

BOONE SKETCHES

By J. C. R.

The Editor Goes Away

Another of the grand old disciples of the Fourth Estate has tossed the quill and the pastepot and the shears into the bell-box, laid down the cares and sorrows that just naturally come with the passing years, and has vanished 'way out yonder in the shimmering glow of the sunset. The old man of The Democrat is gone.

We cannot compare his writings to those of a Dana, or a Greeley, or a Watterson, or a Grady... those immortal, whose splendid flow of rhetoric and inspiring ideals all but changed the course of history. His statue will certainly not occupy a niche in the hall of fame. Historians will forget to remember the varied enterprises he promoted in the interest of humanity. Life will move on, and his name will soon be erased from the public mind. But, being an individual of simple tastes, he would have had it so.

He began his journalistic career back in the days when a country editor backed up the printed word with fang and claw. Blackberries thrived along Main Street. Schools were few and far between. Circuit-riding ministers made the rounds on occasion, and delivered the Gospel of Him to congregations clad in homespun. Transportation was confined to the covered wagon and the ox-cart. Highways of stone and concrete were undream-of. Virgin forests, unsullied by the axe of the woodsman, stretched the emerald fronds from the topmost peak of the Rich Mountain to the edge of the village.

He took off his coat and began work... with an apron full of type, a Washington hand-press, and a stout and willing heart. By the light of a coal-oil lamp he stretched the long working day far into the shadows of evening. The clacking type and the cumbersome press and the smelly ink combined their efforts with the editor... and the countryside was enlightened by a paper that unselfishly supported those measures which have transformed the wilderness into a progressive empire.

Year in, year out, he labored diligently, kept his paper free from the shackles of privilege, said what he thought should be said, suppressed slanderous statements, dreamed and schemed and prayed... and lived to see the culmination of these early visions... improved highways, modern churches, an excellent educational system, creditable public buildings, and all those things that go with this century of progress.

Thousands of dollars trickled into the chest of charity through the benevolent fingers of Editor Rivers. Thousands of hearts were made happier by his kindly and generous interest in God's unfortunate. It seems a bit awkward for a child to eulogize his father... but we are forced to admit that a mighty good, kind old man has hit the long trail.

An old friend down in Winston-Salem wrote us a letter the other day and his sentiments regarding our father serve as a glorious benediction to his useful life. Here they are:

"I was shocked to read in The Journal this morning of the death of your father. On the few occasions I had met and talked with him I was impressed by the grip the old man had taken on life, and how genuine was his mellow and graceful personality. He was of a type all too rare in this crazy damned world, with a positive attitude and a satisfying set of values, and I often wondered how so serene and confident an old man could have whelped such a pup as you."

And we are inclined to wonder, also!

T. E. Story to Run as Dry Delegate in Wilkes

North Wilkesboro.—T. E. Story, principal of Wilkesboro high school and a leader in church and civic affairs, was elected dry delegate for Wilkes County for the repeal election to be held on November 7th. Election of Professor Story took place Tuesday night in the mass meeting of the Allied Dry forces of Wilkes County.

An extensive campaign designed to reach every community in the county, is being waged by the drys while the wets so far have no organized plan of campaign. It is understood, however, that they have until the latter part of October to name a delegate.

Dry Forces to Push Organization Campaign

The local unit of the United Dry Forces of North Carolina will hold meetings at the following places on the dates given:

Sandy Flat Baptist Church, Sunday, September 28, at 2:30 p. m.
Stony Fork Baptist Church, Sunday, September 29, at 2:30 p. m.; speakers, W. R. Lovell and T. E. Bingham.

Boone Baptist Church, Thurs., September 28th, at 8 p. m.; speakers, W. R. Lovell and T. E. Bingham. This meeting is being held for the purpose of completing a town organization.

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With Ballroom Code



Miss Ann Metzger, of New York, winner of five first prize beauty contests in 8 weeks, has been selected by the New York Ball Room Association to present the NRA ball room code to General Johnson.

WATAUGA BANK IS EXPECTED TO OPEN AT AN EARLY DATE

Meeting of Original Stockholders Was Held Friday Afternoon. Savings Books and Certificates Must Be Turned Over and Notes Renewed. Raleigh Official Will Supervise the Set-up of New Bank.

