

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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## HARDWARE MERG'R ANNOUNCED AFTER COMPANY MEETING

Stockholders of Boone Hardware Company Sell Building, Stock and Fixtures to Farmers Hardware and Supply Company. Two Stores Will Be Operated Separately for Time Being. Plans Not Perfected.

Following the session of the stockholders of the Boone Hardware Company last Saturday afternoon, it was announced that a deal had been made whereby the Farmers Hardware and Supply Company became the owners of the stock, building and fixtures, and that both businesses would likely be combined as soon as practicable. There has been no official announcement of the consideration. It is stated that while all papers incident to the closing of the trade have been executed, there is no likelihood of a hitch in the deal.

Mr. Clyde R. Greene, for many years manager of the Farmers Hardware and Supply Company, and who is now engaged in inventory work in the newly-acquired stock, will remain as general manager of both business houses, which for the time being will be operated in their respective buildings. Other details as to organization have not been perfected, but it is thought that at a later date the stock of the original Farmers Hardware will be moved up the street to the Watauga Bank block where the Boone Hardware had been operated for many years.

In the merger of the hardware stores of Boone, two of the largest stocks of hardware in this section of the State will be thrown together, under the same management, into perhaps the largest store of the kind in Western Carolina. The Boone Hardware Company was organized in 1920, and was managed by Mr. J. F. Moore, principal stockholder, during the almost eleven years of its existence. A large stock has always been carried and a wide trade enjoyed. Its stockholders consisted in the main of local citizens, there being seven in number.

The Farmers Hardware and Supply Company has been in business in this town for about six years and during that period has enjoyed a remarkable growth. Its stocks have always been complete and the radius of its business territory has been constantly widening. Its stockholders at the present time number three: Messrs. R. D. Hodges, C. M. Greer, and W. H. McGhee. Mr. Clyde R. Greene, one of the founders of the business, has held the management since the principal part of its existence. The combined businesses will continue under the firm name of Farmers Hardware and Supply Company.

## BURLEY TOBACCO CROP BRINGS NEW MONEY TO COUNTY

Prices on Small Acreage Amount to as Much as 28-Cent Average. A. W. Smith, J. M. Greer and J. H. Mast Realize Neat Sums from Warehouse Sales. Many Farmers to Cultivate Weed This Season.

Burley tobacco, which was grown in numerous Watauga farms last season as an experimental crop, has proved to be a real cash producer, and several sales have been reported which reflect credit on the industry of the venturesome agriculturists who took a chance on the golden weed. J. M. Greer, of Mabel, probably gets the blue ribbon. Mr. Greer planted 1-2 acre to Burley, harvested 1,150 pounds, sold it for an average of 23 1/2 cents a pound in a nearby city and brought home a check for \$283.30.

J. H. Mast, of Silverstone, cultivated an acre and a half of tobacco from which he harvested 2,407 pounds of marketable leaf, which sold for \$577.00. A. W. Smith, Boone postmaster who owns farming lands near Mabel, marketed 1,162 pounds from one acre of land for an average price of nearly 23 cents. This crop was grown by Stanley Norris, a renter, and Mr. Smith supervising the curing and grading. The highest grade sold, dark reds, brought 27 cents per pound, and the lowest, greenings, was sold for six cents. Mr. Smith explains that one rack of tobacco broke down in the field and was not noticed until it had been damaged considerably. He is of the opinion that Watauga leaf should be placed on the market around the middle of December or the first of January, as the prices seem to be coming sluggish after that date.

An official of the Livestock Association, which has been responsible to a large degree for the interest taken in tobacco culture by Watauga farmers, declares that tobacco is destined to become an important cash crop in Watauga, but urges that small acreages be cultivated. One-half acre to a farm is, he believes, an ample amount, and if this program is carried out, tens of thousands of dollars in additional revenue will be realized by Watauga's farm population.

### HEFLIN FAVORS PAYMENT

Washington, D. C.—Payment of the face value of veterans' adjusted compensation certificates was urged Tuesday by Senator Heflin, Democrat, Alabama. Heflin said the putting of \$3,000,000,000 into circulation would go far toward restoring prosperity. He criticized Secretary Mellon for his opposition to payment of the face value of the certificates.

## Jurors Drawn for Spring Term of Superior Court

The following jurymen have been drawn for the Spring Term of Watauga Superior Court, which convenes Monday, March 23rd, with Judge H. Hoyle Sink presiding.

