

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1928

FIVE CENTS A COPY

## Nathan Ward Meets Death in Auto Accident

Blowing Rock, Sept. 26.—Nathan Ward was killed and Len Gragg was painfully cut by flying glass when the car in which they and three others were riding, left the Yonahlossee road near Dixon's Creek Sunday night, turned over and lodged against a tree.

Just how the driver happened to lose control of the car has not been explained, but it is believed that he was too crowded, with five persons in a roadster. The accident happened about ten o'clock.

Mr. Ward was a member of one of Blowing Rock's most prominent families. Surviving are his mother and three brothers and three sisters: Charles, Will and Edward Ward of Blowing Rock, Mrs. Lulu Rickett, Miss Annie Ward and Mrs. Ransom Killian.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 at the Episcopal church by Rev. Mr. Richardson.

## School Opened Monday

The Blowing Rock school opened Monday after a delay of three days caused by an unfortunate misunderstanding about the water bill for last year. When the bill was not paid on September 10, after what the town officials considered ample notice, the water was cut off, and of course the school could not continue without water for sanitary appliances.

Superintendent Smith Hagan came over Thursday and made arrangements for the water to be turned on, with the promise that the bill would be paid by Oct. 10.

Prof. D. D. Dougherty, member of the county board of education, explained that the bill had not been paid because it was not properly made out. He said it was presented in a lump sum for the entire year; whereas it should have come under four different departments of finance. One part of it, he said, was for water used by brick masons in the building work and should have been included in the contractor's bill; another part was for the special summer school, for which the county was not responsible; a third part was for the meter, which, it was said, should have come under the deficit which the consolidated district assumed, and the fourth part was the water which the regular school actually used.

The county board, it was pointed out, could not tell how to divide the lump sum among the four departments, and, therefore, no action was taken on it until the matter could be straightened out. Meanwhile, the school tried to open and found no water. Prof. Dougherty denied emphatically that there was any disposition on the part of the county board to repudiate the Blowing Rock water bill.

Members of the district school committee said that the bills had been presented promptly to county board, and they were surprised to learn on the opening day of school that the bills had not been paid, especially since the bill presented on the first Monday in September bore the notation that the water would be cut off if the bill was not paid by Sept. 10.

The town officials in charge of the water works said they knew nothing of paying the bill under four separate heads of finance. They knew only that the county board of education owed them a water bill, and it must be paid if the service was to continue. They explained that if the school were for the town alone, they would gladly donate the water, but since it is a consolidated school, with a large number of pupils from outside the corporate lines, they did not feel disposed to donate the water.

## Injured by Bursting Tire

Dewey Story, who was seriously injured when flying rubber from a bursting tire cut his eye last week, returned Tuesday from Dr. Long's sanatorium in Statesville. It is now believed almost certain that his eye will be saved.

Dewey was inflating the tire at the filling station of N. C. Greene, but he put too much air in it and it burst. A piece of the rubber struck him in the eye and cut the eyeball in three places. Dewey did not realize how badly he was hurt until Mr. Greene saw blood running from his eye. Dr. E. B. Scates directed that he be sent to a hospital, and he was immediately rushed to Statesville by his brother, Chief of Police I. E. Story and Mrs. Story.

## Town Gets Library

Through the Blowing Rock Community Club, a library for the use of the school and of the citizens has been given to the town by a donor whose name is withheld. The library will be added to the old Lend-a-Hand library, donated several years ago, and the two together will make a collection of some 500 volumes.

They will be kept in the library

(Continued on Page Five)

## POLITICAL EVENTS OF THE PAST WEEK

Highlights of Political Activity of Both Major Parties Summarized From Recent News Dispatches From Over the Country

**Hoover Upholding G. O. P. Policies**  
Washington, Sept. 22.—Herbert Hoover declared unequivocally today that his campaign is not one of opposition, but one in favor of the issues and candidates in the Republican party.

His statement was contained in an address to a delegation from Maryland, the first public pronouncement he had made since his Democratic opponent, Alfred E. Smith, opened fire on the Republican party in his address at Oklahoma City last Thursday night.

