

The Watauga Democrat

Issued Every Thursday by THE RIVERS PRINTING COMPANY, E. C. RIVERS, ROBERT RIVERS, Publishers

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: One year \$1.50, Six Months .75, Three months .40, Payable in Advance

Advertising Rates on Application. Cards of Thanks, Resolutions of Respect, Obituaries, etc., are charged for at the regular advertising rates.

Entered at the Postoffice at Boone, N. C., as Second Class mail matter.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1927

MR. FARTHING TO RETIRE AS POSTMASTER HERE

On Monday, December 14, next, the time of W. H. Farthing, local postmaster, will expire. Mr. Farthing, during his term of office, has made an ideal postmaster. His splendid business ability, his uniform courtesy and general kindness to his patrons won for him a wide following in the breast of every one with whom he came in contact and of course it is with regret that they see him surrender his work to another.

During his term, the postage postmaster has been largely instrumental in providing notices of the office a daily mail route from Boone to North Wilkesboro, which gives Boone and many other sections in the county the Charlotte, Greensboro and Winston-Salem papers the same morning they are published. He has also been responsible, in a large measure, for through connection to Bristol, Tenn. During his administration (of course the business grew to this), the office has been advanced from third to second class, and he played an important part in establishing a railway mail service between Boone and Johnson City. But to us, the greatest thing he did, and that almost single handed, was the establishment for our growing little town a free city delivery.

Ex-Clerk of the Court, A. W. Smith, has been recommended for the appointment and it is generally conceded that he will be our postmaster for the next four years. Mr. Smith is a man of fine business qualifications, of very pleasant demeanor and will, doubtless, serve the public as postmaster in a most acceptable manner.

The entire clerical force in the office will be retained as they are under the civil service and they are all well fitted for their respective positions.

SPELL IT "CHRISTMAS"

Write it Christmas instead of Xmas. "A good start was made throughout the country last year toward eliminating the word Xmas from advertising copy," says the Virginia-Carolina Retailer in an editorial. "Organizations of advertising men and merchants condemned the use of Xmas as an abbreviation or substitute for Christmas to such an extent that it was barred from the advertising of a majority of the leading stores of the country, and many ad. writers now consider it absolutely outlawed." The Retailer continues.

If everybody will co-operate this year, the use of Xmas to designate Christmas can be completely discontinued. It is very bad taste to use Xmas for Christmas. Who would write X for Christ? Yet, to write Xmas for Christmas is to do the very same thing. It is all right for students taking notes on a theological lecture to use X for Christ and X'n for Christian, but in formal writing in advertisements, letters or literature the proper term is Christmas and Christian. Let the slogan this season be Christmas spelled out and no abbreviations. — Winston-Salem Journal.

CHURCH RESOLUTING

I note by the day's print that the Baptist brethren in convention assembled at Durham passed a ringing resolution, resolving as follows: "That our people should support only those candidates for office whose record shows them to be favorable to the prohibition policy," and five other resolutions to more or less the same point, the whole meaning in plain English that the new wing of the Lord's military force is again Al Smith. Now may I suggest that to have been perfectly consistent, the brethren should have passed another resolution to some such effect as this: "Resolved, that we point with pride to the administration of that great and only Baptist who ever held the presidential office, viz, Warren G. Harding of blessed memory, who in his private life was a shining example of abstinence and personal purity, who wore himself out in the cause of prohibition enforcement and his noble efforts to conserve intact the natural resources (including oil) of the United States."—Little Georgia Rose, Greensboro Record.

LOCAL AFFAIRS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. James H. Council last Thursday a son, James H. Jr.

Mrs. R. H. DeVault of Bristol is a visitor at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Council.

Miss Blanche Linney of New York City is the guest in Boone of her brother, Hon. Frank A. Linney.

Mr. and Mrs. Wiseman of Texas are visitors for a few days at the home of Mr. Wiseman's uncle, Mr. Mack Luttrell.

Both banks, the postoffice, and so far as The Democrat knows, all other business houses in the town will be closed for Thanksgiving.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry C. Martin have closed their cottage at Blowing Rock and returned to Lenoir where they will spend the winter.

Odel Benfield who has been confined to his home for the past two months suffering with rheumatism is again able to be about the town.

News from Watauga Hospital Wednesday morning is that Mrs. Edwin Stanbury Scott is thought to be very much better. She has been ill with pneumonia for more than a week.

