

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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## FEDERAL AID FOR STATE HIGHWAYS

\$840,000,000 Appropriated To Help States Build 184,161-Mile System of Highways Throughout United States

By E. E. DUFFY

Federal aid roads are forming a network of highways over the country that will bring all portions of the United States within hauling distance of each other. The total amount of money that has been appropriated or will be authorized by appropriation to build this network is \$840,000,000.

Nearly 75,000 miles of federal aid roads were completed or under construction according to the latest figures obtained June 30, last. Also according to these figures the system will include nearly 180,000 miles of road when all highways now proposed are completed. To build these 75,000 miles of road, more than a billion and a quarter dollars has been expended. Of this sum 44.7 per cent was spent for concrete highways, 18.7 per cent for gravel and 8.3 per cent for bituminous macadam; the rest of the money was divided into smaller portions among other types of roads.

According to the conditions under which the money for roads is given each state, it must keep up its own system. The plan briefly is this:

If any state fails to maintain its roads the secretary of agriculture is authorized to repair the highways and charge the cost of the repairs to the amount of money that the federal government has on hand of this particular state's portion. The money thus spent is deducted from the money the state has coming and all allotments are withheld from this particular state until the money has been paid back. When the cost is refunded it is reappropriated among all the states so that the state failing to keep up the roads loses all but a small sum.

Thus the states are anxious to build roads that will require a minimum amount of maintenance. For this reason permanent roads, such as concrete are preferred. A hard surfaced thoroughfare requires less cost to keep up and the money formerly spent in upkeep of semi-permanent roads can be used in extending the state's highway system.

Another provision of the federal aid system is that the minimum width of roads be eighteen feet. This minimum is maintained unless special permission is obtained from the secretary of agriculture to reduce them in width.

Federal aid is given to the state for road building on the following basis:

Before any state can benefit from this act it must lay out a system to be approved by the secretary of agriculture, consisting of not more than seven per cent of the total mileage of roads in the state. This has been done in all states.

States receive money according to their population, area and mileage of post roads in relation to the totals of all the states. Each of these phases are given a rating of one-third in determining the amount of money the state is to receive.

Except in states where more than five per cent of the area is unoccupied public land, the amount of federal aid received on any project is limited to 50 per cent of the cost of labor and materials. In the states five per cent or more of whose area is public land, the 50 per cent allowance is increased by an amount equal to one-half of the percentage of public land in the state.

For example, under the above provision, Arizona is given 72.31 per cent of the cost of the roads, Nevada benefits to the extent of 87.72 per cent of the road expenditure. Thus western states with a small population are enabled to build extensive highway systems.

Pennsylvania has 40,000 miles in its state road system. Approximately 4,000 miles are federal aid roads laid out as a unified system according to Federal provisions. Built for permanence, 3,900 miles of Pennsylvania roads are of concrete construction.

## GRANDFATHER NOTES

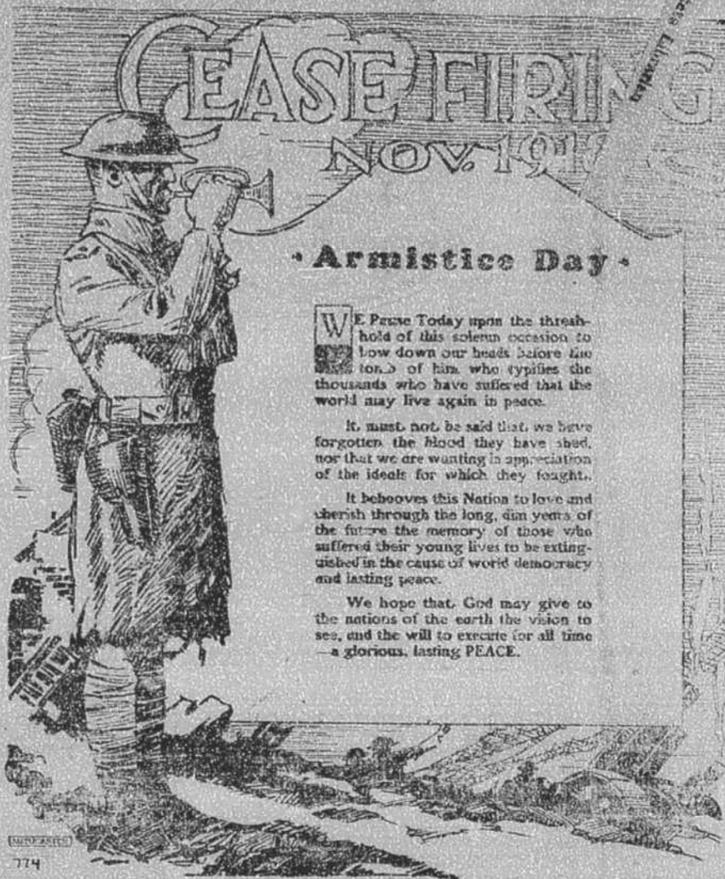
Banner Elk, Nov. 2—L. M. Hodges has returned from Statesville, where he underwent an operation for appendicitis.

