

# BOONE SKETCHES

By J. C. R.

## THE CANDIDATE QUESTION

Corn is ripening in the fields, the partridges are putting on a coat of yellow, the katydids are heralding the approach of Jack Frost. . . Maine has forecast the trend of fall elections with a sympathy vote for the "professors" and a kick in the pants for State prohibition, the Pelican State has renewed its faith in the integrity of the loud-mouthed Kingfish, Colorado Democrats have chosen a petticoat as gubernatorial nominee . . . and Watauga partisans are priming their muskets for a battle royal in defense of the "deer peepul."

Democrats, Republicans, Socialists, Communists, Farm Laborites, Liberty Leaguers . . . they all take themselves to be saviors of mankind . . . disciples of the Lord . . . when they wrinkle their brows, dig deep in their dandruff with nervous fingers, weigh "this" against "that" . . . and set those hopeful selections of theirs (candidates, if you please) on the road to victory . . . or a honeysuckle up "Salt River."

And there is something just a wee bit pitiful about a "new-born" candidate for public office . . . especially those who seek the lesser posts . . . respectable cusses who've been paying the preacher, kissing their own wives, and getting along pretty tolerable well. For they find themselves in a brand-new realm . . . a dreary one, with a thousand accusing fingers pointed in their direction, a thousand arrogant voices raised in ridicule.

They didn't know that dear old grandpa "borrowed a horse" and forgot to return it away back during the war, that Aunt Susie's John wronged a neighbor's Mary and had to jine the Army, that Sister Susan had a wild fling with a lightning-rod agent in the nineties . . . that he, himself, is an habitual imbibler of the demon rum, a wife-beater, an agnostic, a liar, a fool, a hypocrite . . . that his own daddy failed to support a bona-fide candidate of the dear party in an election about the turn of the century. Yessiree . . . he finds himself in what is commonly and vulgarly known as a hellwamess . . . lowered ninety-nine degrees in his own estimation.

The martyred one gets good and mad, maybe guesses a little . . . but he smiles weakly, and shakes every voting hand in the county, and kisses hundreds and hundreds of babies, and tells their mamas that they are the finest he's seen since Heck was a pup . . . and murder and all sorts of things cavort around in his troubled mind as he runs and runs and runs. Heroes, all of them . . . they just naturally have to be . . . or they wouldn't be very good candidates.

Both of the major parties will have tickets nominated in just a few more days . . . and in just a few more days there'll be a few more family skeletons carted out of the closets . . . a few more "authentic" family histories published . . . and the campaign will be in full swing . . . and the country will be saved by somebody!

## ENTIRELY DIFFERENT

But there's one candidate who never grows stale with Watauga County's electorate . . . Congressman Bob Doughton of Alleghany County, who opens his twelfth campaign for reelection to the National House of Representatives on the courthouse lawn here Saturday afternoon. He's a candidate from away back yonder, when they grew 'em high, wide and fearless . . . a dynamo of energy, an entertaining orator, a courageous leader, a shrewd business man, a loyal friend . . . the greatest Roman of them all . . . not always right, maybe, but never wrong.

Folks hereabouts are always glad to welcome Farmer Bob to the county, for he speaks the language of these hazy hills . . . he seems just like home-folks. As chairman of the powerful Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Doughton has been one of the closest associates of President Roosevelt, and has borne a full share of the Administration's promising program of recovery. There'll be a lot of visitors here Saturday from the other eight counties of the Ninth District . . . who are expecting to hear the Congressman give a full accounting of the New Deal thus far . . . and Wataugans will be happy to have them.

## RETURN TO FLORIDA

Mrs. Joe Conderman, son Billie, two nieces, Misses Mildred and "Tag" Bohnert, and Mr. Bohnert, left Wednesday for Miami after having spent the past seven weeks as Boone residents, guests at the home of Mrs. Belle Winkie. The Floridians are highly pleased with Boone and environs and prospect is that they will make this community their regular summer vacation spot.

All crops in Catawba County are reported in excellent condition with an abundant harvest forecast.

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## CARL COFFEY IS KILLED IN PLANE CRASH SUNDAY

Nephew of Boone People and Leading Citizen of North Wilkesboro, Goes to Death with Three Others when Ship Plunges to Earth. Murph Mathis and Lester Boyd Also Killed. Boone Folks Attend Funeral.

Carl S. Coffey, 36 years old, nephew of M. P. Critcher and Miss Jennie Coffey of Boone, and widely known aviator and business man of North Wilkesboro, was crushed to death late Sunday afternoon when his Stinson monoplane crashed to earth near Clingman, Wilkes county. Four others, passengers in the ill-fated ship, piloted by Mr. Coffey, were also killed. They were:

Murph Mathis, 43, farmer of Roaring River.

Robert Greene, 27, Clingman merchant.

Lester Boyd, 26, automobile mechanic of Yadkinville.

There was one eye-witness to the fatal crash of the four-passenger ship an eleven year old girl living in that neighborhood. She said the plane was traveling south just after making a turn when suddenly the motor stopped, and the plane struck the ground, turning completely over. The bodies of the four men were horribly mangled and the ship practically demolished. Evidently the ignition was cut off by the pilot before the crash as the plane did not catch on fire.