"We are now in a great campaign," Hoover said. "Our campaign is based upon our issues. It is not a campaign of opposition. It is a campaign in favor of the issues and candidates in the Republican party."

Before the meeting with the Maryland delegation, consisting of 40 county and ward chairmen of the Hoover-Goldsborough League of Maryland, the Republican presidential candidate spent more than an hour and a half at the White House discussing the general political situation with President Coolidge, who returned today from a visit to his native state of Vermont and New England. Beyond the statement that "the general situation" had been gone over at the White House there was no announcement concerning the conference.

## Smith Delivers Sizzling Attack on "Whispering Campaign"

Governor Smith in his speech in Oklahoma City last Thursday night deplored the injection of the religious issue and "whispering" methods into the campaign, defended his record as chief executive of New York, and urged the voters of the nation to make their choice in the November election solely on the ground of what best promotes the interest and welfare of the republic.

The Democratic nominee directed an attack at former Senator Owen of Oklahoma who has bolted the Democratic party to support Herbert Hoover, assailed Mrs. Mabel Walker Willebrandt, an assistant attorney general, as a dishonest campaigner in behalf of Mr. Hoover, and made specific reference to the Ku Klux Klan, whose members, he said, "have the effrontery to refer to themselves as 100 per cent Americans."

In condemning some of the campaign methods used against him, Governor Smith declared there was "abundant reason for believing that Republicans high in the councils of the party have countenanced a large part of this form of campaign if they have not actually promoted it."

"They may, through official spokesmen," he added, "disclaim as much as they please responsibility for dragging into a national campaign the question of religion, something that, according to our constitution, our history and our traditions has no part in any campaign for elective public office."

The Democratic nominee rebuked Mrs. Willebrandt, particularly for her appeal to Methodists in Ohio to take a stand against his candidacy, and asserted that "by silence after such a speech the only inference one can draw is that the administration approved such political tactics."

"What would the effect be upon these same people if a prominent official of the government of the state of New York under me suggested to a gathering of the pastors of my church that they do for me what Mrs. Willebrandt suggests be done for Hoover?" the Democratic nominee inquired.

## Smith Will Speak Either at Charlotte, Raleigh or Greensboro

Raleigh, Sept. 22.—Governor Alfred E. Smith, Democratic presidential nominee, will probably deliver the speech he has promised to make in this state at Charlotte, Raleigh or Greensboro. O. M. Mull, chairman of the state Democratic executive committee said yesterday.

Definite word that Governor Smith will speak in North Carolina came today in a telegram to Senator Lee S. Overman from Mrs. Henry Moskowitz, vice chairman in

(Continued on Page Eight)

## A Thousand More Ewes are Needed in Watauga

By W. L. WINKLER

While driving around over Watauga county, I have noticed that we are almost out of cattle and have but few sheep for the grass we are growing. There are more fields grown up with grass and weeds than ever before in the history of the county.

What are we farmers going to do? Our money crop is our grazing. We have no cotton, no tobacco, no manufacturing interests. We must in some way arrange for some money crop.

From experience, I find there is nothing we can raise that brings as rapid returns as sheep. If you pay \$12 for a ewe the wool will pay her keep and as prices of lambs have been for the past three years, the lambs will bring around \$10 which means profit for your grass. It is better than bank stock or building and loan.

We are raising plenty of potatoes, cabbage, and apples, but no one crop is sufficient; we must enlarge our facilities for making money.

The county needs one thousand ewes and can easily graze them. I have found where we can buy them delivered at a good price. We can buy fifteen hundred from this party. They are sold on a guarantee and are of fine Shropshire and Hampshire stock.

The Watauga County Bank is very much interested in this proposition and will give all the encouragement possible to help put this plan over. I am sure the other banks will assist in the financing. I will be in Boone Saturday, September 29, to meet all who are interested in sheep buying.

## Will Rogers Says:

The voters now go to the polls in an automobile but they don't carry any more in their heads than the old timer that went there on a mule, so the old Bunk that you cannot fool the voter is the biggest Bunk there is; he has been fooled all his life and he will always be fooled.

