

The Watauga Democrat ESTABLISHED 1888

Issued Every Thursday by THE RIVERS PRINTING COMPANY R. C. RIVERS, ROB. RIVERS, Publishers

SUBSCRIPTION RATES One Year \$1.50 Six Months .75 Three Months .40 Payable in Advance

Cards of Thanks, Resolutions of Respect, Obituaries, etc., are charged for at the regular advertising rates.

Entered at the Postoffice at Boone, N. C., as Second Class mail matter.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1931

Welcome, Farmers!

ON NEXT Tuesday and Wednesday farmers of Watauga County will gather at Appalachian State Teachers College for their second annual institute. Speakers of State and national importance have been engaged by the program committee to lecture on various phases of agriculture and animal husbandry and many features of entertainment have been arranged for the two-day session.

The worth of the previous institute was manifest in new acres of growing crops seen in Watauga during the past season, in the improvement of dairy and beef herds, in the appearance of farm homes and buildings, and in the development of home gardens. Watauga, despite drought and depression, forged ahead; the farmers farmed for a living, most of them produced surplus which were converted into cash, and today our people are well clothed, well fed and enjoying a measure of prosperity as a result of their honest efforts.

During this institute new plans will be discussed with our farm population plans which are expected to aid materially in the planting, harvesting and marketing of 1931 crops. And the discussions of these experts who are or will be with us will be worth much to every man or woman who tills the soil or has any part in the varied activities of farm life. Methods are constantly changing, and those who fail to keep abreast of the times in this most important of all industries are cheating themselves out of profits which they really earn.

The homes of Boone will be thrown open to the visiting agrarians, and those who wish to spend the night will be cared for. It is the wish of every citizen that they have a good time and derive much benefit from the things they hear and see. For Boone folks know that the prosperity of our Nation is based on the prosperity of our farmers.

Need for Airport

NEWS that the Carolinas Good Will Air Tour, which starts the middle of March and which is including most of the towns with flying facilities, will visit both North Wilkesboro and Lenoir, is of considerable interest locally. Perhaps many Wataugans will go to one of these points to see the thirty or more ships of nearly as many patterns. However, there is a pang of grief because of the fact that Boone is in no position to ask to be included in the itinerary. It is understood that the flight will be expected to cover the Carolinas as fully as is possible and as long as the ships will sail into our neighbor towns a short distance away, it is reasonable to suppose that if Boone had facilities we could be included. A town without adequate airport facilities is soon to be practically as isolated as one would be without a highway and with the country full of automobiles. It will cost lots of money to provide the necessary field here, but it has to be done sooner or later, as the demand increases. Every year the Democrat hears of airmen who would just love to drop from the clouds in this community, if the space were available.

No Charge for News

THE Democrat finds that through some kind of misunderstanding, the report has become more or less general that news items submitted by its columns are charged for as advertising. To most people a statement of this kind is obviously untrue, but there are some who evidently believe that every line published is for revenue. This kind of talk perhaps started as a result of the practice of this and most other newspapers regarding the publication of obituaries and cards of thanks. These are charged for, after one death notice has been published. When a death occurs, all available information is secured, and the customary news article is as completely printed as the facts at hand will permit. When this is done, newspapermen generally figure that a complete repetition is advertising, and subject to advertising rates, in view of the fact that there can be no element of news after the account of the death is chronicled.

All this is preliminary to the statement that news items are welcomed and eagerly sought, whether of deaths, marriages or any other community happening calculated to be of interest to subscribers. If you know of a death, which has escaped mention, let the publishers have the facts, and they will gladly handle the story in as extended style as the in-

formation warrants. A repetition, however, in the form of an obituary, will be charged for, as will be the customary cards of thanks. Please be assured, however, that news is not charged for, and that it is just as essential as display advertising. The co-operation of every citizen is asked in this connection.

While shop talk is being engaged in, it is well to state once more that unsigned articles are not published. The name need not be printed, but the publishers must know the source of the copy. News matter of apparently worthy character is each day dumped into the waste basket, because its writer has omitted his or her name.

