

The Watauga Democrat

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THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1928

A loose tongue has gotten a may into a tight jam.

One way to become a sharp business man is to keep your nose to the grindstone.

Many persons work so hard at playing they have no energy left over to play at work.

More livestock on the farms is a mighty good way to meet the problem of high taxes.

Every farmer in Watauga county should produce enough corn, wheat, oats, potatoes and vegetables for his own use—and a surplus for the market to buy that which he cannot raise. That is the only way to become independent.

It's all over now, Frank Grist tells a South Carolina newspaper that Vic Donahay and not Al Smith will be the Democratic nominee for the presidency. With that burden off Mr. Grist's chest he can devote his entire time from now until the third of June in trying to get himself re-nominated for commissioner of labor and printing.

It just seems to a layman that the much-advertised "clean-up" for Boone came to a close soon after it started. Main street looks pretty good, but many of the worst spots on other streets remain untouched. Many piles of rubbish, ready for the city trucks, are still unmoved. Many visitors are seen on the streets daily. Summer will soon be here. Let "Continuous clean" be the slogan.

Senator Thomas J. Herlin declared in Winston-Salem Monday evening that Governor Al. Smith can never secure the nomination at Houston. Giving him all that can be claimed the Alabamian predicts he will fall 187 votes short of the nomination. If this be true and if Smith is as weak in the pre-convention campaign as Herlin and the Ku Klux in general insist, why is it that they would walk up and down the country spending their good money and time lambasting him and trying to break down his defenses? Undoubtedly the senator and others of his kind speak and think differently.

THE YONAHLOSSEE DRIVE

Winston-Salem Journal. Congressman Doughton is right in his contention that the Great Smoky Mountain and Shenandoah National Parks should be connected by an improved highway. If the Great Smoky Mountain Park, recently established in extreme western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee, is to mean much to North Carolina, the state must have dependable highway connection with the park.

A vital link in this highway is what is known as the Yonahlossee Drive just beyond Blowing Rock. This is by far the most picturesque highway in North Carolina. For some ten or twelve miles it runs along the very top of the Blue Ridge. No such mountain scenery can be found on any other stretch of road in all the mountains.

The Yonahlossee Drive from Blowing Rock around the base of Grandfather Mountain is at present in a deplorable condition. It should be rebuilt. It ought to be rebuilt by the state and federal governments. This is not a county road, or a district highway. It is primarily a state and national highway. Although short, it touches three counties, Watauga, Caldwell and Avery, and two state highway districts.

If the state is going to put convicts to work on any public highway, they should be put to work on this stretch of road. The federal government should co-operate with the state and the two ought to rebuild the famous Yonahlossee Drive without expense to counties or districts.

All North Carolina should be vitally interested in the construction of this road. For no North Carolinian should visit the mountains without seeing the Yonahlossee Drive. Nobody has really seen the mountains of North Carolina until they have seen them from this scenic highway. This drive could be made a tremendous asset to the whole state. If properly advertised, the Yonahlossee Drive would bring tourists to the state from all over eastern America and the middle west.

109 YEARS OLD

Batavia, N. Y., May 2.—Nancy Miller Blackquirl, oldest Indian on the Tonawanda Reservation, observed her 109th birthday anniversary recently. Ga-Que-Tah—that's her Indian name—believes she may in reality be much older.

LOCAL AFFAIRS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Earl Norris last Sunday afternoon, a son.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Greene at Watauga Hospital last week, a daughter.

Mrs. Sherman Holler underwent an operation at the Watauga Hospital last week, and is improving nicely.

Miss Eric, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Greer of Boone, was operated on for appendicitis at the Watauga Hospital last Sunday. The many friends of the popular young lady will be glad to know that her condition is very satisfactory.

Mrs. J. M. Moretz and Chapel Wilson are attending the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs meeting in High Point this week. Invitations were issued by the High Point Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with the Women's clubs of that city.

While out on a call Monday night, Dr. J. M. Hodges was stricken with a severe pain in his right breast and on arriving home at 11 o'clock, his good wife went to applying heat and salve, which was kept up all night and until Wednesday morning. The pain has abated, but he is not able to be in his office this week.