As the presidential candidate for the "Anti-Bunk" party I refuse to employ such old party campaign methods. I am Frank and Earnest. The politician tells the people that "I don't have to tell you people what our party stands for. We rely on your sober judgment. We rest our case on your intelligence." Then he goes on for two hours more telling them what his party stands for.

I don't care how smart their audience was, they couldn't possibly know "what their party stood for." The supreme court with all its divided knowledge couldn't tell you what either party "stood for."

They both stand for "election." That's about the only thing that you can safely say they are for, in fact they will both "stand for" almost murder, if they can only get in.

We are more "smart Alec" than we ever were, but we are no smarter. We read more and we hear more over the radio, but the stuff we read, the stuff we hear don't make us any smarter.

For the people that write it, and the ones that talk it out over the radio are no smarter than the ones that used to have to hand down the dope for our old forefathers.

There is just as many half wits voting Republican today because their fathers voted that way as there ever was. There is just as many voting Democratic because they have heard their folks tell about how the Republicans treated them during the war, as there ever was.

If the voter is as smart as they say, why do they have to tell him anything, why do they have literature, and campaigns, and speeches? Why does each party have to spend four million dollars trying to buy votes with propaganda?

The oldest form Bunk in the world is to say how "well informed the voters are and that they can't be misled by our opponents." We have bathtubs, airships, four wheel brakes, reducing pills, manicurists, men's corsets and prohibition.

But I doubt if at any time during the history of the world were we ever as down right dumb as we are today.

Jefferson, Sept. 22.—Clyde R. Hoey of Shelby addressed the greatest political gathering ever seen in Ashe county today in the courthouse in advocating the election of Governor Smith. He defended Smith's record and pleaded for Democrats to remain faithful to the party. After the address the following county ticket was nominated: Representative, T. T. McNeil; sheriff, W. E. Neel; register of deeds, C. F. Neel; commissioners, Emmet Reeves, B. F. Kilby and J. M. Scott.

## ROMANCE SOUNDS IN OLD PORTO RICO

It Was From Juan That Ponce de Leon Sailed When He Discovered Florida; America Aided it to Rise to Prosperity

Porto Rico and its storm-swept capital, San Juan, are described in the following bulletin of the National Geographic Society based upon a communication to the Washington headquarters of the society from its vice president, Dr. John Oliver La Gorge.

"It was from the city of San Juan that the adventurous Ponce de Leon set sail, like another Jason in search of the Golden Fleece for the fulfillment of his charming, if boyish, dream of finding the Fountain of Youth, which, we all recall, resulted in the discovery of the southernmost end of the United States, Florida.

"The story of the island's rise to prosperity and well-being under American direction of its affairs constitutes one of the greatest romances of government in modern times.

"Rectangular in shape, with an area a third less than that of Connecticut, a length of 100 miles, an average width of 30 miles and 360 miles of coast line, Porto Rico has a population of 1,300,000.

"The harbor of its capital, San Juan, one of the finest in the western hemisphere, has been dredged to a depth of 35 feet and will enjoy ever-increasing importance as a coaling station for the transatlantic routes to the Panama Canal.

"For a tropical land, the winter climate is unusually free from excessive heat, and the abundant rainfall over most of the island gives vegetation a perennial luxuriance. Since it lies in the path of the trade winds, with its mountains in the central portion of the island, the humidity is rarely oppressive.

"The mountain scenery is wild and beautiful. The main range, known as the Cordillera Central, runs from east to west with slopes sweeping over a wide area toward the north and rising sharply from the south, leaving in the latter direction an alluvial plain only ten to fifteen miles wide between the peaks and the sea.

"North of the main range there is a fine foothill region famous for its scenery, the Sierra de Luquillo, where the Indians made their last stand. El Yunque, the central peak of these hills, long enjoyed the reputation of being the highest of the island, its isolation giving it that appearance.

"But mountain climbers with their barometers, have forced it to surrender its prestige to some of the peaks in the Cordillera Central. El Yunque is 3,483 feet high, while Ala de la Piedra, in the central range, reaches a height of 4,398 feet.

"One will find history and romance in every part of the island. San Juan itself was a settlement half a century before St. Augustine, Fla., the oldest town in the United States, came into being, and a full century before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock it began to take on the semblance of a city. More than two and a half centuries ago, before the United States began to build the White House in Washington, Spain started the construction of the Casa Blanca, the government palace.

