

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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## Today and Tomorrow

By FRANK P. STOCKBRIDGE

### Atheism

The Russian government's war against religion may prove the spur needed to unite all Christianity into making common cause against the enemies of God. Incredible as it sounds, the armed and disciplined minority which controls Russia has prohibited religious teaching and preaching, is seizing churches and factories, is killing missionaries and confiscating the properties of farmers who support the churches.

There have been many religious wars in history, but always each side has professed the fighting to be in the name of its own God. The organ of this anti-religious movement in Russia is a newspaper published in Moscow called "The Godless One." The avowed purpose is to stamp out all religion and destroy all faith.

Unless Christianity is to confess failure, a greater war than the one we have ever seen is inevitable. It will be the war of all Christendom against the Godless rulers of Soviet Russia.

### Ducks

A Boston man went hunting in Maine. He shot ninety ducks. The other day he paid \$2,700 for them in the United States Court. Thirty dollars a duck. That is the fine imposed by the Federal government for killing either ducks, for which there is no open season.

Too few hunters are informed of the Federal game laws which protect migratory birds. Before going out with a gun one is required, in most states, to take out a shooting license and to be informed about the State and local game laws. Any State game warden can give full information about the Federal game laws, also. Unless they are well as State laws are enforced, there will soon be no game left to hunt.

### Cars

There are approximately twenty-seven million families in the United States. There are about twenty-two million automobiles registered in the various states, including trucks, buses and other commercial vehicles. The average of passenger cars is about one car to every one and one-half families.

It will not be long before there will be as many passenger cars as there are families, and a high percentage of all families will own two cars. Little cars weighing only half as much as a Ford and costing a third less will be on the American market this year. More paved roads will tend to multiply cars. We can look forward to the day when nobody will walk except for exercise.

### Giving

Two brothers named Mills started a country weekly newspaper in Sodas, N. Y., about thirty years ago. They got into other enterprises, including electric light and power companies. They sold their power interests recently for several millions dollars. But they still own and run the Sodas Record, still live in the little country town where they were born.

G. R. Mills, one of the brothers, decided he wanted to do some good with his money. He gave a radio set to a crippled woman in the village. She got so much pleasure out of it that he gave some more radio sets to shut-ins. He got so much fun out of that that he told other men of means about it and they began giving away radio sets. Out of that has grown the "We Follow Him Club" with members all over the United States. Thousands of radios have been given to hospitals, to charitable institutions and to prisoners. All anyone has to do to become a member is to give a radio set to some "shut-in" invalid or prisoner and send his name to Mr. Mills.

### Greatness

I attended a social gathering a few nights ago at which those present were asked to decide who were the five greatest men of all time. Several persons offered lists of names and the prize was given to the one who named these:

Greatest men: Buddha, Julius Caesar, St. Paul, Charles Darwin and Karl Marx. Greatest women: Joan of Arc, Queen Elizabeth, Florence Nightingale, Queen Victoria, Susan B. Anthony.

It is an interesting game, and proves nothing. The greatest men and women who ever lived are probably unknown to history. The man who discovered how to make a fire and the woman who first cooked a rabbit over the fire certainly started something which changed the whole world.

### DR. GORDON'S LESSON IS OMITTED THIS WEEK

Owing to the fact that Dr. Will O. Gordon, writer of the Sunday School lesson which appears weekly in The Democrat, is attending the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., this week, no Sunday School lesson appears in this issue. A letter received from the reverend gentleman states that his churches (Cove Creek Baptist and Mountain City Baptist) are bearing his expenses to the annual ministerial conference, and that upon his return to his work, he will be able to give even better lessons than formerly.

## WILLIAM H. TAFT LAID TO REST WITH NATION'S HONORED

Only Man to Ever Hold Two Most Important Posts of Government Succumbs After Long Illness. Arlington National Cemetery Receives Remains. High Spots in Career of Noted Jurist.

Washington, D. C.—William Howard Taft was buried Tuesday afternoon beneath a spreading oak tree, just as the first sunlight of a dreary spring day broke over the wooded hills of Arlington National Cemetery.

A steady downpour of rain through most of the day drenched thousands who lined the streets for the funeral of many years. But as the sad clear notes of taps echoed over the hills bordering the Potomac River the skies cleared and sunlight sprinkled the landscape.

