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FIVE CENTS A COPY

Go To Texas, Advises Former Watauga Man

W. E. Shipley Recites Many Reasons Why He Is Booster of Empire to the Southwest

By W. E. SHIPLEY
Fort Worth, Texas, Nov. 17.—A little news from Texas might be of interest to the readers of The Democrat. I may not tell you about Texas like Dick Hodges tells it. I do not think he or I would either get it told like it should be.

I am located in Fort Worth, about 110 miles west of Dick's town—Paris. Fort Worth is a city of two hundred thousand inhabitants, surrounded by a great farming country. They grow cattle, wheat, cotton, all kinds of vegetables. One nice thing in their favor, they do not use any commercial fertilizer. Fort Worth is a great market. Last Monday, the 7th, there was four hundred and eighteen loads of cattle on this market, forty cars of hogs and sixty cars of sheep, seventy cars of mules against 100 on October 31.

This is practically a new country, undeveloped to what it will soon be. There is an established air mail route from here to New York, Chicago, Detroit and Washington.

The Armour and Swift packing companies have large plants here, employing several thousand people. There are numerous large oil refineries here. Gasoline retails here for 14 cents per gallon. Texas produces approximately 60 per cent of all the poultry produced in the United States. There was shipped this week from Brady, Texas, 350 cars of turkeys. Brady is the town from which the president gets his Thanksgiving turkey. The turkey this year going to the White House weighed forty pounds. Mr. Daws and Mr. Longworth each got one from here this year.

The largest chicken ranch in the world—Johnson's Chick Hatchery—is located at Bowie, Texas. More five million chickens are hatched here annually.

They do things in a big way out here. They have the best bred cattle here of any state in the union. It is a fine sight to take a drive out in the country and see the green fields dotted with fine white-faced calves.

Texas' largest ranch, The King Ranch, covers nearly all of two counties, grasses over sixty thousand cattle. It is sixty-five miles from the front entrance to the ranch headquarters. They have several head of purebred cattle of different breeds, principally Brahmas, or the sacred cattle of India.

Land leases here for from 40 cents to \$10 per acre per year. Not many ranchmen feed during the winter. Today, November 12th, it is nice and pleasant, no frost so far this year.

The Texans are just plain folks. They know what it is to go broke and come again. Drought is about all the Texas farmer has to fear.

"Young man, go west," Horace Greely wrote. I say, Go to Texas, work and take care of your money. Go where money is. There is no loafing here on the street corners—everyone is moving. Got something to do. Some take care of their earnings—others work.

VALUE OF WHITE HOUSE PLACED AT \$22,000,000

Although more than 100 years old, the White House, and the grounds surrounding it were recently appraised as worth at least \$22,000,000 at present day realty values, which makes it by far the most valuable residential property in the national capital.

William P. Richards, District of Columbia tax assessor, figured the valuation in computing appraisals of all federal-owned tax-exempt property in the city, which was placed at \$470,000,000. The White House was third highest, exceeded only by the capitol and its grounds, assessed at \$53,000,000, and the treasury building, estimated to be worth just one million dollars more than the president's home.

Should President Coolidge be required to pay taxes on his residence at the present rate of \$1.75 for each \$100 worth of property, he would have to turn over to Uncle Sam \$374,000 a year, nearly five times his present salary.

RUTH SNYDER AND JUDD GRAY LOSE APPEAL IN N. Y.

Albany, N. Y., Nov. 22.—Euth Snyder, the blonde New York housewife and mother who denied her guilt to the last, and Henry Judd Gray, her mild-mannered paramour, who told freely how they both strangled and beat Ruth's half-sleeping husband to death, today lost their joint appeal from sentence of death. Both are in the death house at Sing Sing. The date of execution is expected to be set by the court of appeals here tomorrow. If Mrs. Snyder dies, she will be the third woman executed in New York state.

YOUNG MAN KILLED ON BOONE TRAIL

Spurgeon Bailiff Meets Sudden Death When Car He Was Driving Leaves Highway Near Deep Gap; Companion Slightly Bruised

A young man identified as Spurgeon Bailiff of Memory, Avery county, was instantly killed and his companion, Hoester Eller, sustained minor injuries when the Ford roadster in which they were traveling, overturned at Deep Gap, twelve miles east of Boone on the Boone trail Tuesday morning about 3 o'clock. The boys were returning to their home near Banner Elk from North Wilkesboro, when the accident occurred. The driver of the car being killed, no definite information could be had concerning the cause of the wreck. The young man's neck was broken and the right side of his face badly mangled.

