

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1927

FIVE CENTS A COPY

## County Schools Have Enrollment of 4,545

4,020 in Elementary and 525 in High Schools; 4,841 of School Age in the County

Superintendent Smith Hagaman's statistical report of the public schools of Watauga county for the year 1926-27 shows the following interesting facts:

School census, (6 to 21) 4,841  
Enrollment 4,545  
Average attendance 3,462  
Enrollment in high school, 525  
The enrollment by grades is as follows:

First grade, 986; second, 481; third, 609; fourth, 501; fifth, 542; sixth, 450; seventh, 386; eighth, 175; ninth, 147; tenth, 113; eleventh, 79.

Teachers employed, male, 39; female, 95.

There are 60 white districts and two colored in the county, the colored schools having an enrollment of only 45.

Three hundred and one children were transported to and from school on trucks.

## NEAR-SERIOUS AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT SUNDAY P. M.

W. H. Chambers, of Johnson City, Tenn., was released Monday under bond of \$500 for his appearance at the next term of Watauga superior court on a charge of reckless driving and assault and battery, and at the same time civil action was started against him asking \$6,000 damages as the result of an automobile accident on Highway No. 17 near Blowing Rock Sunday afternoon, in which Mr. and Mrs. Blane Coffey and little child were cut and bruised as the result of the impact between the cars driven by Mr. J. O. Coffey and Mr. Chambers.

The collision occurred on a sharp curve near Blowing Rock, the Pontiac coupe driven by Mr. Chambers, plunging into a Chevrolet touring car driven by Mr. J. O. Coffey. The windshields of both cars were smashed, the radiator of the Pontiac smashed and the front of the Chevrolet considerably bumped up.

Mr. and Mrs. Coffey and their baby and Mr. Chambers and his son were rushed to the Watauga hospital for treatment. Upon examination, it was found that no one was seriously injured, cuts from broken windshields being the responsible for most of the injuries.

It is understood that Mr. Chambers assumed full responsibility for the accident, and offered to pay all expenses in connection with the mishap. However, he was arrested late Sunday evening and gave bond for his appearance Monday morning before Justice Harb, at which time waived examination and was released as above stated. The law firm of Brown & Bingham are appearing for Mr. Coffey in the civil action.

## FARMERS' DAIRY PICNIC WILL BE HELD SATURDAY

The outstanding event of the week in the county is the annual farmers' dairy picnic which will be held at Beaver Dam next Saturday, September 24th. And the big event of the picnic is the address of Dr. Clarence Poe, editor of the Progressive Farmer, Raleigh, who will speak on the subject, "The Dairy Outlook for 1928." Other speakers on the program are A. C. Kimrey, of State College, Raleigh, assistant dairy specialist, and John W. Goodman, district agent for Western North Carolina.

The afternoon will be taken up with hog calling contest, horse-shoe pitching, pony riding and other sports. Every farmer in the county is urged to take a day off and attend the picnic, as it will be both entertaining and profitable.

## LAXON BRIEFS

Laxon, Sept. 20.—Rev. L. B. Murray of State Roads, preached a very interesting sermon at Laurel Springs church Saturday night.

Married on Saturday, September 17th, Miss Ella Watson, daughter of Mrs. Jerry Watson, and Mr. Fred Greer, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Greer, of Boone. Mr. and Mrs. Greer are members of two of Watauga's most prominent families, and have the best wishes of their many friends.

Mrs. Edna Hodges and daughter, Miss Louise Hodges, of Boone, were dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe L. Coffey Sunday.

Greene Brown made a business trip to Tennessee last week.

Miss Dora McNeal of Tennessee was a week-end visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Carroll.

Little Miss Mildred Louise Coffey is very sick with measles.

A large quantity of produce has been marked from this section within the past two weeks.

Mrs. T. S. Watson is visiting her daughter, Mrs. E. A. Watson, at Wythville, Va., this week.

## NOTED BALLOONIST AT BLOWING ROCK

German Pilot Opposed to Transatlantic Flying; Filling Station Robbed by Negro; School Opens With Enrollment of 170.

By RUPERT GILLET

Blowing Rock, Sept. 21.—Transatlantic flying certainly ought to be stopped for the present in the opinion of A. Kaulen, senior pilot of the Barman, German entry in the Gordon Bennett cup race just closed. Mr. Kaulen, Junior Pilot A. Dahl and their crew are spending a few days at Mayview Manor.

