

By J. C. R.

For those who love liberty... that glorious, almost divine element the pursuit of which has bloodied many a battlefield...

This new organization has picked a fetching name... Liberty League... but a backwoods layman, an ordinary one-galled partisan who has played "follow the leader" over a period of years...

Al Smith was our hero just a few short years ago... brown defilement, East Side accent, Tammany affiliation and every other fault that was his...

Messrs. Shouse, Smith, Davis, Ras-kob, du Pont, Wadsworth, etc., are striving to teach the people that Roosevelt policies have deprived them of their liberties...

The nation has been robbed of its liberties... but sweet has been the robbery! Cotton farmers have been deprived of their freedom...

Liberty Leaguers refuse to cast their glimmers toward the future... they hold their beloved Constitution close to their bosoms...

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RANSOM LETTERS CAUSE ARREST OF REV. R. H. ASKEW

Goldboro Man Admits He Faked His "Kidnaping." Government Steps In. Federal Warrant Charges "Four-Square" Minister With Sending Extortion Notes Through Mails. To Be Given Hearing Friday.

The Rev. R. H. Askew, former Watauga County school teacher, was charged with attempted extortion and lodged in jail at Goldboro, N. C., late Thursday after confessing, officers said, that he faked his "kidnaping" on the week previous, and himself wrote the notes demanding ransom for his return.

A warrant charging the 28-year-old four-square gospel evangelist with violating Federal statutes against sending extortion demands through the mails was sworn to by C. A. Whitten, special investigator of the Department of Justice.

H. A. Turlington and F. A. Byrd of the United States marshal's office at Raleigh, served the warrant on Askew and took him before United States Commissioner L. E. Pearson at Goldboro.

Wearing white cotton trousers and a white shirt, open at the throat, the evangelist appeared hollow eyed and tired when he entered Pearson's office, but pleaded "not guilty" in a strong voice.

Keeps Eyes Closed After entering his plea he sat with his eyes closed during the remainder of the brief proceedings. His wife, the former Miss Hattie Greer of Blowing Rock, sat with him.

Pearson fixed bond at \$5,000 and set a formal hearing for Friday, August 31st. Unable to fill the bond, Askew was led away to the Wayne County jail.

The warrant for Askew charges him specifically with violating section 338-A, Title 18 of the Federal code and was based upon a letter and a telegram to Mrs. Askew, demanding \$25,000 for the minister's safe return.

(Continued on Page 4)

Watauga County Bank Is Delivering Stock

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the State Commissioner of Banks have authorized the Watauga County Bank to deliver the stock and certificates to the depositors, in accordance with the reorganizational agreement. This move is preparatory to reopening the bank and the final reports will be sent in, following which, according to officials, it will appear that all demands have been met.

Any depositor who will call at the bank may receive his certificate of stock.

Relief Offices Now In Sebastian Building

The offices of the Watauga Emergency Relief Administration have been moved into the Sebastian building on Main Street, a part of which was formerly occupied by the Boone Feed Company. The move was made necessary by the need for additional room, and the increasing encroachment upon the public offices in the courthouse building.

The new quarters have been fitted out especially for the relief work, and the different higher officials are enabled to have their individual offices.

More Than 200 Attend Scenic Parkway Ball

Blowing Rock—More than two hundred people of the native and summer residents attended the Celebration Ball and square dance at Mayview Manor here Friday night, a gala event sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, the Firemen, and the Junior Community Club.

It was a benefit ball held in celebration of the official announcement of the routing of the scenic parkway as far as Blowing Rock.

LIBERTY LEAGUER



Alfred E. Smith, Democratic presidential standard bearer in 1928, who is prominently identified with the newly-organized Liberty League. The League has been widely interpreted as a continuation of the "stop Roosevelt" movement inaugurated prior to the Chicago convention.

MISS LINNEY IS BEAUTY QUEEN

Daughter of Late Frank A. and Mrs. Linney Wins Title of "Miss Watauga" at Contest Last Week. Seventeen Beauties Entered.

Miss Mary Frances Linney, popular and talented daughter of the late Frank A. Linney and Mrs. Linney, was adjudged Watauga County's most beautiful young lady when seventeen beauties were lined up before the judges at the American Legion's contest last Friday evening. Taking second and third place were Misses Louise Story and Ruby Trivette, also of Boone.

