

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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## EHRINGHAUS SEES VICTORY FOR THE DEMOCRATS IN '32

Candidate for Governorship Visits Boone Monday. Sees Tariff as the Main Issue of National Campaign in 1932. Governor Roosevelt Will Likely Be Nominated for Presidency. Prohibition Issue Overshadowed.

J. C. B. Ehringhaus, well-known Elizabeth City attorney, and one of the most potent contenders for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in next year's primary, spent a few hours in Boone Monday, meeting old friends and making new acquaintances and generally familiarizing himself with the "lay of the land" as regards political fortunes in the north west. He came to Boone from Blowing Rock, where his wife and children had been vacationing for several days, leaving Tuesday morning for High Point where he was scheduled to deliver an address that evening.

Following his recent announcement which outlined a "program of progress" for the State, the Ehringhaus cause has gained widespread favor, and the Eastern banner believes that he will be the winner when the ballots have been tabulated. However, he is void of extreme optimism, and makes his calculations from a safe and sane survey of the reaction to his announcement in the different sections of the State. He does not underestimate the ability of his opponents, and frankly admits that it's a "horse race" to the finish line. In his opinion, the announcement of Hon. A. J. Maxwell finishes the list of entrants.

Mr. Ehringhaus, who gained wide favor by his brilliant defense of Democratic nominees in the 1928 election, has been a potent factor in State politics for 25 years. The weight of his influence and the power of his eloquence have been felt throughout the commonwealth since he was admitted to the practice of law in 1903. If nominated he will be the first Governor to come from Northeastern North Carolina in 105 years. In that region, it is noted, was born the first white child in America, the first religious services were held, and the first schools constructed—truly the cradle of American civilization.

Mr. Ehringhaus sees the prospect of Democratic victory throughout the country next year and believes that at the present time Governor Roosevelt of New York is likely ahead as regards delegations to the next national convention. He thinks that the issues of the national campaign will be paramount by the tariff, and that the prohibition question will be largely overshadowed in both party platforms.

He feels that the chief weapon of the Democrats lies in the Hawley-Smoot Tariff Act, "which through retaliatory acts passed by different foreign powers, practically drove our commerce from the seas and paralyzed the commerce of the world." Captains of industry, he says, who hitherto have fought for a high tariff, have been converted to a downward revision, following the closing down of their factories, when their trade area was restricted to the borders of this nation, and thousands of men gainfully employed were turned loose on the charities of the country.

## "Jollies of 1931" to Be Given Friday-Saturday

"The Jollies of 1931" will hold the boards at the Courthouse Auditorium Friday and Saturday nights, September 11th and 12th, at 8 p. m. Rehearsals have been carried out with a vim for the past ten days and the cast have their respective parts letter perfect.

This show has plenty of pep and variety, bringing in everything from grand opera to ragtime and back again. The first act or minstrel first part is the regular minstrel scene with six blackface comedians and the second act, "In Radioland," with 20 of Boone's most attractive young ladies in clever dancing ensembles. If you like good chorus singing, snappy dancing, funny jokes, you will like "Jollies of 1931."

This production is sponsored by Watauga Post, American Legion, and is under the direction of Fred Rudisill of Charlotte. Following are the names of the cast: Misses Inez Gragg, Lucile Hopkins, Elizabeth Brown, Virginia Greer, Martha Hardin, Jean Little, Wilma Little, Vivian Cook, Geneva Cook, Elaine Greer, June Lee Russell, Gladys Hagaman and Ruby Critcher. The men are: Charles L. Younce, Prof. C. B. Woltz, Hill Hagaman, Roy Haines, Spencer Miller, Reece Harris, Dallas Cottrell, Raleigh Cottrell, Howard Cottrell, Ray Brendall, Bob Gingrich, "Bus" Crowell, Bill Casey, Hoy Gragg, Frank Hagaman, Frank Wyke, Irving Norton, John Critcher, Boone Mott and Jimmie Johnston.

Berlin.—Thirty yachts anchored on lakes in the vicinity of Berlin were overturned by winds Tuesday night. Trees were snapped off in the streets and parks of the city.