"Although the flights of Lindbergh, Byrd and Chamberlain gave a great impetus to aviation," said Mr. Kaulen, "it does not mean that everyone can fly across the Atlantic without adequate preparation. Aviators seem to have got the idea that since Lindbergh spanned the Atlantic, all that is necessary is to hop off and fly to Europe."

"But this is an error that has cost several lives already, and those foolhardy flights should stop. The very best fliers on both sides of the Atlantic are being killed in what is little more than a sport."

In regard to flights from Europe to America, Mr. Kaulen explained, "The Atlantic storms prevalent at this time of the year travel toward Europe. European fliers, therefore, would have to travel against the storms, whereas the Americans fly with the wind. But these weather conditions are another reason that further Atlantic flights should be postponed, at least until next spring."

Mr. Kaulen holds the world's endurance record for balloons. He flew 87 hours and covered a distance of 1,820 miles in 1913. His balloon, the Barman, takes its name from the headquarters of the Lawren Rhenish Association for Aviation. It represented the Benzberg Company of that city, which has a branch factory at Johnson City, Tenn.

Speaking of his flight in the balloon race, he said he was well pleased with the result. He spoke highly of the beauty of the mountain scenery over which he passed, sometimes at a height of 15,000 feet. He and his crew wished to see the mountains on the ground also, and so they came to Blowing Rock for a short visit.

Filling Station Robbed  
A negro entered the office of the filling station operated by J. H. Winkler Monday at noon, knocked City Blair, the attendant, upon the floor, took \$15.19 from the cash register and escaped in the direction of Boone.

The negro waited until all except Blair had gone home to lunch, then approached the station and bought a quart of oil. When Blair went to the office to make the change, the negro followed and struck him over the head.

When Mr. Winkler returned, he found Blair lying on the floor and the cash drawer rifled. A bloodhound was put on the trail but lost it on the highway a half mile from the filling station.

School Opening  
The Blowing Rock schools opened Monday with a total enrollment for the first day of 170. Of these, 49 were in the high school department and the rest in the elementary grades. The classes were scattered all over town, as the new building is not yet completed.

The first grade meets in the Presbyterian Sunday school room, the second, third, sixth and seventh in the old bank building, the fourth and fifth in the Bernhard and Seagle annex, and the high school in the town hall.

Birthday Parties  
Mrs. Sally Reeves was surprised on the evening of her birthday, September 16, by a party at her home, with these guests present: Her sister, Mrs. J. S. Williams; her daughter, Miss Lena Reeves; Mrs. C. S. Prevette, Louise Prevette; Misses Margaret and Georgia Davis of Mobile, Ala.; Mrs. Fannie Hayman, Mrs. N. C. Gordon and Thomas Lamb Corbin of Winston-Salem; James Phillips, Winston-Salem, and Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Gillett.

The table to which Mrs. Reeves was summoned to find the guests assembled in her honor was attractive and colorful with white and pink sweet peas, with the large birthday cake and candles as a centerpiece bearing out the color plan of white and pink. Felicitations, gifts and the surprise of the guest of honor furnished merriment during the evening, while the young guests present shared games and stories.

Another birthday party of interest to the juvenile portion of Blowing Rock took place on the afternoon of the same day at the home of Mrs. Ben Green in honor of her small grandson, Jerry Pewitt. A birthday cake, candles, ice cream, gifts and games entertained the

children. Guests on this occasion included Virginia Sadler, Louise Prevette, Margaret Miller, Gladys Brown, Mary Louise Williams, James and Bill Williams, Gertrude Moore, Catherine Underdown, Grover and Bettie Jane Robbins and other small friends of the guest of honor.

## 14,000 Legionnaires Cheered by France

Thousands of Parisians Line Streets Along Which "Second A. E. F." Marches

Paris, Sept. 19.—The American Legion marched into the hearts of the French today. The men who fought for France "came back home," and hundreds of thousands of French populace, their eyes dim as they thought of the war time, cheered the Americans as they marched along. Overcome with emotion many women along the route of the parade wept.

Each of the 14,000 men of the legion and several thousand of their mothers, sisters and wives passed under the Arc de Triomphe. In silent tribute to the French unknown soldier buried there the legionnaires passed with their hats off and their colors dipped in salute. As each passed he dropped some red, white and blue flowers around the grave. Soon the marchers had built around that tomb a wall of fragrant and tender tribute that hid from view the flame of memory that burns there.