As a result of having won the enviable title of "Miss Watauga," Miss Linney, who was sponsored by The Boone Drug Company, is in Greensboro this week, where she will compete in a State contest. The winner at Greensboro will be entered in a national contest in Miami, Fla., next month.

Miss Linney, who is receiving her education at Salem College and Duke University, is extremely popular with a wide circle of friends over the State who are congratulating her upon the much-sought distinction.

Mr. W. H. Gragg was master of ceremonies at the pageant, which was widely attended, and tap-dances and readings were interspersed with music by the school band.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Luckett of Gulfport, Miss., and Dr. R. M. Shipp of Austin, Texas, summer visitors to Boone, composed the board of judges.

A. S. T. C. PRESENTS DIPLOMAS TO 33

Dean Bryan of Wake Forest Speaker at Commencement Exercises Friday. Freshman Registration for Fall Term Begins Wednesday.

Dean Bryan of Wake Forest College was the commencement speaker at Appalachian State Teachers' College Friday, and sketched in graphic manner the changes that have taken place in the world since 1913 and drew the conclusion that this has made necessary a re-thinking of the fundamentals of life in every field: social, economic, political, religious, and educational.

On the subject of Education he said the mastery of established curricula is only an incidental means. "The great objectives of education are: health, art, citizenship, and character," he said.

Thirty-three seniors filed across the stage to receive their degrees and diplomas from the hand of President Dougherty. Thirty-one normal school diplomas also were awarded.

Dr. Dougherty announced that today (Wednesday) the new college year opens with classification examinations for freshmen. Upper classmen will arrive next Tuesday.

Revival Series to Begin Sunday at M. E. Church

A series of revival services will begin at the Boone Methodist Church next Sunday morning. Rev. J. H. Brendall Jr., pastor, will preach, and Professor J. T. C. Wright will direct the singing. An attractive program of specials will be provided at each service.

COVE CREEK HIGH SCHOOL TO OPEN ON NEXT MONDAY

Industrial Education to Be Added to Course. Many Improvements Made on Buildings, and Several New Projects Await Approval by Mrs. O'Berry's Office. More than Five Hundred Students Expected.

Cove Creek High School will open its fall session Monday morning, September 10th, according to announcement made Monday by Principal S. F. Horton. The opening exercises will be held in the school auditorium at 9:30 o'clock. All pupils are urged to be present at this time, as important announcement will be made concerning the classroom schedule and course of study. Patrons and friends of the school are invited by Mr. Horton to attend the initial exercises.

George W. Coggin, supervisor of industrial education, has informed Mr. Horton that an appropriation for commercial work has been made to the school for this year. Roy Ellison will have charge of this course, and anyone interested in taking work in typewriting, shorthand, stenography, etc., will see him and make arrangements. A class in commerce will also be offered to former graduates of the school and to any other who may desire to enroll. This class will be given after school hours to suit the convenience of those taking it.

A great many improvements have been added to the school plant during the summer. Showers, toilets and drinking fountains have been installed in the gymnasium, the Home Economics building and the Grammar Grade building have been gutted, a new Majestic range has been installed in the lunch room and a well is now being drilled. A number of projects have been prepared and sent in to Mrs. Thomas O'Berry's office, requesting the government to complete the basement of the high school building, fitting up a library room, enlarging the lunch room, construction of desks in the science laboratory and painting of class rooms and the Home Economics building. It is hoped by the principal that these projects will be approved and the improvements, which are greatly needed, made.

Teachers for the year are: S. F. Horton, principal; Mrs. S. F. Horton, history; Miss Juanita Worthington, mathematics and history; Miss Mildred Griffin, English; Claude Pyatte, mathematics and director of athletics; Miss Jennie Love, French; Roy Ellison, science; George G. Farthing, agriculture; Miss Annie Dougherty, home economics; Mrs. P. G. Spaulding, piano; Mrs. Howard Simpson, art; Dean Swift, seventh grade; Miss Blanche Stokes, sixth grade; Mrs. Hattie Johnson, fifth grade; Miss Annie Mae Shrewood, fourth grade; Miss Grace Bingham, third grade; Mrs. W. T. Payne, second grade; Mrs. J. C. Mast Jr., first grade.

A teachers' meeting is requested for Saturday afternoon prior to the opening at 4:00 o'clock in the principal's office.