First Week—Robert Norris, Clyde Howell, Charles Weinberger, George A. Wilson, S. T. Isenhour, T. H. Coffey Jr., Roby Peuley, Milton Bradshaw, R. S. Swift, C. G. Brown, J. A. Idol, L. F. Cottrell, James H. Moore, Grady Meretz, Thomas Banner, J. S. Flannery, J. S. McBride, J. C. Jones, G. W. McConnell, D. F. Horton, R. C. Hodges, E. N. Edmisten, J. K. Greene, Alex. South, J. H. Wallace, B. F. Lane, Shirley Caudill, Noah Mitchell, W. M. Shirley, A. N. Green, H. E. Greene, John E. Luther, T. F. Yates, Hamp Simms, John J. Hartley.

Second Week—L. L. Bodenhamer, R. C. Rivers Jr., A. L. Triplett, P. W. Palmer, C. M. Greer, Russell Vannoy, W. S. Davis, L. Greer, C. R. Dishman, J. W. Lewis, W. J. Love, D. C. Mast, J. A. Woodie, Dwight Stansberry, W. A. Harbin, W. P. Moody, S. B. Adams, Otto Townsend.

## TROUT STREAMS OF WATAUGA STOCKED WITH FINNY TRIBE

More Than 1,100,000 Trout Released During 1930. New Brood at State Hatchery Numbers One Million. Meat Camp, Norris Fork and Howard's Creek Receive Special Attention from Department.

More than eleven hundred thousand rainbow, speckled and brown trout, ranging in size from finger length to fourteen inches have been released in fishing waters of Watauga since last January, and it is believed that during the coming season sportsmen will have better luck than at any time for several years. Superintendent Smathers, of the Rutherford State Hatchery, states that he now has under his care over a million newly-hatched trout, which will eventually find their way into streams of Watauga. During previous years these babies were poured into creeks and rivers before they had attained sufficient size to care for themselves and, naturally, many of them failed to survive. But under a new plan worked out by the Department of Conservation and Development and members of the Isaak Walton League, they are kept in rearing ponds until they have attained finger length, and then are committed to fishing waters.

County Game Warden H. Grady Farthing says that last fall 75,000 rainbow and brook trout, the largest fourteen inches long and the smallest five, were released in Howard's Creek and Meat Camp Creek. During the fishing season of 1931 a fee of one dollar will be charged for the privilege of angling in these waters, and a warden hired to see that game laws are closely adhered to. Howard's Creek will be opened thirty days after the opening of the season, and on that date Meat Camp will be closed for a similar period. During the early months of the season one stream will be open while the other is closed, and during the cessation of fishing streams will be replenished with trout from the Rutherford hatchery.

Warden Farthing gives out the information that more than \$1,500,000 was received during 1930 from the sale of fishing and hunting licenses in Watauga, a far greater amount than that expended by the Conservation Department of game and fish. He is of the opinion that 1931 will be a more successful year, and that sportsmen will find field and stream better stocked than at any time in twenty years. Practically every stream in Watauga has been restocked, sawdust eliminated, and precautions taken against the seiner and dynamite.

Daniel Boone Chapter, Isaak Walton League, meets at Daniel Boone Hotel Thursday night, and important phases of conservation work, including allocation of game fish, will be discussed by the thirty or more members. Those who would like to obtain a setting of ring-neck pheasant eggs should see Warden Farthing within the next few days, as a number of them are to be distributed in Watauga. Twenty-five pair of Mexican quail will also be released during the spring months. All hunting and trapping came to a close on February 1, and game officials urge that citizens refrain from shooting. The season just closed was a successful one and sportsmen who were in the field during the past few months state that rabbit, squirrel and quail are plentiful.

### Walton League to Elect Officers Thursday Eve.

Officers for the coming year will be elected at a meeting of the local chapter Isaak Walton League, to be held at Daniel Boone Hotel Thursday evening, 7:30 o'clock. Patrons will also be selected to protect the waters of Meat Camp and Howard's Creek during the coming fishing season, and other matters of importance discussed. Secretary Baxter Linnay urges that all members bring their dues and participate in the important meeting.

Nash County poultry flocks are leading the State in egg laying and profits per bird, according to recent tabulations by the poultry extension office at State College.

## Reports Needs of Drought Victims



Will Rogers, cowboy humorist and philosopher, starting with famous flyer Captain Frank Hawley, to visit the Arkansas region where the Red Cross is feeding and clothing 550,000 persons. 'It's the worst need I ever saw,' Will Rogers telegraphs from Pine Bluff.

