

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY JULY 24, 1930

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## Boone Host to N. C. Press Association

### DRY WEATHER HAS CAUSED DAMAGE TO CROPS IN WATAUGA

Unusually Large Acreage Planted, However, Insures Surplus. Potato Crop Cut One-half. Cabbage and Tobacco Suffer Slightly. Farmers Urged to Conserve Hay Supply by Association Chairman.

By SMITH HAGAMAN  
Chairman Watauga Livestock Assn.

Excitation pays; agitation of the proper kind pays. These have been demonstrated this year in Watauga County. When the people all begin to talk along any line of public interest it spreads to the last man. Early in the year many men saw the grave necessity of a bigger production of commodities that could be turned into cash in order that the heavy expenditure of the county could be met, hence there was a widespread feeling that every farmer must increase his income by planting a greater diversity of crops as well as a very large increase of acreage.

It is apparent to anyone going over the county that there has been a most unusual effort upon the part of almost everyone to "make amply and some to spare" this year.

There was planted not less than fifteen hundred acres of potatoes in the county. It was one of the most promising potato crops ever planted in the county—by far the most—but conditions over which we have no control, frost and drought—have seriously reduced the quantity and the quality, doubtless one-half; but the smaller quantity will, perhaps, sell for a correspondingly higher price. In any event, the potato crop ought to bring a lot of money into the county this fall.

Lambs and cattle have been disappointing, but now is the time, it is believed by many, for every livestock farmer who possibly can to winter his ewe lambs and young cattle. He will need them next summer. It is pointed out that it would be bad business to sacrifice them on a low market, if the stockman is in shape to winter them.

Considering the unprecedented dry weather of the last eight weeks, the farmers have set an unusually large acreage to cabbage. A drive over the county will convince anyone that, regardless of the unreasonable year, a large tonnage will be produced. The local kraut factory has contracts on several hundred acres at rather good prices, and if weather conditions improve within the next few weeks, an adequate supply of the cole will be converted into this product.

Burley tobacco, which for the past few years has attracted the attention of several Watauga farmers, is being grown on many farms in the county, and bears promise of an abundant harvest. This leaf will find its way to the Bristol and Abingdon markets, where it has brought top prices for several seasons.

Farmers have been advised to conserve their hay supply, on account of the general shortage. One farmer stated recently that he has wintered his horses on varweeds and hay for a number of years, and has not fed any grain whatever, and claims that they came out in the spring in fine shape, the ragweeds taking the place of grain.

Farmers doubtless feel discouraged after their great effort to make a surplus this year to meet partial failure in crops and low prices of their livestock, but what would have been the situation if they had not produced the big surplus? It is exceedingly fortunate that farmers have made this unusual effort.

### New Hospital at Banner Elk Is Near Completion

Banner Elk.—The roof is now being raised on the splendid new sixty-bed Grace Hospital at Banner Elk, operating under the Edgar Tufts Memorial Association. This handsome, four-story, native-stone structure has been erected by native stone masons who also built the attractive dormitories and administration building of Lees-McRae College on the high ridge opposite, as well as the water tower and beautiful Presbyterian Church adjoining.

It is hoped that the new Grace Hospital will be ready for occupancy the coming winter, and its completion is eagerly anticipated by residents of the nine border counties of North Carolina and Tennessee who have been filling to overflowing the twenty-five-bed hospital so ably administered by Dr. W. C. Tate and his co-worker, Dr. R. H. Hardin. It is sincerely hoped that the completion of this much needed hospital will not be delayed by the lack of the \$5,000 still needed to secure the gift of the Duke Foundation. A generous advance of a part of the Duke gift has made the beginning possible. The equipment necessary to supplement that already installed in the old hospital is still also to be obtained.

Dr. McG. Anders of Gastonia, a former popular physician of this place, together with his family, and Miss Kathleen Crawford, who was at one time head nurse of the Watauga Hospital, were visitors with Dr. and Mrs. J. D. Rankin the first of the week. Dr. Anders has his summer home here, and his many friends are always glad to see him.

### Vice-Pres. N. C. P. A.



Herbert Peele, editor and publisher of The Daily Advance, Elizabeth City, and vice-president of the North Carolina Press Association.

### NEWLY ORGANIZED SERVICE CLUB HOST AT BLOWING ROCK

More Than a Hundred Guests Present for Banquet Meeting. Charter Presented to Blowing Rock Civitan Club by Stanley A. Harris. Boone Well Represented. Many Features of Entertainment.