The Skyland Post

MISS Nancy Ruth Reeves is the editor of The Skyland Post, West Jefferson's new newspaper, which recently made its initial appearance. Judging from the make-up and subject matter of the issues thus far received, the new journal promises to be a valuable addition to the weekly newspaper field in Carolina. Miss Reeves comes to her new calling especially well prepared to reap the fruits of success; she holds a degree from Columbia University, is a member of one of Ashe County's most prominent families, and The Democrat, while felicitating the new editor upon the high quality of The Post, predicts for her a most successful career.

"The Way of Life"

By BRUCE BARTON

PLEASANT PLACES

When he was hardly more than a boy my friend Jim Dericux, one of the editors of the American Magazine, was secretary to the Governor of South Carolina. There was a brilliant young chap in the state administration who at the age of twenty-six held the office of assistant comptroller. He had not intended to run for the comptroller, but a political faction insisted that he should run. This made him mad, and so he did not run and was elected.

After holding office for only six months he asked for an interview with the governor. "What's on your mind?" asked Jim.

"I am going to resign."

"Why?"

"I'll tell you presently."

"They went into the governor's private room, and the young official tendered his resignation. The governor was amazed. "What's the matter?" he exclaimed. "I thought you were sitting pretty."

"I am," said the young man. "That is just the trouble. "But I don't understand."

"Well, Governor, you know this office that I hold is a mighty pleasant place. For twenty-seven years old, and it's a very pleasant place indeed. I am afraid of it."

He was afraid that he would get let down and become too contented. Afraid that, without hard problems to tackle and stern duties to conquer, he would get flabby and soft. Afraid that at forty he would wake up to find himself a lazy office holder with no ambition and no hope.

Nobody under fifty should be in too pleasant a place. Robert Underdaff, the writer of business articles, uttered a profound business truth when he counseled: "Never complain about your troubles. They are responsible for the greater part of your income."

Almost anyone can hold a job which presents no difficulties; hence such jobs pay small salaries. Men at the top are paid for their willingness to accept responsibility, for the problems that they tackle and the difficulties they lick.

King David wrote: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leedeth me beside the still waters."

But when David wrote that he was a fugitive from Saul. He was fighting through the wilderness, pursued by enemies and wild beasts. The green pastures and still waters were all in his mind.

He never did reach an entirely pleasant place. Even when he became king his life was full of problems, disappointments and hard work. But his soul gave birth to songs that are among the finest of all the ages.

"TOM SAWYER"

The management of the Pastime Theatre has announced as a super-attraction for Friday and Saturday of this week, the incomparable Jackie Coogan and the popular Mitzie Green in the screen version of Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer." Coogan thus appears in his first talking picture after an absence of three years from the silver screen. The attraction has been described by critics as the most enjoyable comedy of boyhood ever written, entertaining alike to the kiddies and the grown-ups. The theatre announces that on these dates children will be admitted to "Tom Sawyer" for 10 cents instead of the regular 15-cent admission.

FOR SALE—Dairy farm Darlington, Md., or would exchange for property in Watauga. Claude L. Mast, Valle Crucis, N. C. 2-5-3t

The Family Doctor

By DR. JOHN JOSEPH GAINES

Ho-hum . . . It's 10 p. m. just returned from seeing a little fellow four years of age. The only child of his parents, hence a very anxious mother, who co-operated with me at every step. I encountered a moderate fever, a loaded digestive tract belonging to a "very hearty eater," a vigorous and rapid pulse and breathing, a slight sore throat; lungs not involved. Any old mother might have given a dose of castor oil, and wrapped the little patient up warm in bed, and he might have been all right tomorrow.

But, this is a highly technical age. Wise young parents do not fool with old wives' fables; they call a physician.

The little fellow was very anxious that Santa Claus should visit him; being a personal friend of that Christmas idol of childhood, I readily promised to intercede for the visit of the fat little saint—which brought me a very willing subject for examination.