The burial was brief. The funeral cortege went to the cemetery directly from All Souls Unitarian Church, where simple funeral rites were held. Previously the body of the man whom President Hoover called "the most beloved of Americans," lay in state in the rotunda of the Capitol for about two hours, to be viewed by more than 8,000 from all walks of life.

### DEATH CAME PEACEFULLY

Washington, D. C.—William Howard Taft, former President and former Chief Justice, died at his home here late Saturday afternoon.

He passed peacefully from life, wrapped in a merciful unconsciousness after weeks of illness. A stroke from hardening of the arteries preceded death by a half hour. He was in his 73rd year.

By his own request he will rest in Arlington Cemetery, the citadel of the nation's heroic dead. The funeral services will be held probably on Tuesday at All Souls Unitarian Church, which he attended.

President Hoover was foremost among the many who went sorrowfully to the residence on Wyoming Avenue where the only man in history to hold America's two highest offices slept in death. The President announced a 30-day period of official mourning.

At the point of death for many days, suffering hopelessly from a combination of ailments, Mr. Taft had surprised his physicians by the vitality of his last hours. But at 4:45 Saturday afternoon a sudden stroke, while he was alone except for his nurse, heralded the end.

Fifteen minutes later Dr. H. G. Fuller reached the bedside. But turned away with a shake of the head. Mrs. Taft, summoned from another room, took up her station near at hand for the last vigil. At 5:15 o'clock death snuffed out at last the flickering flame.

The only daughter, Mrs. Helen Taft Manning, was away for a short automobile ride when death occurred. The two sons, Robert and Charles, both of Cincinnati, had left Washington after spending several days at their father's bedside. The official bulletin issued by Mr. Taft's chief physicians said: "The former Chief Justice died at 5:15 p. m. A sudden change in his condition occurred at 5:45 p. m. from which he failed to rally." Immediately the news was telephoned to the White House. President Hoover tendered to Mrs. Taft the entire facilities of the executive mansion. The President and Mrs. Hoover, like the many others who called at the Wyoming Avenue home, remained but a few minutes talking with the little group within.

### EVENTS OF TAFT'S LIFE

These are the high lights in the life of William Howard Taft:

Born at Cincinnati, Ohio, September 15, 1857.

Graduated from Yale, June 27, 1878.

Appointed judge of Superior Court at Cincinnati, March 7, 1887.

Appointed Solicitor General of the United States, February 4, 1890.

Named first civil governor of the Philippines, July 4, 1901.

Selected as Secretary of War in President Roosevelt's cabinet, February 1, 1904.

Nominated for President by Republican national convention, June 18, 1908.

Elected President, November 3rd, 1908.

Inaugurated March 4, 1909.

During his administration the chief events were:

The Bering Sea controversy with Great Britain, Russia and Japan.

Purchase of canal rights in Nicaragua.

Quelling of revolution in Nicaragua by marines.

Enactment of the income tax constitutional amendment.

Payne-Aldrich tariff act.

Law requiring publication of campaign funds.

Act admitting American ships to Panama Canal toll-free.

Creation of Department of Labor, Bureau of Mines, Commerce Court, Court of Customs Appeals, Federal Industrial Commission.

Admission of New Mexico and Arizona to statehood.

November 4, 1912, he was defeated for re-election by Woodrow Wilson.

Professor of law, Yale University, 1913-21.

Appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States by President Harding, June 30, 1921.

Resigned chief justiceship February 3, 1930.

Died March 8, 1930.

### Claimed By Death



William Howard Taft, whose death in Washington last Saturday caused universal grief. He was the only American to ever fill the two most important posts of government, President of the United States and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

### Sugar Grove Man Makes Money From Tobacco

To the Editor of The Democrat, Boone, N. C.

Having been the first man in this section of the county to grow or encourage the growth of tobacco for the market, and from last year's sales of just a few hundred pounds by several families in the community, I admit that I feel very proud of my efforts. I feel that in various sections of Watauga County tobacco can be grown for the market that may tend to place Watauga County on the map as one of the preferable counties of Western North Carolina and East Tennessee.

Our soil is very fertile, as is well known, in this Cove Creek section from one end of it to the other, and where an acre can be made to yield a net profit of from \$250 to \$500 (and it actually does), then Watauga can put on her best smiles.