Mr. Eller and his dead companion remained pinned under the car for about three hours before help arrived.

The body was brought to Boone and is being held in the Moretz undertaking establishment awaiting the arrival of relatives from Avery county.

Mr. Bailiff was apparently 28 or 30 years of age.

The accident occurred less than a mile from the spot where young Frank Foster of Reidsville met a similar death last August.

NEWS OF WEEK IN AND ABOUT BLOWING ROCK

Blowing Rock, Nov. 23.—A Raleigh school furnishing firm sent representatives here Friday with sample school furniture and a bid for furnishing the new \$32,000 consolidated school building here.

The school board looked at the samples but did not close a contract.

E. C. Pitts, contractor in charge of constructing the building, said the interior finishing on the second floor would be completed within a week, and that classes could probably be moved into the building within a month.

Work on Blowing Rock's sidewalks has been transferred from Main street to Boone street, in order to complete the walks to the new schoolhouse by the time the building is occupied by classes. This, according to the contractor in charge of the building, will be in about two weeks. The sidewalks on Main street have been completed from the Yonahlossee road to Norvel's Hill, with the exception of a few feet at each end.

A large crowd attended an oyster supper and dance Saturday night in the Central hotel under the auspices of the Blowing Rock fire department. The object of the supper was to raise money to finish paying for the siren.

Miss Katherine Sudderth enrolled in the Appalachian State Normal school at the beginning of the winter term, as a member of the Normal department. She was graduated from the high school last May. Miss Sudderth was a member of the varsity basketball team that won the North Carolina championship last year and will be a member of the present Normal team, now being coached for a series of games this winter.

Cases of scarlet fever reported in Blowing Rock last week have proved to be of a comparatively mild form, and no new cases have occurred.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Panella, who are now spending most of their time in Statesville, where Mr. Panella has underway two large plumbing contracts, spent the last week-end in Blowing Rock. They will spend Christmas with Mrs. Panella's parents in Virginia.

Mr. and Mrs. John Johnson announce the birth of a son.

Mr. and Mrs. Bug Bolick announce the birth of a daughter last Friday at the Watauga Hospital.

A committee of high school girls was this week canvassing Blowing Rock for members of the Red Cross. Good responses to their appeals were reported by all of the girls. Under the direction of Principal A. E. Mercer, the town was divided into districts, and each district was put in charge of a team of girls.

VALLE CRUCIS

Valle Crucis, Nov. 23.—Mr. Oscar B. Mast of Missouri is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Mast. Gordon Taylor, who is attending State College, Raleigh, spent the week-end at home in the valley.

Mrs. Charlie Baird and Mr. J. L. Tester, whose illness has been mentioned in this correspondence, remain quite sick.

A good force of hands and the steam shovel on highway 69 between the Valle Crucis school and the Avery county line, is encouraging to the traveler.

L. S. Isaacs



whose record of service caused his unanimous re-election as commander of Watauga Post, American Legion. During his administration the American Legion Park debt has been paid off, the big Fourth of July celebration staged last summer and the Legion treasury yet shows a neat surplus. Legionnaires state that the outlook for the post is exceedingly bright for the coming year. Past progress, they say, is largely attributable to the efforts of Commander Isaacs.

Lutherans Plan for Church Building Here

Contract Will Be Let Within Next Few Days For Edifice to Cost About \$25,000

Grace Lutheran church here, it was announced last week, will within a few days let the contract for a new church building to cost, with equipment, approximately \$25,000. Plans for the building have already been drawn by Carl Messerschmidt, architect, of Richmond, Va., and have been approved by the building committee.

The church will be of brick construction, will be modern in every respect, with steam heat, Sunday school rooms, and all other facilities of the modern church plant. It will be erected on a lot owned by the church at the intersection of East King street and Blowing Rock road.