Mr. Horton states that Matney and Sutherland communities will be served by school buses from Cove Creek this year, and believes that registration will exceed five hundred.

POTATO CROP IS BADLY DAMAGED

Wet Weather is Producing Rot in Watauga's Potato Fields, and Farmers Are Predicting Shortage in Principal Crop of Section.

Continued showery weather at the close of a growing season which has been marked by consistent rainfall, threatens to inflict severe cuts in the yield of Irish potatoes, which would otherwise have been the most prolific in many years, according to word reaching Boone this week from the farming communities.

One farmer brings the information of having dug 200 bushels from a field which on last year's short crop basis yielded 800 bushels, and others tell of losses from rot of from one-fourth to one-third. Many residents of Boone tell of having dug many hills from garden plots without having found a sound tuber, and there is great apprehension that when the harvest is completed, the loss may be even worse than is now anticipated.

In an effort to stop the rot, many farmers are engaged in cutting and removing the weeds from the fields so that the ground may have an opportunity to dry. Weed cutting this year was delayed, however, because of the fact that vines continued to luxuriate after the time when they are ordinarily dead.

Early quotations indicate a price of about 60 cents per bushel for potatoes, but later on the market is expected to stiffen with bright prospects for a dollar.

SCHOOL OPENINGS ARE POSTPONED BY SUPT. WALKER

Watauga County schools, which were scheduled to open on September 3rd, will not open for another week or possibly two weeks, County Superintendent Howard Walker stated Wednesday.

Several buses, to be furnished by the State, will not be ready to operate on the 3rd, it is explained, and while contractors have the agreement to buy gasoline under State Purchase Contract, arrangements have not been made for furnishing the motor fuel to Watauga County. This delay could not be avoided and the Board of Education believes that the patrons of the various schools will appreciate the unavoidable circumstances making necessary the postponement.

McKIN INSISTS ON MARKETING GROUP

Farm Superintendent of Mills Home in Address to Farmers Tuesday Cites Necessity for Agent and Organization in Farm Marketing.

Mr. C. C. McKoin, farm superintendent of Mills Home, Thomasville, stressed the importance of county agent work and general farm organization in an address delivered to Watauga farmers Tuesday evening, following which steps were taken by the assembly looking to the formation of an agricultural board for the county.

Mr. McKoin, who is business manager for the Grange in Davidson County, as well as of the Farmers Mutual Exchange, cited as the pressing need of the mountain county, a farm agent, or until one could be secured, some form of organization with whom buyers of produce could deal direct. The superintendent of the Baptist orphanage farm states that each year he buys from Maine two carloads of certified seed potatoes, and says he greatly desires to shift this business to the benefit of the northwestern Carolina farmer. The mountain grown seed, the speaker said, have proven themselves superior to the Maine product in many tests conducted, and believes that the prosperity of the Watauga farmer depends largely on his willingness to develop the certified seed market.

Turning to the organization phase of farming, Mr. McKoin told how farmers in his county had sold their oats crop for \$1 instead of 45 cents, as a result of organization enterprise and suggested an agricultural board with members in each township of the county as the first step toward a unified sales and marketing organization.

Following the speech most of those in attendance participated in a sort of round table discussion and it was decided that a committee of three men would be appointed who would in turn select a like number from each township of the county to attend a meeting to be held in the courthouse September 6 at 7:30, to set up an agricultural board for the county, and develop interest in each township that would insure both to the benefit of the buyer and seller of farm products.

Wade E. Brown, Boone attorney, acted as chairman of the meeting which was attended by a considerable number of farmers and business men.

Two Ministers Ordained At Mt. Vernon Church

Wilhe J. Cook and William Gilley, both members of Mount Vernon Baptist Church, were ordained to the full work of the ministry on Sunday, August 26th at Mount Vernon.

The ordaining council was composed of Rev. R. C. Eggers, pastor, Rev. W. D. Ashley, Rev. Carl Triplet and Rev. Raymond Hendrix.

Both of the newly-ordained preachers are upstanding men in their community, and churchmen expect them to be of vast service to the ministry.

Charge Against Gross Is Termed Frivolous

The assault charge brought against Officer Lee Gross in Recorders Court recently by a Mr. Weston resulting in the acquittal of the police chief, was adjudged "frivolous and malicious" by the court Tuesday, and the prosecutor was assessed with the costs of the action. The question of who should pay the costs was the only point on which the court had not previously ruled.

