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PRESIDENT WOULD SUSPEND PAYMENT OF REPARATIONS

Chief Executive Makes Proposition Which Astounds World. Plan Would Give Relief to Germany in Impending Economic Crisis and Do Much to Establish Friendly Relations. Congress in Accord.

Washington, D. C.—President Hoover Saturday night announced an offer to the world for a one-year suspension of all intergovernmental debts.

"The American government proposes," announced the President, "the postponement during one year of all payments on intergovernmental debts, reparations and relief debts, both principal and interest, of course not including obligations of governments held by private interests."

The announcement was given at the White House after receipt of informal reports from the European governments and there is a confidence at the capital that France, Great Britain and the other Allies will join in the move and forego collection of their reparations from Germany. Unless that occurs congressional approval of the proposal is not expected.

Mr. Hoover coupled with his announcement a hope that by this expression of "desire to assist," America will have contributed to the success of the forthcoming land disarmament conference in Europe. He reiterated that "the burden of competitive armaments has contributed to bring about this depression."

The step to aid in avoiding a European financial crisis was taken only after the President had consulted with all congressional leaders whom he could reach. He announced that 21 Senators and 18 representatives, including both Democrats and Republicans, had approved the proposal.

By this action, America will forego collections next year of more than \$245,000,000 in war debts. America expects the Allies, in turn, not to collect the \$425,000,000 in reparations owed them by Germany in the coming year.

"The purpose of this action," said the President, "is to give the forthcoming year to the economic recovery of the world and to help free the recuperative forces already in motion in the United States from abroad."

Aldermen Ask That Water Leaks Be Fixed

The Board of Aldermen has called attention to the fact that as the dry season is now on, water consumers should see to it that all leaks in plumbing fixtures are repaired so that the supply may be at all times adequate for any contingency. There is no shortage of water, say the officials, at this time but prior to the rain of Monday, the pipes from the reservoir were carrying the entire available supply, there being a reserve in the tank in Boone of about 25,000 gallons.

An order has also been made by the board to the effect that all water bills must be paid monthly in the future, and that at least 10 per cent. of all accounts in arrears on June 1, be paid along with current bills or the service will be promptly discontinued. Full co-operation in this respect is urged, as it is stated that a fee of two dollars will be charged for making a reconnection.

Junior Order Elects New Officers Tuesday

A well-attended meeting of the local council of the Junior Order was held Tuesday night in the hall over Boone Feed Company. District Manager J. L. Nelson, of Morganton, N. C., presided, and important business was transacted, including the election of new officers and several new members were added to the roll.

It seems that the Junior Order is taking on new life, and bids fair to enjoy a large increase in membership and interest. The next meeting will be held on Monday night, July 6th.

Two Lives Claimed By Linville River

Linville, N. C.—Marjorie Wiseman, 15, pupil in the Crossnore High School and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Munsey Wiseman, of Linville Falls, Burke County, and Percy Ollin, 25, farmer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Ollin, of Linville Falls, were drowned in the Linville River, two miles above the falls, Tuesday afternoon about 1:30 o'clock.

The girl and young man had been fishing, both wading in the water. The girl stepped into the water over her head and went under, the young man plunging in in an effort to rescue her. Both went under. The young man had suffered from heart trouble and it is believed that the strain on his heart was too much and he succumbed from his efforts to save the girl.

Says Boys Wage War On County's Birds

Warden H. Grady Farthing has called attention to the fact that numbers of birds of every description are falling prey to sling shots and small-bore rifles in the hands of the boys of this region and at the same time sounds a warning in this connection. The game laws protect all the birds, with the exception of English sparrows and certain species of hawks, says Mr. Farthing, and he proposes to vigorously prosecute these offenders. Small boys may be punished in the juvenile court, and are asked to refrain from the lawless practice before action is taken.

MRS. JEFFCOAT DIES AT BOONE HOME ON FRIDAY EVENING

Funeral Services Conducted in Cabarrus County Sunday. Eighty-three Years of Age. Rev. Yount in Charge of Burial Rites. Many Lutheran Ministers in Attendance. Was Well Known Locally.

Mrs. H. W. Jeffcoat, 83, a resident of Boone for the past several years, died at her home in Daniel Boone Park Friday evening at 6 o'clock, following a protracted illness, occasioned principally by the infirmities of old age. Surviving are the husband and three step-children, Dr. W. C. Jeffcoat of Burlington, Dr. G. H. Jeffcoat of Elon College, and Miss Cora Pearl Jeffcoat of Boone.