Miss Hannah Moore, daughter of Judge W. E. Moore of Sylvia, is a visitor for a few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Council. Miss Moore is a cousin of Mrs. James H. Moore.

Rapid progress is being made on the new home of Mr. Luther Smith on Howard street, and will be ready for occupancy within a week or two if weather conditions remain favorable so that the work can continue uninterrupted.

Mr. Silas M. Greene of Bumpass, Va., with his son Charles, was a week-end visitor to relatives and friends in the county. He brought with him his mother-in-law, Mrs. Martha Dougherty, who has been spending some time at his home.

A letter from Rev. M. B. Woosley says the former Boone minister and his family arrived safely on their work at Leaksville. "The people have been good to us," he writes, "and I think we are going to like our new home. However, we miss Boone."

Mr. Ransley Miller, fifer at every Confederate reunion, save the last one, ever held in Watauga, has been confined to his bed for months, his lower limbs being paralyzed. Aside from this affliction, the aged veteran is in good health, and greatly enjoys visits from his friends.

Mr. W. S. Farthing, who went to Durham last week to attend the Baptist State convention, was taken ill while away and remained in a Durham hospital during the session. However, he sufficiently recovered to return home with the other delegates, arriving here Saturday, where he remained with his daughter, Mrs. J. C. Farthing, until Tuesday.

You are called upon to give the price of one day's work for the orphanage of your choice in North Carolina as a Thanksgiving offering. The fatherless ones in the various institutions are calling upon us for help. What will we do about it? This matter demands the attention of all, especially those whom the Lord has blessed so abundantly.

The only "honest-to-goodness," up-to-the-minute pounding awarded any minister of the Methodist church in Boone for many years, was given the new pastor and family Monday evening. Fifty or more people were present and judging from reports, the minister's pantry is well filled for many weeks to come. And the good people are fully appreciative for the kindness shown and the welcome accorded by their church people here.

The Southern Bell Telephone Company has purchased the Watauga Telephone system, or that part of it within the corporate limits of the town of Boone, and will take over operation of the system about the first of December. The Watauga company will continue to operate the switchboard at Sugar Grove and country lines. Just what changes will be made in the local system, if any, have not been announced. However, the Bell company will extend a line from Boone to Newland, which will be completed early next year.

Federal court convened at Wilkesboro on Monday morning, with Judge Johnson J. Hayes presiding and Frank A. Linney, district attorney, prosecuting for the government. The following citizens of Watauga county are serving on the jury: James Sherwood, Reece; Bryant Gross, Boone Route 1; Grady Farthing, Boone; Charlie Greer, Adams; Charles Townsend, Matney; George Greene, Deep Gap; C. M. Clark Banner Elk; Luther South, Boone; S. E. Gragg, Shulls Mills; J. E. Young, Blowing Rock; J. C. Church, Shulls Mills; C. M. Blackburn, Brookside. Rev. C. H. Moser, the new pastor

of the Boone Methodist church, preached his first sermons Sunday morning and night to very large congregations, especially in the morning. The subject for the morning sermon was "Decision," and was a very strong discussion of this important subject. The night sermon was on "Faith" and was likewise a most forceful sermon. The members of the church are much pleased with Mr. Moser as their pastor, and showed their appreciation to some extent on Monday evening by giving him an "old-fashioned pounding." A Thanksgiving service was announced for the church at 10 o'clock on Thursday morning.

Mr. W. W. D. Edmisten, who has spent the past three months in the states of Montana, Idaho and Washington, visiting relatives and looking over the northwestern country, has returned to his farm near Boone and will again make his home here. A mistaken report was to the effect that the good citizen was going to reside in the west and his many friends and acquaintances are pleased to learn of the error. Mr. Edmisten has worked long and faithfully and simply took a pleasure trip of considerable proportions. While away he met many friends of other days who have long lived in the northwest and it is most interesting to hear him tell of his experiences. He especially took note of the farming conditions there and the contracts drawn between those and ours are striking.

