

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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## ECONOMY IS SHOWN BY STATE BOARD IN ALLOTING TUTORS

21,894 Teachers Will Conduct State Schools During Coming Term. Increased Teacher Load Makes Cut Possible. Many Consolidations. Watauga Will Have 131 Teachers. No Consolidations in County.

Raleigh, N. C.—"All economies consistent with efficiency" have been made effective by the State Board of Equalization in its allotment of teachers in the public schools of the State for the next year, according to a statement issued by LeRoy Martin, secretary.

The board allotted a total of 21,894 teachers for next year, or 1,933 less than the 23,827 employed by all units last year, or 684 less than those employed and allowed under the increased average attendance provision, and 305 less than the 22,198 allowed by the State for participation in the equalizing fund. Local authorities employed 1,249 teachers last year, the record shows.

The decrease in teachers was made possible through the increased teacher load provided in the new law, the consolidations brought about by the board, and by the fact that the increase in average daily attendance for the past year was not equal to the increase of recent years.

The board found that there were 152 high schools operated last year with a daily average attendance of less than fifty pupils, most of them with three teachers and many with four, and found 651 elementary schools operating with less than 22 pupils, the law requiring their elimination and consolidation unless such schools can be more economically operated. The board eliminated 52 high schools by consolidation, and 413 elementary schools by the same method, although all were not under the 50 and 22 pupil class. Consolidation was provided only in schools where room and equipment were already available, so as not to require erection of new buildings at this time.

Watauga County, the records show, was allotted a total of 131 teachers, 22 in high and 109 in elementary schools. Of these 128 are for white schools, 22 high and 106 elementary, and three are for colored schools, no high and three elementary. Notices are being sent as rapidly as possible to county officials, notifying them of the number of teachers allotted to the individual schools in their respective counties. Mr. Martin said.

No consolidation of schools was made in Watauga by the State board in its plan of combining schools wherever possible.

## Glenn Sees Site of Civil War Conflict

Mr. A. G. Glenn, principal of the Benson High School, under whom 23 teachers are employed, together with Mrs. Glenn, was a visitor a few weeks ago to the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Glenn, of Sugar Grove, R. F. D. On his return to Benson his parents accompanied him and enjoyed an extended visit which carried them to Wrightsville Beach and into one-fourth of the counties of the State. What interested Mr. and Mrs. Glenn most, however, was the visit to Bentonville, where his father was killed in a battle with Sherman's troops, said to have been fought some time after Lee's surrender.

A memorial has been erected on the field of conflict in memory of those who fell, and R. D. Dunn lives there in a house which was used to shelter the wounded in the bloody days of the 60's. Bullet holes still show in the roof, says Mr. Glenn, and he brought back with him two ounce balls which had been found by Mr. Dunn after the battle.

Mr. Glenn furnished The Democrat the following inscription which appears as a part of the memorial and which will recall one of the most lamentable episodes of the Civil War. It is stated that the mortality was practically 100 per cent., very few surviving even minor injuries:

"This memorial marks the battlefield of Bentonville, where on March 18-21, 1865, General Joseph E. Johnson, with about 15,000 Confederate troops, principally from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi, checked the advance of Major-General W. T. Sherman's army of U. S. troops until confronted by overwhelming numbers. Conspicuous in this battle were three regiments and one battalion of North Carolina Junior Reserves in Major General Robert F. Hoke's division. Erected by the N. C. Historical Commission and the N. C. Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy."

## BOX SUPPER

There will be a box supper in the Miller Schoolhouse Saturday, July 25, 7 p. m. The proceeds will be used to provide clothing for children in the community who are unable to attend school at this time because of that need.

## New Exalted Ruler



John R. Croen, Sterling, Col., was chosen head of the Elks at its 1931 convention.

## TO ERECT MARKER ON CAMPUS HERE

J. Hampton Rich to Supervise Construction of Huge Arrowhead at Teachers College. Will Address Civitan Club Thursday Noon.

On the campus of the Appalachian State Teachers College in Boone there is being erected a huge arrowhead replica of the implement of warfare employed by the Indian. This ponderous memorial will stand ten feet high, and over it will fly the United States flag. It will serve as a marker of the Boone Trail Highway and the Park to Park Highway.

