

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

VOLUME XLII, NO. 32

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1930

\$1.50 PER YEAR

Today and Tomorrow

By FRANK P. STOCKBRIDGE

Cornstalks

Just as the invasion of the European corn-borer has put up to every farmer in the corn-growing regions the problem of how to get rid of his cornstalks and hold the pest in check, new inventions for the utilization of his farm waste for making paper and also a substitute for lumber have been perfected.

New capital in large amount has been subscribed to finance industries which will contract with farmers for their stalks, after harvest, send their own machines into the fields to gather them, and haul them to central points where they will be manufactured into useful products. This will help conserve the forests and will also add to the profits of the corn growers.

Gas

The International Red Cross is preparing for the next war. One of the certainties about the next war in any large scale is that poison gas will be used on a large scale than ever before. War is no longer an affair of kings and hired armies; it is whole nations against whole nations. The aggressor in the next great war will not wait for the enemy to assemble an army, but will try to wipe out a whole city by dropping poison gas from the clouds.

What the Red Cross is looking for is some means of detecting the most minute trace of poison gas in the air and a prize of \$2,000 is offered to the successful inventor. And we call this a civilized world!

Emotions

Anger, fear, worry, especially the latter, kill more people than "real" diseases, according to a report recently made to the New York Academy of Medicine. There is no such thing as overwork, either of body or mind. The body, given sufficient nourishment, will quit of its own accord when fatigue becomes too great, and a night's sleep will put it back into trim again. Probably no human being has ever used his brain to its full capacity. Men who have studied that subject say that most of us use less than a quarter of our power of thought.

But let worry, jealousy, fear of the neighbor's son, one's money or one's sweetheart, creep in, and the whole picture is changed. The emotional strain affects both mind and body, which cannot go on without violent stimulation, and the process of decay is hastened. Most of the deaths from heart disease and kidney trouble are the result of emotional tension rather than any real defect in the physical organs.

Life

With all the talk about the increased average length of the human life, the age of seventy still remains the normal limit of the human being. So Dr. Louis Dautlin, medical head of one of the great insurance companies, reports. Only exceptional individuals live beyond 70, and in America the proportion who die between 65 and 70 is increasing. Yet the average American lives longer than those of his father's generation, and much longer than in his grandfather's time. That is because the illnesses which used to kill off babies, children and young people of both sexes are not so prevalent as formerly.

Every American baby born today has a reasonable chance of living to 55, which is the average length of life in this country, as against 45 in most of Europe. But the man who reaches 55 cannot count on more than fifteen years more of life with any degree of certainty, and the chances are that he will pass on in ten years.

Coal

Geologists of the Byrd South Pole Expedition have found coal in Antarctica. Great Britain takes occasion to remind the United States that considerable parts of the land there are under the protection of the British flag. Trouble-makers, especially the sensational newspapers which prefer war to peace because war is more "newsey," are already trying to lay the foundation for more international strife.

If we ever do go to war against Great Britain it will be over something far more important than a coal bed located where the temperature is always below freezing and usually 40 degrees or so below zero. Even if the coal were accessible it would not be worth fighting over. Coal is losing its importance in the economic scheme of things, now that oil has become the principal fuel for the world's navies as well as the merchant marine.

Governor Offers Reward For Murderer of Johnson

Information comes to the Sheriff from the Governor's offices of the posting of a reward by the State of \$100 for the apprehension and delivery of the unknown person charged with the murder of Andy Johnson during the month of July, 1929.

The reward is the reward previously offered by Watauga County in the sum of \$200, making a total of \$300 to be paid when the slayer is delivered and convicted.

COUNTY FARMERS SHOW INTEREST IN TOBACCO GROWING

Movement Is Now on Foot for Number of Farmers to Plant Small Burley Acreage This Year. Seed Furnished by Virginia Warehouse. Meeting to Be Held Later.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GROWING TOBACCO?

There will be a meeting of the farmers who are interested in the growing of tobacco at the courthouse in Boone on Saturday, February 15, at 2 o'clock p. m. Two or three men from Abingdon, Va., will be present to discuss the growing and marketing of burley tobacco, and free seed will be distributed. If you are interested, don't fail to be on hand.

