

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

A Non-Partisan Newspaper, Devoted to the Best Interests of Northwest North Carolina

VOLUME XXXVIII, NO. 47

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

FIVE CENTS A COPY

## BOYDEN RAISES BID ON MAYVIEW

Reports Have it That He and an Unnamed Syndicate Have Raised All Previous Bids 10 Per Cent; School Board Accepts \$4,000 Loan

Blowing Rock, Dec. 21.—Donald Boyden and an unnamed northern syndicate are now the leading bidders for Mayview Manor, according to all current reports. Mr. Boyden, who was the lessee of the hotel last summer, has raised all previous bids on the entire property by ten per cent. The amount of the syndicate's reported bid has not been made public.

The case is to be passed upon by federal court in January.

### Loan Accepted

The Blowing Rock school board has accepted the loan of \$4,000 offered by the county commissioners from the Lute Barner loan fund to meet outstanding obligations incurred in constructing the new building.

It is not probable, however, that any of this money will be used to buy furniture for the new building, as the pressing obligations that must be met at once will probably take it all. When the classes move into the new building next Wednesday, therefore, they will take their old home-made desks with them.

John J. Blair, state superintendent of buildings, grounds and construction, was here last week to inspect the building. He said he was well pleased with it.

### Goes to Statesville Hospital

Harry Cooper, automobile mechanic at the Blowing Rock garage, was taken from the Watauga Hospital to Statesville last week, as the injury he received in an accident two weeks ago developed such serious complications that it was considered advisable to move him. It is feared that his arm will have to be amputated.

### Fare Comedy Was Presented

It was erroneously reported last week that the Blowing Rock Dramatic Club had canceled its engagement to present the fare comedy "Missy Moon" at the Cove Creek high school. In spite of the epidemic of measles raging in that community, the troupe filled the engagement and played to an appreciative audience.

### School Closes For Holidays

Distribution of Christmas gifts among the school children marked the closing of the Blowing Rock consolidated school last Friday. Christmas trees were put up in several of the rooms.

Principal A. E. Mercer left Saturday for his home in Washington, N. C., to spend the holidays. Miss Pearl Webb, teacher in the grammar school, is spending the holidays at her home in Avery county.

### Fires Officials Give Supper

C. S. Freyette, C. A. Underdown, Lloyd Robbins, and R. L. Greene, officials of the Blowing Rock fire department, were hosts at a supper given at the Central hotel Tuesday evening of last week. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Gene Story, Mr. and Mrs. Rob Greene, Mr. and Mrs. Weaver, Mr. and Mrs. Grove Robbins and their guests; Mrs. Pondley, Mrs. N. C. Greene, Mrs. C. S. Freyette, Misses Lena Reeves, Ann Ward, Mabel Coffey, Doris Greene, Margaret Sudderth, Edna Miller, Velma Cannon, Annie Greene, Corinne Moody, Mary Robbins and Penn Robbins; Mayor Sudderth, George Robbins, Benjamin Greene, Dewey Story, James Coffey, Thos. H. Coffey, Jr., Hubert Holsinger, Donald and Spencer Greene and others.

Miss Carrie Miller, who returned from Washington, D. C., to spend Christmas with relatives here and in Lenoir, was present as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Grover Robbins, whose other guests were John J. Blair and Mr. Cradle, building inspectors, of Raleigh.

### Williams Custer

A Christmas wedding of interest to friends in Blowing Rock was that of Miss Bettie Williams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John S. Williams, to Mr. H. F. Custer, in Washington today (Thursday). The bride's sister, Mrs. Howard Holsinger, of Blowing Rock, went to Washington to be present at the wedding and will remain there for the winter, where Mr. Holsinger is employed. Another sister, Mrs. Forest Fewel, of Warrenton, also attended the wedding. Miss Williams had been employed for sometime in Durham, N. C. Mr. Custer is a musician now playing in Washington, where they will make their home.

### Personal

Mrs. E. G. Underdown and small daughter, Katherine, left Saturday to spend Christmas with her mother, Mrs. T. B. Sugg of Wilson, N. C. Then, with her mother and daughter, she will go to Haines City, Fla., to spend January and February with her sister, Mrs. Paul Howard, whose winter home is at Haines City.

Mr. A. M. Critcher spent the past week visiting his brother, in Wilkes

## AND WORSHIPPED HIM



"And when they had come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and they fell, and worshipped him; and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts, gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.—Matthew 2:11.

## New Ford Car on Exhibition Here

First of New Type "Lizzie" Viewed By Hundreds at Taylor Motor Company Last Saturday

The people of Boone and Watauga county got their first view of the new Ford automobile last Saturday, when the Taylor Motor Company had on exhibit for one day the new model, of which so much has been said during the past six months. It is estimated that between 1,000 and 1,200 people gave the new car "the once over" during the day. It is said that the car came fully up to expectations and the local dealers are expecting a good business, as soon as a supply can be received.