This movement began last October in Bryson City when at the entrance to the Smoky Mountain Park there was erected a huge arrowhead bearing a tablet of Sequoia, the noted Cherokee chief, and a buffalo. Taking part in the dedication of this memorial and marker, Hon. Horace M. Albright, superintendent of national parks, was on the program.

On the marker here will be the bas-relief of Daniel Boone which for eighteen years has been the hallmark of the Boone Trail Association and has safely seen the various enterprises of the association through.

All the way up the Shenandoah into the Shenandoah National Park these huge arrowheads will mark the way. On some will be the tablet of Daniel Boone, as this was the route taken by the famous pioneer when he journeyed from Pennsylvania to the Yadkin River country in 1750. On other marker-memorials will be a black bear, telling of the Black Bear Trail. All will bear the marking of the Park to Park Highway.

It is planned to unveil the marker at the Teachers College at the final opening and completion of the Boone Trail Highway, the newly-paved and most important road in North Carolina.

J. Hampton Rich, director of the Boone Trail Highway Association, is here looking after the erection of the marker, and will address the Civitan Club Thursday at the Daniel Boone Hotel on the matter of marking the Park to Park Highway and getting Boone on the line of this great thoroughfare.

## Mrs. R. M. Farthing Dies at Canada Home

The many friends of R. M. Farthing who live in Watauga and adjoining counties will be sorry to hear of the recent death of his wife, Addie G. Farthing, who passed away on June 13th, at her home in Louisa, Alberta, Canada.

Mrs. Farthing was born and reared at Shelby, Cleveland County, N. C., being a sister of Governor O. Max Gardner. She was highly educated and taught for many years in the public schools of North Carolina. She was a member of the Baptist Church and lived an ideal Christian life. Surviving are the husband, two sons, Robert and Ted W., and one daughter, Mary Ivy.

Mrs. Farthing had been in delicate health for some time, but was not considered in a dangerous condition until a few days before her demise.

## NORRIS-GREER

An announcement of particular interest to the friends of the couple throughout Western North Carolina and East Tennessee tells of the marriage of Miss Mona A. Greer of Boone to Mr. Paul Norris of Sugar Grove, the ceremony having been performed on last April 12th at Greeneville, Tenn.

The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Greer, of Mabel, received her education in Boone, and for the past several years has been a resident of this city, where she is now employed at the Hodges Drug Company. She is one of the most popular members of the younger social circle and has the best wishes of scores of friends.

Mr. Norris is the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. N. Norris, was educated at the Cove Creek School, and has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is very popular with a wide circle of friends.

## MARSHALSHIP MAY BE SOUGHT BY W. H. GRAGG OF BOONE

Greensboro Dispatch States that Local Man Is Expected to Make Fight for Federal Appointment. Chances Thought to Be Excellent. J. J. Jenkins and J. T. Prevette Also Expected to Be Candidates.

A local dispatch from Greensboro late last week states that Watt H. Gragg, of Boone, may be a candidate for United States marshal in the Middle district of North Carolina. This information was made known when a group of prominent Republicans from other points in the district met in the Gate City for consultation Thursday. They referred to the local man as well qualified for the post. For several years he has been one of the moving spirits in G. O. P. work in this section, is secretary and treasurer of the Watauga Building and Loan Association, and was recently elected president of Boone Civitan Club. He is also actively interested in several other business enterprises.

While an interview with Mr. Gragg relative to his candidacy could not be obtained, it is understood that he has had his eye on the marshalship for some time, and has lined up many strong party men throughout the district who will give him their support when the appointment is made, some six months hence. The appointment is made by the President for a four-year term, following recommendation by the State executive committee.

It is expected that J. J. Jenkins, of Siler City, the present marshal, will be a candidate to succeed himself. J. T. Prevette, of North Wilkesboro, is also a potential applicant for the marshalship, reports indicate. As a matter of fact, the Greensboro News states, there may be a number of candidates.

Mr. Gragg was for a number of years chairman of the Watauga Republican Executive Committee, and was a delegate to the National Convention at Kansas City in 1928. It is pointed out by admirers of the Boone man that during all the years of his unselfish service to the party he has never been rewarded by office or favor, and on this fact they base their opinion that he has a fine chance for appointment.