"But it is the progress of Porto Rico and Porto Ricans since the advent of the United States, barely a quarter of a century ago, that furnishes the most engaging and inspiring chapter in the history of the island. Within a little more than a year of the cession of Porto Rico to the United States by Spain under the Treaty of Paris, Dec. 10, 1898, American occupation of the island has ceased to be military and had become economic.

"The six states of Central America—Guatemala, Honduras, Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama—have an aggregate area sixty times as great as that of Porto Rico and a population more than four times as large; yet their combined exports and imports are less than hers.

"The republic of Haiti, three times as large and nearly twice as populous, buys less than one-sixth as much in the markets of the world and sends less than one-seventh as much to the consuming centers of the earth.

"Certainly, only a region favored highly by nature and developed intensively by man could stand out so brilliantly in comparison with adjacent lands.

"Under the American regime the amount of sugar exported increased sevenfold; coffee exports doubled in quantity and trebled in value and tobacco shipments have likewise scored marvelous gains.

"If the forty-eight States of the American Union were as densely populated as our little jewel sparkling in its Caribbean setting, we

(Continued on Page Five)

## Sunday is Home-Coming Day in Baptist Churches

Sunday, September 30, will be observed as Home Coming Day in the churches of the Three Forks Baptist association. A special program has been arranged for the various churches. The exercises will begin in the morning, with Sunday school and preaching at 11 o'clock, followed by a picnic dinner at noon. The afternoon will be taken up with discussions on various phases of church activities. All members and former members of all the churches are invited and urged to attend the services.

At the Boone Baptist church, Rev. Dr. Will O. Gordon will be the speaker at the 11 o'clock hour, preceded by Sunday school and a historic sketch of the church by Prof. D. D. Dougherty. The evening service will consist of talks by various members of the church, the full program being as follows:

## Morning Service

Sunday school, 9:45 a. m.  
Church History, by Prof. D. D. Dougherty.

11 a. m.—Sermon, "The New Testament Church," by Dr. Will O. Gordon.

## Evening Service, 7:30

1. Old-time singing.
2. "The men and women that have meant much to our church," by W. D. Farthing.
3. "New problems of our church," by Smith Hagan.
4. "What my church has meant to me," by J. F. Moore.
5. "Causes of backsliding," D. J. Cottrell.

Pastor Hicks extends a cordial invitation to every member and every friend of the church to be with us and help to make this a helpful day for our church.

Following is the program for the fifth Sunday meeting at Oak Grove Baptist church, Sunday, September 30th:

## AT OAK GROVE

Morning—9:30

1. Old-time songs by the choir.
2. Sunday school.
3. Reading the history of the church.
4. Sermon, "The New Testament Church," by Rev. E. D. Greene.
5. Dinner served on the grounds.

Afternoon—1:30

6. Old-time songs.
7. How to make our church more friendly, by J. C. Hodges.
8. How to improve our church services, Rev. W. D. Ashley.
9. What my church means to me, by Mrs. J. W. Greene and W. M. Hodges.
10. Elements of growth in church members, by Cleve Gross.
11. Causes of back-sliding, by J. W. Hodges.

The public is cordially invited.

## AT COVE CREEK, BETHEL AND WILLOWDALE

Home-coming Day will be observed Sunday at Cove Creek Baptist church. The Rev. R. C. Eggers will preach at the 11 o'clock hour of worship.

At Willowdale church, Rev. Levi Greene is the speaker for the 11 o'clock hour of worship.

At Bethel church, Rev. G. W. Trivett is the preacher at the 11 o'clock hour.

Each church is observing home coming day in co-operation with the Three Forks association. An all-day program in each church will be rendered by both local and outside talent, which will be worshipful, inspirational and profitable to all who attend.

## ELKLAND NEWS

Elkland, Sept. 22.—The Elkland high school opened on September 3 with an enrollment of 130 pupils. This number has now been raised to 140.

Messrs. Earl and Wade Miller, who have been in Wilmington during the past summer, spent last week with their parents here. Earl has returned to his work in Wilmington and Wade has entered State college, where he is a senior.