The Blowing Rock Dramatic Club, under the direction of Joseph Warrick of Mount Airy, presented in town of Mount Airy, will present in Boone tonight (Wednesday) the farce comedy "Miserable Moon" as a part of the regular program of the Pastime Theater. The cast, composed entirely of Blowing Rock home talent, is as follows: Miserable Moon, always in hard luck, A. E. Mercer; Gideon Bizar, a millionaire, Mr. Weaver; Tom Kisse, a college shiek, Paul Foster; Hiram Tutt, an awful nut, Mr. Castle; Patrick Keller, the genial ticket agent, Spencer Greene; Samantha Slade, a poor old maid, Annie Greene; Roscoe Reese, her charming niece, Pearl Webb; Paula Malek, a bolshevik, Edna Miller; Lulu Pezari, a roguish girl, Velma Cannon. The Blowing Rock band will furnish music for the performance.

LITTLE CATTLE T. B.

The monthly report on tuberculosis tests of dairy cattle in Watauga county bears out the contention of the board of county commissioners when they first refused the tests, that the number of tubercular cattle in the county is negligible, said Reby Greer, chairman of the board, Saturday.

The report showed that 1,000 cows have been tested, with only two reactions and no suspects.

DINNER PARTY

One of the outstanding social events of the week in Boone was a dinner party given Wednesday evening by Mrs. F. A. Linney at her home in honor of her guest, Miss Blanche Linney, of New York, and Mrs. M. B. Woosley, left Boone last week for her new home at Leaksville, her husband having been transferred there after a quadrennium of service as pastor of the Boone Methodist church.

Mrs. Linney is a charming hostess and a number of her friends spent a delightful evening with her and her favor guests.

LAUDS LOCAL ADVERTISING

Mr. Will C. Walker, local jeweler, is in receipt of the following letter from Wallenstein-Mayer Company, Cincinnati, Ohio, one of the largest wholesale jewelry concerns in this country, which is self-explanatory: "A few days ago we received a copy of your local paper in which your ad was printed. We desire to say it was certainly a very excellent ad and should bring you good results. We wish to congratulate you on the get-up of the ad—it shows you are alive to the interests of your business and that you are preparing for your Christmas trade in the proper way."

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

The United States civil service commission announces competitive examination for the postmastership at Boone. This examination is held under the president's order of May 10, 1921, and not under the civil service acts and rules. Competitors will not be required to report for examination at any place but will be rated upon their education and training, business experience and fitness. Apply at the postoffice in this city or to the civil service commission at Washington, D. C., for application form and definite information regarding the examination.

NORMAL NOTES

Dr. B. B. Dougherty has just returned from a trip of several days in which he was accompanied by Mr. J. F. Coffey, superintendent of the building of the new central heating plant. Dr. Dougherty on last Saturday addressed a meeting of teachers in Moore county. He also went to Raleigh on business with the budget commission in regard to the central heating plant, now under construction at the Normal. Prof. Roy M. Brown, of the University of North Carolina, was a visitor at the Normal on Saturday

The Ghoul

By Albert T. Reid



President Coolidge—"Stop! You shall not rob the dead."

Mr. Broer was formerly a teacher in this institution and is always welcome.

The Normal is planning a program for Thanksgiving Day, and is inviting as guests the friends of the early nineties who helped to organize and build the Watauga Academy, which in 1903 became the Appalachian Training School and later the Appalachian State Normal School.

PASSES 90TH MILESTONE

Celebrating the ninetieth birthday of W. L. Bryan, Esq., a delightful dinner was given at his home on Saturday to which, besides members of his immediate family, Mesdames M. B. Blackburn and J. W. Whitehead and R. C. Rivers were invited. Many friends called at the Bryan home during the day to converse with the aged gentleman and wish him many returns of the occasion. Mr. Bryan is the oldest inhabitant of the town and is considered an authority on the early history of Watauga county and her people. He traces his lineage back to the family of Daniel Boone and is well versed in the history of the frontiersman. At his advanced age, he is hale and hearty and on warm days yet makes frequent expeditions on foot over his holdings in the vicinity of the town.

The dinner was superb and the three intimate friends who were invited enjoyed to the fullest the reminiscences of the olden days.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

Meeting with Mrs. Roy Johnson at her home on King street, the Friday Afternoon club had a very interesting program last week. The program was centered about the story of Enrico Caruso, whose career was followed so closely by many music-loving Americans, as well as those of other nationalities.

Mrs. Paul Coffey played several records illustrating the artist's wonderful vocal powers, while several ladies gave in turn chapters from the romantic life of the singer as told by Dorothy Caruso. Considerable interest was added to the story by the comments of Miss Blanche Linney of New York, who had lived near the Carusos in that city.