This throughout various other sections of Watauga County properly managed is capable of bringing into this county more money to our people than the sale of sheep and cattle, saying nothing of the costs, worry and trouble in the growing and taking care of the livestock. By this statement, however, I certainly would not in the least degree mean to intimate that our cattle and sheep raising industry should be abandoned or in any wise diminished, but am only suggesting from years of experience and observation in Tennessee, where I have made my home and for a great part of nineteen years put my entire labor and attention to the growth and management of tobacco.

I hope each person interested in this new industry may put his entire attention to its growth and taking the proper care of and help us all to the end that Watauga may see a brighter day and that we may defy panics, or as some say, "slight depressions," and place a complete check on the Sheriff's advertisements of the people's property for taxes.

I assure each and every one, in case I can be of service at any time to them in advising or doing otherwise toward making a success of their growth of tobacco crops, that I shall be pleased to do so.

B. F. HARMON.

Sugar Grove, N. C. March 5th, 1930.

P. S. From one acre of land, M. F. Harmon received as clear profits for his tobacco last year, \$295.38.

### REV. McCOY FRANKLIN GIVEN BIG SUM BY CHICAGO CHURCH

A recent news dispatch from Chicago, Ill., says: One thousand dollars was presented to Rev. McCoy Franklin, president of the Presbyterian National Mission School at Crossnore, N. C., for the work of his school, by the Men's Club of Kenwood Presbyterian Church, Chicago, at the close of a congregational dinner under the club's auspices, which was addressed by Mr. Franklin on the theme, "Daybreak in the Mountains." Kenwood Church is actively participating in many useful Christian enterprises. Rev. Alfred Lee Wilson, pastor, recently had as his guest Dr. Hugh Black, of New York, and Dr. Black preached to a large congregation.

## COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT REFLECTS ON FARM SITUATION IN WATAUGA

(By SMITH HAGAMAN)

In passing over the county, I notice a very decided speeding up in farming interests. The farmers took advantage of the fine days of February to do more plowing than, perhaps, was ever done at this time of year.

The pinch of hard times has had a very marked stimulating effect. Almost every man has been figuring some recently. Not so strange to say, ninety-five per cent of the farmers and other business men have figured that a hundred bushels of potatoes at a low price brings more money than no potatoes at all. Of course, this is not good figuring to the other five per cent.

It has been recently discovered that a family that has a nice flock of chickens, a few good sheep, two or three good cows, two or three calves worth \$25 to \$50 each, two or three good yearlings to weigh up about October at ten cents per pound, enough hogs to supply all his home consumption, a good garden producing about one-half of his family's living, and then growing some cash crops of potatoes, cabbage, beans, tobacco, etc., is in

## PIEDMONT EVENING STAR FESTIVAL HAS A NOTED TROUPE

Annual Season of Entertainment Gets Under Way Next Wednesday. Parent-Teacher Association Expects Record Attendance During Four Days of Piedmont Schedule. Many Interesting Features.

Announcement was made Tuesday of the opening of the Piedmont Evening Star Festival on next Wednesday evening. The final performance will be given Saturday evening, and the Parent-Teacher Association of Boone, which is sponsoring the entertainment, thinks that the program being brought here this year are far superior to those presented in previous years.

Vocal and instrumental music, Holland Bell Ringers, high class comedy and baffling mystery comprise the four programs, and the Piedmont Bureau has selected the talent which produces the numbers with the most extreme care.

The ladies of the Parent-Teacher Association with the co-operation of the men will have in charge the sales of tickets, and in turn will receive for civic work whatever profits may accrue from the receipts. Definite announcement has not been made as to those who will canvass the community. The Democrat today carries an advertisement giving more detailed information as to the programs.

### Mrs. Fletcher Dies After Long Illness

Mrs. J. C. Fletcher, aged 55 years, passed away at her home in Lenoir Saturday, after an illness which had its beginning several years ago. Funeral services were conducted from the home Monday afternoon and the body was interred in Bellview Cemetery.

Mrs. Fletcher was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Bryan of this city and was a well-loved citizen of Boone throughout the greater portion of her life. She moved her residence to Lenoir, a more accessible point for her husband to carry on his work as U. S. title attorney, following his appointment several years ago. She received her education in High Point, and joined the Baptist Church at the age of fifteen years, in whose service she labored faithfully as long as her physical condition would permit. No better nor more charitable woman has been reared in Boone, she was loved by all, and the news of her death has cast a pall of sorrow over the community.