## \$670,827 Increase in Farm Products Need of Watauga

F. H. Jeter, agricultural editor N. C. State College Extension Service, has given out the following information relative to food and feed crops raised in Watauga County:

Watauga County's farmers fail to raise enough of ten food and feed crops for their own farm needs, and as a result the county suffers a deficiency of \$670,827 in these crops, according to the latest figures obtained from compilations made in 1929 by the North Carolina State College Extension Service, in connection with the "Live-at-Home" campaign this year. The farmers of Watauga raised a surplus in only two crops in 1929. Surpluses in the ten deficient crops must be produced in order for the county to really become a 100 per cent "Live-at-Home" county and a booster of the slogan, "Farm to Make a Living in."

Watauga fails to produce a surplus in wheat, corn, oats, sweet potatoes, milk, poultry, eggs, pork and lard, hay and home gardens. It has a surplus in Irish Potatoes and beef and veal, but this surplus amount does not offset entirely the deficiency in the other ten products. The county's farmers may greatly improve the situation by raising more food and feed crops. In 1929 Governor Gardner urged the farmers of the State to increase their food and feed crop yields. They did, surpassing the 1929 figures by over \$19,000,000. This year the Governor is hopeful that the farmers of the State will produce food and feed products, over and above the 1930 total, to a value of \$40,000,000. Watauga can have a share in doing this. The greatest shortage in Watauga lies in hay. In 1929 the farmers failed to produce enough hay for farm needs and either had to buy 14,124 tons, valued at \$254,232, or go without, thereby stunting their stock. The next largest deficiency was in corn, with a shortage of 118,378 bushels, valued at \$114,026. Other deficiencies were less but the ten crops bulked large on the "red" side of the ledger.

Watauga did raise a large Irish po-

lato crop, producing a surplus over farm needs of 218,230 bushels, valued at \$274,937. The beef and veal surplus was 1,985 head, valued at \$192,629. A total eye crop of 19,449 bushels, valued at \$26,194, is not counted in this tabulation, as no eye is used in Watauga County by the farmers. The mutton and lamb produced sold for \$54,526 but there are no statistics on the actual consumption needs of the county, so this item cannot be counted. The tobacco crop of 5,600 pounds (figures too low), valued at \$2,344, was a "money" crop and is not counted in the tabulation below.

To become a 100 per cent "Live-at-Home" county, Watauga must increase its yields in the following:

Wheat—15,940 bushels required; 17,979 bushels produced; 35,951 bushels shortage; \$43,206 value of shortage.  
Corn—326,761 bushels required; 210,408 bushels produced; 116,353 bushels shortage; \$114,026 value of shortage.  
Oats—112,430 bushels required; 73,368 bushels produced; 38,062 bushels shortage; \$26,325 value of shortage.

Sweet Potatoes—17,666 bushels required; 6,658 bushels produced; 10,708 bushels shortage; \$9,637 value of shortage.

Milk—1,633,500 gallons required; 1,482,201 gallons produced; 150,599 gallons shortage; \$27,198 value of shortage.

Poultry—125,034 birds required; 29,678 birds raised; 85,356 birds shortage; \$76,819 value of shortage.  
Eggs—37,100 dozen required; 247,987 dozen produced; 127,116 dozen shortage; \$38,131 value of shortage.

Pork and lard—1,840 head required; 3,619 heads raised; 1,221 head shortage; \$24,420 value of shortage.

Hay—24,703 tons required; 10,379 tons produced; 14,324 tons shortage; \$254,232 value of shortage.

Home garden—1,210 acres required; 1,210 acres raised; no shortage.

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## Boone's Fast Development Depicted in Unique History

THAT Cherokee Indians were the first settlers of this neighborhood is evidenced in streams and roads which bear Indian names. Some of these are the Yonahlossee trail, the Toe and Watauga rivers and Shawneeback Township. The county takes its name from the river, which in Cherokee vernacular means "beautiful water."

We know the Indians once lived here by the broken bits of pottery and arrow heads that have been found. The Rev. W. R. Savage collection of these relics is now in the Administration building of Appalachian State College—but there is no record of Daniel Boone encountering the Indians on his trip until he reached Kentucky in 1769.

Daniel Boone is the hero of every American boy. He is one of the few Americans whose claim to distinction is unquestioned outside his own country. His bust stands in the hall of fame in New York City. As a hunter and trapper he was supreme; as a scout and land looker he was notable for natural shrewdness, with an eye for ground and a phenomenal memory for roads, trails and localities which he had once traveled or visited. Boone was born on February 11, 1735, in Penn-

sylvania. In the spring of 1750, Squire Boone, Daniel's father, moved to North Carolina. Daniel helped to clear the land and build a log house but he went hunting at every opportunity. When Daniel was twenty he married black-eyed Rebecca Bryan, a neighbor girl.

