

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1931

\$1.50 PER YEAR

## 61 LICENSES ARE ISSUED IN 1930 BY REGISTER DEEDS

Many Watauga Couples Cross State Line to Be Married. Only Four Divorces Granted During Same Period, or One for Every Fifteen Marriages. Complete List of Applicants.

"Dan Cupid" was on the job in Watauga County last year and as a result of his amorous designs, sixty-one couples—young, middle-aged, old; sentimental, conservative, staid—took the matrimonial route. These figures are based on the number of licenses issued by Register of Deeds Helen Underdown. Many of them were for couples from other counties and states, but while these young people were saying the vows here, scores of Watauga couples were being joined in wedlock across the Tennessee line in Johnson County. It is believed that this number would probably exceed the alien lovers who have brought their "troubles" to Watauga's capital. During 1930 only four divorces were granted in Watauga, or one for every fifteen and a fraction marriages, a comparison which would do credit to any county in the State. Licenses issued from the Register's office here during 1930 follow:

January 1, L. B. Adams, Charlotte, and Ethel Abernathy of Hickory.

January 8, Addie Harmon, Matney, and Gladys May Hicks, Matney.

January 11, Tracey Turner, Ruthwood, and Elsie Parlier, Ruthwood.

January 17, James Shell, Lenoir, and Dany Smith, Lenoir.

January 18, Charles Bolick, Blowing Rock, and Myrtle Bentley, of Boone.

January 25, Stace Houck, Baldwin, and Nellie Wilcox, Todd.

January 29, James Adams, Doe-ville, Tenn., and Danford Hodges, of Mabel.

February 6, Conley Woodring, of Meat Camp, and Inez Ragan, Boone.

February 8, Glenn Coffey, Shulls Mills, and Annie Coffey, Shulls Mills.

February 19, Jessie Crosswhite, of Mountain City, Tenn., and Maxine Holland, Hampton, Tenn.

March 8, Lonnie Townsend, Banner Elk, and Blanche Townsend, Upton, N. C.

March 25, Clayton Hayes, Boone, and Ruth Foster, Blowing Rock.

April 7, James Smith, Bristol, Va., and Mattie Blevins, Bristol, Tenn.

April 12, Henry Waldrop, Shulls Mills, and Avelia Cook, Boone.

April 19, George Richard Brown, Winston-Salem, and Margaret Hahn, Boone.

April 19, Blain Houck, Riverside, and Clea Howell, Todd.

April 19, R. G. Bishop, Wilkesboro, and Mabel Bullis, Wilkesboro.

May 6, Walter Watson, Deep Gap, and Lois Michael, Deep Gap.

May 10, W. T. Gragg, Shulls Mills, and Lillian Woodruff, Shulls Mills.

May 10, Justin Beach, Zionville, and Alma Bryan, Meat Camp.

May 17, Maxine M. Hahn, Boone, and Nellie Coffey, Boone.

May 24, Parris Coffey, Gragg, and Annie Dellinger, Avery County.

June 3, Howard F. Harmon, Sugar Grove, and Doris Mae Anderson, Vilas.

June 5, David Cuyburn, Mecklenburg County, and Rebecca Hegler, Boone (colored).

June 7, Cecil W. Hayes, Lexington, and Rachael Phillips, of Lexington.

June 11, Charles P. Dougherty, Boone, and M. Lou Woodring, of Boone.

June 14, J. R. Greer, Laxon, and Lois Miller, Boone.

June 20, Howard Churen, Maple Springs, Leslie Dunn, Maple Springs.

June 21, Walter Phillips, Laxon, and Artie Parlier, Laxon.

June 21, Paul R. Ault, Bristol, Va., and Oma M. Fetty, Bristol.

June 25, Leo K. Pritchett, Banner Elk, and Lucy Earleen Greene, of Banner Elk.

June 28, Houston Squires, Lenoir, and Inah L. Kirkman, Greensboro.

July 8, A. Y. Patterson, Lenoir, and Mary Lewis Grimes, Boone (colored).

July 12, Thomas C. Beach, Boone, Pearl Robbins, Blowing Rock.

July 15, Walter P. Sebastian, of Spencer, and Dorothy Pierce, Spencer.

July 15, W. S. Rominger, Romainer, and Ette Phillips, Todd.

July 16, Kay T. Boatright, Washington, and Eula G. Hodges, Boone.

July 20, Thomas Perry, Vilas, and Stella Isaacs, Zionville.