A. V. Moody and family spent the week-end at Blowing Rock.

The little child of David Aldrich is very sick at this writing. Also Mrs. Ellis McClean.

J. L. Fox and Charley Coffey drove a fine herd of cattle into the community last week.

There will be a pie supper at the Grandfather school Saturday night, November 5, for the benefit of the school.



## Armistice Day

WE Pause Today upon the threshold of this solemn occasion to bow down our heads before the memory of him who typifies the thousands who have suffered that the world may live again in peace.

It must not be said that we have forgotten the blood they have shed, nor that we are wanting in appreciation of the ideals for which they fought.

It behooves this Nation to love and cherish through the long, dim years of the future the memory of those who suffered their young lives to be extinguished in the cause of world democracy and lasting peace.

We hope that God may give to the nations of the earth the vision to see, and the will to execute for all time—a glorious, lasting PEACE.

## President Names Nov. 24 as Thanksgiving Day

Coolidge in Proclamation, Recounts Blessings of Year and Asks Nation To Be Thankful

Washington, Oct. 28—President Coolidge calls upon the people today to set aside Thursday, November 24, as Thanksgiving Day. The text of the proclamation is as follows:

### A PROCLAMATION

Under the guidance and watchful care of a divine and beneficent Providence this country has been enriched safely through another year. Almighty God has continued to bestow upon us the light of His countenance and we have prospered. Not only have we enjoyed material success, but we have advanced in wisdom and in spiritual understanding. The products of our fields and our factories and our manifold activities have been maintained on a high level. We have gained in knowledge of higher values of life. There has been advancement in our physical well-being. We have increased our desire for the things that minister to the mind and to the soul, we have raised the mental and moral standards of life.

We have had the blessings of peace and of honorable and friendly relations with our sister nations throughout the world. Disasters visiting certain of our states have touched the heart of a sympathetic nation, which has responded generously out of its abundance. In continuing to remember these afflictions we should rejoice in our ability to give them relief.

Now that these twelve months are drawing to a close, it is fitting that, as a nation and as individuals, in accordance with time-honored sacred custom, we should consider the manifold blessing granted to us. While in gratitude we rejoice, we should humbly pray that we may be worthy of a continuation of divine favor.

Wherefore, I, Calvin Coolidge, President of the United States, do hereby set apart and designate Thursday, the 24th day of November, next, as a day of thanksgiving and prayer, and recommend and urge that on that day our people lay aside their usual tasks, and by the family fireside and in their accustomed places of public worship, give thanks to Him who holds all in the hollow of His hand.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington this twenty-seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and fifty-second.

CALVIN COOLIDGE,  
By the President,  
FRANK B. KELLOGG,  
Secretary of State.

Spices and seasonings do not supply the body with building material or energy but they are important as appetizers.

## Annual Red Cross Roll Call November 11 to 24

The secretary of the Watauga chapter, American Red Cross, Prof. J. M. Downum, has addressed a letter to the principals of every school in the county, naming them Roll Call chairman for the 14 membership drive that is to be put on by Red Cross headquarters, beginning on Friday, November 11th and closing Thursday, November 24. This message from Chairman Rivers is intended to urge the people in the various school districts of the county to co-operate in every way possible with their local chairman to make the drive a success. The yearly membership dues is only \$1.00, one-half of which goes to headquarters, the other being retained by the county chapter as a local charitable fund. No local member is expected to pay in for the next year more than the prescribed \$1.00, unless some fearful tragedy should occur, in which event, we would all be only too glad to come to the front again, as we have always done in the past, and cast our mite for the help of suffering humanity. The war drive in Watauga was unprecedented in

the state, the population considered.