The original stockholders of the Watauga County Bank met in enthusiastic session Friday afternoon, and greeted with elation the information that there had been only one objection filed to the opening of the institution which closed March 6th. The process of reopening cannot be checked on account of the complaint it was pointed out, and general opinions, based on past performances of the Banking Department, are that the local institution will open in from two to four weeks.

The old stockholders are paying their 100% assessment, notes are being renewed, and a spirit of hopeful anticipation is noted in the effort to complete the final details. Cashier G. P. Haganman insists that those who have not filed renewals of outstanding notes, do so at once and that certificates be presented promptly for conversion into preferred stock.

A man from the Banking Department at Raleigh will come to Boone and supervise the set-up of the bank, which is in reality a completely new institution.

Quarterly Conference to Be Held at Valle Crucis

The Fourth Quarterly Conference of the Watauga Charge will be held at Valle Crucis Methodist Church on next Sunday at 3 o'clock p. m. The preaching and the business session of the conference will be in charge of Rev. Seymour Taylor, who was recently appointed by Bishop Moulton to serve this part of the Mount Airy District. Mr. Taylor is a native Wataugan and a former presiding elder, and was in his earlier years pastor of the Watauga Charge. In addition to the official boards of the charge whose presence is obligatory, all friends of Rev. Mr. Taylor are cordially invited to the service.

Boone High Football Team Opens Friday

Boone High School and Appalachian Freshmen will tangle on College Field Friday afternoon in what promises to be a tough gridiron battle. The high school boys will be greatly outweighed, but have a smooth and scrappy team. In recent scrimmages they have been showing up fine.

Wilson will be the main cog in the High outfit, while much is expected from Tugman, Charles Williams, Hamby and Miller. It is hoped that parents and patrons will co-operate both by their presence and their moral support, to make athletics at the school an educative process rather than a winning machine.

The schedule for the entire season follows:

- September 22: Appalachian Freshmen at Boone
- September 29: North Wilkesboro at Boone
- October 7: Morganton at Morganton (night)
- October 14: Mountain City at Mountain City
- October 21: Wilkesboro at Boone
- October 28: Crossnore at Crossnore
- November 4: Glen Alpine at Glen Alpine
- November 11: West Jefferson at West Jefferson
- November 18: Kings Mountain at Kings Mountain (pending)

Rev. R. C. Eggers closed a two-weeks revival meeting at Mount Vernon Baptist Church Sunday evening. During the first week he was assisted by Rev. W. C. Payne. Twenty new members were added to the church roster by experience and baptism, and religious interest was greatly aroused.

OUTLINER PLAN FOR TENNESSEE VALLEY PROJECT

Official Confers with Smith Haganman Relative to Vast Industrial Development, and Cites Opportunities Being Offered to Home-Seekers. People of this County Entitled to Be Represented in Program.

W. T. Hampton, a representative of the Tennessee Valley Authority, known as the Norris and Cove Creek dams, was a visitor in Boone Saturday and attended a meeting called by Superintendent Smith Haganman, the object of which was to acquaint the people with the plans for the stupendous industrial development, as well as to give an idea of the opportunities offered families which might want to move into that region.

It was explained that the Government is building nice comfortable homes in the valley which will be rent-free to families, and all kinds of labor, carpenters, plumbers, blacksmiths and electricians are wanted. These will work under present plans for three or four days a week, and devote part of the remaining time to study. Only strong men and men with families are solicited, for plans call for desirable families who wish to make their homes in the Tennessee Valley.

Mr. Hampton states that few people have the least idea of what a vast development this is. It is the understanding that the President expects a project that will cover a vast section of the South.

Watauga County is included in this plan, since it is largely drained by the tributaries of the Tennessee River, hence county folks are entitled to be represented in the great program and are therefore invited and solicited to do so. Superintendent Haganman, Mayor Moore, Sheriff Howell, A. E. South and others who attended the meeting are prepared to give further information.

Appalachian Meets Erskine in Opener

The Mountaineers of the Appalachian State Teachers College, working with their new coach, Eugene E. Garbee, in preparing for their first football game of the season, which will be played against Erskine College at Due West, S. C., Saturday.