Here are some of the outstanding features of the car:

Four-wheel brakes, standard selective gear transmission, extraordinary acceleration, speed of sixty miles an hour and more, a practically vibrationless engine and unusual beauty in line and color. The generator, oiling system, steering gear and rear axle are of new Ford design. Its 40-horsepower engine has been so designed that it will run 20 to 30 miles an hour on a gallon of gasoline.

Mr. R. D. Hodges, in commenting on the car, said his first view of it had substantiated Henry Ford's statement that "there is nothing quite like it in quality and price."

"Mr. Ford's statement had prepared us for a surprise," continued Mr. Hodges, "but the new Ford car is even better than we had hoped for. It is certain to make history in the automotive industry, just as its predecessor, the famous Model T, has made history for twenty years. We are proud of the new car and feel certain that its appearance and performance will attract unprecedented attention among automobile owners."

## REVISED HAUGEN FARM BILL IS BROUGHT OUT

Washington, Dec. 19.—Having already made its bow in the senate, the remodeled McNary-Haugen farm relief bill crossed the house stage today and was kept going until it reached the agricultural committee.

At a meeting of that committee earlier in the day Chairman Haugen had announced that his revised proposal was ready and January 16 was set for the opening of hearings. He does not expect them to be as extensive this year as previously and hopes that the measure will reach the house floor for consideration immediately after disposal of less controversial important legislation.

The heart of the Haugen bill, like that of the proposal sponsored by Chairman McNary, is the equalization fee objected to by President Coolidge. The fee, however, would apply to all crops, not a select few as in the vetoed bill and only then after an emergency had been declared by the proposed farm board.

Mrs. Youngbride: "I don't want to have any trouble with you, Bridget." Cook: "Then, bedad, ma'am, let me hear no complaints."

county and at Statesville. While in Statesville he visited his son-in-law, Mr. Cooper, who is a patient at Davis Hospital.

Mr. Henry Hayes spent a recent week-end with Mrs. Hayes and their daughters in Raleigh, and will return to spend a part of the Christmas holidays with them.

## RELIGION

By DR. FRANK CRANE

Dr. Robert A. Millikan, world-famous scientist, in an address on the subject of evolution, declared that religion was one of the most striking examples of evolution. This was not in the way of controversy or heresy, but was merely emphasizing what was already taught in every important theological school in the United States.

Scholars have been pointing out that there was a progression of doctrine in the Bible; the God of the Old Testament not having the ideals presented in the New.

There is no doubt but that religion has advanced greatly from the days of Moses until the days of Christ.

Christ Jesus is said to have come "in the fullness of time"; that is, he came when the development of mankind and its stage of progress warranted him.

Since his day there has been a great progress made. Formerly, religious denominations were cruel, it was common to have fierce fighting among sects and both Protestants and Catholics were guilty of things of which they would not nowadays be guilty. The idea of God has undergone considerable variations. God may be the same "yesterday, today and forever," but our understanding and apprehension of Him progress.

We have rejected the old tribal gods, the god of wrath and vengeance, and have substituted the God of Love.

As the process of man's mind has broadened, as their understanding and sympathy have deepened, their conception of God has improved, and so one can look at the activities of churches today and compare them with those of yesterday and not see that there has been a great advance.

The missionaries in foreign countries are not so much interested in making converts to their belief as they are in doing good to the people.

The recent activities of the churches have all been in the line of helping humanity rather than of fighting certain beliefs.

In other words, there has been a definite evolution of religion from merely belief in certain tenets to practical helpfulness of mankind. Religion means nothing more than a devotion to the general good. Whatever there is of God nowadays is a God who inhabits all of the people and whatever makes for the welfare of all mankind is pleasing to Him.

Religion, like everything else, must be tested by its results. Its triumph is no t due to its wanting all people to believe in certain things so much as it is in improving our world being.

Christ—whose birthday we will observe at this Christmas time—knew all of this—and to practice "PEACE ON EARTH."

## FREE BULLETIN ON POTATO CULTURE AT WATAUGA BANK

The Watauga County Bank has a limited number of U. S. department of agriculture farmers bulletin No. 1332, entitled "Seed Potatoes and How to Produce Them," which will be given away free to those who desire them. The bulletin contains a mass of information relative to the cultivation of the Irish potato, which should be of interest to the farmers of Watauga county at this time, when an effort is being made to increase the county's yield of tubers.

## H. M. Wellborn Dies in Ashe County

Was Elected to State Senate From This District in 1902 Over Tam Bowie

H. Montgomery Wellborn died at the home of Dr. B. E. Reeves, in West Jefferson last Saturday morning. His death was not unexpected as he had been in poor health for several months. Heart trouble is given as the immediate cause of his death.