## Blowing Rock School To Open Next Monday

The Blowing Rock High School will open Monday morning, September 14th, at 9 o'clock. Smith Hagaman, County Superintendent, and Dr. B. B. Dougherty have been invited to be present and both are expected to make talks.

Mr. G. E. Tester, who has taught for a number of years in the Blowing Rock School, will be principal for the coming year, and he states that a record attendance is expected in both the high and elementary schools.

The faculty of the high school is composed of G. E. Tester, Mrs. G. E. Tester and Paul Bingham.

The faculty of the elementary school is made up of the following: Mrs. R. H. Askew, seventh grade; Mrs. John Horton, sixth grade; Mrs. Jean Storie, Fifth Grade; Russell Henson, fourth grade; Mrs. William Lantz, second and third grades; Miss Mabel Henson, first grade.

## PORTRAIT OF FIRST PRESIDENT WILL BE GIVEN TO SCHOOLS

Congressman Robert L. Doughton to Place Picture of Washington in Every Schoolroom in His District. Washington Bicentennial Celebration to Be Held at Washington in 1932. Literature Furnished.

Announcement has been made by Congressman Robert L. Doughton that every schoolroom of every school in his district will, within a few weeks after the opening of the new school term, receive a beautiful portrait poster of George Washington, executed in colors.

The portrait is to be used in these posters is a reproduction of the famous Gilbert Stuart Athenaeum painting and will be 22 inches by 28 inches in size. This poster was selected after a good deal of study, and is considered the finest example of poster making available.

The poster pictures featuring George Washington are being distributed in co-operation with the United States George Washington Bicentennial Commission of Washington, D. C., in order to stimulate interest among the thousands of school children of his district in the coming nine-month celebration of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the birth of the Father of Our Country.

Congressman Doughton is in constant touch with the activities of the George Washington Commission that was created by Congress to formulate and execute plans for the great celebration in 1932.

The United States Commission is placing a good deal of emphasis on the co-operation of the school children of America in this historic event. This poster picture is just one feature of its work.

Congressman Doughton announced that he will see to it that the schools, clubs, churches and fraternal and patriotic organizations in his district will be adequately supplied with literature to be issued by the United States George Washington Bicentennial Commission.

The George Washington Bicentennial Celebration will begin on February 22, 1932, and last until the following Thanksgiving Day.

## William T. Watson Dies In Statesville Hospital

William T. Watson, 80-year-old resident of the Laxon community, died at a Statesville Hospital Monday, where he was taken about two weeks ago, suffering from a complication of disabilities, which made necessary the performance of three operations. He had been ill for a long time previous to his entry into the hospital.

Funeral services are to be conducted today (Wednesday) from the Laurel Springs Baptist Church, by the pastor, Rev. Payne, and interment will be in the family graveyard on Gap Creek.

Surviving are the widow and ten children: Albert Watson, Boone; Andrew Watson, Marion, Va.; Mesdames Lizzie Poe and Ruth Grogan of Virginia; Mrs. Jeremy Greene, Laxon; Mrs. Bessie Jordan, Stony Fork; Roosevelt Watson, Ohio; Russell Watson, Laurel Springs; and Misses Maude and Sophie Watson, who reside at the old home place near Laxon.

Mr. Watson was a native of Watauga County, where he spent his entire life, the greater part of which was devoted to farming enterprises. He was a member of the Baptist church of long standing, and was well known as a fine and honorable citizen.

### MAYOR'S COURT

Mayor Moretz has heard only one case since the last issue of the Democrat, that of the Town of Boone against Jim Brown of Adams, for drunkenness and possession. The defendant was bound over to the fall term of Superior Court.

## Marking Trail of Pioneer



The beautiful stone arrowhead recently erected on the A. S. T. C. campus by J. Hampton Rich, of the Boone Trail Memorial Association. Standing by the marker are Professor T. Edgar Story (left) Principal of Wilkesboro Schools, and Dean J. D. Rankin of the State College.