Johnson, varsity center and senior this year, seems at present to be the only man likely to be missing from a veteran line when the starting whistle blows. He is out from injuries which may end the season for him.

Smith, Wortman, Loy, Mahoney and Walker will all be back at their old places in the line. Stines will probably be at quarter, with O'Neill, Triplett and Trippany sure of a backfield berth.

Watauga Team Beats Wilkes County All-Stars

The Watauga All-Stars, a team picked from the Watauga County Baseball League, defeated the Wilkes County All-Stars at North Wilkesboro Thursday afternoon, by the score of 6-4. This was the last of a three-game series, Watauga winning two and losing one.

Bill Lentz, Blowing Rock mound star, pitched four-hit ball, slammed out a home-run and garnered another base hit. The box-score and summary follows:

WATAUGA	AB	R	H
Trippany, 2b	4	1	1
Haganman, c	3	2	0
Harris, ss	5	0	1
Triplett, cf	5	0	3
Elrod, rf	4	1	1
Lentz, r, 3b	4	0	1
Presnell, lf	4	0	0
Hampton, lb	2	1	0
B. Lentz, p	4	1	2
TOTALS	35	6	9

WILKES	AB	R	H
G. Osborne, lf	4	1	2
J. Osborne, ss	4	0	0
G. Cooper, 3b	3	0	0
W. Cooper, rf	3	1	0
Pardue, c	4	1	1
Church, cf	3	0	0
Henderson, lb	4	0	0
Scroggs, 2b	3	0	0
Joyce, p	2	1	1
TOTALS	30	4	4

Summary: Home runs, Bill Lentz and Troutman; 2-base hits, Triplett; 3-base hits, R. Lentz; struck out by Lentz; by Joyce, 5; bases on balls, off Lentz 5; Joyce 3; hit by pitched balls, Lentz 3, Joyce 2.

Score by innings:
Watauga 2 0 0 1 0 0 6
Wilkes 0 0 2 0 2 0 0 0 4
Catawba county farmers have purchased more farm machinery in the past three months than they have in the whole of the past three years.

Editor R. C. Rivers Passes Monday; End Brought To Unique Journalistic Career

Funeral for Pioneer Citizen Held on Tuesday. Business Houses Close for Hour and Court Is Adjourned in Honor. Large Crowd Pays Respects. Burial in City Cemetery. Brief Summary of His Life.

Robert Campbell Rivers, 71 years old, publisher of the Watauga Democrat since 1889 and one of the pioneer citizens of Boone, died at a Statesville hospital Monday afternoon, after an illness which had been manifestly critical for only a few days. Death came as a result of ailments traceable to the heart, which was never normal following a severe attack of influenza several years ago.

Funeral services were conducted from the Boone Methodist Church on Tuesday morning, the pastor, Rev. J. H. Broadall Jr., being in charge. Revs. P. A. Hicks, J. A. Yount, Murray and Leicester F. Kent, representing as many different denominations, were present and occupied the pulpit space with the pastor, each taking a part in the brief service. The casket and altar were banked with an unusually large floral offering, and the gathering of friends was large.

Dr. B. E. Dougherty, president of the Appalachian State Teachers College, and life-long friend of the deceased, as well as Smith Haganman, superintendent of schools, made brief talks, eulogizing the career of Mr. Rivers, and reciting facts in connection with his efforts in behalf of the welfare of the people of Watauga County during his long earthly sojourn. His charitable disposition and relief activities were particularly mentioned.

The active pallbearers, who included the four oldest natives of the town, were: H. Gragg, W. R. Lovell, Dick Hodges, J. S. Stanbury, J. D. Council, June Russell, B. J. Council, M. P. Critcher and John W. Hodges.

Honorary pallbearers were: G. P. Haganman, George K. Moose, T. M. Moore, C. Walker, A. E. South, A. W. Smith, W. D. Farthing, W. M. Cook, L. R. Bingham, D. L. Wilcox, B. E. Dougherty, W. H. Brown and A. J. Taylor.