Mr. Wellborn was about 70 years of age. He came from a distinguished family, being a descendant of Hugh Montgomery, for whom he was named. In college he was a contemporary of Charles B. Aycock and R. A. Doughton. After a brilliant college career, he studied law, but did not engage in active practice in late years.

Senator Wellborn was always intensely interested in politics. In 1902, he defeated T. C. Bowie for the state senate in the district composed of Ashe, Alleghany and Watauga counties, being one of two men to ever win a victory over Tam Bowie in his home bailiwick. He was later defeated for the same office by Hon. Robert L. Doughton.

The remains were interred at Wilkesboro by the side of other members of his family.

## AMERICAN LEGION TO FORM BAND HERE

At the last meeting of Watauga Post No. 130, American Legion, a committee composed of Carter Cook, chairman, J. M. Burkett, John Cook, Carl Farthing, Leonard Wilson, W. F. Watson and John Combs, was named to work out plans looking to the organization of a legion band. There are a number of good musicians among the membership of the legion, and it is expected that a good musical organization can be formed.

At the same meeting an itemized statement of receipts and disbursements was presented by the commander and adopted by the post.

Adjutant Wilson Norris urged every legionnaire present to do his bit in seeing that every ex-soldier file his adjusted compensation before December 23, after which date it will be too late.

Five dollars in gold was offered by the commander for the man securing the largest number of new members before the next meeting, which will be held in January.

## REMUS ACQUITTED

Cincinnati, Ohio, Dec. 20.—George Remus' faith in his plea for "the sanctity of the American home" was justified here today when a jury of ten men and two women found him not guilty of the murder of his wife, Inogene.

The verdict was "not guilty on the sole ground of insanity," as the charge of Judge C. R. Shook had eliminated the possibility of a straight not guilty verdict.

When the smiling jury filed into their box, both Judge Shook and Sheriff Anderson cautioned spectators against any outburst.

But despite the warning, when the verdict was read Remus leaped to his feet triumphantly. "American justice," he exclaimed exultantly. "I thank you all."

Wild cheers broke out from the crowd that surged through the corridors when the first word of the verdict filtered from the court room.

## Hayes Case Continued Until After Holidays

Charges Filed Against Middle District Judge Will Be Heard in January

Washington special of Sunday to Greensboro Daily News: Senator Overman said today that the consideration of the nomination of Judge Hayes by the senate judiciary committee would be postponed till after the holidays. The senate committee do not desire to take up these nominations without disposing of them as quickly as possible.

Senator Overman received today the following list of witnesses furnished by D. T. Vance of Plumtree in the Hayes case:

Ex-Sheriff P. E. Brown, Rugan Roussseau, Charles G. Gilreath, attorney, Wilkesboro; Ralph Bingham, W. H. Craig and Blaine Coffey, Boone; S. C. McGuire, Elkin; Mary A. Sloan, Crossnore; Edgar Tufts, Banner Elk. Mr. Vance requests that these witnesses be subpoenaed by the judiciary committee. Senator Overman has written Mr. Vance to give the names of these witnesses if it will be absolutely necessary to subpoena, as the committee is not disposed to pay the expenses, and it may be that Mr. Vance himself will have to foot the bill.

Senator Overman also received today a photostatic copy of the check made payable to Hayes and Jones for \$1,000, signed by L. A. Hauser, and indorsed to the credit of the account of Hayes and Jones. This paper is being filed with the judiciary committee, along with all other papers in the case.

One Republican lawyer, familiar with the practice before the executive departments and committees of congress, has rendered his services to Judge Hayes free of charge. This attorney thinks a good deal of an "outrage" to delay confirmation of the Hayes appointment, since the charges contained no new matter. Most of the so-called charges received all the attention they should have been given before the appointment of Judge Hayes was announced, it was said by this attorney, and certainly they could have been presented to the senate judiciary committee on the first day of the session.

## COVE CREEK NEWS ITEMS

Sugar Grove, Dec. 20.—The Cove Creek high school closed Friday, December 9 on account of an epidemic of measles. There were 99 cases and it was thought advisable to close until after the holidays. The spring term will open Monday, January 2. Mid-term examinations will be given soon after resuming work and pupils are urged to be present. Indications are that there will be quite a number of new pupils after Christmas, both in the grades and high school. The average attendance for three months completed has been 350.

Right much work has been done on the grounds of the school by parents and boys, but we are still urging further work any day the weather is favorable.

Mr. A. D. Wilson and family have moved to Boone for the winter months.

Miss Grace Hurst, who is in college at Carson-Newman, is home for the holidays with her parents, Rev. and Mrs. L. A. Hurst.