Blowing Rock Civitan Club, the youngest offspring of the Boone organization, received its charter last Wednesday evening, when more than one hundred guests from various towns and cities in the State assembled at Blowing Rock Hotel for the first ladies' night program. The entire active membership of the local body, along with their wives or sweethearts were present for the installation exercises, which were presided over by Russell D. Hodges, President of Boone Civitan Club. Civitan Ike Greer acted as toastmaster.

Following the singing of "North Carolina Hills" by the assembly, and the invocation by Rev. J. A. Yount, a four-course dinner was served, during which Miss Virginia Wary, instructor of vocal music at Appalachian State Teachers College, accompanied at the piano by Miss Grace Howard, of Lumberton, sang several numbers. Miss Wary, who possesses an unusually sweet voice, drew long applause by her rendition of "Moonlight and Roses." Miss Howard's interpretation of "St. Louis Blues" on the piano proved very popular with the diners.

A series of stunts followed the dinner. Boone's part on the program being in charge of Civitan Watt Gragg. This humorous skit consisted of a "balloon busting" contest in which twenty ladies and gentlemen participated, three prizes being offered to the trio who succeeded in first "popping" their balloons. Mrs. Cole of Blowing Rock was winner of first prize for ladies, Mrs. Russell D. Hodges of Boone, second prize for ladies, while Dr. A. P. Kephart of Greensboro, "walked away with the bacon" for the gentlemen. President George M. Suddreth, of the Blowing Rock Club, presented prizes to the winners.

Dressed in rompers and sunbonnet, and carrying a jug of buttermilk with nipple attached, Mr. H. R. McClellan, one of the charter members of Blowing Rock's organization, was rolled into the banquet hall on a wheelbarrow by President Suddreth. The over-size "baby" represented the new club, but his lusty yells led the audience to believe that he was sure.

### Mrs. Beach Succumbs To Illness Saturday

Mrs. A. Wilson Beach, 74 years old, whose serious illness has been mentioned in the columns of The Democrat from time to time, succumbed late Saturday afternoon at her home in the Rich Mountain section. Reverends Ed Greene and Roe Payne conducted a short funeral service at the grave and interment was in the community cemetery on Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Beach had been married since January 7, 1877, and she and her husband had made their home in Watauga County all their lives. For a number of years they were valued residents of Boone, having returned to their farm only a few years ago. Mrs. Beach was well known here and throughout the county and had endeared herself to all those with whom she came in contact. A good woman has gone to her reward and a host of friends are grieved. A large crowd gathered at the home to pay their last respects to the memory of the deceased.

Surviving are a husband and eight children, all of whom were present for the funeral except the first named: Everett, of Spokane, Wash.; Willard, of North Wilkesboro; Mack, Springfield, Ill.; Tom, Carl and Enzor, of Watauga; Mesdames P. H. Hodges of Boone and Ed Day, of North Wilkesboro.

### W. C. DOWD JR. OF CHARLOTTE NEWS PRESIDES OVER PRESS ASSOCIATION



Mr. Dowd is a member of the Northwestern North Carolina Recreational Development Council, and has long been a friend to the Blowing Rock Section.

### Hillary Hartley is Bound to Court on Two Charges

Blowing Rock Youth Tried by Justice E. N. Hahn After His Arrest on Charges of Criminal Assault and Seduction. Clemmie Miller, 20, Reveals Clandestine Affair. Defendant Remanded to Jail.

Clemmie Miller, sad-faced mountain girl of 20 who expects to become a mother within the next few months, presented a most pitiable picture as she appeared in Justice Hahn's court last Thursday afternoon to offer testimony against her clandestine lover, Hillary Hartley, of Blowing Rock.

Hartley was arrested Wednesday, after the Miller girl had made a revealing affidavit, on charges of seduction under promise of marriage and criminal assault. But Clemmie, it seems, is very much in love with this man, who, according to testimony introduced at the preliminary trial, has mistreated, misused and doubted her during their affair of nearly a year.

When she entered the courtroom and caught sight of her youthful lover, Clemmie's face brightened and she rushed to his side, her appealing eyes betraying the affection which had led to so much grief for her. What was said during the brief period of time that she remained in his embrace remains a matter of conjecture, but their meeting seemed to partially change Clemmie's mind.

When called to the witness stand, she refused for several minutes to comply, incoherently murmuring that she "just couldn't tell." But finally she went, and when her counsel, William R. Lovill, attempted to lead her out in the evidence, she was evasive, trying, it seemed, to make the court believe that Hartley wasn't such a bad fellow after all. With much persuasion, however, she at last testified that her paramour, under promise of marriage, had taken her from her home on New River last winter and brought her to his father's home at Blowing Rock, where he had lived until Tuesday, when his treatment, she alleged, became so unbearable that she was forced to leave. She also disclosed certain evidence connected with the assault charge.