A short service was held at the home Sunday morning conducted by Rev. J. A. Yount, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, assisted by Dr. O. J. Chandler and Dr. J. D. Rankin. Miss Marjorie Harkey sang. At Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Cabarrus County, the final service was held and interment made. By request of the deceased woman, the sermon was preached by Rev. C. P. Fisher, of Landis, N. C., from John xiv, 3. A beautiful tribute was spoken by Dr. J. L. Morgan, president of the Lutheran Synod, North Carolina. Rev. G. W. McClanahan, of Granite Quarry, Rev. J. W. Link and Rev. W. H. Dutton also assisted in the service which was also in charge of Rev. Yount of Boone. Other Lutheran ministers present were: Rev. J. H. C. Fisher of Mt. Pleasant, Rev. P. L. Miller, of Organ Church, Rev. J. E. Walker of Albemarle, and Rev. Graves, of Salem, Va.

A favorite hymn of Mrs. Jeffcoat was "There's a Witness in God's Mercy." This was sung as a solo at Mt. Olive by Miss Alice Watkins, a close friend of the family.

Mrs. Jeffcoat was born November 12th, 1847 near Mt. Olive Church in Cabarrus County. She was baptized in infancy, and confirmed at Organ Church when a young girl. On December 5th, 1869, she was married to Rev. H. W. Jeffcoat. One sister, Mrs. A. Wiley Klutz, of Organ Church, is the only one of nine sisters and two brothers remaining, and she has reached the ripe age of nearly 88.

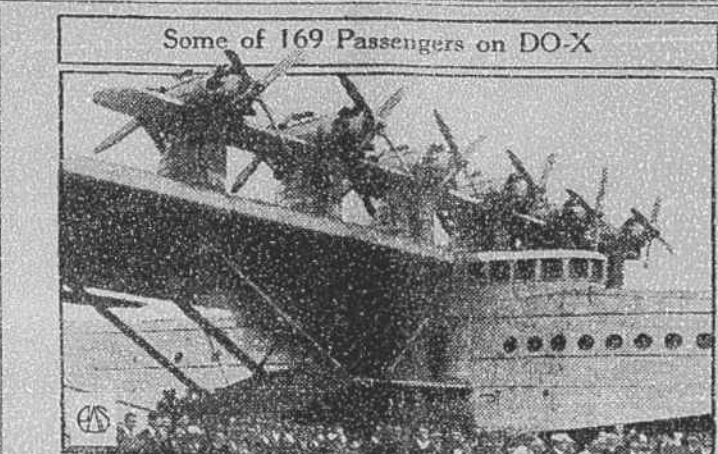
Mrs. Jeffcoat was strong in the faith throughout her life. She gave evidence of this, for the last words she was heard to utter were, "Dear Lord, help me." She had made many friends in Boone, where she was known as a kind neighbor and a staunch supporter of things spiritual.

BOONE BUSINESS HOUSES CLOSE 4TH

People Urged to Shop and Attend to Business on Friday. Only Cafes and Drug Stores Will Remain Open for the Day.

Twenty-six business houses of Boone Tuesday signed an agreement whereby the doors of the respective institutions will be closed on the Glorious Fourth. Only the cafes and drug stores will remain open, and practically all the mercantile employees will have the opportunity of enjoying one day's vacation. Merchants are anxious that customers co-operate in this movement by anticipating their needs, and filling them, so that there may be no disappointments when the fourth rolls around.

The several establishments which will not open for business Saturday, July 4, are as follows: Watauga County Bank, Peoples Bank and Trust Company, J. & E. Store, Harris Brothers Department Store, the Five to Five Store, Carolina Store No. 25, Central Barber Shop, John W. Hodges, Highland Furniture Co., Cash Wholesale Grocery Company, Farmers Hardware & Supply Company, Isaacs Department Store, Carolina Store No. 7, Boone Clothing Store, J. M. Moxetz Furniture Store, Walker's Jewelry Store, J. R. Tolbert Auto Supplies, Spainhorns Inc., Sanitary Barber Shop, J. B. Dick Co., W. R. Chevrolet Company, Watauga Motor Company, Boone Feed Company, C. G. Taylor, The Louise Shop, City Barber Shop.



Some of 169 Passengers on DO-X
The giant flying boat which has recently crossed the Atlantic to Brazil, shown with some of those who made a recent trip in her. The load on this trip weighed fifty tons. The DO-X will continue her flight to New York City in the near future.