Frank Winkler and Frank Robbins of State College, Raleigh, were visitors at their respective homes last week and on their return Friday took with them Misses Alice Council and Louise Critchey to attend a "fraternity house party." They returned Sunday and report a most enjoyable time.

The Democrat is very sorry indeed to learn of the serious illness of Prof. W. L. Winkler of Shulls Mills, K. F. D. He was taken to Lenoir's sanatorium in Statesville last Monday and a message last evening was to the effect that he was but little if any better. His trouble is something like an abscess in his jaw, his whole head and face being swollen. It made its appearance very suddenly and much anxiety is felt over his condition.

An advertisement in the Watauga County Bank in this issue under the heading "Ways to get money for 1928 taxes and other things," is directed especially to the farmers of the county. Attention is called to fine local products which are eagerly sought by the outside world and from which the county largely derives its income. The Watauga County Bank has also mailed out hundreds of copies of the ad, and the two other banks are co-operating in the movement.

Mr. Lemuel Greene, formerly of Watauga county but for 35 years a resident of Derby, Iowa, has returned to the land of his nativity and will make his permanent home with his son, Mr. W. P. Greene, on Cove Creek. According to Mr. Greene, conditions in Iowa are anything but favorable at this time. A large number of bank failures, together with unsatisfactory farming conditions have combined to bring near financial disaster to the rural districts.

The publishers would like to call particular attention, especially to the reporters of social activities, that The Democrat, while dated for Thursday is put to Press on Wednesday. Recently many items have arrived too late for publication or after the type had been composed for the complete paper. In the case of club meetings and other routine matters, sometimes the reporter waits over one issue before submitting the report. Only this week a report was sent in which would have had time to have appeared last week. We are anxious to have reports of the affairs of this kind, but it would be mutually helpful if we could have them while they are news.

ELKLAND H. S. CLOSING

The Elkland high school commencement will be held on Friday and Saturday nights of this week. On Friday night the grades will give a program, which will consist of drills, a short play, a negro minstrel, and other forms of entertainment. On Saturday night the high school will present a play, "Headstrong Joan," a comedy in three acts. Two Jews and an Irish cook furnish plenty of comedy.

A special feature of the program Saturday night will be the music furnished by Ted Bare and his "Carolina Night Hawks."

The public is cordially invited to attend one or both of these programs, which begin at 8 o'clock p. m.

WORTH WHILE CLUB

On Friday afternoon the Worth While Club held its regular bi-monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. Zeb Farthing. Although the weather was very inclement, a large number of members were present and the spacious living room in which they were assembled was made bright and cheerful by a large open fire.

The meeting opened with the quotation of Bible verses, followed by the business session. The hostess then took charge and entertained

the guests with a cake contest. Mrs. John Greer and Mrs. Stewart Winkler were the winners and were awarded a beautiful vase as a prize. Delicious refreshments were served by the hostess. The next meeting will be held on May 11 at the home of Mrs. Charles Eller.

APPLE CROP NOT HURT

Saturday's snow and cold weather is not believed to have injured the apple crop in Watauga county. About six inches of snow fell Friday night and Saturday morning, but in the afternoon the thermometer went up and the snow disappeared almost entirely by Sunday afternoon.

Reports from various sections of the county are to the effect that cherries, peaches and pears are badly damaged if not entirely killed, but the apple crop, which means more to the county than all the other crops combined, seem to have escaped serious damage.

ENTRE NOUS CLUB

Mrs. Fred Hodges was hostess to the Entre Nous Club at her home in Boone on the afternoon of April 20. After a short while engaged in discussion of various subjects, a lively series of games were played and the winner, Mrs. James B. Mast, was given a cut-glass gift box. Then the guests entered into a "Kate" contest, and Mrs. Sam Horton and Mrs. Russell Hodges tied for honor, but Mrs. Hodges proved the winner in the drawing, receiving a bottle of lemon cream.

Delicious refreshments were served, consisting of fruit salad, sandwiches, cake and tea.

The next meeting of the club will be held at the home of Mrs. James B. Horton on the afternoon of May 9th.