The story she told was vague, but it disclosed numerous heartaches, as the girl pleaded for marriage to hide the shame of their relations. And these pleas, according to Clemmie, were met with abuse and indifference by the defendant.

Called to the stand, Hartley testified that he had meant to marry the girl when he got in "shape," and denied most of the story told by the prosecuting witness. But he admitted that he had "slapped her a few times," and professed the belief that he had a right to use his girl in any manner he chose, so long as she were engaged.

Attorney J. E. Haisbouser, counsel for the defense, made a short plea for mercy, pointing out the fact that laws cannot right all wrongs, and that in bringing punishment to Hartley the girl would suffer in like proportion. Attorney Lovill replied, his brief argument portraying the misery that

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### Secretary and Treasurer



Miss Beatrice Cobb, of Morganton, editor of The News-Herald and Secretary-Treasurer of the North Carolina Press Association.

### WATAUGA MAKES GREAT STRIDES IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

Past Ten Years Have Brought Many Changes in County Schools. Rating of Teachers Shows Improvement. School Property Now Valued at \$365,000. Average Salary Paid Teachers, \$95.

By SMITH HAGAMAN  
County Superintendent of Schools

It is interesting for every man who has pride in the progress of his county as well as his own children to review the growth in public education interest once in a while.

Looking back over a decade of Watauga's school progress you will note that the number of schools has decreased from 67 white schools to 51. This has been accomplished by consolidation. Ten years ago we enrolled in our white schools 2,784, this year we have enrolled 4,537. At that time we did not have a single student enrolled in our county schools above the ninth grade, what few high school students we had being in the Appalachian Training School. This year we have enrolled in standard high schools 647, and about 125 in the different colleges of the county. Most of these are in the Appalachian State Teachers College.

Ten years ago very few teachers held a certificate above an elementary "B," many below; this year 27 are college graduates, the remaining 100 teachers holding certificates averaging high school graduation with one and two years of normal college training.

Ten years ago we had school property valued at \$73,000, net \$365,000. We transported 703 children this year, a large percentage of them were high school students, and the cost on an average was \$8.95 per student. The State paid \$8 of this amount.

We have an adequate school building now in practically every district in the county.

The average salary paid teachers ten years ago was \$67 per month; this year it was \$95. The greatest result of our marvelous growth in school interest and efficiency is the host of young men and women now filling every community in the county who by their education and training are now transforming our county and making these communities good places in which to live.

Perhaps no county in the State has had less friction in its schools and school administration than Watauga. Its citizens have co-operated in a fine way with the Board of Education in the development of its splendid school system.

Of course the State Teachers College, in our midst, is making its imprint on every school.

### Local Tire Dealer Is High in Competition

"Zep Race News" official organ of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, gives out the information that the Central Tire Company of this city is leading in the "Zeppelin Race" or summer sales competition, as sponsored by Goodyear. The district in which Boone is located comprises cities of many times the size of this and manager W. R. Winkler attributes much of his success in selling tires to the fine response he receives from regular, systematic advertising. "Keep telling 'em and you'll keep selling 'em" is the motto of the local firm, and as a result there are no dull days at Central Tire Company.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL MEETING POSTPONED TO LATER DATE

The meeting of the teachers and officials of the Baptist Sunday School, which was to have been held on Thursday evening, is indefinitely postponed on account of the Press Association meeting. The new date for the session will be announced soon.

### NEWSPAPER FOLK GATHER AT GREEN PARK FOR SESSION

Meeting Opened Wednesday Night With Address by Harry C. Martin, Former Editor of the Lenoir News. W. C. Dowd Jr., Editor of Charlotte News, Presiding. Attendance Unusually Large.

### EDITORS TO ENJOY PICTURESQUE TRIP

Scenic Tour Around Grandfather Mountain to Linville, Newland, Banner Elk, Valle Crucis and Boone Where Dinner Will Be Served. Hon. J. W. Bailey Speaks Thursday Evening at Green Park.

Newspapermen from all over North Carolina as well as members of allied crafts have gathered at the Green Park Hotel for what promises to be one of the most outstanding sessions of the North Carolina Press Association held in many years. Elaborate preparations have been made at "the Rock" for the reception of the editors, and citizens of Boone are rejoicing that they will be privileged to play the part of host to the distinguished guests at 6 o'clock this afternoon, when fried chicken will be the principal attraction at a dinner composed entirely of Watauga County products, and which will be served in characteristic Watauga County style on the beautiful lawn of Mr. W. H. Gragg.