For some time a few Watauga farmers have been experimenting in the growing of small patches of burley tobacco. The results have been so decidedly satisfactory that now a strong movement is on foot to secure the planting of perhaps as much as 200 acres of the weed this year. The movement is being sponsored by the Watauga Livestock Association, the only farm group, and later a Tobacco Growers' Association is expected to be formed.

Tobacco growing was to have been discussed at the Farmers Institute last week by Mr. Irvin B. Wells, a prominent railroad official of Abingdon, Va., who is also interested in the Leonard Vann Warehouse of that city. Weather conditions, however, prevented the gentleman from coming to Boone, but Professor I. G. Greer, of the Normal College, has received a letter from him of much interest to the scores of farmers who are planning to grow tobacco this season. He also sent along sufficient tobacco seed to plant about fifty acres of land, with the compliments of his warehouse. These seed will be distributed from the Boone Hardware Company after this week, and it is hoped that only those who actually intend to plant them will apply, as the supply is necessarily limited. The seed are packaged so that one parcel will be sufficient for two acres and for smaller patches, the seed will be divided so that they may have the widest distribution possible.

The Livestock Association is anxious for those who are interested in tobacco growing to furnish their names, as Mr. Wells, on behalf of the Farmers Warehouse, proposes to give each of them a subscription to the Burley Bulletin, a Greenville, Tenn., publication, which gives monthly information on the process of growing burley tobacco. A meeting of those who expect to take part in this new phase of Watauga County agriculture is being arranged and definite announcement of the date is expected to be made during the month. Mr. Wells proposes to have here at that time Mr. Clyde Austin, president of the Austin Tobacco Company, who is reputed to be the best informed man on the production of tobacco in the burley belt.

It is suggested that in a section of country where people have had no experience in growing tobacco, that one acre be taken as a maximum, unless it is found that ample facilities are available for housing more, with sufficient air space to prevent what is known as house-larning. This is a vital factor due to the fact that house-burned tobacco has no value. It is expected that no less than fifty Wataugans will raise some burley this year and some of the sponsors of the movement are hopeful that twice that many may become interested. Some have signified their intention of planting as much as two acres, while many are talking in terms of one-fourth acre. These smaller patches will likely predominate until the results of the venture are established.

Watauga is said to be admirably suited for the raising of burley tobacco, and those who have conducted experiments in the past have been gratified by the results. If handled properly, it is a sure cash crop and of much interest is a statement by Mr. Wells that on the Abingdon market the last year's crop brought the farmers \$1,881,537.40. This money having been distributed over a small area, the benefits derived are readily apparent.

MR JACKSON COMBS DIES IN VIRGINIA STATION

News has reached Boone of the sudden death of Mr. A. Jackson Combs, former resident of Lynchburg, Va., January 22. Heart disease was thought to have been the trouble. He was 68 years old.

He was on his way from Baltimore to visit Lynchburg friends and had just walked up a flight of steps and gained the landing under the shed, when, according to a fellow traveler, he gasped, "I can't go," clutched the railing, and fell dead.

Funeral services were held January 24th at 2 o'clock at Whites Chapel Methodist Church, Wards Road, Va. Surviving are a widow, Bertha Smith Combs, and two children, Frederick and Pansy; four brothers and sisters, Daily Combs, J. T. Combs, Mrs. Dora Barlow and Mrs. Emma Shull, of North Carolina.

Mr. Combs was the son of Rev. John and Mrs. Combs, of Cove Green, was born and reared in this county, and had many friends here who hear of his death with genuine sorrow.

Watauga Farm Institute Closed Last Thursday

The Watauga Farmers' Institute, which began its sessions last Tuesday, had as speakers on Wednesday C. F. Parrish, Extension Poultry Specialist of State College, and Professor Coley, of State College.

Mr. Parrish's subject was "Poultry Production in Watauga," and his instructive remarks embodied the care of the flock from the hatching period to the period of egg production. The speaker, with the aid of charts and illustrations, explained proper diets for flocks, the culling of inferior fowls, housing and treatment of diseases. He advocated pure-bred strains, and urged the necessity of keeping blood lines clean if the poultry business is really to be developed into a big-money proposition.