The floral offering was borne by the following young ladies: Vivian Carico, Virginia South, Louise Setzer, Helen Gragg, June Russell, Lila Clay, Wilma Little, Julia Mabrey, Daisy Adams, Martha Hardin, Louise Critcher and Ruth Farthing.

The service was concluded at the graveside in the city cemetery.

Business Houses Close and Court Adjourns

During the hour of the funeral all business houses of the city closed their doors. His Honor Judge Wilson Warlick adjourned Watauga Superior Court out of honor to deceased, resolutions were passed, and the court, together with the members of the bar, attended the service in a body.

The survivors include one daughter, Mrs. Velma McGhee, two sons, Jim and Rob Rivers, two sisters, Miss Nannie Rivers and Mrs. J. W. Farthing, all residents of Boone. There are four grandchildren.

An Eventful Career

Robert C. Rivers was the son of Dr. James G. and Jane Rhea Rivers, and was born at Fish Springs, in Carter County, Tennessee, on December 26, 1861. The grim monster of war was devastating the South, Union

The Democrat Mourns



R. C. Rivers, deceased publisher of The Democrat. Photograph was taken in April, 1928.

sympathy was running high in East Tennessee, and Mr. and Mrs. Rivers and family of small children were brought into North Carolina. A guard was provided for them on account of their Confederate inclinations.

The family settled on Cove Creek for a period, came on to Brushy Fork and arrived in Boone in 1886, where the permanent homestead was established. Young Bob Rivers grew up, attended for a very limited period such schools as were provided in those hectic days, but received what was known as a fine education through future associations and application.

Dr. Rivers died when Bob was sixteen, an older brother received a medical education and settled in another city, and Bob set about the task of holding the home place together. He worked as a farm laborer, often receiving no more than twenty-five cents a day, later learned the carpenter's trade, plied it at Linville and Blowing Rock and aided in building the famed Eusebia Inn, that portion of the building on which he worked being preserved in the present improved structure. In the year 1888 a Republican newspaper was established in Boone, known as The Enterprise. Mr. Rivers was asked to aid in publishing the paper. He accepted, dug himself out a meager knowledge of the printing business, and was able to print the sheet. The late lamented Thomas Bingham was the editor, and the paper was suspended after the election.

Begins Democrat

Mr. Rivers worked several years for his warm personal friend, the late Judge L. W. Greene, in the store and elsewhere, and became publisher of The Watauga Democrat on July 4th. (Continued on Page 8)

ELEVEN CASES ARE DISPOSED OF AT FALL TERM COURT

Judge Wilson Warlick Presides at Term Which Began Monday. Criminal Docket Disposed of and Thirty-two Months in Short Sentences Meted Out. Trial of Civil Cases Continues Today.

The regular fall term of Watauga Superior Court convened Monday, with Judge Wilson Warlick of Newton presiding. The criminal docket, generally lightened by the Recorders Court, was disposed of early in the week and the tribunal is now engaged in the trial of civil suits. Following are the judgments in State cases:

- Chic Carroll, assault with deadly weapon; prayer for judgment continued on payment of the cost.
- Charlie Carroll, assault with deadly weapon, \$50 and cost.
- Randal Shook, seduction, not guilty.
- Chester Carroll, interfering with an election, 6 months on roads.
- George Thornhill, larceny, twelve months on roads.
- Milton Coffey, store-breaking, not pros with leave.
- Joe Scott, forgery, not guilty.
- Roy Lentz, violating prohibition laws, 4 months on roads.
- Clive Church, larceny, prayer for judgment continued on payment of the costs.
- Johnnie Presnell, forgery, four months on roads.
- Johnnie Presnell, larceny, 6 months on roads.

Noted Woman Preacher To Open Revival Here

Beginning next Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock, a two-weeks revival meeting will be conducted at the Boone Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Mrs. C. L. Steidley, noted woman evangelist of High Point, will bring messages at 3:30 and 7:30 each day. Mrs. Steidley has been successfully active in this work for several years, and her sermons are said to be most inspiring.

The Boone Baptist choir will render special numbers at the Monday night service, and other visiting choirs will do likewise during the revival.