GRADUATING EXERCISES OF 7TH GRADE HELD SATURDAY

The graduating exercises of the seventh grade of the Boone public school were held Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the auditorium of the Demonstration school. On account of the severe weather, the speaker, Mr. Ira T. Johnson of Jefferson, failed to arrive; otherwise the program was carried out as planned.

The winner in the recitation contest was Bertie Harrison, who gave "Aunt Jerusha Visits the City."

"The Bible," delivered by Winston Rankin, was adjudged the best declamation.

Other contestants were Ruby Trivette, Marcella Cook, Brainard Watson and James Farthing. All spoke remarkably well and deserve much credit for their efforts.

Certificates of promotion to high school were granted to twenty-three boys and girls.

James Farthing and Emogene Setzer had a perfect record of attendance for the year.

HOME COMING DAY AT BLOWING ROCK BAPTIST

Sunday, May 6th, will be observed as Home-coming Day at the Blowing Rock Baptist church and the pastor, Rev. P. A. Hicks, is very anxious to have all members and former members and friends of the church present for this special service. You are invited to come and bring filled baskets, so that dinner can be served on the ground. "We want to have a day of fellowship with the Lord and fellowship one with another," says Pastor Hicks.

Program

Sunday school at 10 a. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. by the pastor. Subject: "Our Mothers." Special Mothers' Day music will be rendered; also each mother present will be presented with a little love gift. 12 o'clock: Dinner. 1:20 p. m.: Address by Smith Haganam.

The Lord is good for all His wonderful works toward the children of men. Come and let us worship Him.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

The Friday Afternoon Club had a most delightful meeting with Mrs. I. G. Greer at her home on last Friday. Potted plants and spring flowers formed the decorations.

A very unique program was enjoyed. As a fore-runner of National Child Week, the program was along this line. Giddy and humorous child's poems were read by Mrs. B. J. Council, Mrs. Annie Coffey, Mrs. Linney and Mrs. Dougherty.

Mrs. Greer had requested each guest to bring a baby picture of herself. These were arranged in a group so all could see them and the members enjoyed a regular baby show. The pictures were numbered and members were asked to guess who was who. Then followed a vote on the prettiest baby, most intelligent, most mischievous and various other tests. Blue ribbons were pinned on the grown up winners. This occasioned much merriment. An appropriate prize was awarded the one making the highest score. The next feature was numbers of child's stunts, into which all entered very heartily.

The program throughout the afternoon kept to the child things. Many Mother Goose and favorite rhymes were recited and numbers of beginners' pieces played on the piano. Upon invitation to the dining room, places were found by unique place cards, decorated with pictures of children. A dainty sa-

lad course was followed by Esquimo pies and animal cookies which every child adores. Mrs. Annie Coffey and Mrs. Jas. Winkler assisted Mrs. Greer in serving.

Beside club members Mrs. Greer had as guests Mrs. Smith Haganam, Mrs. Neal Blair, Mrs. Honeycutt, Mrs. J. L. Winkler, Mrs. W. R. Southworth and Mrs. Jack Shriver of Iowa. The club will meet May 11 with Mrs. David Greene.

HARMON, PENITENT, WRITES WARNING ON PRISON WALLS

Dewey Harmon of the Beech Creek section of Watauga county, who was sentenced at the last term of the superior court to a term of from six to eight years in the state prison for his part in the robbery of the Valle Crucis Bank, grew deeply penitent soon after his incarceration in the county jail. After he had left for Raleigh the following lines were found written on the walls of his cell in the county jail, telling of his repentance. The testimony below is reproduced exactly as was written.

"Dewey Harmon is in here March 28, 1928, charged with bank robbery. I have eight years to serve and am going to try to make it before I die, if I can. Everybody who sees this must take warning before it is too late. It is too late for me to stay out of the pen, but it is not too late to serve the Lord and I am going to serve Him all the time I am gone. I hope you will meet me at the end and me and all will meet the Lord with a smile. I want every body to trust in the Lord. I don't want anyone to go to hell. That is an awful place. I want you to heed before it is too late. Don't put it off any longer for you may be called at any time. I want everybody to pray for me that I can't turn back like I once was. The Lord has blessed me. I want you sinners to take my advice if it is right and if it is not, don't take it.