Professor Coley represented R. B. Etheridge, chief of the Division of Markets, Department of Agriculture, who was scheduled to deliver an address on the second day. Professor Coley used "Marketing" as his subject, and while his talk was more or less spontaneous, the good advice which it carried was well received by the huge crowd which attended the Wednesday sessions. The marketing expert advised the organization of a marketing association among the farmers of Watauga, and showed the many advantages of co-operation among the tillers of the soil.

On Wednesday afternoon, H. R. Niswonger, Extension Horticulturist, State College, spoke on "The Growing of Horticultural Crops." Mr. Niswonger's talk was probably the high spot of the Institute, for it dealt with the production of cabbage, potatoes, beans and other vegetables, considered the biggest money crops raised in this section. A review of his address is carried in this week's issue of The Democrat, under separate heading.

Notwithstanding the large snow-fall of Wednesday and the resultant condition of highways, Thursday, the closing day of the Institute, brought many new faces into the assembly rooms at the college. In the forenoon Professor W. L. Wallis, of the Patterson School, gave a number of helpful suggestions about soil improvement and the raising of various crops.

Dr. E. C. Brooks, president of State College, and S. J. Kirby, Extension Agronomist, State College, who were on the program for addresses in the afternoon, at the closing day, failed to make their appearance, due to unavoidable circumstances, and in their stead the farmers were treated with other remarks by Mr. Niswonger, short talks by Miss Cooley, of Caldwell, and Miss Row, of Catawba, and a summary of the work of the institute by Smith Hagaman, Superintendent of Watauga Schools. Mr. Hagaman summed up the things learned as follows: 1. Soil improvement, using legumes and other soil improving plants. 2. A few good sheep on every farm. 3. A number of good hens on each farm. 4. Get rid of scrub cattle. 5. Better marketing plans. 6. A good garden of 1-2 acre on each farm. 7. Increase acreage production, not acres, and keep on raising. 8. Make at least a small surplus of each crop. 9. Grow two blades of grass where we are growing one.

It is estimated by those in position to know that more than one thousand of Watauga's most progressive farmers attended the various sessions of the institute, and the co-operation of the people of Boone in the staging of the "farm school" was practically unanimous. Plate lunches were served, free of charge, to all those in attendance and various other features of entertainment were provided. During the three days, the farm women held meetings for the discussion of their own peculiar problems, and many helpful things were learned.

The Watauga Farm Institute will, we are informed, be an annual affair, and its inception marks a red-letter day in Watauga County agriculture.

CIVITAN CLUB ADDRESSED BY NATIONAL SCOUT EXECUTIVE

Stanley A. Harris, National Scout Executive, addressed members of the Boone Civitan Club at their noon-day meeting last Thursday at the Daniel Boone Hotel. Mr. Harris spoke of the work being done by the Boy Scout organization throughout the United States, and stressed the importance of a reorganization of Scouting in Boone. He advised the Civitans to get behind the movement, along with the churches of the town, and to re-establish the work which a few years ago was successfully started here. The meeting was attended by a large number of members, and the program, which was a most interesting one, was greatly enjoyed.

CHARLOTTE EDITOR HAS THANKS OF INSTITUTE

The Farmers Institute last week unanimously adopted resolutions thanking Colonel Wade Harris, editor of the Charlotte Observer, for his twenty-five years of service in promoting the interests of Watauga County. The resolution follows: "Whereas, Hon. Wade Harris, the distinguished editor of the Charlotte Observer, has for twenty-five years been a promoter of every interest in Watauga; has written many editorials showing friendship for our people, therefore be it resolved: First, that we extend to him our appreciation unstinted; second, that we wish for him a long, happy life."

Three hundred independent oil operators petitioned President Hoover for support in their drive to obtain tariffs of one dollar a barrel on oil and fifty cents a barrel on refined products.