## Johnson Gets 4 Months in Death of Nurse; Damage Suit is Settled for \$17,000

Lenoir, N. C.—Convicted of involuntary manslaughter of Miss Dolly Greene, formerly of Watauga, on January 8th, A. B. (Dick) Johnson, North Wilkesboro business man, last Saturday was sentenced to jail for four months, fined \$500 and costs, approximately \$1,000. Judge Walter E. Moore, of Sylva, who brought the case to a close, authorized the hiring of Johnson as a laborer, and Floyd C. Forester, of North Wilkesboro, obtained the defendant's release.

Judge Moore weighed carefully the pleas of Johnson's attorneys, and when it appeared to the court that Johnson had agreed to pay \$17,500 to the estate of Miss Greene the sentence was passed.

Attorneys for Johnson failed in their efforts to avoid placing the stigma of a felon upon the defendant when Judge Moore overruled a motion that the verdict be set aside and a sentence for assault with a deadly weapon be imposed. "The statute is definite," said Judge Moore as he inflicted the minimum punishment for involuntary manslaughter.

"I am not enthusiastic about setting a criminal case on a civil basis," the jurist said when he was informed that the \$75,000 civil action against Mr. Johnson had been compromised at \$17,500. He stated that in view of the jury's request for mercy he would impose the minimum of four months in jail with privilege to be hired out by the county commissioners.

Chairman R. M. Smith, of the Board of Commissioners hired the prisoner to Mr. Forester, and Mr. Johnson spent not one minute in jail. The judgment was passed Saturday afternoon at 3:45 o'clock, almost 24 hours after the jury returned its verdict of "guilty, with the mercy of the court." The jury deliberated for four hours before reaching a decision.

Mr. Johnson was indicted and tried for the death of Miss Greene, whose body was found lying in the snow near his wrecked automobile. It was perhaps the most sensational case ever heard in Caldwell County, and the prominence of the defendant, a well-to-do business executive, filled the courtroom each day of the four days of testimony.

Solicitor L. S. Spurling prosecuted the case vigorously and was ably assisted by W. R. Lovell of Boone, Judge Tam Bowie of West Jefferson, Ed Bingham of Boone and Baxter Linney of Lenoir.

The defendant had as his counsel Governor W. C. Newland and Folger L. Townsend of Lenoir, Hayden Burke and Harold Burke of Taylorsville and Julius Rousseau of North Wilkesboro.

### EARLIER REPORTS

Lenoir, N. C.—A. B. (Dick) Johnson, North Wilkesboro business man, took the witness stand in his own

defense Tuesday afternoon in the manslaughter case which charges him with the death of Miss Dolly Greene, former Watauga girl, on the night of January 8th. He swore that she was driving the car at the time of the accident and that a blow he received on the head as the car turned over rendered him unconscious until some time the next day.

All through a vigorous cross-examination by Judge Tam C. Bowie, which continued into Wednesday, Johnson steadfastly maintained that he knew nothing of the affair after the wreck.

Three witnesses for the State, former State Highway Patrolman K. B. Mann, Chief of Police Fred Dover, and Officer Foss McDade of Lenoir, swore earlier in the afternoon that when they visited Johnson in a Statesville hospital on the night of the ac-

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## Ministerial Association Names New Officers

Monday, September 7th, the Watauga Ministerial Association met in regular session, and the following officers were elected for the coming year: Rev. H. M. Wellman, president, and Rev. J. T. Greene, secretary.

Besides the newly-elected officers, Rev. P. A. Hicks, Rev. J. A. McKaughan and Rev. J. A. Yount were present for the meeting. The association extends an invitation to all ministers of Watauga County to be present at its monthly meetings. The regular date is the Monday following the first Sunday in each month.

## J. & E. STORE CLOSES OUT STOCK TO WILLIAM SHORE

The J. & E. Self-Service Store, for many years one of the leading grocery establishments of this section, has closed out its entire stock to Mr. W. W. Shore, and the merchandise is to be moved into the Cecil Miller building in the eastern limits of the town, where a store will be opened. The owner, T. M. Greer, who entered the grocery business here as manager for the Carolina Stores, had decided to return to his former position and it is understood has been accorded the management of a Carolina Store in Shelby.