July 18, George Ray, Ashe County, and Katie Courtney, Orangeburg, S. C.

July 26, Ralph Coffey, Blowing Rock, and Rosie Greene, Boone.

August 2, Stanley Critcher, Blowing Rock, and Wilma Hampton, of Blowing Rock.

August 11, R. M. McHay, Balm, and Lavin Barlow, Banner Elk.

August 13, H. T. Coughenour, of

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## Five Engineers of Local Highway Office Go to Morganton-Lenoir Road

Engineer Cole Will Supervise Both Projects. Four Members of Force Remain on Route 60, Paving Expected in Spring.

The majority of the personnel of the State Highway engineering force which has been maintaining headquarters at Boone, was transferred yesterday to Lenoir, where for the next two months they will be engaged in locating a highway between that city and Morganton. Chief Engineer A. B. Cole, Charles R. Smith, Mack Absher, J. E. Bivins and G. G. Page are those working on the new project. Mr. Cole, however, will divide his time between Lenoir and Boone, retaining the supervision of the work on highway No. 60. Messrs. Hubert Coffey, Bert Edwards, W. E. Bivins and George F. Bare remain in Boone, working up the estimates on the Deep Gap project.

Of the \$4,750,000 of Federal highway funds, which comes to North Carolina, \$785,000 is to be expended in the Seventh District, according to information given out from Raleigh yesterday. The paving of about five miles of road on the Boone Trail Highway from Boone in the direction of Deep Gap is one of the projects which will benefit by the Government funds. The Powell Construction Co., Winston-Salem, placed the low bid on the local paving, but whether or not the contracts have been drawn is not known. It is supposed, however, that work will be commenced on the project as soon as spring temperatures arrive.

New Bridges are also to be constructed at Wilkesboro and Elkin.

## DR. ALFRED DULA DIES IN LENOIR MONDAY MORNING

Well Known Oculist Succumbs After Stroke of Paralysis. Had Practiced Profession for Thirty Years. Survived by Widow and Five Children. Burial Services Held Tuesday Morning.

Dr. Alfred W. Dula, 52, of Lenoir, died at his home in that city Monday morning, death following a stroke of paralysis which occurred on Friday night from which he never rallied. Funeral services for the widely-known oculist were conducted Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock from the First Methodist Church of Lenoir, Dr. Dwight Ware, pastor, and Dr. A. W. McLean of the First Presbyterian Church being in charge of the rites. Interment followed in the Bellevue Cemetery.

Dr. Dula was born at Old Fort on March 26, 1880, the son of A. J. and Mary M. Dula. Following preparatory schooling he entered the University of North Carolina, going from there to the Philadelphia Horological and Optical College, where he graduated, receiving his diploma and entering the practice of his profession in 1900. In 1901 he was married to Miss Addie Mast of Valle Crucis, this county, and shortly afterwards established himself in Lenoir.

For a number of years he conducted a jewelry store in that city, but due to his large practice was forced to abandon the enterprise. According to Lenoir News-Topic, Dr. Dula was regarded as one of the most prominent leaders in education and the upbuilding of his adopted city, and was always a leader in moves for civic betterment. Several years ago he was selected by the Lenoir High School as one of the two men of that place most interested in public advancement.

Although he appeared robust and in normal health, members of the immediate family state that Dr. Dula had been in poor health since September, 1929.

He is survived by his widow and five children. Dr. Frederick Mast Dula, who is a junior in Vanderbilt University; Edward Dula, a student at Appalachian State College; Elizabeth Dula, Henry McKee Dula and Sara Jo Dula. One son, Robert, died in 1927.

Several brothers and sisters also survive.

## LEGION AUXILIARY TO MEET AT CRITCHER HOTEL FRIDAY

The American Legion Auxiliary will meet at the Critcher Hotel Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock, January 16th. This is a very important meeting and all members and those eligible are urged to attend.

Mrs. Stanley Harris, President; Mrs. Charles Younce, Sec'y.

## REYNOLDS EARNINGS HIGH

Winston-Salem, Jan. 13.—The annual statement of R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company issued here reports earnings of \$34,256,664, a new high record as compared with \$34,210,521 for the previous year.

## Watauga's Quota for Red Cross Relief Fund Placed At \$800; Call Is Urgent

R. C. Rivers, chairman of Watauga Chapter American Red Cross Tuesday received the following telegram from John Barton Payne, National Chairman, setting forth the dire need of drought-stricken farmers in the Middle West and urging that the local chapter raise a fund to aid in their relief:

"R. C. Rivers, Chairman Watauga Chapter, A. R. C.