NISWONGER SAYS HOME GARDEN IS BOON TO FAMILY

State College Horticulturist Delivers One of Most Valuable Addresses to Farmers Institute. Urges Gardening and Points Out Advantages of Raising Vegetables at Home. Discusses Destruction of Insect Pests.

Mr. H. R. Niswonger, Extension Horticulturist, State College, furnished one of the high-spots of the Farmers' Institute last week when he entertained the assemblage on Wednesday afternoon with a practical and straightforward address on the growing of horticultural crops, and pointed out the manifold benefits to be secured through the family garden. The noted horticulturist had not addressed an assembly of Watauga farmers for seven years, and expressed satisfaction that in that time interest had increased to the extent that 100 farmers came to the institute, while his first gathering in Boone numbered 28. "You are thinking differently," he said, "because you have been opened up by your good roads, and you have come in closer contact with the extension workers."

"You folks are fortunate," he continued. "You are not suffering from the standpoint of feeding yourselves. You have a healthy look. Go down east, look at those tenant farmers. They have no color in their faces. They have no pep and don't want to work. Why? Because all they eat is fatback, grease and grit and a few collards. The negroes die when the collards are frozen. Your folks are not suffering. Most every body grows a garden, but I doubt if you grow enough variety of vegetables in that garden. You have cabbage, turnips, sweet potatoes, but you don't have them all the year around. If you increase the variety of your vegetables, and eat beets, carrots and green vegetables, which put the red blood in your veins and make you want to work more, it will give you more money. A home garden of one-half acre is worth to you, if you have a family of five, about \$225.00. In other words, if you would have to buy from a grocery store what you could raise in a garden of one-half acre, it would cost you \$225.00. If you do that, grow your green foods throughout the summer and a surplus that you can preserve, you make your living, which is an important factor.

"These women would like to know how we are to grow all these things. In growing vegetables, you should grow them quickly to make them crisp. You women are fortunate here in getting your husbands to put on all that one-half acre several loads of good stable manure. You need humus in the ground, a certain amount of nitrogen. Your success depends on the amount of humus as to the texture of the subsoil. The first consideration in your home garden is your soil. You ought to grow some potatoes, some greens, different kinds, and have them throughout the summer; kale, winter spinach covered with straw and you can cut that green throughout the winter. Grow asparagus, sweet corn and tomatoes.

"Our food specialists have got this record out so you can know how much a family of five requires each year. They say a family of five throughout the year, to have a balanced ration should eat thirty bushels of green stuff, like turnips, lettuce and spinach. How many of you bushels of potatoes. You ought to eat about five bushels of sweet potatoes, if you serve them every day; one bushel of beans, so many of corn. "You should rotate your crops in the patch. Don't put your tomatoes and potatoes in the same place every year. They are of the same family of plants and disease follows family lines. Rotate your beans, put something else in the bean patch. Move one cabbage to another part of the garden. Grow rice, get humus in the ground. Your vegetables will be more hardy. They will resist diseases. A good vigorous plant will help you in fighting pests."

Mr. Niswonger closed his remarks with a recapitulation of the different plant diseases which the gardener must combat and a complete outline of the treatments suggested will be carried in the next issue of The Democrat.

William Howard Taft Retires From Bench

William Howard Taft resigned Monday as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and President Hoover promptly appointed Charles Evans Hughes to succeed him.

Despite his failing health, the sudden voluntary ending of the public career of Mr. Taft with its span of forty years came as a public surprise but little more so than the selection of the former Secretary of State as his successor.

The resignation of the only man to be both President and Chief Justice was presented to the President just before noon by a son, Robert A. Taft. He had brought it to Washington from Asheville, where Mr. Taft had been resting for three weeks after a recurrence of an old organic ailment.

Accepting the resignation with reluctance, Mr. Hoover determined to name a successor as speedily as possible so that there might be the minimum of delay in handling the business of the court.

Prisoner Takes Issue With News Editor

William Sanford Jarvis, better known as Watauga's "unknown prisoner," who was the subject of a news story appearing in last week's Democrat, has voiced his objections to the manner in which the story was handled by this paper. Jarvis, in order to keep history and his "record" straight, sends in the following explanatory letter:

Boone, N. C., January 30, 1930.