## REV. JEFFCOAT SERIOUSLY ILL AT BURLINGTON, N. C.

Rev. H. W. Jeffcoat, former pastor of Watauga Parish, is seriously ill at Burlington, according to reports reaching Boone Tuesday. He was stricken while visiting his sons Dr. William C. and George H. Jeffcoat, in that city. His daughter, Miss Cora Jeffcoat, parish worker of Watauga pastorate, has been called to his bedside. A very slight change has been reported in his condition.

## Public Schools of County Have Large Attendance

County Superintendent Smith Hagaman reports that the public schools of the county are all open with the exception of Blowing Rock, and that the attendance is the largest in the history of Watauga.

Boone Demonstration, and High schools opened Tuesday with a greatly increased enrollment. The faculties of the two institutions are the same as last year with the exception of two or three new teachers.

Superintendent Hagaman is of the opinion that the new school law is workable and will, in most instances, be satisfactory when fully understood. He states that the teachers are very gracefully accepting the ten per cent. cut in salaries, and adds that all teachers in the county, with the exception of one, has been exceedingly patient and co-operative under the stress of the times with reference to their delayed salaries for the past year.

## ENROLLMENT AT STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE LARGE

Total for Summer Terms, 1,300. Fall Term Attended by 700. Number Enrolled Leads Faculty. Officials Look for Most Successful Year in History of Institution. Increase in Student Body Over Last Year.

During the summer terms just closed, Appalachian State Teachers College enrolled over 1,300 students, and according to reports, the largest number of teachers in the State was enrolled here. There were only two institutions, says the registrar, who had more students than Appalachia. These were Duke and the University of North Carolina.

The fall term, which opened September 1st, has thus far enrolled 700, which is 110 more than at this date last fall, and indications are that the number will greatly increase within the next few months. The number already enrolled is said to be large enough to heavily load the present faculty of the institution.

Officials are looking forward to the most successful year's work in the history of the college.

## Deputy Wardens Named For the Coming Year

Game Warden H. Grady Farthing has appointed the following men as deputy wardens and license salesmen for the coming year:

A. E. South, Boone; G. C. Harmon, Peoria; W. W. Mast, Valle Crucis; Carroll Trivett, Beech Creek; Lewis Norris, Reece; Will Austin, Shulls Mills Road 1; C. A. Underdown, Blowing Rock; W. W. Greene, Boone R. F. D.; Harrison Baker, Boone R. F. D.; Carl Davis, Todd; John W. Ward, Leander; Will Wilson, Reece; Lee Carender, Matney; Jim Brown, Meat Camp; W. M. Shirley, Deep Gap; Maston Trivett, Rominger; Joe Teague, Shulls Mills R. F. D.; Floyd Tate, Boone R. F. D.; Eller McNeil, Rutherford; Rorace Moretz, Zionsville R. F. D.; Edward Mast, Adams; Glenn Coffey, Boone R. F. D.; Ira Critcher, Bamboo; Omar Reard, Sugar Grove; J. S. Ward, Sugar Grove; G. C. Ward, Sugar Grove Route 1; Lloyd Winebarger, Meat Camp; Dayton Winebarger, Meat Camp; Ruth Cottrell, Boone; C. C. Carroll, Deep Gap; Horace Cook, Blowing Rock; Henry Greene, Hodges Gap; L. L. Gragg, Shulls Mills R. F. D.; Walter Winebarger, Meat Camp; Floyd Greene, Zionsville; Everett Fox, Banner Elk; Randall Foster, Blowing Rock; Ed Harbin, Shulls Mills; Clay Hodges, Triplett; Don J. Horton, Villas; Tom Broyhill, Bamboo; Roby Winebarger, Boone; Ronald Ragan, Zionsville; Niley Cook, Blowing Rock R. F. D.

The squirrel season opened on the first, and local sportsmen state that there is an abundance of the animals in the county this year.

## Heaton Man Killed With Bat After Hot Argument

According to meagre reports coming from Heaton Monday, Guernsey Cannon, 25, of that place was instantly killed Sunday evening when struck over the head with a baseball bat in the hands of Tine Franklin, 20, another resident of the community. The tragedy is said to have occurred in the yard of the Christian church where the two had engaged in a bitter argument over the outcome of a recent baseball game. Franklin is said to have been arrested immediately and remanded to Newland jail for trial at the next term of Avery Superior Court.