Fiddler's Convention, Air Circus, Movies, to Thrill Crowds on Fourth July

FINDS INCREASE PRISON INMATES

Captain McDonald Pays Second Visit to Boone Bastille and Cites Ever-Increasing Number Imprisoned Men.

Captain Dan McDonald, the prison evangelist without salary, who visited the prisoners at the Watauga County jail the 29th of April, was in the city again Wednesday and held services with the inmates of the bastille in the afternoon, preceding directly to Lenoir. The minister is en route from Bristol and Mountain City and states that since his stop-over here two months ago he has held services in about sixty-five jails, the total population of which was no less than 780. His aim is to seek crime prevention, and believes constructive prison reform may come with the proper co-operation of the prisoners with the officials. He lends his efforts to the moral and physical uplift of the prisoner and the restoration of the offender to good citizenship.

When questioned by a representative of The Democrat as to the numerical change in prison population during the last few years, Captain McDonald frankly stated that since the World War the number of incarcerated men had grown by leaps and bounds. Part of this crime wave is attributed by the minister to the general moral decadence which throughout history has followed great conflicts. The prohibition laws, because of the fact that they are administered by political parties, are believed to have had a share in the growing disrespect for law and order.

Captain McDonald does not believe that prohibition has ever had a fair chance, that it is kept in politics, public sentiment is not favorable and that disrespect for it breeds contempt for other statutes. He fixes that no less than 90 per cent. of all prisoners were incarcerated for direct or indirect violation of the prohibitory laws as regards intoxicating beverages. He is a firm believer in temperance and warns his hearers of the danger of "rot gut," which is improperly classified as whisky. He teaches obedience to all laws, regardless of personal opinion.

Mast Family Reunion Held at Lenoir Sunday

A large number of the descendants of John A. Mast, of Cove Creek, Watauga County, gathered at the home of his granddaughter, Mrs. A. R. Barlow, in Lenoir Sunday for a reunion. Picnic lunch was spread on the long table under the trees, and during the afternoon singing was enjoyed.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Horton and two daughters of Vilas; Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Horton and son, Mrs. Julia Lewis and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Miller and children, all of Sherwood; Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Roberts and children, of St. Croix, V. I.; Mr. and Mrs. John Lincil and boys of Rock Hill, S. C.; Mr. and Mrs. George Isaacs and five daughters of Lynchburg, Va.; Mrs. Alfred Isaacs, of Vilas; Mr. and Mrs. John Horton and niece, of Boone; Mrs. Jim Miller, of Boone; Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Mast and children, of Happy Valley; also Mr. Tom Culler of Lynchburg, Va., and Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Wilson and daughter, Nelda, of Lenoir.

NISWONGER VISITS HERE

H. R. Niswonger, of the State College Extension Service, was a visitor in the county last Thursday. In company with Mr. Howard Walker, agricultural instructor at the Cove Creek High School, he visited several farms in different sections of the county.

Plans Call for Three-way Attraction for Visitors to the City. Democrat to Give Free Rides and Tickets on Wednesday Afternoon.

The Fourth of July will not be void of thrills in Boone, for arrangements have been made whereby the Fiddler's Convention, which has been advertised for this date by J. W. Bryan, will be supplemented by Lieutenant John Harman and his aerial circus, with "Hell's Angels," a thrilling story of the World War aviators, "tising in" at the Pastime Theatre. The Watauga Democrat has made arrangements whereby a number of free fiddlers convention tickets, theatre passes and free rides will be dropped from the air pasted to copies of the newspaper first coming from the press on Wednesday afternoon.

Large crowds are expected to journey into Boone on the fourth, the weather is hot in other parts, and hotelists are planning to take care of an increased influx of visitors during that week-end. The three-way attraction will draw hundreds from all over the immediate region, who are enjoying a respite from their usual labors.

Fiddlers Contest First Planned

J. W. Bryan, who first came to the front with a fourth of July attraction, states that letters are pouring in daily indicating that his fiddlers convention on Friday and Saturday evenings will be the outstanding event of the kind sponsored thus far. Musicians of state and national note have been secured to compete for the various prizes and string music and dancing contests in manifold style will be presented. One fourth of the proceeds of the entertainment goes to the support of the Grandfather Orphans Home at Banner Elk.