Mr. Bob Rivets, Boone, N. C., Dear Sir:

Will write you a few lines in regard to some mistakes I noticed in The Watauga Democrat, concerning Watauga's unknown prisoner. Contrary to prior information, I was placed in prison here on October 9th, instead of September.

I gave my name as Jerry Broadway, instead of John Broadway. Speaking of my identity, I was not identified until the first of January, 1930, when my father, J. L. Jarvis, of Iredell County, paid me a visit, and after receiving my consent, revealed my identity by stating that he was very much surprised to find his son in prison. Sheriff Poly Wyke was unable to learn my identity until two weeks later.

Contrary to the forgery charge I am to face here during the spring term of court, that charge has been nolle prossed. I will be transferred to North Wilkesboro in the near future to answer to the charge of store-breaking instead of highway robbery.

The name of A. C. Watson was used to a bogus check here, instead of C. E. Watson. The name of Scarface Al Capone was used once, following some acrimonious remark from the crippled officer, after he asked me if I could walk to town with him.

Sir Editor, I wish you would translate this mess and publish it in your next issue.

Yours respectfully, SANFORD JARVIS.

Now that the request of William Sanford Jarvis, erstwhile the "unknown prisoner," has been complied with, the news editor of The Democrat most humbly apologizes for the many discrepancies made in the original story. And we thank you, William Sanford, for your solicitude in straightening us out on the tangled details of your somewhat tangled existence.

Cove Creek Banner Purebred Township

Recently The Democrat suggested that Watauga Township likely led the county in the number of thoroughbred bulls imported since the livestock movement got under way, reports having come from that section of the purchase of five of the animals.

Mr. Roy Adams, of Cove Creek, was in to see the Democrat Monday, however, and says that in his township there are nine purebred sires, or almost twice as many as Watauga. Six of these are Herefords and three Shorthorns. Mr. Adams says that the distribution of the animals is such that the scrub in that section is now practically eliminated.

MOUNTAINEERS TO PLAY ATLANTIC COLLEGE

The Mountaineers of Appalachian State College will meet the Bulldogs of Atlantic Christian College tonight on the local floor in what promises to be one of the hardest games of the local schedule. The Bulldogs have been closing up opposition down State in their conference circle and now lead the parade. Monday they handed Guilford a severe trouncing, and early in the season they administered a beating to the High Point Panthers, which indicates that the Mountaineers will be hard pressed to win the hunting.

The Mountaineers, at times, have flashed a fine brand of basket ball, but they will have to extend themselves in the encounter tonight, so far nothing but hard games have prevailed on the schedule, and no let-up is in store for the State team, for a journey of two days will be initiated on Friday when they will face the Cullowhee team, followed by a visit to the Biltmore floor to face the fast-stepping collegians from the mountain region near Asheville.

So far the Mountaineers have successfully repelled the invasion of their court and have been steadily improving in their play which is somewhat new and still in the stages of development. However, with every game new experience and valuable knowledge is being stored up for the future, and the boys should improve.

The games with Lenoir-Rhyne and High Point, leaders in the "Little Six," were two of the best games ever to be played on the local court and victories in each encounter leads one to believe that basket ball in this section is on the up-grade.

The Mountaineers will play every member of the "Little Six Conference" on the local floor, with the exception of Elon College. The present schedule is the hardest ever to be attempted by the Mountaineers.

BUILDING AND LOAN TO ELECT NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A stockholders meeting of the Watauga Building and Loan Association has been announced for Monday, February 17, at 2 o'clock, the purpose of the session being to elect a board of directors. The meeting will be held at the building and loan offices in the Watauga County Bank building, and a full attendance is urged.

APPALACHIA WINS TWO GAMES FROM LITTLE SIX TEAMS

Lenoir-Rhyne College Defeated by Score of 22-17. High Point College Turned Back 29-21. Local Team Featuring Beautiful Floor Work and Passing in Games With Conference Members.

Appalachian State College defeated High Point College Monday night on the local floor by the score of 29-21. The game was fast and exciting throughout, with High Point maintaining the lead early in the first half, but the Mountaineers began cutting it down and finally, after a double foul, Canine tied the score at 14 all to end the half.