## Evangelistic Institute at Boone Advent Church

Rev. Clarence L. Kirby, field secretary of the Advent Christian Churches, began an evangelistic institute in the Boone Advent Christian Church Monday night. Each evening from 8 to 9 o'clock he is bringing messages especially for the church members. From 9 to 9:30 each evening he is conducting a lecture class in Leadership Training. The public is invited to attend these services.

Services begin Sunday morning at 10 o'clock with the Sunday school. At 11 o'clock Rev. Kirby will speak on "Facing the Future." Sunday night at 8 o'clock his subject will be "Is the Hour of the World's Extremity at Hand?"

## JUDGE JOSEPH J. HOOKER SUCCEEDS LAST MONDAY

Mr. and Mrs. James H. Council of Boone were called to Sylvania the first of the week on account of the death of Mrs. Council's uncle, Judge Joseph J. Hooker, which occurred in that city early Monday morning. The jurist had been ill only a week and had left court when illness developed on the previous Monday. He was 80 years old, one of the most prominent citizens of Jackson County and had been judge of the recorder's court for several years.

Funeral services were conducted from the Methodist Church and interment followed in the Webster community three miles out from Sylvania.

Surviving are a widow and one adopted son, Scroop D., who is a New York electrical engineer.

## Civitan Club Meets In Regular Session

The regular meeting of the Civitan Club was held Thursday, July 16th, at the Daniel Boone Hotel. Miss Virginia Wary, of the Appalachian State Teachers College, was present to teach the club the new International song. She was accompanied by Miss Nell Trivett. Their presence added very much to the meeting.

R. E. Swift, one of the members who is also a sign painter, presented drawings of a sign to be erected at Wytheville, Va. This movement is sponsored by the Blowing Rock and Boone clubs, and also by Mr. Don MacRae of Linville.

Mr. Beardman of the Chamber of Commerce of Asheville, who is spending his vacation in Boone, was present and made a very interesting talk.

Tobacco curing is well under way in Columbus County with the crop apparently of better quality than last season.

## ASK GOVERNOR FOR A SPECIAL TERM OF COURT

Members of Watauga Bar Join in Request to Governor Gardner for Two Weeks Term of Superior Court for Trial of Civil Cases. Would Be Held Immediately Following Fall Term Criminal Court.

Governor O. Max Gardner was petitioned Monday by members of the local bar to arrange a special two-weeks term of Superior Court for the trial of civil cases, to be held immediately following the regular September term. Local lawyers state that the civil docket has reached such proportions, largely by the practice of continuing cases from one term to another, that it will be physically impossible to clear away any considerable number of the cases during the one week mixed term in September.

The message to the Governor which follows, was signed by John E. Brown, T. E. Bingham, Wade Brown, W. R. Lovell, Trivette & Holshouser and R. W. Pulliam.

"As we have only one week of court for our regular fall term of Watauga Superior Court, beginning September 21, 1931, and as it will take more weeks to try all our civil cases now on the docket, we the undersigned members of the bar of Watauga County hereby request that you arrange to give us two weeks of civil court beginning Monday, September 28th. We hope that you will make this arrangement, and that you can arrange for Judge Walter E. Moore to preside.

## Legion Auxiliary Names Officers for Coming Year

The American Legion Auxiliary met in a call session Thursday, July 16th for the purpose of electing officers for the coming year. Following is a list of the ones chosen:

President, Mrs. R. D. Hodges; vice-president, Mrs. B. K. Osborne; second vice-president, Mrs. Hattie Swift Johnson; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. Lloyd Isaacs; chaplain, Mrs. Ralph Greer; publicity officer, Mrs. Fred Winkler.

Delegates were approved and alternates appointed to represent the local unit at the convention which meets in Morehead City on July 27-28. Delegates chosen were Mrs. Kelly Osborne, Mrs. Charles M. Watson, Mrs. R. D. Hodges, Mrs. Lloyd Isaacs, Mrs. Spencer Miller, Mrs. Charles L. Younce, and Mrs. Fred Winkler.

The old officers will remain in charge until the October meeting. All members are requested to make up their minds to help put things through as an active, live unit should.

Fourteen members were present at this meeting. The regular meeting time is the first Tuesday afternoon in each month. The next meeting will be held with Mrs. Ralph Greer in East Boone.

## District Masonic Meeting To Be Held Here on 27th

Mr. Gordon H. Winkler, secretary of Watauga Lodge No. 273, A. F. & A. M., has received the information that the district meeting for this Masonic district will be held in Boone on Monday, July 27th, at 8 and 8 o'clock p. m.