When the call was made this year for the Mississippi flood sufferers, the county responded beautifully and now, good people, let's get full to make good our quota which has been assigned us.

Let me suggest that it would be well for each chairman in the county to have a meeting of the citizens at an early day as possible and prepare for the house-to-house drive that could easily be made in a day.

Watauga has never met with a real calamity, and therefore, many of us do not grasp what the activities of the American Red Cross means. Should we be visited by floods, devastating storms, droughts that would destroy our crops to an extent that hunger stared us in the face, then backed by the great organization, our real needs would be supplied. Remember, we are not immune from any of these calamities, and the money we are urging you to contribute is for just such purposes. For all we know, the next call will be made for the people of western North Carolina. Think Act!

## STATE TEXT BOOK LIST MADE OUT FOR FIVE-YEAR PERIOD

Raleigh, Oct. 31—North Carolina textbook commission this afternoon submitted to State Superintendent A. T. Allen the list of books to be adopted next year for a period of five years, the commission having no power of adoption, of course, but solely the prerogatives of recommendation.

The books to be chosen will come from the list of three each covering the subjects of language, health and grammar. The health series make one adoption and language and grammar the other. The report of the commission today is made to the state board of education. It is the first under the 1922 law of the Morrison administration which changed the whole plan of text book adoption.

By the terms of the recommendations today and the adoption later by the state board of education, the books will go into use first in September, 1928. This means that some of the subjects put into use five years ago will not be changed until next year, and as the state text book commission is a continuing institution, there will be text books which will not suffer change for 11 years. This arrangement meets much of the objection from the outside. Somebody is always battering away at the frequent changes in text book styles. The batterers will be without something to hammer in more than one of the subjects.

All books recommended by the commission today are new. They supplant the series of four used since the 1923 adoption. In offering the commission's report, Chairman H. E. Akers, of the state text book com-

## SHERIFF GETS BIG STILE IN STONY FORK TOWNSHIP

About two thousand gallons of mash and a 100-gallon seltam distillery were the haul of Sheriff Farthing in Stony Fork township last Thursday. Both the mash and the still were destroyed, but no arrests were made.

According to the sheriff, the still was one of the best equipped that he has found in recent months. It had a rock furnace and was operated by steam. The boiler was made of a large gasoline drum so arranged that it could be operated by steam, and the coil was of copper.

Asheville, Nov. 1.—Col. Virgil S. Lusk, 92, second oldest lawyer in North Carolina, lent a helping hand in the construction of his fifth Boncomb county courthouse here Monday morning. In 1863, he helped build a log structure, the first courthouse in the city. In 1868, he helped build a temporary building to replace the old one which was burned down during the closing years of the Civil war. In 1880, he helped build a third, and in 1902 he helped with the present one. Yesterday he donned overalls and helped in pouring concrete on the new \$1,750,000 county building. (Mr. Lusk at one time was solicitor here, when his district covered practically all of western North Carolina. He probably prosecuted the first docket in the old courthouse now known as the old Watauga County Bank building.

mission, disposes of the important work in 100 words. The reading and spelling series will be adopted next year.

## Celebrate Golden Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. John F. Hardin Delightfully Entertain at Home of Mr. and Mrs. Tracy Council

By MARY BLEDSOE

A mountain romance that might provide the plot for a best seller was recalled here Monday evening when Mr. and Mrs. John F. Hardin of Boone celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tracy Council.

While two hundred guests called during the evening to pay tribute to this couple, the story of whose long married life is almost a history of Boone and of Watauga county, Mr. Hardin, now in his seventy-seventh year, and Mrs. Hardin, seven years his junior, told the story of their simple wedding here in 1877, when the site of Boone was little more than a crossroad.

Sitting in the attractive living room, amid decorations of white and gold—golden chrysantheums on the buffet, golden candles in crystal candlesticks, and golden streamers from the chandeliers—Mr. Hardin, in the mellow glow from golden-shaded lights, told of how he and Mrs. Hardin were married by Rev. John Floyd, a Methodist minister, at the home of the bride who was Martha Hannah Council.

There were few guests at this wedding. They were Mr. Hardin's brothers, his sister, Jordan Hardin, Cornelia Hardin Church, George Patten's in the afternoon.