Famous Ace Adds Thrills

In co-operation with the two shows, Lieutenant John "Red" Harmon is bringing back his five-passenger airplane, and promises a greatly enlarged exhibition of difficult aerial stunts. He expects to give two or three performances daily on Saturday and Sunday, and besides upside-downs, loops and dead stick landings, will duplicate many of the hair-raising maneuvers executed by the war birds at the theatre. Red is one of the foremost of America's aces, and it is interesting to know that he is now waiting to make a round the world non-stop, which he is under promise to start as soon as his New England backer gets final details worked out. During his visit next week he proposes to arrange for a number of different mountain trips at reduced prices. Incidentally, Lieutenant Harman holds the world's record for consecutive outside loops executed in a commercial plane.

Daredevil Tommy Gibbons

Tommy Gibbons, the daredevil wing walker and parachute jumper from Roosevelt Field, N. Y., has just been added to Red's store of attractions, and will give wing-walking exhibitions, thousand-foot delayed and double parachute jumps, and perform many of the most hazardous feats of his profession. Al Jones, who for several months was ground man for Paul Redfern, lost in a non-stop flight to South America several years ago, is also a member of the flying circus, and will perhaps give an exhibition of his daring on the afternoon of the Fourth.

"Hell's Angels"

The film which Manager Hamby has been fortunate enough to secure is entitled "Hell's Angels," and graphically depicts the joys and woes of the fliers who roared above the blood-soaked soil of France during the World War. The film has been pronounced the finest production growing out of the conflict, by many of the Nation's most worthy critics. Advertising matter will be distributed and next week The Democrat will give detailed information as to the completed plans.

Mother of Local Tut Killed by Lightning

Mrs. Lucinda Glass Smith, mother of Professor S. B. Smith, of Teachers College here, was killed by lightning at her home near Watauga Monday afternoon at 2:40. Mrs. Smith was sitting on the front porch of her home when the bolt struck the building, killing her instantly.

She was 59 years of age and is survived by her husband and two sons. Professor Smith left immediately for Wilkesboro, where the funeral was held Tuesday afternoon.

RESIDENT OF TODD COMMUNITY DIES SUDDENLY SUNDAY

George F. Greer, Prosperous Farmer Succumbs to Heart Attack. Body Found in Fence Corner Near Home. Inquest Deemed Unnecessary. Funeral Services Held Monday at Long Hope.

George F. Greer, prominent resident of Watauga County, who lived in the Todd community, was found dead on his farm early Sunday morning, within a short space of time after he had left his home to attend to feeding his stock. He had arisen early, and not having returned to the house when breakfast was ready, a small son went to summon him to the meal. The father was found about a hundred yards from the house in the edge of a cornfield, lying prone on the ground, death supposedly having ensued only a few minutes earlier. Mr. Greer had been plucking the tall grass from the fence corners, and a bucketful of the feed stood nearby, while a handful, evidently pulled as the fatal stroke came, was scattered on the body. The county coroner, Dr. J. B. Hagaman, was summoned and deemed an inquest unnecessary, explaining that a heart attack was undoubtedly responsible for the sudden death.

Mr. Greer was 51 years old, and a life-long resident of Watauga County. He was a prosperous farmer and known as an honorable, upright and hard-working citizen. He was a worthy member of the North Fork Christian Church.

Surviving are a widow and two children: Mrs. Clay Pennell of Todd and Earl Greer, a young son who lived with his parents.

Funeral services were to have been conducted Monday, and burial was to have been either in Long Hope or at Todd. The arrangements had not been completed when other information was secured, but it was supposed that Rev. Winkler, Baptist minister of Todd, would conduct the services.

REV. W. R. SMITH GOES TO W. VA.

Superintendent of Grandfather Orphanage Accepts Call to Beckley. Other News From the Banner Elk Section.

Banner Elk, N. C.—Rev. W. R. Smith Jr., who has been director of Religious Activities at Lees-McRae College and Superintendent of the Grandfather Orphans Home, has accepted a call to Beckley, W. Va., and left Saturday to assume his new duties which beside preaching will include the social service work in some of the mining towns of the vicinity.

The Civitan Club met Thursday evening at the Pinnacle Inn. Regret was expressed at losing Rev. W. R. Smith from the community, where he has been interested in all public affairs and was instrumental in the organization of the Civitan Club. A committee was also appointed, at this meeting to consider the possibility of establishing a fish hatchery on Elk River. Mr. Fred Von Canon, the chairman, Mr. Edgar Tufts and Mr. J. Frank Hampton, of Linville, who joined the club at this meeting, formed the committee.