### RESIGNS FROM COMMITTEE

John E. Brown tendered to the Board of Education his resignation from the school committee at Boone, at the regular session on Monday. There was no announcement of an appointment to fill the vacancy.

## GRANDFATHER IS BEING SHORN BY WOODSMAN'S AXE

North Slope of Beautiful Mountain Aid Bare. Plank Roads Lead Almost to Summit. Forest Fires Will Likely Follow Wholesale Slaughter of Balsam and Tamarack Groves. Roy M. Brown Indignant.

Grandfather Mountain, long talked of as a possible State park, is again feeling the sting of the woodsman's axe. This time the north slope of the "oldest mountain in America" is being stripped of balsam and tamarack. A pulp mill in Western North Carolina is converting the timber into paper. Roy M. Brown of the Institute for Research in Social Science, University of North Carolina, lover of nature and former Watauga citizen, has sent to The Democrat a statement regarding the wholesale destruction which follows:

In its account of the celebration of the completion of State Highway No. 60 from North Wilkesboro to the Tennessee line, The Democrat in the issue of September third says that Dr. B. B. Dougherty closed his address of welcome with a tribute to Grandfather Mountain, which he declared to be nature's masterpiece. "I hope," he is quoted as saying, "to see a highway reaching to the top of Grandfather, so that all may travel there and appreciate its beauties." At the moment he was speaking, excellent, if more or less temporary, roads had been constructed almost to the very summit of this majestic mountain and motor cars were running up and down the side of the mountain on roads smooth as the new highway whose completion was being celebrated.

"At that moment, one could travel by automobile within a few yards of the top—provided he could secure the permission of the few individuals who have assumed that this, the finest of all the peaks in Western North Carolina, is theirs to do as they please with. But he who climbed the mountain on that day would go not to 'appreciate its beauties,' but to witness the near completion of the destruction of the beauty of the Grandfather."

"Several years ago a lumber company was permitted to strip the forest from the eastern end of the mountain and to complete the destruction by allowing fire to escape into the debris. Now the destruction of the beautiful forest on the north slope to the summit of the mountain is almost complete. A small forest of spruce (tamarack) and balsam remains on the south side of the mountain, but this perhaps too soon to be sacrificed by the owner for a few paltry dollars, to supply pulp wood for a paper fiber mill."

"Make a State park of the Grandfather," Mr. Jeffress suggested. If the State should take over the mountain tomorrow and protect it from the fire that is very liable to follow in the wake of the present destruction, the grandchildren of the child born today might live to see a beauty approaching that which still remained when I tramped the whole length of the mountain on the Fourth of July, 1930. If fire follows the present slaughter, the balsam groves are destroyed perhaps forever."

"The beauty of the mountains is the greatest asset of this section, we say glibly; but we do not believe what we say. If we did, we would not stand idly by and see this asset destroyed for the profit of a few individuals without raising our voices in protest."

"Lovers of the Grandfather have never been particularly, if at all, interested in a road to the top of the mountain. Most of those who talk about such a road, I suspect, have never stood on the top of its lonely peaks. The few to whom the mountain has almost been a shrine will be less than ever interested in roads or trails. The wounds of the mountain must have many years to heal before they will want to climb it again."

## THE WEATHER

Weather report for week ending September 5, 1931, as compiled by the co-operative station at Appalachian State Teachers College, J. T. C. Wright, observer:

Average maximum temperature, 77 degrees.  
Average minimum temperature, 51 degrees.  
Average temperature, 64 degrees.  
Average daily range in temperature, 25 degrees.  
Greatest daily range in temperature, 33 degrees; date, August 31.  
Average temperature at 6 p. m. (time of observation), 70 degrees.  
Highest temperature reached, 80 degrees; date, August 31.  
Lowest temperature reached, 45 degrees; date, August 30.  
Number inches of rainfall (including melted snow), 1.62.  
Greatest rainfall in 24 hours, 1.14; date, Sept. 3.  
Number of days with 0.01 inch or more rainfall, 2.  
Number of clear days, 4.  
Number of cloudy days, 1.  
Number of partly cloudy days, 2.  
Direction of prevailing wind, west.