Miss Gertrude Bundy left Wednesday for her home at Jamestown for the holiday season.

Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Horton left Tuesday to spend the Christmas season with relatives in Asheboro and Wake Forest.

Quite a number of young people are expected home first of the week. Misses Rebecca Taylor and Irene Sherwood from N. C. C. W.; Miss Blanche Horton from Meredith; Carlton Mast from V. P. L.; James M. Horton from Wake Forest, and Howard and Ralph Wallace from Berea.

The car belonging to John R. Horton, which was stolen in Lenoir Sunday night, was recovered Tuesday. The guilty parties have not yet been apprehended.

The surveys for the dam to be built at the mouth of Cove Creek by the Southern Power Company are on the job. They have rooms with Mr. A. C. Mast.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Collins, formerly of Detroit, have rented the house owned by Poly Wyke near the school building. Mrs. Collins was before her marriage Miss Nell McBride, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. McBride. The community is glad to have these people as citizens.

A state game farm for the propagation of quail, pheasants and wild turkeys will be established in Randolph county by the North Carolina department of conservation and development, if the department accepts the unanimous recommendation of its game committee, which held a meeting at Asheboro last Friday.

## NEW POSTMASTER GOES IN JANUARY 1

Former Clerk of the Court A. W. Smith Takes Official Charge of Local Office First of Year; Succeeds W. D. Farthing

Mr. A. W. Smith, former clerk of the court of Watauga county, who is to succeed Mr. W. D. Farthing as postmaster in Boone, is now being touched by Mr. Farthing and will take official charge of the office the first of the year.

The term of the outgoing official expired on the 14th inst., but by request of Mr. Smith, he will hold it over the first, as it will eliminate a lot of work for the incoming postmaster to begin the first of a quarter.

## GOV. McLEAN SAYS FARMING NOW CALLS FOR EDUCATION

Raleigh, Dec. 16.—The greatest need of North Carolina today is the master farmer and the greatest need of the master farmer is education, Governor A. W. McLean told his audience of state organizations and master farmers and radio audience tonight at the agricultural banquet here.

"Master farmers should be honored above any other men in North Carolina," the state's chief executive said. "We have lived to see the day when the man who needs the broadest education is the farmer, who needs not only scientific training but practical education. He needs a knowledge of chemistry, the soil; he needs to be a salesman, to know market conditions, cost accounting."

"It means more to North Carolina to read one 23 master farmers than 23 men of any other profession," he told the group at the graduation banquet in the crowded ballroom.

"We need farmers in agriculture and leaders and you men have demonstrated your leadership."

"You are many of the most difficult things I know of today—agriculture. The greatest need of North Carolina is the trained farmer and the greatest need of the farmer is education."

The governor said that for him if he had made the greatest failure of anything as a farmer, that the boll weevil had knocked him out of the running in the master farmer class and cited as differences of yesterday and today the case of his great-grandfather who sent a preacher to college, doctor to medical college, lawyer to university and the fourth son was willed the home place because he was going to be a farmer, but today the farmer needs the greatest education of all.

## CULT MEMBERS AWAITING FOR KING BEN TO ARISE

Benton Harbor, Mich., Dec. 19.—Although silent in death—death that overtook him last Friday and became known only today—the spirit of Benjamin Purnell, self-styled seventh messenger and king of the House of David, still rules the faithful of the cult.

All that is mortal of the man who taught his followers that he was immortal rested tonight on an iron cot in his chambers in Shiloh, the administration building of the House of David. But the faithful still believe in Purnell's teachings and await the rising from the dead, which they assert will take place before the fourth day of his demise.

So firm were they in their conviction that though Purnell's temporal rule had ended he would rise from the dead, that they pleaded with health officials to leave his body untouched for at least another 24 hours. "Give us until the fourth day," H. T. Dewhurst, colony counsel and devout follower of Purnell, pleaded with Dr. P. J. Dunna, health officer of Benton township. "Benjamin cannot die," Dewhurst declared, and asserted that he would arise, if not today—the third—since death overtook him—the tomorrow. "Lazarus arose on the fourth day," he said. Dr. Dunna, after an examination, granted the additional delay.

Since 11:30 o'clock last Friday morning, when Dr. C. N. Sowers, colony physician, found Purnell dead the "king's" body has not been touched. Aside from their belief that Purnell will arise, it is against the colony teachings to touch the dead.

It was Purnell's teaching that he had been chosen to lead 144,000 of the elect to everlasting life on earth.

Certainty of punishment is the best preventative of crime and "criminals must be taught they cannot evade punishment by technicalities," Judge Roy I. Deal told the Buncombe county grand jury in his final charge of the year. Newspapers can be of material aid in checking crime if they will print conservative news of crime and its punishment. Judge Deal said.