"Greatly increased demand during last ten days has made imperative immediate campaign for Red Cross relief fund to meet emergency situation in three parts of 21 states in drought stricken area. Minimum of ten million dollars is needed to prevent untold suffering and actual starvation by thousands of families. Pollution of water supply caused by dying cattle adding to winter hardships in some sections. President Hoover in proclamation tomorrow will urge immediate and generous response. Confident your people will not fail to meet their share in this humanitarian need, but because of general condition desire to impress you with the necessity of the most vigorous possible campaign. Success of our efforts will be regarded as test of Red Cross by President and entire nation, and we must not fail. Your chapter quota is \$800. Report action taken."

"JOHN BARTON PAYNE."

No definite plans for a campaign have as yet been formed, and possibly no drive will be made to raise the huge quota named by the national organization, however, Chairman Rivers is anxious that the people of this county give the matter careful consideration before they refuse it.

## STOCKHOLDERS OF LOCAL BANK HOLD ANNUAL MEETING

Condition of Watauga County Bank Good. Says Cashier Haganan in Annual Report. Regular Dividend Earned. Board of Directors Elected and Officers Named. Complete List of Stockholders.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Watauga County Bank was held in the bank building on Friday, January 9th. Practically all of the stock was represented in person or by proxy.

The annual report was presented by the cashier which showed the bank had enjoyed a good year's business. Loans had been greatly reduced and the reserves of the bank were well above legal requirements. The regular dividend was earned, but owing to the fact that the depositors have signed an agreement to maintain their balances in the bank, the stockholders voted not to draw any dividends at this time.

The following board of directors was re-elected for the ensuing year: W. W. Mast, L. A. Greene, J. E. Hardin, B. B. Dougherty, S. E. Gragg, J. H. Mast, Baxter Linney and G. P. Haganan. A loan committee composed of W. W. Mast, L. A. Greene, S. E. Gragg and Baxter Linney, was also elected.

Immediately after the stockholders meeting the board of directors organized by electing B. B. Dougherty, president; L. A. Greene, vice-president; W. W. Mast, active vice-president; George P. Haganan, cashier; and Paul A. Coffey, assistant cashier.

The Watauga County Bank has a large number of stockholders widely distributed over the county, as is

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## District Warden Stepp Notes Increase of Game

District Warden J. P. Stepp spent Monday in Boone, and talked interestingly of the work being done by the State Department of Conservation and Development in the mountain region. Fish and game released through the department have survived to a remarkable degree, stated the warden, and prospects are bright for the wild life of the Blue Ridge country to be replenished to former numbers.

Mr. Stepp pointed out that the squirrel season closed January 1st, and urged that sportsmen refrain from hunting them during the breeding season. He spoke in complimentary terms of the manner in which Watauga people had co-operated with his office in the enforcement of game laws during the past year, and expressed the belief that this mutual feeling would continue during the new year.

donation for this great work. On Wednesday morning he issued the following statement:

"In years gone by the people of this county have lent their support to every charitable cause brought to their attention. Untold hundreds of dollars have been raised to alleviate the hunger of famished Orientals. Dollars earned on Watauga farms and in Watauga enterprises have been the purchasing agents for bread to sustain the lives of Chinese, Japs, Russians and Koreans. Today the scene of want has shifted to the heart of our own nation, and untold thousands of American families are facing utter starvation. The Administration at Washington has not, and probably will not, appropriate one single dollar for their succor. The only agency that has the facilities to carry on the tremendous work is the American Red Cross. They are on the scene now, feeding thousands, but funds are rapidly diminishing and unless they are replenished at once, the great humanitarian work must cease."

"While Watauga has tasted to a certain degree the present financial depression, there is no danger of one of its citizens dying this winter from lack of nourishment. Food is plentiful and, according to many, money is practically as free as in former years. 'The people of Watauga never fail in a crisis' has become a popular expression throughout Western North Carolina, and if they will consider the horrible aspect of good, white, industrious American people, starving through no fault of their own, they will not fail now. Study the matter over carefully, and if you have one single dollar that you think will not be needed to keep the wolf from your own door, send it in to headquarters."

## DAVID N. COFFEY DIES AT BOONE'S FORK RESIDENCE

Pioneer Citizen of Watauga County Succumbs After Illness With Dropsy. Was Father of Former Representative Blaine Coffey. A Leader in Church and Political Activities. Funeral from Blue Ridge Church.