Heretofore, the congregation of the Lutheran church has been holding its services in the St. Mark's Episcopal church. Rev. J. A. Yount is the pastor.

GREAT WORK BEING DONE BY GRANDFATHER ORPHANAGE

Grandfather Orphan's Home is that department of the Edgar Tufts Memorial Association which cares for the homeless children of the mountains. Here on a farm of 300 acres live 81 boys and girls, including 17 little ones who make up the happy family in the Baby Cottage.

The home, as all other departments of the Edgar Tufts Memorial Association was started in answer to a pressing need. Seeing every year the number of homeless children in the mountain communities and being unable to take them in the school, Mr. Tufts, in 1915, added an orphanage as a unit of the work at Banner Elk. The only equipment for this new department was a small farm house on the farm belonging to the school. The first gift to this home was a shower of furnishings from the people of Banner Elk. With generous hearts they answered the request that they help furnish the home and made the shower a great one, bringing gifts that ranged from kitchen knives to beds. Thus with the help of such friends as these the orphanage was opened with Mr. J. W. Holcomb as superintendent, and from the small beginning the ever-crowded home has grown to its present size.

The orphanage today needs the help of its friends as surely as it did the day it asked them to furnish an empty farm house. The family then was small; today it is large and requires in proportion a large pantry, an endless supply of clothes and money for general expenses. Its only resources for maintenance today are the same they were in 1915—the generosity of friends who have been blessed with homes and means of living—and this is where Thanksgiving comes in.

Thanksgiving has been set apart as a special Orphan's Home Day, on which all are asked to give a part of their harvest and increase to the orphanage. The gift may be from the farm, the pantry, or the bank account.—The Pinnacle.

A terrific rainstorm swept over Watauga county last week. It came out of the south, and it is said that the water courses were the highest they have been for many years.

FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZED HERE

Sliceman Garland Heads Organization as Chief. With Carter Cook Captain; Practice Periods Held Twice Each Week

Policeman Caleb Garland has been named chief of the local fire department, organized to man the new chemical fire truck. C. W. O'Neal is the driver and has been instructed in his duties by an engineer sent here from the company from which the truck was purchased.

Other members of the department are: Carter Cook, captain; L. T. Tatum, secretary and treasurer; Carl Payne, D. Empey, Wilcox, Luther South and Troy Norris, nozzle men; B. H. Moody, Walter Cook, W. G. Hartzog, A. E. Hamby, Chas. Watson, hosemen; F. F. Fox and S. M. Ayers, hydrant men; Joe C. Cook and W. O. Robertson, ladder men.

At the next meeting of the town council it is expected that an ordinance will be passed requiring all moving cars to be parked when an alarm is sounded and requiring them to remain parked until the truck returns.

Instead of having a paid fire chief as was first planned, it was decided that twelve men answering each alarm will receive two dollars for each alarm answered. In addition they will be paid one dollar for every hour of fire fighting after the first hour. Each member of the department is asked to respond promptly to every alarm, whether in case of fire or for practice.

The truck is at present housed in rented quarters, however, the information has been given out through Mayor W. E. Gragg that a town hall to house the fire truck and city offices will be built as soon as suitable arrangements can be made. The type of building has not been determined, but it is the plan to erect a permanent structure.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT BOONE BAPTIST CHURCH

The annual Thanksgiving service of the Boone Baptist church will be held this (Thursday) evening at 7:30 o'clock, at which time an offering will be taken for the Baptist Orphanage at Thomasville. The program for the service, as arranged by the committee, composed of G. P. Hagaman, J. T. C. Wright and W. D. Farthing, is as follows:

Song No. 49—To the Work.
Song No. 225—Throw Out the Lifeline.

Devotional, by the pastor
Song No. 248—Help Somebody Today.

Talk—Prof. L. G. Greer.
Song No. 261—Make Me a Channel of Blessing.

Talk—Smith Hagaman.
Collection for Orphanage.

Song No. 324—Count Your Blessings.
Benediction.

At Blowing Rock Baptist
Thanksgiving services will be held at the Blowing Rock Baptist church Thursday morning at 11 o'clock, to which the members and friends of the church are urged to attend.

BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION IS OPPOSED TO GOV. SMITH

Having taken a decided stand against the election of Governor Alfred E. Smith of New York, or any other wet candidate to the presidency of the United States, and having denounced military training in public schools and colleges, the 97th annual meeting of the Baptist state convention adjourned in Durham last Thursday night.

Evolution was barely touched upon in a few vague references to the brotherhood of science and religion even Al Smith was disposed of without excitement.

Dr. L. E. Mercer of Winston-Salem was unanimously re-elected to the presidency for his fourth term.

The First Baptist church of Asheville was chosen the place for the convention next year and Rev. E. G. Stevens of High Point was selected to deliver the annual convention sermon.

Though Governor Smith's name was not mentioned, he was, as Dr. W. L. Potat observed after adjournment "very definitely and pointedly referred to" in resolutions prepared by the committee on social service and unanimously adopted by the convention.

COLD WEATHER PROMISED FOR THANKSGIVING DAY

Washington, Nov. 22.—For those who cannot kindle enough football spirit, Thanksgiving will be an ideal day to stay indoors to eat and "talk turkey." Weather bureau sharpshooters looked 36 hours into the future to-night and concluded that Thursday, day of fetes and feasts, should attract more persons in the eastern half of the United States to the andirons instead of the griddles. In other words, they predicted it would be much colder and dismal.

Early Christmas Mailing Urged By Postmaster

W. D. Farthing, Local Postmaster, Asks for Co-operation of Patrons Here

A reminder that the Christmas season is not far away and that those who are intending to send Christmas packages should do so before the rush sets in, was made here today by W. D. Farthing, postmaster.

Announcement has been made by postal authorities in Washington that every effort will be made to handle the mail as expeditiously as possible, but that this can only be done through co-operation on the part of the public. It is advised that in order to insure safe delivery of packages before Christmas, they be sent early with the request "Please do not open until Christmas," written on the outside face of the parcels.

Unusual care should be exercised in giving the exact address of the person to whom the parcel is sent, it is suggested, as mail is more easily misplaced during the Christmas season than at any other period of the year.

Christmas shopping should be done early so that packages may be sent a week or two before the holiday rolls around, it was stated. A complete list of instructions relative to the wrapping, packing and mailing of parcels during the Yuletide is being distributed by the local postoffice.

Santa Claus is going to make the postoffice department dig down a shell out approximately \$9,000.00 to pay the extra cost of handling gifts and greeting this Christmas in addition to the ordinary expense of the running of the mail service.

The great volume of Christmas mail that poured into the vast postal transportation machine last year required extra expenditure totaling \$8,688,215. Additional clerks received \$2,858,672; railroads for additional transportation, \$2,200,000; additional city letter carriers, \$1,023,575; overtime and travel allowance for railway mail clerks, \$925,000; additional motor vehicles, 388,000; operation of government owned vehicles \$260,000; additional smaller sums were spent for other services.

ARREST ON CHARGE OF GIVING BAD CHECK CAUSES TROUBLE

An action charging false arrest is expected to result from the rearrest of Luther Bingham of Vilas Tuesday on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon, after he had been released Monday under \$500 bond.

Bingham was tried at preliminary hearing Monday before Magistrate Lee Stout, and his bond was fixed at \$4,000. This was later reduced to \$1,500, but Bingham's attorneys, contending that even this was extortionate, brought the case to Boone, placed it before Justice of the Peace E. N. Hahn, who reduced the bond to \$300 and ordered Bingham released.

The case was then taken before Magistrate Smith McBride, who again raised the bond to \$1,000, which Bingham was forced to execute before he was released from custody. Talk of the suit charging false imprisonment then began to be heard, but the action has not yet been started.

The case arose when DeWitt Brown of Vilas swore out a warrant charging Bingham with having given a bad check for \$1.69. At the hearing, it was testified that Bingham, returning from a rabbit hunt, met Brown and the two engaged in an altercation. Bingham asserted that Brown put his hand in his pocket, whereupon Bingham laid his hand on his shotgun. At this point bystanders stopped the quarrel.

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SILVERSTONE

Zionville R. F. D., Nov. 22.—Owing to the freezing weather of the past few days people here are very busy storing away their cabbage and potatoes.

Mr. L. A. Wilson is on the sick list at the present time.