The brief opening session of the association was held Wednesday evening, when, following the invocation by Dr. J. I. Vance, of Nashville, H. C. Martin, prominent hotelist of Blowing Rock and retired newspaperman, delivered the address of welcome. W. C. Dowd Jr., president of the Association, and editor of The Charlotte News, made brief remarks and miscellaneous announcements, followed by the report of the Secretary, Miss Beatrice Cobb, of Morganton.

This (Thursday) morning the principal feature of the session will be an address on typography by John P. Allen, editor of The Linotype News, New York. The subject of the discourse will be "How Does Your Newspaper Look," and will be followed by reports of special committees on circulation audits for newspapers, round table discussions, and appointment of sundry committees.

This afternoon at 2 o'clock, through the courtesy of Boone citizens, a line of automobiles will be driven to convention headquarters and all those of the scribblers who so desire will be taken for a trip through Linville, Newland, Banner Elk, Valle Crucis and on to Boone where six o'clock dinner will be served.

The route traversed comprises perhaps the most picturesque section of country in all the Southern mountains and brief stops will be made at the principal points of interest. Linville has long been noted as a resort point and has gained national attention on account of the excellence of its natural golf links. Newland is the highest county seat east of the Rocky Mountains and at Banner Elk, Lees-McRae College, one of the leading educational institutions of this region is located. At Valle Crucis, the Episcopal Mission School and its wonderful setting is paramount. The trip covers approximately 65 miles, and it is expected that most of those attending the convention will avail themselves of the opportunity of enjoying the scenic beauties of the mountains.

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### Charles Greer Dies on Sunday at Silverstone

Mr. Charles W. Greer, 50 years old, died at his home in the Silverstone section of the county Sunday, after a long illness. Funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon from the Union Baptist Church, of which deceased had long been a faithful member. Reverends Ed Hodges and Wellington Swift conducted the impressive services and interment was in the neighboring cemetery.

Deceased was a son of the late W. F. Greer, and was reared and spent practically his entire life in this section. He was a straightforward and upright citizen and no better man lived in the county. There is genuine sorrow at the news of his passing.

Surviving are ten children, mother, five brothers and three sisters, Mr. J. F. Greer and Mrs. Lee Teague of Boone being brother and daughter respectively of the deceased man.

### Boone Musicians Will Broadcast Over WBT

Under present plans, Miss Ruth Coffey, pianist, and Mr. Remmel Porter, violinist, two of Boone's most popular musicians, will go on the air over Radio Station WBT, Charlotte, next Tuesday evening from 7 to 7:30 o'clock. A previous engagement with the artists had to be canceled by the broadcasting company, on account of interference with an advertising program. The program will be featured by "Remembrance," an original composition of Miss Coffey and Mr. Porter, which has been heartily received by music lovers here.

### Convention Speaker



Hon. Josiah William Bailey, of Raleigh, Democratic candidate for the United States Senate, who will address the North Carolina Press Association Thursday night in the ballroom of Green Park Hotel, Blowing Rock.

### Drowned While Bathing In the Watauga River

Peter E. Cable, aged 59, resident of Sugar Grove R. F. D., met his death Saturday afternoon when he and a company of friends were enjoying a swim in waters of the Watauga River. According to the story told by his companions, Mr. Cable had prepared to leave the stream and was on the shore when he decided he would take one more swim across the pool before leaving. When he reached the middle of the stream, however, he was seen to throw his arms in the air and sink. Poles were cast out but there was no effort on the part of Cable. Therefore, the opinion has been advanced that perhaps he was the victim of some sort of stroke, rather than drowning.

Funeral services were held Sunday evening from the Bethel Baptist Church and interment was in the Beaver Dam cemetery. Surviving are a wife and four children: Doris and Nancy, Banner Elk; Richard, Beaver Dam; and Floy, of Elizabethton.

Deceased was a brother of Mrs. W. S. Christian of Boone.

### Jack Dougherty Dead At Tennessee Home

Mr. Jack Dougherty, well-known resident of the Bakers Gap section of Tennessee, died at his home there last Sunday at the advanced age of 78 years. Funeral services and interment took place Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. Dougherty was well known throughout Watauga County, being a brother of the late D. B. Dougherty of Boone, and uncle to the Dougherty boys of the Appalachian State Normal College. He was well liked by all who knew him.