CONSTRUCT POTATO HOUSE

Mr. L. E. Beach of Zionville, with a large force of hands, is rushing to completion a potato and poultry warehouse for Smithy's store. The building is 60x60 feet and is being constructed just east and to the rear of the Smithy store. Buying of potatoes on a large scale will be started by the popular local establishment soon.

SIX ARE WOUNDED AUTO COLLISION ON BOONE TRAIL

Taxi in Head-on Crash with Driven by Virginian at Deep Drivers and Four Women Students at State College Severely Cut. Injuncts Are Issued for Milton Man, Also Injured.

Six persons were injured more or less seriously when an automobile driven by Mr. Milton Herman of Danville, Va., and a local taxi, operated by Mr. Glenn Lewis, figured in a head-on collision at Deep Gap last Saturday morning. The injured:

- Glenn Lewis; severe scalp wound, two wounds over right eye and one below knee. Miss Ollie White, of LeGrange, N. C. wounds in forehead, sprains and bruises. Miss Thelma Peele, of Everetts, cut over left eye, sprained ankle. Miss Selma Hardy of LeGrange, three wounds on chin, one on forehead, one on left knee, and fractured jaw. Miss Louise Kittrell, Winterville, two facial wounds and sprained ankle.

The extent of Mr. Herman's injuries could not be ascertained, he having been taken to a Statesville hospital for treatment—however, it is not believed his condition was necessarily serious.

Misses White and Peel were returned to their homes Tuesday, while Misses Hardy and Kittrell are under medical treatment at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Greer. All were first brought to the Hagaman Clinic.

Say Herman at Fault According to such information as The Democrat has been able to gather, the Teague Brothers taxi, driven by Mr. Lewis and occupied by the four feminine students en route to their homes, was traveling east on the Boone Trail Highway when Mr. Wallace's car, en route to Blowing Rock and driven by himself, veered to the wrong side of the road. Both cars were seriously damaged and warrants were issued for Mr. Herman charging reckless driving and assault with deadly weapon. He is under bond of \$2,000, pending his recovery from injuries received, and the case is scheduled to be called in recorder's court next Tuesday.

Mr. Herman is said to have been en route to his Blowing Rock summer cottage when the accident occurred. He was accompanied by two servants.

JURORS CHOSEN FOR FALL TERM

Judge Harding to Preside at Session of Superior Court Which Convenes September 17th. List of Those Drawn for Jury Service.

Judge W. F. Harding of Charlotte will preside at the fall term of Watauga Superior Court, which convenes on Monday, September 17th, and the following named citizens have been chosen for jury service:

- Ron Davis, W. W. Miller, W. R. Vines, J. R. Eggers, E. J. Farthing, Will Wilson, Linville Eggers, Frank Edmisten, Charles Spann, D. P. Coffey, Ralph Andrews, N. L. Harrison, Milton Bradshaw, A. E. Hamby, Geo. Danner, Alonzo Hodges, W. R. Winkler, W. H. Hayes, L. L. Bingham, Alfred Thomas, Ha Bingham, Solomon Eggers, J. H. Eggers, Joe Wheeler, W. F. Winkler, M. P. Trivett, C. G. Hodges, Earl Norris, Wilby Greene, B. F. Carroll, Harrison Baker, B. H. Gross, J. R. May, J. L. Triplet, Russell Farthing, W. C. McNeill, A. N. Greene, Lonnie Greene, Wilson Hollar.

Blister Rust Control Project Progresses

Nine thousand one hundred and twenty-nine acres in Watauga has been scouted for gooseberries and currants, and 3,038 of the shrubs removed, according to Howard R. Clapp, district leader of blister rust control for the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Blister rust, according to Mr. Clapp, is threatening the pine forests of North Carolina, and gooseberry and currant bushes, both of which are "bearers" of the disease, must be removed if they are growing near forests. Four men, besides the district leader, are now engaged in the work, which will continue until October 1st, and be resumed next spring.

The property owners in sections scouted have offered unusual co-operation, and the State leader, who recently visited Watauga, was highly pleased with the progress.

Eastern Watauga has been practically freed of menacing shrubs, and work will begin in the northern section within the next few weeks. A special crew of two men, working Blowing Rock and vicinity, expect to complete their task this fall.