I actually taught the 4-year-old to gargle! And he did it to perfection. A simple evacuant for the loaded bowel, with a rice, good-tasted gricicide for the throat, and the trick was turned. I learned incidentally that there was a basement to the cottage that was not exactly sanitary, and damp at times; that the little boy played there on chilly days when it was pleasanter indoors; a few words of practical advice to the young mother were absorbed as a dry sponge takes up water. The same of the admonition in regard to indiscriminate eating. This boy had eaten "nearly a pint of ice cream—and has promptly thrown it up"—a few hours before I was called to go see him!

The proud dad—a bridge mechanic—had "just loved to see that kid eat."

Never was a fee paid more willingly or promptly; never have I left a more grateful family. And, Santa came on time, leaving a generous supply of things that little boys like. I know, for I talked with the old man.

Gold Nuggets

GOD'S WORLD

All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, Each little bird that sings, He made their glowing colors, He made their tiny wings.

The purple-headed mountain, The river, running by, The morning, and the sunset, That lighteth up the sky.

The tall trees in the greenwood, The pleasant summer sun, The ripe fruits in the garden, He made them, everyone.

He gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell, How great is our God, Who hath made all things well.

—Mrs. C. F. Alexander

FANNING COALS

Paul's words to young Timothy were: "Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God in thee." Timely words are these for all to heed. "Stir up the gift of God in thee." What a challenge! As living coals in dead ashes brighten and blaze when fanned, so Paul exhorts Timothy to stir up the "gift within him." There are divine elements in every soul that await kindling into a flame for God's glory and man's good. Mystical creatures are we! Dust in the image of God. Eternal in being. "May the eyes of our understanding be enlightened; that we may know what is hope of his calling the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints." Three common qualities in every soul: faith, hope, love. These are divine qualities waiting human action by God's grace. Stir up the coals in the ashes!—H. J. T. R.

VISITED BROTHER IN JAIL; WANTED THERE HIMSELF

(Lenoir News-Topic. Duck Graham came a-visitin' his brother last Monday afternoon but he won't get another chance for a long, long time now.

Duck's brother, John, was in the county jail in default of bond for assault on an officer and for driving while intoxicated. Duck, from near the Grace Chapel section, came to see his brother. That was when the fly walked into a spider's trap, unknowingly to either the fly or the spider.

"Big boy, you're wanted down in the State's capital city, and I'm going to take you there," interrupted Sheriff John W. Welch. "Have you had a big time since you broke out of State's prison in May, 1930?" he asked.

So Sheriff Welch took his man to Raleigh on Tuesday and collected the \$25 reward offered for the feat. Graham was sent up from Catawba County about a year ago.

Read the Ads—They Are Messengers of Thrift!

As Good Advice Now as Then—

By Albert T. Reid

Labor was prior to capital, but property is the fruit of labor. Let no man, therefore, who is houseless, pull down the house of another, but let him labor diligently to build one for himself, thus assuring that his own shall be safe from violence when built.



Albert T. Reid ILLUSTRATED

News of the Week in the Legislature

Raleigh, N. C.—Hardly had the smoke of battle on the six-months State operation school bill cleared away and the education committees of House and Senate buckled down to try to find the additional \$11,000,000 to \$13,900,000 it requires, before the road proposal, one of Governor Gardner's major measures sprang into the center of the stage of the North Carolina General Assembly and gives promise of being one of the big contests this week.

Two bills were introduced Friday, one carrying the Governor's recommendations, the other containing the present methods of highway work, but with changes. Only one provision is the same—a six-cent tax on gasoline, the two cents going to the county roads in both bills, but by different routes.

General provisions of the Gardner bill are well known. It would abolish the nine highway districts and the nine commissioners, making the State a single district and the commission of a chairman and four members a State-wide commission, the chairman to receive \$7,500 a year for full time, the other commissioners \$10 a day while on duty. The State would take over the 45,000 miles of county highways and maintain them with two cents of the gasoline tax and a million dollars additional a year. The counties would still have to take care of their road bonds and interest.