We usually think of Boone as illiterate, but we must remember that there were few schools in those days. He was taught to read and write by his brother's wife. As a lad he learned the rudiments of woodcraft, acquired a knowledge of the secrets of fields and forests, and became an all-around skill and self-reliance in the art of self-protection. By constant practice in the field he became an unerring

ring marksman with his long flintlock piece, adept in following a trail and moving noiselessly through the forest; in freezing into immobility at the sight of wild game or an enemy. His physique was grand. He was outfitted with Spartan virtue, rare intelligence and complete fearlessness. Boone was the leader of men who blazed "Boone's Wilderness Road." Daniel Boone, when crossing the Blue

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## W. R. Chevrolet Co. Opens Doors Monday

The W. R. Chevrolet Company opened its doors to the public Monday under the management of W. R. Winkler of the Central Tire Company, who recently purchased the agency and shop equipment owned by the Boone Chevrolet Company.

During the brief period of time in which the business was closed many improvements were made in the front office as well as in the shop and a complete line of repair parts for Chevrolet automobiles have been stocked. It is the purpose of the new organization to service Chevrolet cars just as thoroughly as can be done in the larger cities and nothing but the highest quality of mechanical work will be tolerated by the management. Mr. Joe Greer, who for many years has been in the shop of the Chevrolet Garage, is still on the job and Messrs. Dallas Cottrell and Ray Brendall, both mechanics of long experience, have been added. Mr. Hamp Blackburn has been retained on the sales force, while Messrs. Oring Harmon and James Moore are employed in the offices. Mr. Winkler will remain as manager, while A. E. Hodges will take care of the affairs at the Central Tire Company.

A new shipment of cars is expected within a few days and indications are bright for a good business this spring, says Mr. Winkler.

## FARM INSTITUTE WILL PRESENT A VARIED PROGRAM

Details for the Second Annual Assembly of Watauga Farmers Are Completed, and Official Program Has Been Announced. Speakers of State-wide Prominence Will Be Present and Address Agrarians.

The second annual Farmers Institute, which is scheduled to be held at State Teachers College on February 17 and 18, promises to be an even greater event than that of last year. The program committee has finished its work and the slate of speakers has been secured. The farmers of the county are being urged this year to make drastic cuts in expenses and to produce a surplus of one or more crops, which may be turned into cash. Indications are that the attendance will be even larger this winter than last, and the program is designed to help the farmer overcome all his major troubles. The varied program for the session is as follows:

Tuesday, February 17th.  
10 A. M.—H. R. Niswonger, of State College, will speak on "Horticulture," including potatoes, cabbage, beans, gardening and marketing. Mrs. Cornelia Morris will speak to the women on "Living at Home," canning and gardening. Mrs. Morris program will take place at the same time as that of Mr. Niswonger.

1 P. M.—O. E. McKray, of State College, will present general farming outlook, etc. Ladies will have a meeting at the same hour.  
Wednesday, February 18th.  
10 A. M.—L. E. Case, Research Department of State College, will discuss cattle, sheep, and the present outlook.

1:00 to 3:20 P. M.—Poultry and Pigs will be discussed by Mr. Parrish of State College, A. J. Brown, Harry Fawcett and others of Greensville and Johnson City, Tenn.

Numbers of farmers have expressed a desire to bring lunch with them. They may do so if they wish, but it is not requested by the program committee, as all participants in the meeting are expected to eat together.

## Judge Finley Seriously Ill in North Wilkesboro

North Wilkesboro.—While Superior Court Judge T. B. Finley lay in a critical condition after an appendix operation, his creditors met on Tuesday morning before a referee, and trustees for his estate were named. Judge Finley recently filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy.

The creditors waived the right to appoint the trustees and Referee L. C. McKrahen named G. H. Talbert, banker, and C. C. Gambill, farmer and lumber dealer.

In his petition filed, he said to protect his friends from "grasping" northern corporation creditors the Judge listed his assets as \$581,285, of which \$551,176 is real estate. His liabilities were given as \$293,175, with \$146,740 in secured claims and \$119,284 unsecured. Accommodation paper was listed at \$28,150.

Judge Finley was operated on here yesterday for acute appendicitis. Peritonitis set in and physicians say his condition is critical.

## John Taylor Dies at Home in Missouri

Mr. John Taylor, 80 years old, died at his home in Maryville, Mo., Tuesday morning, after a long illness due to the natural infirmities of his great age. Surviving are seven daughters and one son.