Inmates of County Home To See "Tugboat Annie"

Inmates of the Watauga County Home will be the guests of Manager A. E. Hamby at the Pastime theatre next Monday afternoon when "Tugboat Annie," featuring Marie Dressler and Wallace Beery, will open for a two-day run. A school bus has been engaged to carry the old folks to town, candy and ice cream has been spoken for, and Mr. Hamby declares that the rich comedy, thrills and heart-throbs of this super-production will go a long way toward banishing the sorrows that have befallen these unfortunate ones.

Since the production of "Min and Bill," the show-going public has clamored for another picture starring Dressler and Beery, and the present story has provided an excellent one. There are hilarious quarrels between the redoubtable feminine tugboat captain and her shiftless, good-natured husband; mother-love furnishes a poignant heart interest, and there is a tremendous dramatic climax in the amazing episode in the engine room.

Revival Services Open Friday at Valle Crucis

Revival services for Valle Crucis Methodist Church and community are scheduled to open on Friday evening, the 22nd, at 7:30 o'clock, with the showing of sacred moving pictures and a spiritual fellowship meeting in charge of representatives of an evangelistic team from Winston-Salem, as announced last Sunday by the pastor, Rev. G. C. Graham.

Mr. Walter Nading, a well known real estate dealer and former wholesale merchant of Winston-Salem, is captain of the team. He will be accompanied on Friday evening by Mr. W. A. Speer, who has charge of the moving pictures. Other members of the team will join them for the services Saturday evening and Sunday. A cordial invitation to the public to attend these special evangelistic services is extended by the pastor.

"HEAVEN BOUND" TO BE PRESENTED AT BANNER ELK

"Heaven Bound" will be presented under the auspices of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Banner Elk Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, Sept. 27, afternoon and night, in Lees-McRae College auditorium. The afternoon performance begins at 3:30; evening at 8 o'clock. The public is invited to attend. A small admission charge will be made. A portion of the building will be reserved for colored people who wish to attend.

OPERATION FATAL TO MRS. CRITCHER

Resident of Route 1 Succumbs in Davis Hospital. Funeral Services Held at Mount Vernon. Husband and Five Children Survive.

Mrs. Carrie Critcher, 30, of Boone, Route 1, died in the Davis Hospital at Statesville Tuesday, September 12, at 5 o'clock a. m., following an operation for appendicitis. Funeral services were conducted at Mount Vernon Baptist Church Thursday morning by Rev. R. C. Eggers, pastor, and interment took place in the Critcher family burying ground. A large crowd of friends and relatives attended the rites, and the floral offering was profuse.

Survivors include the husband, five children, Edward, Carlton, Truman, Howard and Richard; father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Ward of Boone; three sisters, Mrs. Carson Triplett of Purlear, Mrs. Fred Greene of Sugar Grove, and Mrs. Maude Elliott of Sugar Grove.

Mrs. Critcher was born and reared to young womanhood on Cove Creek, later moving to Boone where she resided until her marriage six years ago. She was a faithful member of the Boone Baptist Church, was active in its affairs, and had surrounded herself with a host of admiring friends who hear of her untimely passing with genuine sorrow.

BRISTOL WHISKEY RUNNERS JAILED

Thirty Gallons of Booze Seized, and Irvin Thurston and George Lane Held for Trial in Recorders Court. Six Arrests for Drunkenness.

Irvin Thurston and George Lane, of Bristol, Tenn., were lodged in the county jail early Wednesday morning by Sheriff A. Y. Howell, following their arrest on a charge of possession, transportation and public drunkenness.

The two men, accompanied by an unknown companion, wrecked their car, a new Ford eight, near Ruthwood Tuesday midnight, and came to Boone seeking aid. Their actions aroused the suspicions of local citizens who summoned Sheriff Howell. Going to the scene of the crash, the officer found the car practically demolished by fire, and uncovered thirty gallons of liquor nearby.

In default of five-hundred-dollar bonds, Thurston and Lane are being held in the county jail. They will be tried in Recorders Court Tuesday.

Sheriff Howell has made six arrests for public drunkenness so far this week.

Over 100 boys and girls of Caldwell County attended the 4-H Club boys' and girls' camp on John's River July 17-22.