"In your mind you know you have a soul and don't let it go down to hell for if you will call on the Lord in the right way He will hear and save your soul for He has saved my poor soul before it was too late. You must get down humble to the Lord and He will bless you.

"I want to get back to my good woman and three little children that are depending upon me for support.

"Here is my conversion: I got to studying about my soul, how I was raised up, my family and I got to calling on the Lord to show me how to live from now on and He put it into my mind to get right with God and I did submit all things to him and He gave my poor heart ease at once. It was on Thursday night about two o'clock when He blessed my soul.

"DEWEY HARMON, Beech Creek, N. C."

NORMAL NOTES

Short Arbor week programs have been given at the chapel exercises during the past week by different members of the faculty.

The colored girls from Bennett College, Greensboro, gave a very enjoyable concert at the courthouse Thursday night and on Friday rendered several numbers at the Normal chapel hour. Some of the colored men of the town also gave several numbers.

County Superintendent Smith Haganam has been at the Normal several days during the week, and is always welcome by the many friends he has here.

Pupils of the Demonstration school below the seventh grade gave an operetta, "The Stolen Flower Queen," Friday afternoon and Friday night. The work of the children was highly commended, and showed the splendid training on the part of their teachers. Despite the bad weather Friday night the auditorium of the Demonstration building was well filled with people from the town and the Normal who enjoyed the operetta very much. Monday evening the seventh grade held a contest in recitation and declamation, which brought to a close the 1927-28 session of the Demonstration school.

The senior class of the Normal gave a play, "Hoodoo," a farce comedy in three acts, on Saturday night. The play was under the direction of Prof. I. G. Greer, and was greatly enjoyed by those present. The cast was composed of the following: Brighton Early, Jennings Walsh, Billy Jackson, Jonas Waters; Prof. Solomon Spittet, Ted Davis; H. Machus Spiggot, Ozro Roberts; Mr. Malachi Meek, Robert Elliott; Mr. Dun, Tom Hayes; Miss Amy Lee, Viola Upright; Mrs. Perrington-Shine, Olive Perry; Gwendolyn Perrington-Shine, Louise Jones; Dodo De Graft, Lillian Williams; Miss Ima Clinger, Ruby Pennington; Angelina, Mary Norris; Miss Doris Ruffles, Nell Lazenby; Eupposia Spiggot, Georgie Lee Gibson; Mrs. Semiramus, Margaret Clarke; Miss Longnacker, Rosemary Bumgarner; Lulu, Lucile Sartin; Aunt Paradise, Dauskio Howard; four little Spiggotts; Ramases, Joe Greer; Isis, Ruby Trivette; Choppis, I. G. Greer, Jr., Osiris, Karle Sawyer.

A sacred concert was rendered Sunday afternoon in the Normal auditorium by Miss Celeste Henkel's music and expression class.

Prof. Greer on Wednesday delivered an address at Sparta, going from there to Landis, Rowan county, where he will speak today. He will also deliver an address at East Bend, Yadkin county.

PAY RESPECTS TO AGED PAIR ON SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Last Thursday afternoon about a hundred and thirty-five guests assembled at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Ray to participate in the celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of the highly esteemed couple. Announcements of the occasion had been sent out previously and besides those calling from the town, numerous friends were present from other cities and states.

Mrs. Ray was before her marriage Miss Margaret Hodges and her wedding ceremony was performed on April 26, 1868 by A. P. Wilson at her home in Boone. It is recalled that the newlyweds rode horseback to the home of Mr. Ray in Ashe county (Elk X-Roads) where they spent the first ten years of their wedded life, moving from there to the present home near Boone.

Mr. John F. Hardin and R. R. Hodges, brother of Mrs. Ray, were the only ones present who witnessed the marriage. There are, however, others living who were unable to come.

Friends called constantly during the late afternoon and early evening with one another and to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Ray on having attained their 60th anniversary. Numbers of lovely presents were brought, testifying to the esteem in which the aged couple is held, and with the hope that the recipients would witness many more such occasions.