The afternoon meeting, it is explained, will be a school of instruction at which time a given list of questions will be answered and other instructions given about Masonic law. The afternoon meeting is open to any Mason but the attendance of the officers is particularly desired at both sessions. The Grand Secretary has forwarded notice of the meeting to each officer in the district.

## Oddfellow Rally at Deep Gap School

An Oddfellows rally and concert will be held at the Deep Gap Consolidated School building on August 1st. Ice cream and cold drinks will be served the public at 5 o'clock p. m., and a string band concert will start at dark. Willard G. Cole, of Jefferson, an outstanding Oddfellow, will make an address on "Oddfellowship," beginning at 8:30 o'clock. Prizes will be given to the ugliest boy and the most beautiful girl by vote of the audience. A large crowd is expected.

The rally and concert is sponsored by Deep Gap Lodge No. 362, I. O. O. F., and the proceeds derived from admission fees will be used for the benefit of the order.

## BOONE METHODIST CHURCH TO OBSERVE FAMILY NIGHT

Family church night will be observed this (Wednesday) evening at Boone M. E. Church. Parents are requested to attend and bring the children. A most interesting informal program has been worked out at the conclusion of which Dr. O. J. Chandler will address the congregation on "Family Religion."

## First U. S. Treasurer



A recently discovered portrait of Alexander Hamilton, hidden for 127 years, has come into the possession of Andrew Mellon, the present secretary.

## BUMPER CROP OF BEANS IS MOVING

Mountain Growers Exchange Now Receiving and Shipping Enormous Crop of Snap Beans, Cabbage and Potatoes Begin to Move.

The Mountain Growers Exchange began receiving and shipping quantities of snap beans last Tuesday, and it is announced that farmers may bring their beans and cabbage any day until notified to the contrary. Soon after the opening of the market it is understood that about 150 rampers of snap beans had been delivered, upon which about 75 cents per bushel, it is said, was advanced. Under the original understanding the advanced amount was expected to have been fifty per cent of the final receipts, but it is not believed that the total price will reach the figure it is now indicating.

Cabbage are being delivered in small quantities, but no information has been tendered as to the price. The produce is being handled at the John W. Hodges building on Decor Street, and it is to be understood that it is purely a farmers' exchange managed by Andrews and Knowels of Mt. Olive, N. C. The farmer gets everything there in it, less the expenses.

There has been practically no movement of potatoes yet.

Those close to the agricultural situation in Watauga County have pointed out that while prices are not expected to be as high as in previous years, the crop of everything to eat is a bumper one, and total receipts will likely be as good as, or better, than it is estimated that the crop is planned to produce in this section in July, 1931, than ever before a season has this far.

## Bears Battle of Va. Town

Falls Church, Va.—Two 350-pound black bears and several score citizens of this historic community fought a two-hour battle on the main street Monday. The bears broke away from chains in the rear of the home of E. R. Mokeley, an automobile dealer, who captured them in Alaska.

They ran wild through the streets. Women and children fled to their homes. A group of men obtained arms and chased the bears.

One bear ran to the yard of Dr. J. T. D. Howard and attacked his cow. Dr. Howard, startled, paused a minute, and then rushed out to the cow's rescue. He was clawed severely before equally courageous neighbors drove the bear away with heavy sticks. It ran through the main street and finally was driven into a garage and yeped.

Home Sumpter, a garage worker, and E. C. Carter, a telephone lineman, were injured in trying to capture the bear alive.

The other bear approached the home of Clark Crossman on the main thoroughfare. Crossman opened fire with a shotgun and the animal retreated to a swamp on the outskirts of the town. There it was killed with a rifle bullet fired by Paul Herriman, deputy sheriff.

The bears were believed by the townfolk to have been made vicious by the extreme heat. Last week one of them attacked Will Duom, another garage employee, who since has been on crutches.

Makeley was not at home when the animals broke from their shackles.

## COVE CREEK PEOPLE DONATE CHERRIES TO ORPHANS HOME

Banner Elk—Mr. and Mrs. Sam Horton of Cove Creek have very kindly shared their cherries with the Grandfather Orphans Home. Besides giving a day of fun to the boys who went over to pick the cherries, Mrs. Horton's gift has filled some of the pantry shelves at the orphanage. Mrs. McTellan and the girls who have been canning are very proud of the fine array of cherries, which next winter will taste as good as they look now. All of the Grandfather family are very grateful to their Cove Creek friends for their kindness.