State Highway No. 69 from Todd to West Jefferson has just been treated with tar and rock, and is in excellent condition. The same treatment will be given the highway to Boone, work beginning this week.

Mr. Herbert Estep has returned to State College, where he is a sophomore in the engineering school.

Mrs. M. M. Wall is seriously ill in a Statesville hospital.

Rev. Mr. Winkler, who is to assume the pastorate of South Oak Baptist church, has moved into this community.

There will be a pie supper at the Elkland high school on Saturday night, September 29. The receipts will go to the general school fund. Everyone is cordially invited.

## RESULTS OF POLL FAVOR HOOVER

Over Two Million Votes are Cast in Six Straw Polls Without Showing any Wide Lead; Smith Gains on Hoover

The results of the nation-wide presidential poll being conducted by 2,000 country newspapers in every section of the country, if it sheds any light on the political situation at all, would indicate that the race for the presidency this year is to be an unusually close one. To date the score stands: Hoover, 563,176; Smith, 556,104. The combined results of this poll together with those being conducted by the Hearst newspapers, Yonkers (N. Y.) Herald, New York Daily News, the Pathfinder and the Farm Journal total more than two million. Of these votes Hoover has 1,182,192, and Smith 1,096,537.

In the nation-wide poll it is indicated that 101,232 former Democrats are voting for Hoover and 65,056 former Republicans expect to support Smith. The new results considerably lessen Hoover's lead, which he has held consistently since the voting began several weeks ago. A week ago he had almost 52 per cent of the vote cast, while this week his lead is only six-tenths of one per cent, representing a change of more than 30,000. In the combined six polls the Republican candidate's lead represents 51.8 per cent of the total vote cast.

It seems that those who in the past have made election day figures from straw polls, will have difficulty in surmising this time which way the wind is really blowing.

## FLORIDA VILLAGE OF 400, WIPED OUT BY STORM

West Palm Beach, Fla., Sept. 22.—Pelican Bay, a village of approximately 400 inhabitants, was wiped out by the hurricane of last Sunday and relief workers returning tonight expressed the opinion that few, if any, of the inhabitants, survived.

A rescue expedition penetrated a point opposite the little settlement today and found 200 bodies, just across the water from the destroyed village. They did not reach the village itself.

The village, nestled on one side of a bay leading into the lake, had been overlooked as rescuers plunged into other stricken areas, until yesterday when Governor John W. Martin asked what conditions were there.

Today the story was unfolded, when a relief expedition reached the side of the bay opposite the settlement and beneath piles of debris found the bodies of 200 of the village's inhabitants.

With the Pelican Bay tragedy unfolded, the death list tonight was said officially to stand at 1,000 with 80 per cent of the victims negroes.

Officials estimated that the final count of dead from the storm would reach 1,500. Bodies of 724 victims have been buried here, 71 of them white persons.

A. J. GREENE REAPPOINTED ON COUNTY WELFARE BOARD

Prof. A. J. Greene of Boone has been reappointed a member of the Watauga county board of charities and public welfare in recognition of his services during his former term. The appointment, which was made by the state board of charities and public welfare, is for a term of three years. Other members of the county board are Rev. James P. Burke of Valle Crucis and Mrs. I. G. Greer of Boone, whose terms do not expire until 1929 and 1930.

The duties of the county board are to advise with and assist the state board in the work of the county, and to act in a general advisory capacity to the county and municipal authorities in dealing with questions of dependency and delinquency, distribution of the poor funds, and social conditions generally.

The law provides for a meeting of the county board of charities and public welfare at least once a month.

## HODGES GAP NEWS

Miss Kate Hodges will leave last of the month for Baltimore, Md., where she will spend the winter with relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Hodges spent the week-end with Mrs. Hodges, aunt, Mrs. Alice Hayes, on Brushy Fork.

Misses Rita and Sallie Hodges and Messrs. Jerry Wilson and Claude Isaacs spent Sunday with Miss Clara Greene at Deep Gap.

Miss Reta Hodges has had as her guest for the past week, Miss Clara Greene of Deep Gap.

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