David N. Coffey, 75 years old, one of the pioneer citizens of the Boone Fork section, died at his home, Shulls Mills R. F. D., on December 31st, after an illness with dropsy, which became serious about three months previous.

Funeral services were conducted the following afternoon from the Blue Ridge Adventist Church, of which deceased was a charter member, by the pastor, Rev. S. E. Gragg, assisted by Mr. Ishell of Lenoir, and interment was in the church cemetery.

Surviving are three children: Former Representative, Blaine Coffey, O. J. Coffey and Mrs. J. C. Church, all of whom are residents of this county.

Mr. Coffey was a native of Watauga County and spent his long life in the community in which he was reared. He was a leading citizen of his community and his advice along all lines was freely sought by the people of the country round about and was just as freely given. In early manhood Mr. Coffey visualized the necessity of an education, and in the absence of an adequate school system, educated himself to a remarkable degree.

He was intensely interested in the law of the land and delved deep into the writings of Blackstone. Although he never sought to practice the pro-

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## Watauga Solons Given Committee Assignments

Speaker of the House of Representatives Willis Smith, Tuesday announced the members of the various committees of the lower legislative body. R. T. Greer, representative from Watauga County, was named a member of Banks and Banking, Conservation and Development, Trustees State College, and the all-important Finance Committee.

Simultaneously, Hon. R. T. Fountain made public the personnel of the Senate committees. While a complete list of the members is not available, it is given out that W. R. Lovell of Boone is chairman of the committee on enrolled bills and Senate expenditures. Previous announcement carried the information that Lovell was a member of the Senate rules committee.

## Second Farmers Institute May Be Held in Boone Latter Part of February

Tentative Plans Being Made by Live-stock Association. Niswonger to Discuss Potatoes and Truck Case to Discuss Cattle.

Arrangements are now being made for the holding of the second Farmers Institute for Watauga County, and tentative plans now being made by officials of the livestock association indicate that the session will likely be held about the middle of February. Mr. G. P. Haganan, an official of the organization is in receipt of a letter from the Extension Department of State College to the effect that specialists for the meeting will probably be most available on February 15th and 18th.

Mr. H. S. Niswonger, specialist in horticulture, is expected to discuss potatoes, truck and marketing of truck crops. Mr. McCrary will be present and probably discuss the farm outlook and what farmers may do in order for them to make a living on the farm this year. Mr. L. E. Case of the Research Department, will discuss beef cattle and sheep. Mr. Parish will discuss poultry.

It is expected that the dates will be definitely decided upon within a few days and a complete program worked out for the event.

The institute held last January proved very popular among farmers of the county and much good was accomplished. Several hundred men and women were in attendance at its sessions, and the modern ideas which they received from the lectures were evidenced by the improved agricultural methods practiced in Watauga during the past growing season.

## BOONE BUSINESS MEN HOPEFUL AT BEGINNING OF '31

Watauga's Business Houses on Sound Financial Basis. Bank Reports Show Huge Reduction of Loans. Local Novelty Plant to Increase Production. Tobacco Brings Big Prices in Johnson City.

While Watauga has felt to a certain degree the depression of the past few months, business men here are of the opinion that the storm has been weathered and that better days are ahead. Merchants of the town enjoyed a good holiday trade, many of them reporting a December business larger than that of other years, and face the new year with a spirit of optimism.

Woodcraft Novelty Company, manufacturers of rustic souvenirs, is receiving orders at a record-breaking clip, and while the shops are now working only a half force, the plant is expected to be in full operation within the next thirty days. David E. Greene, manager, expresses the belief that his company will do the largest business in its history this year, and says that many new customers are being added to their already large list of buyers.

Watauga's three banks, the Watauga County Bank at Boone, the Peoples Bank and Trust Company at Boone, and the Bank of Blowing Rock at Blowing Rock, are according to their financial statements, in exceptionally good shape, having reduced their loans in the past year more than \$135,000. These banks, at the behest of their depositors, circulated agreements over the county last week to the effect that those carrying time deposits should not withdraw them before October 15, 1931, and that 85 per cent. of deposits subject to check be retained by the banks until October 15. The failure of several banks in this section and the consequent whisperings which are so often disastrous to sound institutions, prompted this action, and the response was practically unanimous, those refusing to sign probably numbering not more than fifteen.

Congratulatory messages have been received by several local men on the manner in which the interests of the people were safeguarded by these local citizens, who by their foresight and wisdom made a "run" impossible.