Deceased is survived by a husband and two daughters, Mrs. Lois E. Brittain and Miss Lina Fletcher, two brothers, J. H. Bryan of Edmondton, Canada, B. R. Bryan of Boone, and one sister, Mrs. Cora Council, of Boone.

The near relatives attended the funeral Monday.

### NEWS ITEMS OF APPALACHIAN STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

A number of helpful programs have been given at the college for the past few days. Among these was a fine one by Professor and Miss Greer. Other good ones by Misses Wary's and Weaver's classes, the Burke-McDowell County Club, and others. All of these were greatly enjoyed by all present. Two of the best were by two young ladies from Professor Norton's English, who gave on different days impromptu original stories which had not been written, and did it in such a fine way that all were delighted with this fine performance. These fine young ladies were Misses Mildred McDade and Edith Warner.

The Spring Term at the college is starting off well with an unusual large increase in the number enrolled, the number now being 656, which is 121 more than were enrolled last year. This increase is almost entirely in the freshman and sophomore classes with a very few in the junior. A few have entered after teaching for the winter, and some of these will continue for the summer and possibly afterwards.

### "Yes, We Have No Whooping Cough"

Only once in a lifetime does the editor of a weekly newspaper become "popular" and that is when he makes a mistake. The editor of this sheet erred last week in that several students who are known to be suffering from whooping cough, continue in attendance at the Boone Graded School. Since last publication day a steady stream of protesting letters, male and female, has been constantly harassing the "old man" with the question: "Who told you so?" They point their fingers accusingly and menace the scribe with glaring features, and all he can say is that "the report was publicly and generally circulated." And then they explain that the slightest "sniffle" from a student at that institution sends the "sniffler" home post haste; that there is no sickness in the school, and that they don't like that story last week even a little bit. And we are sorry that we misstated the facts, and wish each patron of the school to know that THERE IS NO WHOOPING COUGH IN THE BOONE SCHOOL. Thank you.

### Will Haynes Pays Fine Of \$300 in Ohio Court

The current issue of the Coshocton (Ohio) Tribune, carries the following story relative to the trial and sentence of William Haynes, former Watauga, on a charge of manslaughter in connection with the death of James Lovell, also a native of this county, on last Thanksgiving day.

A fine of \$300 and costs was assessed and the right to drive an auto suspended for a period of one year, by Judge J. C. Daugherty on Friday afternoon in the case of William Haynes, aged about 50, of New Irela, Ohio, who was found guilty of driving while intoxicated by a jury in common pleas court on February 5th.

The jury which found Haynes guilty of a charge of driving while in a state of intoxication also acquitted him of manslaughter. Indictment returned against him by the county grand jury in connection with the death of James Lovell, 33, of near Plainfield, which occurred as a result of an auto crash at the covered bridge near Orange on November 30. Lovell's death was attributed by the State to criminal negligence on the part of Haynes, who was alleged to have been intoxicated at the time. The defense claimed that Lovell brought about his own death, declaring that while in a state of intoxication he grasped the steering wheel and turned the car into the bridge.

The jury found Haynes guilty of driving while intoxicated, but acquitted him of the manslaughter charge after 45 minutes of deliberation. The jury which heard the case was composed of 10 men and two women.

Immediately after sentence had been pronounced by Judge Daugherty in common pleas court yesterday afternoon, Haynes paid the \$300 fine and the costs of the action and was released.

### Merchants to Hold Session Tomorrow

Officials of the Watauga Independent Merchants Association have announced that a regular meeting of the organization is to be held Friday night at 7:30 in the courthouse for the purpose of transacting important business, and it is asked that all members be present at that time.

The first official action of the association is the placing with The Watauga Democrat of an order for a series of page advertisements, which are designed to stimulate the idea of doing business with home merchants. The first of these ads appears on page eight of this issue.

It is intended that when the organization gets into full swing, a system of group buying will be arranged, whereby the members will be able to get price concessions on the open markets of the country.

### ASHE COUNTY HAS ANOTHER SERIOUS SHOOTING AFFAIR

Jefferson—The Horse Creek section, reputed to be the worst in Ashe County, was the scene of another serious shooting affair Friday night. It was learned at the Sheriff's office Tuesday that Earl Wallace is in jail on a charge of shooting Geo. Osborne in the back of the head. The bullet went through the flesh on the side of the head, but miraculously missed the vital organs. Osborne is recovering.

When arrested Wallace was found to have been cut badly in the affray which was the result of family trouble, and several stitches were required to sew up the wounds.