After a contest, in which Mrs. Suma Hardin won the prize for the best sketch of little Frances Johnson, who posed for the amateur artists, the meeting came to refreshment hour. A delectable salad course, with coffee and toasted sandwiches was served by Mrs. Johnson, assisted by her niece, Miss Bertie Lee Stone, and Mrs. Fay Hewitt.

Besides club members, Mrs. Johnson had as guests Miss Blanche Linney of New York, Mrs. J. A. Williams and Mrs. Fay Hewitt.

The next meeting will be with Miss Annie Stanbury at the Critcher hotel on Friday, December 9th, at 2:30 o'clock.

COFFEY-GREEN

Blowing Rock, Nov. 18.—In the presence of only their families and a few intimate friends, Miss Frances Elizabeth Coffey and Garland Orlando Green, both of Raleigh, were married here last Saturday at high noon in the Stringfellow Memorial church. Rev. J. H. Griffith of Lenoir performed the double ring ceremony.

Mrs. W. I. Pitts of Lenoir played Schubert's "Serenade" and "At Dawning" just before the ceremony opened. At the first strains of Loehengrin's "Bridal Chorus," Miss Mary Lou Coffey, sister of the bride, entered in blue chiffon and crepe velvet and carrying an arm

bouquet of yellow chrysanthemums. The bride then entered the chapel on the arm of her father, J. W. Coffey of Raleigh. The bridegroom and his best man, James Taylor of Greensboro, met them at the altar, where, to the soft strains of "To a Wild Rose," the ceremony was performed. As the last words were said, the organ broke into Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" and the bridal party filed out of the church.

Mr. and Mrs. Green will be at home in Raleigh after a motor honeymoon, which will last ten days. Guests present at the ceremony were Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Coffey of Raleigh, John Coffey, Natalie Coffey and Mary Lou Coffey, all of Raleigh; Mrs. N. B. Reeves, mother of the bridegroom; Mrs. J. P. Taylor and James Taylor of Greensboro, Miss Frances Gibson of Raleigh and Miss Mary E. Coffey of Lenoir.

A SCHOOL OF 63 YEARS AGO

As it seems, the county of Watauga has been combed thoroughly of late gathering together data harking back to the schools in ye olden times, it seems that the following "articles of agreement" written in 1866 by Mrs. Jane R. Rivers, wife of Dr. J. G. Rivers, both dead many, many years, would be of interest to the older people at least.

The articles are written in a beautiful hand on paper the writer was supplied with from the courthouse when it stood on the site now occupied by the home of Hon. F. A. Linney. All the signers of the agreement were among the oldest settlers of this part of the county, have long since been called to their reward, while the major part of the pupils

are still living. The school was taught in the little brick house, the home of The Democrat for 25 or more years. The editor of this paper, son of the teacher, was too small to attend as a pupil, but was furnished a sheep skin in one corner where he spent most of his time. The articles follow:

"Memorandum of an agreement made and entered into this 15th day of April, 1866, between Jane Rivers of the one part, and we, the undersigned, subscribers, of the other.

"Witnesses, that the said Jane binds and obligates herself to teach an English school in the town of Boone, which will continue the full term of five scholastic months.

"The said Jane also binds herself to keep good order in the school room and to advance as fast as possible those connected with the school. The undersigned subscribers bind themselves to pay the said Jane seventy-five cents per each scholar per month, one-fourth to be paid in cash, the remainder in trade at the old rates.

"The subscribers will provide a sufficient quantity of fire wood at the school room.

"The school will commence when twenty scholars are signed to these articles.

"Subscribers' names: J. W. Council, 2; Joshua Winkler, 3; Sarah L. Council, 2; Elijah Dougherty, 1; J. W. Todd, 1; Allen Myrick, 1; W. L. Hodges, 2; Robert Hodges, 1; H. W. Hardin, 2; Jack Hodges, 1."

ROOMS FOR RENT—Over 5 & 10c Store. Call at the Princess Cafe for information.



Keep Away From Speculation HAVE MONEY!

Speculation is a dangerous thing. It is better by far to make money in a safe, sane way than to take chances on LOSING ALL in wildcat schemes. Do not let the fortune of a lifetime be swept away by one foolish move.

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