Watt H. Gragg, secretary of the Watauga Building and Loan Association, states that his company is in as good shape as at any time during its history, and that the current series of stock being offered by the association is sought after by an unusually large number of investors. Mr. Gragg predicts that much building will take place in Watauga during 1931, and firmly believes that prosperity of the old-time variety is "just around the corner."

Watauga County farmers, while affected to a certain degree by the extended drought of last summer, harvested fair crops and prices received by them for potatoes and cabbage have been satisfactory. Burley

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## FORMER WATAUGA WOMAN KILLED IN WRECK THURSDAY

Miss Dolly Greene, Formerly of Deep Gap, Receives Fatal Wounds When Car Overturns on Lenoir-Wilkesboro Road. A. B. Johnson, Driver, in Statesville Hospital, Charged With Murder. Burial at Deep Gap.

Miss Dolly Greene, 25, nurse in the Wilkes Hospital, North Wilkesboro, and former resident of Deep Gap, was instantly killed in an automobile wreck on the Lenoir-Wilkesboro highway, nine miles east of Lenoir, last Thursday night. Her companion, A. B. Johnston, manager of Turner-White Casket Company, is in the Davis Hospital, Statesville, suffering from a badly lacerated arm, a broken collar bone and bruises.

Miss Greene and Johnston were going east from Lenoir when Johnston's car skidded on a sharp curve and overturned several times. According to evidence given out at the coroner's hearing, held Friday morning at Lenoir, the body was found at 9 o'clock, after Claude Doughton, of North Wilkesboro, passing motorist, had picked up Johnston and hurried with him to the hospital. Doughton, who was present at the inquest, declared he did not see Miss Greene's body and that Johnston steadfastly contended that he was alone at the time. Excited momentarily, Doughton failed to observe closely, he said. The body of Miss Greene, badly broken, was within twenty feet of the wrecked car.

Officer McDade of Lenoir and State Patrolman Mann testified that evidences of liquor were found at the scene, including two broken bottles and unmistakable scents. A warrant charging Johnston with the murder of Miss Greene was served Friday, and a \$5,000 bond posted for his appearance at the February term of Caldwell Superior Court. Johnston has retained Attorneys W. C. Newland of Lenoir and Julius Rouse of North Wilkesboro for his defense, and it is understood that the solicitor will be aided in the prosecution by Attorneys Hayde Burke of Taylorsville, Tam C. Bowie of Jeter and William R. Lovell of Boone.

Miss Greene received her high school education in Boone, was graduated from Lincoln Hospital in 1928, and had served at the North Wilkesboro hospital for three years. She possessed a kindly disposition, was said to have been a most capable nurse, and enjoyed the friendship of a wide circle of acquaintances throughout this section, who are deeply relieved by her untimely demise.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock from Laurel Creek Baptist Church, near Deep Gap, of which she was a member. Rev. J. H. Ambrose, pastor of North Wilkesboro M. E. Church, was in charge of the service, assisted by Rev. Edw. Hodges, Mrs. Dr. Crowell of Lincoln, who was an intimate friend of deceased during her student days in Lincoln Hospital, also paid a brief tribute to Miss Greene. Interment was made in a nearby cemetery. Nurses from the Wilkes Hospital acted as bearers for the huge floral offering.

Surviving are the mother, Mrs. Lee Greene of Deep Gap; one sister, Mrs. D. O. Ray, of Seattle, Wash.; and four brothers, Gurney Greene, W. G. Greene and Grady Greene, of Deep Gap; Mack Greene, Ashland, W. Va.; J. C. Greene of Boone; and Rufus E. Greene of Boone.

## News of the Week at State Teachers College

At a meeting of the Parent-Teachers Association on Friday, the Young Men's Quartet sang two numbers as a feature of entertainment. Both were much appreciated by all present.

On the past Saturday at Chapel exercises the Young Women's Christian Association gave a most timely program illustrating the closing of the Old Year and the coming of the New Year. A program which was originated by these fine young ladies themselves was very impressive to those who heard it.

The writer had the privilege on the past Saturday to visit and go through all the departments and rooms of the Demonstration School—the city elementary school at Boone. And being directed by Professor Chapell Wilson, director of the institution, had the unusual privilege of seeing the entire equipment and working of the school. And this writer is free to say that few city schools are better equipped or better managed than this one, where every child seems to get the very best and attention in their training.

Enrollment at the college is at present 745, which is far ahead of any enrollment for the regular term thus far. It is in fact just 87 more than any enrollment, except for the summer term.

—J. M. D.