In the second half O'Hare placed the Mountaineers in the lead with a short "crisp shot," and they were never headed. At one time they had a ten-point lead.

Walters, at center for the Panthers, played a fine game on offense and defense. Johnson was the high-scoring man for High Point with three baskets and one foul, totaling seven points.

C. Hinson and O'Hare shared honors for the Mountaineers with nine points each. Canine and Pyatt played a fine guarding game and the former bagged five points.

The line-up:
Appalachian Posit. High Pt.
K. Hinson (5) F. Ludwig (2)
Carpenter (1) F. Johnson (1)
Canine (5) C. Walters (4)
O'Hare (9) C. Mulligan (2)
Pyatt (9) G. Moran (2)

Substitutions—High Point: Aitken (1), Tilman (1), Furches (2). Appalachian: C. Hinson (9).

The Appalachian State College Mountaineers defeated Lenoir-Rhyne College in basket ball on the local floor on last Thursday night by the score of 22 to 14, and thereby re-vengeed for the early defeat in Hickory in January. The game was fast and exciting, and was well played throughout, featuring good passing and shooting. The Bears took an early lead and managed to hold the lead during the first half hour with a four-point margin. The floor work and the shooting of Ritchie featured for the Mountain Bears from Hickory. However, in the second half, the Mountaineers took the floor with rejuvenated enthusiasm, and by dint of some fast passing tied the score at 14 all eight minutes before the close of the game. After a time-out prior by Lenoir-Rhyne to organize their defense, the Mountaineers went to the end with a long basketball by Pyatt. Canine worked a "snow-bird" through the hoop to add the margin, and finally, Hinson came through with a two-pointer from the fifteen-foot line to increase the lead to six points. Pandomonium reigned in the stands as the crowd caught the spirit and fight of the Mountaineers, and to cap the climax, C. Hinson turned one loose for another two-pointer to give the locals a substantial lead. The Bears came back strong with a fast passing attack and cut down the lead to five points, when Wincoff eased one from the floor and followed it with a single foul try which was not. The Mountaineers then played a defensive game to keep the lead, and the game ended with the score 22 to 14.

Ritchie, Miller and Kiser played fine ball for the Bears and kept the locals in hot water to hold the slim margin of a lead. Pyatt, Canine and C. Hinson featured for the locals with some fine shots for points that spelled victory.

The line-up:
Lenoir-Rhyne Mountaineers
Kiser (2) F. K. Hinson
Lentz (5) F. Fortner
Ritchie (5) C. Canine (4)
Miller (4) G. Pyatt (6)
Lemon (4) G. O'Hare (3)

Substitutions—Lenoir-Rhyne: Lewis, Dephines, Cloninger, Wincoff, 2. Appalachian: C. Hinson, 9, Carpenter, Livingston and Fortner.

Though Tam Bowie, Ashe County attorney, had advised the county school board to ignore the Workmen Compensation Act, according to Industrial Commissioner T. A. Wilson's statement, the commissioner Tuesday ruled that the board was responsible for half the payment of a death claim recently contested before him.

Lloyd Parsons, a workman, was killed while repairing the roof of the Elkland Consolidated School, run jointly by Watauga and Ashe counties. The first question for the commissioner to decide was whether or not the man was legally employed by a local school official. The work, however, was of an emergency nature and it was necessary that it be done at once, Mr. Wilson found, and he decided that the employment was legal.

The Watauga School Board had accepted the act and taken out compensation insurance, it was found, but on the recommendation of Mr. Bowie, the Ashe board had neither accepted it or rejected it, but simply ignored it, stated Mr. Wilson with out going into Mr. Bowie's arguments in behalf of this position.

Tam Bowie Bucks New Compensation Statute

Dependants of the dead man were given 350 weekly payments of \$7.20 each, and the two school boards were each ordered to pay half.

Seven farmers of Carteret County are fifteen hundred dollars richer this week through the co-operative shipment of 75 live hogs. The hogs brought top prices with a total of \$1,551.18.