This evening at a meeting of the session of the Banner Elk Presbyterian Church a motion was passed expressing their appreciation of the service that Mr. Smith had rendered the church ever since his connection with Lees-McRae College. Service that was rendered willingly and freely with no remuneration. The session then presented Mr. Smith a check as a tangible expression of appreciation of his work and regret at his leaving.

Thursday evening the Women's Auxiliary held a buffet supper and miscellaneous shower at the home of Mrs. Edgar H. Tufts in honor of Mrs. W. R. Smith. There was a large number present and Mrs. Smith received many beautiful and appropriate gifts. During her stay in Banner Elk, Mrs. Smith has endeared herself to those who had the privilege of knowing her and she will be missed when she leaves and good wishes follow her to her new home.

WOMAN LOSES LIFE IN HEROIC RESCUE, GLEN BERNIE FALLS

Prominent Charlotte School Teacher Plunges to Death in Successful Attempt to Save Life of 10-year-old Girl. Tragedy Occurs Near Blowing Rock. Deceased Was Well Known in Boone.

Miss Lillian Arhelger, 41-year-old Charlotte school teacher, deliberately sacrificed her own life Saturday afternoon, in a successful attempt to save the life of Virginia Baxter, 10-year-old girl who was about to plunge over the precipice at Glen Bernie Falls near Blowing Rock. Miss Arhelger, mindful of her own safety, threw herself over the precipice with the child and managed to maneuver the descent, it is said, in such a way that the child was thrown into a pile of soft sand, while the heroic woman was dashed to the jagged rocks sixty feet below. An ambulance carried the unfortunate woman to the Caldwell Hospital at Lenoir where death ensued Sunday evening, she never having regained consciousness.

Miss Arhelger was one of the five counselors of the Girl Scout Camp of the Myers Park Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, which was encamped near Blowing Rock, and Virginia Baxter, who now lives because of her death, was one of the twenty-five children composing the scout troop, which had been housed at the inn of Miss Mary Catherine Thompson. Miss Thompson, it is said, had cautioned the happy party not to approach the falls of Glen Bernie from the top but to take the lower path. However, the campers were not familiar with the terrain, and in their eagerness to behold the handwork of nature, they found themselves at the top of the roaring cataract.

Drawn momentarily by the grandeur of the scene, the girls and counselors hesitated for a few moments before casting about for the lower path. It was during this brief period of time that Miss Arhelger heard the scream, "Virginia is going over the falls." With no thought of self-preservation, she dashed herself over the precipice, grappling for the child as she went into the frothing waters. The Baxter child was rather badly hurt by striking logs during her descent, she remained unconscious for several hours, but her injuries were not serious.

Her benefactor's injuries, that is the ones which proved fatal, centered about a concussion of the brain. The body was sent to Charlotte, where it lay in state until Tuesday morning, thousands filing by the casket to pay tribute to the memory of the well-loved heroine. On Tuesday the body was sent by train to Fredericksburg, Texas, where funeral services and interment will be this afternoon.

Miss Arhelger was instructor of physical education at Central High School in Charlotte. She was a relative of Mrs. Tracy Council, of Boone, and had spent several days visiting here last summer, where she made many friends and acquaintances.

Old Time Choir Sings at Boone Advent Church

Last Sunday morning the preaching service at the Advent Christian Church was well attended, rather more people than usual being present on account of the old-time Christian Harmonic hymns which were rendered by a group of the older residents of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Bedford Greene, Tom Vandye, A. B. Cook, Earl Cook and T. L. Cook sang the sacred old songs, and they were much enjoyed. A larger class will be present next time it is said, as arrangements have been made for this delightful feature every third Sunday morning.

Peach Crop Excellent In the Elk Section

Mr. Watt H. Gragy has returned from a visit to his peach orchard on the Elk side of the mountain and brings word that his crop of the luscious fruit bids fair to exceed that of any recent year. Only the choicest varieties are grown in the orchard and Mr. Gragy believes that the quality will be better and the fruit larger when mature. He will have an almost unlimited quantity and at a later date they will be disposed of to the people of this section at a price in keeping with other markets. Wataugas generally should prefer the home product when canning time comes around.

WOOL POOL SOLD

The Watauga and Avery County Wool Pool has been sold. Watauga folks who want their wool to go in this deal must deliver it in Boone on Monday and Tuesday, June 29 and 30. They can get their money when wool is delivered. For further information communicate with Smith Hagaman, C. P. Hagaman or W. W. Mast.