Mrs. John Dougherty has returned to her home at H. P. Cook's here, after an extended visit to her daughter, Mrs. S. M. Greene, in Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Greene and children returned with Mrs. Dougherty and spent several days in this section.

Rapid progress is being made on the new bungalow of Mr. N. T. Byers here.

Mrs. Leander Wilson is spending a few days with her daughter, Mrs. Otto McGuire, at Heaton.

The young people of Pleasant Grove Baptist church have recently organized a B. Y. P. U. with a good membership.

The recent revival conducted by Rev. G. W. Sebastian at Pleasant Grove church with about 25 baptisms and about that many more additions to the church through other channels.

COUNTY TO GROW MORE POTATOES

Million Bushels Next Season Is Goal Set in Campaign Being Waged by Watauga County Bank; Specialize in Certified Seed

Mr. Obed Castello, assistant state botanist, is co-operating with the Watauga County Bank in the inauguration of a potato-growing campaign which is expected to result in the raising of one million bushels of potatoes in Watauga county next year. Mr. Castello spent considerable time in the county during the fall and is now at his home in Washington, N. C., where he will remain until February when he will again visit Watauga.

Mr. George P. Hagaman, cashier of the local bank, promises that with the aid of the state department of agriculture, a market can be found for every bushel produced. However, should the farmer be able to find a better market than the state can, he is free to sell anywhere. The idea of the campaign is to stimulate interest in the production of the Irish Gobbler for seed. It has been pointed out that the Watauga county crop at the maximum could not cause the flooding of the potato market. The trouble heretofore has been not producing a sufficient amount to interest anyone in coming here to buy. Planters in the more southern sections are anxious to pay the highest prices for seed which will pass certification, many of them placing orders in car lots.

According to the botanist, there is no section south of the Mason and Dixon line where the "bud" reaches the high state of perfection so necessary for good seed as it does right here in Watauga county.

At the request of the Watauga County Bank, Mr. Castello has sent a supply of bulletins on potato culture to this bank for free distribution among the farmers interested in growing certified potatoes. Farmers are urged to select their next year's potato acreage now as for the best results ground should be prepared early.

DAUGHTER OF DR. AND MRS. BLACKBURN HURT IN WRECK

The following dispatch sent out from Hickory under date of Nov. 21, will be of interest in Watauga county, the former home of Dr. Blackburn, brother of the late Hon. E. Spencer Blackburn and M. B. Blackburn:

Seven prominent young Hickory high school girls narrowly escaped death late Saturday afternoon when the large sedan, driven by Margaret Blackburn, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. T. C. Blackburn, of Hickory, turned over three times on the highway this side of Lenoir. The injured are Miss Blackburn, who has a sprained back, deep cut on forehead and gash on back of head; In z Hamrick, broken collar bone; Margaret Whitener, cuts about head and other bruises; Dorothy Yeager, broken collar bone; Lena Hamrick, severe shock and bruises; Mary Everett, cuts on forehead and knee; Mary Hart, cuts on forehead and hand.

According to witnesses to the accident, Miss Blackburn's car was coming toward Hickory when another car cut into the highway from a side road. Miss Blackburn swerved sharply to the left, it was said. Her car rocked on the edge of the highway and then somersaulted three times. The girls were tossed out like balls, witnesses said. Several went through the windshield and the others were thrown through the top of the car.

COMPANIONATE MARRIAGE PLAN CREATES FURORE

Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 21.—A furore has been caused here by the announcement of the "companionate marriage" on Thanksgiving day of Miss Josephine Haldeman-Julius, 18-year-old daughter of the Girard, Kansas, publisher, and Aubrey C. Roselle, 20-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Roselle, Girard, and a sophomore at the University of Kansas.

The couple will continue to live as they do now, being supported by their parents. In event of children the marriage will advance to the status of a family union. If the marriage is not successful it will terminate by common understanding to seek a divorce.

Failure of Governor Bibb Graves of Alabama to answer a summons, marked the first day of the trial of 34 men accused of complicity in a score or more cases of masked violence in Crenshaw county. Twenty-three of the men indicted were present for trial. Rev. L. A. Nalls, former pastor of of a Georgia church was one among the number who has been a fugitive from justice since his indictment.