The other bill leaves the commission as it is, abolishes all of the county, township and district road boards and returns road matters to the county commissioners. The two-cent tax on gasoline, about \$5,000,000, plus another million, would go to the counties, prorated on a basis of one-third area, one-third population and one-third number of registered automobiles. Two or more counties may join as a road district. The first bill provides that the State take over all highway machinery and all county convicts and use them for highway work.

Colonel T. L. Kirkpatrick, president of the U. S. Good Roads Association, continued his attack on the Gardner plan at a meeting of county commissioners in Raleigh last Thursday, when an organization was formed to oppose the plan, and a resolution to that effect was adopted. About 150 persons, representing about half of the counties, were present. All of them, it was found, are not opposed to the Gardner plan. Colonel Kirkpatrick opposes the entire plan, but John Sprunt Hill, fourth district commissioner, opposes primarily the plan to abolish the present commission.

Governor Gardner comes back by bringing Leslie R. Ames, former State highway engineer, Frank Page, former chairman, the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads, and others to the support of his plan. He sees in it a response to the mandate of the people of the State to relieve them of as much of the tax burden as possible, improved rural roads and a better rounded State system.

Whether to enlarge or abolish the State Highway Patrol is being thrashed out by the roads committees of House and Senate, following a public hearing Wednesday. A bill to abolish the patrol has been introduced, while another, with provision for a \$1 drivers license and a \$5 chauffeurs license to support it, would increase the number to 150 or 200. Indications are that the patrol will be continued, and probably in-

creased, but probably not to more than 75 or 100 members at most. Although the session is about half gone, normally, not more than 35 or 40 bills, practically all of them local, have completed their course and been ratified. Bills introduced in the Senate have exceeded 160, while in the House the number is above 360. Committees are hard at work, however, and the floor debates are expected to reach full swing this week. Appropriations committees have heard all institutions, departments and agencies seeking more money to operate on, while finance committees have heard protests of many groups seeking to have tax rates suggested in the Revenue bill reduced. It is the usual conflict of those wanting more money and those wanting to pay less.

Four of Governor Gardner's measures have reached the hopper. One introduced Monday night provides for a commission, composed of one from each of the two groups of State institutions, an engineer of the State Highway Department and the director of purchase and contract, who shall purchase all supplies, material equipment and services of all State departments, agencies and institutions on a competitive bid basis. Another bill creates the office of Commissioner of Banking as a separate department, taking that function from the Corporation Commission. Another establishes a Commission of Personnel and a director, extending the supervision of the present Salary and Wage Commission, making it more of a civil service, and carrying it to the counties, cities and towns. Another bill introduced would create a commission of two senators and three representatives. A previous bill calls for a constitutional convention in 1933 to adopt a new constitution.

Another sales tax, a gross sales tax, aimed largely at chain stores and graduating a tax of \$15 on annual sales to \$20,000 to \$300 on sales up to \$800,000, above which a one percent license tax would be imposed, has joined the nearly a dozen other sales tax bills now before the finance committee. They will receive attention after the Budget Revenue Bill has been disposed of.

Two bills involving changes of the Constitution have been introduced. One would provide for electing sheriffs and coroners for four years, instead of for two, and electing a constable in each township every two years. The other would change the Constitution so no county could have more than one Senator in the General Assembly. This would deprive Guilford and Mecklenburg of an additional Senator each, on the basis of the recent census.

Other bills introduced the past week, grouped under more important headings, are as follows: Highways: Provide for removal from highways of mechanically unfit vehicles, restrict the liability of automobile owners to injured persons riding as guests; prohibit the use of trailers, permitting semi-trailers only, provide penalties for drunken drivers of 40 and 90 days in jail for first and second offense and three years in State's Prison for the third offense; licensing motor vehicles by net weight, rather than horsepower, at 60 cents per 100 pounds for passenger cars; 90 cents for busses and trucks, and up to \$1,200 a year for big trucks and trailers.