Rain fell as the procession was being formed and came again as it started, but soon the weather brightened. There was a guard for each of the 14,000 legionnaires in the line of march, but none was needed. The 14,000 soldiers and policemen were grouped along its route or waiting in reserve. But there was no disorder in Paris except the frenzy of cheer.

Many of the spectators wore mourning bands and many saw the parade with quickened hearts as they remembered again the days of the war and visualized these men in tin hats trudging along the line of fire where their own kin fought and died.

Through the whole of France and her colonies it was American Legion Day. Every city was flag bedecked and often little ceremonies marked this, the first official holiday ever declared in honor of her foreign friends.

## FEDERATION WOMEN'S CLUBS TO HOLD MEETING HERE

The third district Federation of Women's Clubs will hold a meeting in Boone Saturday, October 1, in the auditorium of the Administration building at the Normal. Mrs. Taos O'Berry, of Goldsboro, state president, will deliver the main address of the occasion, followed by the vice president, Mrs. W. J. Brodwin.

Mrs. J. M. Moretz of Boone is president of the third district federation, and will preside at the sessions.

The third district is composed of the club women of Iredell, Catawba, Burke, Caldwell, Watauga, Avery, Mitchell, Ashe, Alleghany and Wilkes. Delegates and others from each of the counties named are expected to be present and take part in the meeting. A program of the sessions was not available for publication this week.

## GOODWILL TOUR TO PIEDMONT CAROLINA TO START OCT. 5TH

Final details of the proposed motorcade trip into Piedmont Carolina will be worked out at today's luncheon of the local Civitan Club, said Mr. Frank Moore, yesterday afternoon. Mr. Moore said that eight or ten cars had already been secured for the tour from Boone, a like number from both Mountain City and Bristol and fifteen or twenty from the Wilkesboro.

If present plans are carried out, the motorcade will leave Boone on the morning of October 5th, by way of North Wilkesboro to Winston-Salem, High Point, Salisbury and Charlotte, returning by way of Hickory and Lenoir. Two days will be required for the "swing," which is being made in an effort to stimulate interest in the improvement of the Boone Trail Highway.

## CHANGE IN MANAGEMENT WATAUGA FISH HATCHERY

C. E. Smathers, of Waynesville, has assumed charge of the Watauga Fish hatchery, succeeding Mr. Edmondson, who has been transferred to the Marion hatchery. Mr. Smathers comes to Watauga from Waynesville where he was in charge of the state's largest hatchery. The change in management was made because of a vacancy at Marion. Mr. Edmondson asking for the work there because it was near his old home. Mr. Smathers arrived at the Rutherford plant about two weeks ago.

Children. Guests on this occasion included Virginia Sadler, Louise Prevette, Margaret Miller, Gladys Brown, Mary Louise Williams, James and Bill Williams, Gertrude Moore, Catherine Underdown, Grover and Bettie Jane Robbins and other small friends of the guest of honor.

## TEACHER MEET POSTPONED

Date Changed From September 24 to Saturday, October 1, Because Former Date Conflicted With Farmers' Picnic.

County Superintendent Smith Hagaman announced last Saturday that the county-wide teachers' meeting, scheduled for September 24, had been postponed to Saturday, October 1. The change in date was made because of the dairymen's picnic which is to be held on the former date.

The meeting will be held at the courthouse, beginning at 10 a. m. Prof. J. A. Williams, of the faculty of the Appalachian State Normal School, will conduct the opening

## Program

The full program for the conference is as follows:  
1. How do you teach a school of 39 with seven grades? M. J. Williams and Mrs. Sales of Blowing Rock. Each prepare and present a daily program of such a school.  
2. My tool chest—Miss Buchelle. This will be followed by:  
(a) How is your school room equipped?  
(b) How are you equipped? Discussed by several teachers.  
3. How are you managing your school? Open discussion.  
It is also expected that an interesting speaker will be present and deliver an address.

## DEMOCRACY NEEDS NEW LEADERSHIP, SAYS LYON

Winston-Salem, Sept. 18.—The Democratic party needs a new standard bearer, a leader with new ideas, Judge C. C. Lyon, of Elizabethton, who is holding superior court here, declared in an interview today.

The jurist said he was for McAdoo in his last campaign, but he is delighted now that the California lawyer has decided not to be a candidate for the nomination.

"I do not believe Al Smith will be nominated," declared Judge Lyon. "But if he is the Democratic party's nomination he will receive the electoral vote of the southern states all right. There will be a slump in the country votes, but in the cities where the party has the big machinery to work with Smith would roll up the votes."