## PI MINENT LENOIR MAN SUCCUMBS TO GLEET SHOT WOUND

Thomas Phillips Takes Own Life Near Kings Mountain. Mrs. Charlotte Yount, Newton Widow, Views Act as Tragic. Official Troubles Believed to Have Been the Cause. Was Well Known in Watauga.

Shot through the head while riding in an automobile with Mrs. Charlotte Yount of Newton, Thomas Phillips, prominent automobile dealer of Lenoir and North Wilkesboro, died at 10:30 Monday night in a Shelby, N. C. hospital.

He was wounded on the Grover road, two miles south of Kings Mountain, when, according to Mrs. Yount, an attractive widow, he shot himself after she had stepped out of the machine at his request to see if the car had a flat tire. She said she had been threatening suicide during the latter part of the ride, being despondent over business. The shooting took place about 6:30 o'clock. A negro living nearby heard the shot and went to the car, which he drove to Kings Mountain.

After an examination there by Dr. S. A. Lowery, the injured man, who did not regain consciousness and made no statement, was placed in an ambulance and carried to the Shelby hospital.

Inquest into the death of Phillips, former mayor of North Wilkesboro, is scheduled to be held at the Kings Mountain city hall Friday morning at 11 o'clock, according to the sheriff. He said that Coroner Roscoe Lutz was out of the city at present, which necessitated a delay.

Mrs. Yount, who after making her first statement as to the shooting, declined to discuss the matter further on advice of counsel, was taken to Shelby, where she was held for a short while at the home of the Sheriff, E. M. Allen, a brother of Chief of Police George Allen of Kings Mountain, who took her there. The chief of police and sheriff are conducting an exhaustive investigation of the tragedy.

The sheriff stated that one witness examined told him that just before the shooting he saw Phillips wave a gun in his hand and thought he was shooting at him when the gun was fired. He said he did not see Mrs. Yount. There were no other eye-witnesses.

Mrs. Yount, 57, widow of a prominent glove manufacturer, had come to Kings Mountain a short time ago to be with her father, Ed A. Smith, well known cotton mill man and owner of the Phoenix cotton mills there. Mr. Smith, about 80 years of age, has been in bad health in recent weeks, although not critically ill. Mrs. Yount's husband died three years ago. She has a young son and daughter.

A brother of Mrs. Yount, "Bus" Smith, was quoted by police as saying that Phillips had threatened suicide about a week ago while on a visit here. Phillips was a married man and had a son, Mrs. Phillips, as well as, as informed about the shooting, left Lenoir to hurry to the bedside of her husband. She did not reach the hospital until after he died.

Mr. Phillips was educated at the old T. S. here and was well known in Watauga County. Mrs. Yount has also spent several summers at her cottage near Devil's Gate on the Blowing Rock road, and has a wide acquaintance in this city.

Funeral arrangements had not been made at an early hour this (Wednesday) morning.

## SPAINHOUS ANNOUNCES THE FIRST MID-SUMMER SALE

Spainhous, Inc., comes forward this week with the first special mercantile sales event of the mid-summer season, and page three of this issue tells of the price concessions. Manager Harris states that drastic reductions have been made in all lines and that while business has been good, he expects the event to draw greatly increased crowds.

## THE WEATHER

Weather report for week ending July 18, 1931, as compiled by the Co-operative Station, State Teachers College, J. T. C. Wright, observer: Average maximum temperature, 84 degrees. Average minimum temperature, 60 degrees. Average temperature, 72 degrees. Average daily range in temperature, 24 degrees. Greatest daily range in temperature, 29 degrees; date, 12th. Average temperature at 6 p. m. (time of observation), 72 degrees. Highest temperature reached, 86 degrees; date, 16th. Lowest temperature reached, 58 degrees; date, 12th. Number inches of rainfall, 1.30. Greatest rainfall in 24 hours, 1.08; date, 15th. Number of days with 0.01 inch or more rainfall, 3. Number of clear days, 1. Number of cloudy days, 1. Number of partly cloudy days, 5. Direction of prevailing wind, west. Dates of thunderstorms, 17th.