Legal: To create a commission for improvement of the laws; abolish in the code of civil procedure rejoinder of parties; allow parties to impeach their own witnesses, provided the impeachment is not an attack on the character of the witness; require notice before appointment of temporary receiverships, to make service on guardian ad litem sufficient; to abolish the rule in Shelley's case; to authorize declaratory judgment. Welfare: To establish the 55-hour week as a maximum for labor and prohibit employment of women and children at night; to prevent the employment of children under 16 in dangerous places; to fix the status of paupers coming into the State, requiring three-year residence before they may become charges of the State, unless they were self-supporting when they came. Health: To provide for licensing and inspecting by the State Board of Health of camps, summer and recreational, closing those not up to a minimum standard; defining oleomargarine and preventing fraud in its manufacture and sale; to require legible marking for poisonous alcohol. Compensation Act: Abolish the present act and enact a new one, eliminating the State, counties and cities and towns, as well as establishments employing less than 25 persons from its provisions, when employers and employee agree; allow an injured person to select his own physician. Other general bills introduced below: Require incorporated cities and towns to make public annual statements of receipts and disbursements. Repeal the absentee ballot law—abolish the State-wide primary. Exempt foreclosure suits from process tax provision in Revenue Act. Allow county commissioners to abolish the office of county treasurer and provide method of handling county funds. Grant absolute divorce after three years of separation, when there are no children. Provide uniform weights and measures and certification of employees in weights and measures division. To investigate the Division of Markets as to the sale of poultry. To provide a State-wide schedule of fees and salaries to be collected by clerks of Superior Court. To provide for a tax on foreign and domestic corporations, by which an estimated million dollars more would be collected from foreign corporations. To complete the triangulation and level network with aid of the N. C. Coast and Geodetic Survey. Though farmers of eighteen North Carolina Counties may make applications for loans from the drought relief fund, no loan will be granted to any person who will not plant a garden and grow the feed for his livestock this year.

of parties; allow parties to impeach their own witnesses, provided the impeachment is not an attack on the character of the witness; require notice before appointment of temporary receiverships, to make service on guardian ad litem sufficient; to abolish the rule in Shelley's case; to authorize declaratory judgment.

Welfare: To establish the 55-hour week as a maximum for labor and prohibit employment of women and children at night; to prevent the employment of children under 16 in dangerous places; to fix the status of paupers coming into the State, requiring three-year residence before they may become charges of the State, unless they were self-supporting when they came.

Health: To provide for licensing and inspecting by the State Board of Health of camps, summer and recreational, closing those not up to a minimum standard; defining oleomargarine and preventing fraud in its manufacture and sale; to require legible marking for poisonous alcohol. Compensation Act: Abolish the present act and enact a new one, eliminating the State, counties and cities and towns, as well as establishments employing less than 25 persons from its provisions, when employers and employee agree; allow an injured person to select his own physician.

Other general bills introduced below:

Require incorporated cities and towns to make public annual statements of receipts and disbursements. Repeal the absentee ballot law—abolish the State-wide primary.

Exempt foreclosure suits from process tax provision in Revenue Act.

Allow county commissioners to abolish the office of county treasurer and provide method of handling county funds.

Grant absolute divorce after three years of separation, when there are no children.

Provide uniform weights and measures and certification of employees in weights and measures division.

To investigate the Division of Markets as to the sale of poultry.

To provide a State-wide schedule of fees and salaries to be collected by clerks of Superior Court.

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TO WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that on January 30, 1931, we sold our entire interest in the Cash Flour and Feed Company to Mr. Gordon Taylor. We are to collect all accounts and pay the bills of said firm up until the above-named date. After that time we are responsible for no obligations of said firm. This February 11, 1931.

George V. McGimsey, G. C. McGimsey, J. B. Gibbs.