"But I think the party should go out after a new man, a new leader. The party is in the wilderness and needs a real leader to bring it out again."

## SAYS GIRL MARRIED TO BLUFF RIVAL

J. Ray Mast, formerly of Zionville, Watauga county, hero in a love romance which culminated in his wedding to Miss Pauline Greer at Zionville, March 24, obtained a divorce from the pretty young Carolina woman in domestic relations court in Cincinnati Saturday. Mast produced testimony proving that his wife had deserted him three months after his wedding after telling him she had merely entered into the marriage contract with him to "bluff" a wealthier young North Carolina business man and ardent suitor by jilting the other man. Mast declared in court that his wife had returned to North Carolina to the other man, whom she declared, Mast asserted, was her true sweetheart.—Lynch News-Topic

## JUDGE GREEN PROPERTY TO BE SOLD OCTOBER 6TH

Horney Brothers of Asheville, in co-operation with H. W. Horton, local realtor, announce in this issue the sale of the Mrs. Mattie J. (Judge) Greene property, which takes place on the 6th of October. This property, located right on the end of the pavement in the western part of the town, is considered very valuable. One hundred and five acres are comprised in the tract to be sold. An interesting feature of the sale will be the offering of antique furniture and the library of the late Judge Lee Greene. An advertisement on page five will give detailed information.

## CITIES URGED TO CO-OPERATE IN FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

State Insurance Commissioner Stacey Wade in a letter mailed last week to mayors of cities and towns of North Carolina asks their co-operation in making fire prevention week, October 9-15, a success.

Commissioner Wade stresses the fact that 286 people were burned to death and property valued at more than \$6,000,000, was destroyed last year in the state. Over 74 per cent of such fires was laid to carelessness, the commissioner said.

## Civilians Will Gather Here Next Saturday

Charter Will Be Presented to Local Club in Important Ceremony Attended by International Officials.

Mr. Acuff of Knoxville, Tenn., president of Civitan International, and International Secretary Spahr are among the distinguished visitors expected to be present in Boone Saturday evening when Civitans from all over the country will come here to be present at the presentation of the charter to the local club. Through the courtesy of the Normal School the main dining hall, which has adequate seating room, will be used for the ceremony.

The Boone Civitan Club was organized in May, being sponsored by the Abingdon, Va., club, and it falls to them to give the program in connection with the presentation of the charter. This event was postponed to this late date because of the congestion existing during the height of the tourist season at which time it would have been almost impossible to have secured adequate accommodation for the visitors.

Large delegations of Civitans and others are expected from Knoxville, Bristol, Tenn., St. Paul, Va., and a number of other points. More people are expected to be in Boone than have ever attended a similar meeting in the history of the town.

The Boone club being one of the youngest in this part of the country, it is deemed worthy of note that men of Civitan importance and distinction so readily assent to be present. Mr. J. F. Moore, president of the local organization, is very anxious that every member of the club be present and avail themselves of the opportunity of greeting the honor guests.

## WILLIAM G. McADOO DOES NOT CHOOSE TO RUN

Washington, Sept. 17.—William G. McAdoo has informed his friends that he will not be a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1928.

His decision has been communicated to George F. Milton, publisher of the Chattanooga, Tenn., News in a letter sent in response to a request from Mr. Mellon that he announce his candidacy. The letter, together with the one from Mr. Mellon to which it was a reply, was made public today at Mr. McAdoo's law offices here.

Declaring that his "chief concern" was the "supremacy of Democratic principles and progressive policies," Mr. McAdoo said that "perhaps I can do more to advance these objects as a private citizen than as a candidate for the presidency."

"I prefer to stand aside," he added, "in order that the field may be left clear, so far as I can clear it, for the development of a leadership that can more effectively gain these ends. I shall not, therefore, be a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1928."

## PRESIDENT WILL NOT CALL A SPECIAL SESSION

President Coolidge has definitely decided that there will be no special session of congress this fall. Following consultation with various Republican leaders, the chief executive has issued a statement that the regular session can take care of the matters now pending. Referring to the Mississippi flood relief problem the president understands this relief work is provided for until the first of the year. Engineers who are drafting a plan for future flood control will be unable to make a report until perhaps the last of November, it was pointed out.

## MATNEY MATTERS

Matney, Sept. 20.—Ernie T. Iplett's band of the Epworth League rendered a very pretty and helpful pageant at the Methodist church here Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith Phillips of Cove Creek, spent the week-end with relatives here.

Gainen Storie and daughters spent Sunday with Mr. Alvin Storie.