Mr. Taylor was a native Watauga, the son of the late Henry Taylor, Esq., and brother of C. D. Taylor, Esq., of Valle Crucis. More than 35 years ago he went to Missouri where he prospered as a farmer. His wife, who has been dead several years, will be remembered as a sister of Mr. J. M. Shull of Valle Crucis.

Mr. Taylor was well and favorably known by all the older residents of the county, who are grieved to hear of his death.

## DRUGS ARE NOW AVAILABLE HERE

Asks for Local Committee to Aid Drought Stricken Farmers. Watauga County Money for Stock, Tractor Fuel, Fertilizer, Seed. Several Applications.

Messrs. W. H. Gragg, C. M. Critcher and C. D. Taylor, members of the Watauga County committee on disbursement of Federal drought relief funds, met last Wednesday in Elkin with Dean L. O. Schaub of State College, and asked for a maximum of \$90,000 to assist local farmers in raising the crops of this year. G. P. Hagaman, also a member of the committee, could not be present at the conference.

Mr. Schaub, who is head of the administering board in this State, after going over the situation with the Wataugas, was of the opinion that the amount asked for could be secured, if need be. It had been estimated that 960 of the 2,500 farmers in this county would need relief as the result of the dry weather of last summer, but present indications are that a much less number will apply. Secretary W. H. Gragg has forwarded 33 applications, all of which were made through the central committee in Boone, and it is not known whether or not machinery will be perfected in the various townships as originally planned.

According to the administration's plans, the money provided will be secured by a lien on the crop on which the loan was secured. No endorsement whatever is required, the money is paid the farmer as his needs develop and interest is charged at the rate of a per cent. Principal and interest is due by November 30, but may be paid in installments before that time if preferred. The loans are made strictly for the benefit of those suffering from drought, and spaces are provided on the application for the crops raised in 1929 and 1930 and their value. Should the crop of 1930 be shown to be as good as that of the previous year, when no drought was recorded the chances of the loan being approved are lessened. An effort is being made by the Secretary to have this provision repealed locally in view of the fact that many farmers who have money in the banks are unable to use it because of the agreement reached with depositors the first of the year. The applications being made now are for funds for feed for work animals. On March 1 demands will be made for fertilizer, seed, etc. for potatoes and cabs, while the money for for in April. The applications had been made through Secretary W. H. Gragg Boone, are forwarded to Mr. O. F. McRary, Washington, D. C., who represents this state before the relief commission and action one way or another is promised within 48 hours after the papers reach Washington. Three eight hour shifts are being maintained in the capital city, making the relief work.

## M. W. Eller Succumbs After a Long Illness

Mr. M. W. Eller, 71 years old, passed away Sunday morning at the home of his daughter, Mrs. W. C. Greer in Boone after an illness from a chronic ailment which became serious about three weeks ago. Funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon from the Baptist Church at Zionsville, of which deceased was a faithful member for many years, by Rev. P. A. Hicks of Boone, assisted by Rev. C. A. Todd of Butler, Tenn. Interment was in the neighborhood cemetery.

Active pallbearers were Milton Greer, John Greer, Charles Greer, R. D. Hodges, Edith Mast and Wade Reese. Honorary pallbearers were: Dr. J. B. Hagaman, B. J. Cottrell, Clyde Eppers, P. J. Cottrell, George P. Hagaman, John W. Hodges, Chas. L. Younger, I. G. Greer, Frank Robbins, Dr. J. C. Farthing, Dr. J. M. Gambill, Thomas W. Cable, D. J. A. Swart, G. C. Greer and Jace Greer.

The floral offerings were profuse and beautiful and bore evidence of the high esteem in which deceased was held.

Surviving are four daughters, Mrs. W. C. Greer of Boone, Mrs. C. W. Ramsey and Miss Florence E. Eller, of Butler, Tenn., and Miss Sophie E. Eller, Abingdon, Va.; two sons, Chas. F. Eller, Lake City, Fla., and Lloyd Eller, Zionsville; one sister, Mrs. W. E. Roark, Vilas; and two brothers, Joe and James Eller, of Vilas.

Mr. Eller was a native of the Zionsville section, but for the past several years had been a resident of Butler, Tenn. He was well known throughout this section, was a genuinely good man and citizen, and has contributed a full share to the betterment of the county in which he lived.

### Mountaineers Showing Well in Court Games

Last week the Appalachian College boys' basket ball team played two hard games on the local court. On Wednesday night they lost a tough one to their ancient rival, Catawba, 26 to 25. On Saturday night they won from Lynchburg College, 32 to 22.

Coach Johnston and the boys leave Thursday morning for a three-game series down State. On Thursday evening they play Gaillard; Friday, High Point, and Saturday night they meet Catawba in a return game.