Miss Camp—November 13, Hoston's store in the morning and Stevens' store in the afternoon.

Blowing Rock—Nov. 16—Voting place.

Stony Fork Nov. 17—L. M. Cook's store in the morning and Deep Gap in the afternoon.

Elk—Nov. 18—Tippet's store.

Blue Ridge—Nov. 19—Scott's store.

Blowing Rock—Nov. 21—Hobshouser's store.

Watauga—Nov. 22—Collins' store in the morning and L. M. Hodges in the afternoon.

Watauga—Nov. 23—Shalls Mills in the morning and at Valle Crucis in the afternoon.

Shawneechaw—Nov. 24, store.

Laurel Creek—Nov. 25, Edmister's in the morning and Wait Ward's in the afternoon.

Beaver Dam—Nov. 26, Sherwood's in the morning and Hagaman's in the afternoon.

Cove Creek—Nov. 28, Zionville in the morning and Silverstone in the afternoon.

Cove Creek—Nov. 29—Sherwood's in the morning and Vilas in the afternoon.

## PARENT TEACHER ASSO. MEETS THIS AFTERNOON

The Parent-Teacher Association of Boone will meet this (Thursday) afternoon at 3 o'clock in the demonstration school building. Important matters concerning the welfare of the students will be taken up and it is earnestly desired that all parents who have children in school will attend this meeting.

Parents are invited to come to the school just after the noon hour and visit the different grades and rooms until the school dismisses at 3. The school would be glad for all parents to see their children at work in the rooms and see the teachers at their work.

The teachers this year in the high school department are Prof. A. E. Wilford, A. B. Davidson, College, biology and history; Prof. E. L. Ball, A. B., Emory and Henry College, civics and general science; Prof. Paul W. Gay, A. B., Wake Forest, M. A., University of Virginia, mathematics; Miss Grace Graybeal, A. B., Carson-Newman, Latin.

In the grades, Miss Eula Todd, graduate of the N. C. W. seventh grade; Miss Sara Bagley, B. S., Ge. State Teachers College, sixth grade; Miss Esther Fleming, B. S., N. C. W. fifth grade; Miss Ruth Vaughn, graduate Georgia State Teachers College, fourth grade; Miss Annie Stanbury, graduate A. S. N. S. third grade; Miss Ethel Bouchelle, Stetson University, second grade; Miss Madeira Lamkin, Georgia State Teachers College, first grade; Miss Evelyn Ward, A. S. N. S., first grade.

## DISTRICT WELFARE MEETING IN HIGH POINT NOV. 8TH

The Northwestern District Welfare Conference will meet in High Point on November 8th. The sessions will be held at the Sheraton hotel. The following counties are included in the district: Watauga, Ashe, Alleghany, Wilkes, Surry, Yadkin, Davie, Stokes, Forsyth, Davidson, Rockingham, Guilford, Randolph and Alamance.

Revolutionary war and remained a defiant tory until 1780. It was he who lived in a cave on the mountain now called Howard's Knob.

## 1927 TAX BOOKS IN HANDS OF SHERIFF

No Final Settlement Has Yet Been Made With Commissioners But Mr. Farthing Advances Money for All Uncollected Taxes

Sheriff L. M. Farthing on last Saturday received the tax books for the fiscal year 1927 and is announcing his first round for the collection of same in this issue of The Democrat. While a final settlement has not been made between the sheriff and the board of commissioners, the sheriff has put up a sufficient amount of cash to cover all uncollected taxes, amounting to something like \$25,000. The new county government act, passed by the last general assembly, requires that the sheriff make a complete settlement before he shall receive the lists and receipts for the following year. But since the sheriff has advanced the money for all unpaid taxes charged against him, the board of commissioners feel that they are within the spirit of the law in releasing the 1927 books for collection.

The sheriff announces the following appointments for the purpose of collecting 1927 taxes:

At Boone on 1st, Mondays, and Tuesdays during the month of November.

Nashville, Tenn. November 14, at Tipton's store in the morning and Patten's in the afternoon.

Miss Camp—November 13, Hoston's store in the morning and Stevens' store in the afternoon.

Blowing Rock—Nov. 16—Voting place.

Stony Fork Nov. 17—L. M. Cook's store in the morning and Deep Gap in the afternoon.

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