Mr. and Mrs. Howell, Mrs. Chapel and J. A. Shook of Banner Elk, spent Sunday with Mrs. Lee Carender here.

Mr. Smothers of Detroit, Mich., is visiting R. D. Edminsten here.

N. R. Jones spent the week-end with his family.

A very interesting program will be given by Miss Clary Baird's band of the Epworth League Saturday, September 24th, at 8 p. m. A cordial invitation is extended to everybody.

Miss Laura Carrender left Tuesday to enter school at Lees-McRae Institute, Banner Elk.

## FISCAL AFFAIRS OF THE COUNTY

A. M. Pullen and Company's Audit for Past Six Months Recommends More Prompt Settlement of Taxes and Urges Rigid Economy

A. M. Pullen and Company, certified public accountants of Raleigh, have recently completed an audit of fiscal affairs of the county for the period of six months, December 1, 1926, to June 30, 1927. The audit covers 66 pages and discusses in detail the accounts of Sheriff Farthing, ex-Sheriff Critcher, Treasurer Greer, revenue and expenses, and summary of financial and miscellaneous statements.

## Tax Collections

Commenting on the fiscal affairs of the county, the auditor says: "It cannot be too strongly urged that in the future, tax settlements be made more promptly than in the past. The legal requirements in this respect should be met, if possible, but in any event, every effort should be put forth towards expeditious settlements, since the prompt collection of taxes is vital to your county finances."

## Sheriff's Accounts

Sheriff Farthing up to June 30, last, had collected \$226,311.29 in taxes for the years 1925-26, leaving \$67,566.68 for those two years yet uncollected. The audit shows that ex-Sheriff C. M. Critcher is due the county the sum of \$5,361.03 for the years 1923-24. The audit does not so state, but it is understood that the major portion, if not all, of this amount is due Mr. Critcher by the now defunct Cherokee Lumber Co.

## Urges Economy

"It is of equal importance that the utmost economy be exercised in each department or activity. As shown in the Fund Revenue and Expense and Balance Sheet section hereof, the expenses for the past year exceeded revenue by over \$60,000. This in itself is not an alarming situation, since there were surpluses in most of the funds to take care of the operating deficits. However, as the not current surplus as of June 30, 1927, was only slightly in excess of \$6,000, it may be seen that a slight overexpenditure of revenue during the coming year would change this to a deficit."

Although deficits for the fiscal year ended June 30, last, occurred in all but one fund, balance sheets at the close of the year show a surplus in all but two funds—the general county fund and the special school funds. The general county fund deficit is placed at \$9,433.72, and the school fund deficit at \$17,175.35.

## Receipts and Disbursements

Total cash receipts for the six month period from all sources, is \$310,821.19, plus a balance of \$34,664.92 on December 31, 1926, making a total of \$345,486.11. This total is allocated as follows: General county \$15,192.05; road maintenance, \$104,676.87; schools, \$138,526.37; jail construction, \$455.83; jail bond interest, \$2,200; road bond and interest, \$45,268.55; school bond interest, \$4,560.52.

Out of this fund amounts have been paid to the amount of \$323,133.25, leaving a surplus on June 30, of \$22,352.86.

## Expenses of the Schools

Teachers' salaries for the county for last year were \$76,426.76 and operating expenses and equipment \$26,850.63.

## Capital Assets and Liabilities

Total capital assets is given as \$704,797.35, as follows: Boone township railroad bond fund, \$7,420.68; jail construction fund, \$4,222.90; courthouse and grounds, \$14,500; new jail building, \$97,951.24; county home property, \$23,899.15; roads and bridges, \$400,000; school buildings, sites and equipment \$216,803.38.

Liabilities: Bonded indebtedness, \$394,000; state loans for school buildings, \$19,250; note, R. S. Dickson & Co., \$20,000; permanent improvement fund, \$5,205.21. Total, \$520,455.21. Capital surplus, \$184,342.14. Total fixed liabilities and capital surplus, \$704,797.35.

## Bonded Indebtedness

The total bonded indebtedness of the county at the end of the fiscal year was \$476,000. Bonds to the amount of \$505,000 had been issued previous to May 1, 1925, on which had been paid \$29,000.

## A Bit of Foxing

Actor: "And the audience, my boy, were glued to their seats until the show was over."  
Critic: "That certainly was a neat way of keeping them there."

## Stationary Like

Tourist: "Say, boy, where does this road go to?"  
Indignant: "It don't go anywhere. It's here every morning when I come along."