### GREER MAY BE CHAIRMAN REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

In the opinion of local Republican leaders, I. G. Greer, member of the faculty of the Normal College, may be appointed as permanent chairman of the Republican convention which convenes in Charlotte on April 17th.

PARENT-TEACHER MEETING. The Parent-Teacher Association will hold its regular meeting Thursday afternoon, 3:15 o'clock, at the Demonstration School Auditorium. A full attendance is urged to be present, as several important issues are to be discussed.

## ONE TO GO ON THE AIR DURING COMING SUMMER

Present Sponsored by Boone Civic Club Culminates in Definite Announcement of Radio Broadcast to Pass on Manuscripts. Community Will Be Benefited.

At a recent meeting of the Boone Civic Club, the advantages of the radio as a means of telling the world the lures this community holds out to the tourist and homeseeker, came up for discussion, and before the close of the session President G. F. Hagaman appointed a committee for the purpose of securing a date on which a local program might be "put on the air."

Last week announcement was made that the committee had performed its function and through an arrangement made with Station WBT, Charlotte, on June 18th at 8:30 p. m., eastern standard time, one-half hour has been set aside for the use of the local body. The half-hour period is expected to be divided in such a way that twenty minutes will be used for music by local talent, and two five-minute addresses will be made by two citizens of the town yet to be selected. A committee composed of I. G. Greer, W. H. Gragg, J. F. Moore, G. K. Moore and Jim Rivers has been appointed to pass on the subject matter of the brief addresses. Any one who may have in mind any outstanding facts that the world should know about Boone, may write them down and mail to any member of the committee for consideration. Any worthwhile suggestions will be welcomed.

Sponsors of the movement feel that the benefits which this community may derive from the broadcast will be incalculable.

### Sheriff Moreland Is "Forced Out" of Job

Elizabethton, Tenn.—An order for cessation of picketing of highways in Carter County by members of the United Textile Workers of America, Monday was followed by resignation of Sheriff J. M. Moreland, who declared he was forced to take such action by a group who wanted him to get out on the highways and "shoot down pickets." A strike was called last Sunday by the union at the American Benberg and American Glanzstoff mills.

The Sheriff's action came within 24 hours after a petition signed by 76 citizens had been presented to Attorney General Ben Allen asking that ouster proceedings be instituted against the officer because of alleged incompetency and inability to enforce the law. The petition was withdrawn a few hours later.

An order to cease picketing was issued by Paul Fuller, southern educational representative of the American Federation of Labor, who declared such action was taken to preserve peace, and "prevent some serious outcome." Fuller added, however, that pickets were recalled only temporarily.

In announcing his resignation, which was accepted effective March 10, Sheriff Moreland said: "I was forced out by a bunch that wanted me to get out on the highways and shoot down pickets if they did not do like these people wanted them to do." The officer also charged that 75 special deputies sworn in when the strike call was issued were on the pay roll of the mills.

This was denied by George F. Dugger, attorney for the rayon mills, who said the deputies were sworn in by the sheriff and were paid by the county in a legal manner. Dugger also declared no one had asked Moreland to "shoot down pickets."

### REPUBLICANS MAY NOMINATE DUMMY SENATE CANDIDATE

The possibility that the Republican convention, to be held in Charlotte on April 17, will name a dummy candidate for the United States Senate to comply with the requirements of the law, and choose their real candidate after the Democrats have picked their man, was yesterday suggested by Collector Gilham Grissom in Raleigh.

If there is only one Republican candidate, as heretofore has been the result of the Republican's successful dodging of the primary law, there will be no Republican primary. If then, after the primary, that one candidate withdraws, the Republican executive committee is given the right under the law to name another.

Mr. Grissom doubts that the more astute politicians of the Republican party will want to run the same candidate against one of the two contesting Democrats that they would want to run against the other.

The Republican convention, Mr. Grissom believes, will this year be an interesting affair. He is afraid that whatever improvement of morale the party in this State might have had from the Hoover victory in 1928 might be broken down by recent dissension, which has already manifested itself in fights over the spoils, can be quieted.

### NEW FEED STORE

The City Flour and Feed Company is the firm name of a new business recently opened on Depot Street, in the building formerly used by Howard W. Mast for a lube business. Mr. George W. McGimsey, of Lenoir, is the manager of the store. Flours, feeds, grains and fertilizer will compose their offerings.