, S. C. business men at a luncheon in that city last week.

"Trees do not grow to the skies, and it is a long time that has no turning," said Mr. Babson, "and while the south is mainly dependent upon its agriculture may now be experiencing its period of depression, it is learning lessons which will be the basis of great prosperity in the years to come. Personally, I had much rather invest in the south which is now below the normal but is headed toward better times than in other sections which are now very prosperous, but which are headed for trouble."

WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS STRONGLY ENDORSED

Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., president of the General Motors Corporation, recently gave a strong endorsement of the value of the country weekly newspaper.

In discussing this year's advertising campaign for General Motors Corporation, Mr. Sloan, among other things, said:

"I believe in the country weekly newspaper. I believe that no printed matter in the United States is more thoroughly read, or has more influence than the pages of these home town newspapers."

A SUPER AIRPLANE ENGINE

An engine worked out by the engineers of the Packard Motor Car Company, will give an airplane of commercial type a speed of 330 to 340 miles an hour. The plane will develop 1,200 horsepower and will be manufactured in Detroit. A prize fund of from \$25,000 to \$50,000 is being raised to carry a cargo of Detroit products from Detroit to London.