Besides friends and relatives in the town and community, those present were: Messrs. R. R. Hodges and George Wortham, Paris, Texas; Harvey Carlton, Abilene, Texas; Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Randolph and daughter, Asheville; Donald R. Robbins, Dorchester, Va.; Weston Robbins, Norton, Va.; Mrs. John McNeely and Miss Lula Freeze, Mooresville; Mrs. Finley Coffey and Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Boldin and son, Lenoir; Dr. and Mrs. R. H. Hardin, Banner Elk; Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Byrd, Foscoe, and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Boyden, Blowing Rock.

REV. G. H. CHURCH

The Statesville Landmark of last Thursday carried the following account of the death of Rev. G. H. Church, a native of Todd and a former pastor of the Boone Baptist church, mention of which was made in these columns last week:

Rev. G. H. Church, veteran Baptist minister, passed away Tuesday night at 10:25 o'clock at his home on Western avenue. Mr. Church had been in declining health for several years, but had been confined to his bed for most of the time since Mrs. Church died last July.

The funeral services, conducted by the pastor, Rev. B. E. Morris, assisted by Rev. C. S. Cashwell, a lifelong friend, were held from Western Avenue Baptist church Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Interment followed in the family plot in Oakwood.

Mr. Church was 79 years of age, having been born and reared near Todd, Ashe county, March 14, 1849, his birthplace was 11 miles from

Boone and 11 miles from Jefferson. He was married May 10, 1868, to Miss Mary Howell, of the same community. They had four children, all of whom preceded the parents to the grave. Mrs. Church passed away in Statesville July 29, 1927, at the age of 77 years, leaving the aged minister alone, enfeebled by long years of unselfish service.

After his conversion and his decision to devote his life to the gospel ministry, Mr. Church's first work was for the Baptist board of missions in Ashe and Alleghany counties, locating in Boone during that time.

He went to Judson College for fuller preparation for his life's work in 1883, and after taking a course there, was called to Brevard, serving two churches in Transylvania county, spending three years in that work.

His next pastorate was in Swain county, where he served as pastor of Baptist churches at Bryson City and Hot Springs.

He came to Statesville as pastor of the First Baptist church in 1893, serving in that capacity for six years. During this pastorate he started a mission church, called South Statesville Mission, from which the flourishing Western Avenue Baptist church sprang.

Mr. Church gave up the Statesville field to take the pastorate of the First Baptist church at Burlington, remained there for two years. He was next called to Lenoir, where he served as pastor of the First church for five years and six months, going from there to Durham to accept the pastorate of Edgemont church on East Main street. He spent two years on the Durham field, after which he went to Anson county where he was pastor of the Morven and Polkton Baptist churches for four years.

In March, 1913, Mr. Church was called back to Statesville to become pastor of the Western Avenue Baptist church. He was pastor for five years and six months, having to give up the work when his health broke down from the strain of building a new house of worship, the present handsome structure. Nine years ago Mr. Church had to give up regular pastoral duties. For five years prior to his death he had been unable to preach.

BEGINNING WITH MAY 1, the Banks of Boone will close at 3 p. m. The hours will be 8 a. m. to 3 p. m. This change is necessary in order to give the book-keepers time to balance and work up the books. WATAUGA COUNTY BANK, PEOPLES BANK & TRUST CO.

GARDEN SEED—Landreth's package seed, 5c; Leonard's bean and pea seed 25c per lb. J. B. Dick & Co., 5, 10 & 25 Cent Store, Boone, N. C.

Ways to Get Money for 1928 TAXES and OTHER THINGS. Every Farmer Should Sell at Least Five of these Products. How Many Can You? 1. POTATOES SEED EATING STOCK 2. GOOD CATTLE BEEF DAIRY PRODUCTS 3. SHEEP LAMBS WOOL 4. POULTRY CHICKENS EGGS TURKEYS 5. CABBAGE MARKET STOCK KRAUT 6. BEANS SNAP BEANS SHELL BEANS 7. APPLES SPRAYED and GRADED 8. SMALL VEGETABLES ONIONS LETTUCE SPINACH BEETS STRAWBERRIES TURNIPS 9. BOARD TOURISTS and SUMMER VISITORS WATAUGA COUNTY BANK "Home of the Thrifty" Boone, N. C. Let's DEVELOP Our County