### Nephew of Boone People

Young Mr. Coffey was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. D. Coffey of N. Wilkesboro and a nephew of Mr. M. P. Critcher of Boone, as well as a grand-nephew of Miss Jennie Coffey of this place. A large number of his kin live in Watauga county where he was well known, having been called here frequently on business. He was a graduate of the University of North Carolina and since graduation had been active in business and civic affairs in the Wilkesboro. He introduced aviation into this region about seven years ago and was largely responsible for his city securing an airport. At the time of his death he was associated with his father in the automobile tire and petroleum business.

He was considered an expert airman, having both private and transport licenses and had made numerous flights over the southern states during the past few years.

Surviving are the parents, the widow, two children, Carl Gwyn and Margaret Blair, one brother, C. D. Coffey, Jr., also survives.

Greene is survived by a widow and his mother, while Boyd was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Boyd of Ronda. Mathis leaves a widow and six children. Neither of the three were known in this section.

Three of the four passengers were killed instantly, their bodies being badly crushed, while Boyd died about three hours later in the hospital.

### Impressive Funeral

Most impressive funeral services were held for Mr. Coffey Monday, nine planes paying tribute to a fallen comrade of the skyways as they circled in formation his late residence and the cemetery in which he was laid to rest.

The services were conducted by Rev. Eugene Olive of the First Baptist Church of which Mr. Coffey was a member, and Rev. C. W. Robinson, pastor of the first Presbyterian church. Interment was in the Greenwood cemetery.

Following burial services several of the visiting aviators, gathered from different parts of the state, piloted their ships across the cemetery and dropped flowers on the new-made mound.

Among those attending the services from Boone were: Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Critcher, Miss Louise Critcher, Mr. Tracy Council, Mr. Horton Gragg, Miss Carrie Coffey and perhaps other members of the Coffey family in Watauga, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Hodges and Mr. H. W. Horton.

## DISTRICT LEGION MEETING FRIDAY

Commander Chisholm to Be in Charge of Session for Legionnaires and Auxiliary Members. Officials, Old And New, Urged to Attend.

District Commander Chisholm of Crossnore, will preside at Legion Hall Friday evening, at the district meeting for the American Legion and Auxiliary. A special effort is being made to have all officers present, both the outgoing and those recently elected, and the meeting promises to be more or less of a red letter day insofar as veterans are concerned.

Officers of all posts in the district are expected and local Legionnaires are anxious that, in addition, every veteran bring his wife.

A feature of the evening will be a food sale by the Auxiliary.

## Asked to Leave Germany



Dorothy Thompson, American magazine writer and wife of Sinclair Lewis, the novelist, who has been ordered out of Germany as a result of her writings concerning the Hitler governmental regime.

## A. S. T. C. STUDENT IS KILLED IN CRASH

James Banner Fatally Injured as Car Turns Turtile Near Southern Pines. Funeral Services Conducted Tuesday at Banner Elk.

James Banner, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Banner of Martinsville, Va., and a student of Appalachian State Teachers College, was fatally wounded as the car in which he was riding overturned near Pinehurst Sunday afternoon. Young Banner was taken to a Pinehurst hospital, where he died twelve hours later. The car was driven by Dan Cranford, fellow student at Appalachian, who was uninjured in the wreck.

According to reports, the driver of the car applied brakes too quickly as he approached a highway intersection, causing the car to skid to the side ditch and overturn. Banner suffered a punctured lung and a dislocation of the heart. However, he remained conscious up until his death early Monday morning.

The dead youth registered as a first-year student here in the fall of 1931. He remained for two consecutive years, staying out last year to work. He was popular among the student body, conscientious, honest, and of noble character. His tragic death came as a severe shock to fellow students, who join his family in mourning his loss.

Young Banner was torn and reared at Banner Elk, and had numerous relatives in Watauga. He and his family had resided at Martinsville for only a short time. Survivors include the parents and two brothers, Paul and David Banner, of Martinsville; and a sister, Mrs. H. P. Morrow, of Albemarle.

Funeral services and burial took place at Banner Elk Tuesday afternoon, with the Rev. Marion Murray of Charlotte officiating. Pall bearers were: John B. Morris, Eugene Michael, Ed Hambrick, Edgar Tufts, J. P. Dempsey Jr. and Robert Banner.

Those attending from A. S. T. C. were the following faculty members and students: Mrs. D. D. Dougherty, Prof. J. A. Williams, Prof. A. Anotokos, Mrs. Van Hinson, Mrs. Lillie Hardin, Miss Jennie Todd, Mrs. T. V. McConnell, Jimmie Fowkes, Everett Toms, Cullen Johnson, Eugene Michael, Dan Cranford, Edward Hambrick, Guy Angell, Matthew Hanna, Pauline Hobson, Katherine Morris, Eloise Yelton, Gladys Quinn, Clara Banner, Douglas Redmond, Edwin Dougherty and Jesse Houck.

## Henson's Chapel Will Observe Circuit Day

The Watauga Charge of the Methodist Church will observe Circuit Day Sunday at Henson's Chapel Church, with special services, according to announcement made by the pastor, Rev. G. C. Graham.

Presiding Elder A. C. Gibbs of the Mount Airy District will preach at the 11 o'clock hour and lunch is to be served on the church grounds.

The afternoon session which begins at 2 o'clock is to be featured by some special addresses. Mrs. J. L. Woltz, secretary of the Mount Airy District Women's Missionary Society, has been invited to address the women of the charge on the subject, "Missionary Activities and Organization." Dr. J. D. Rankin, dean of the Appalachian State Teachers College, will speak, his subject being "Christian Standards of Church Loyalty," and other features are included in the tentative program.

Mr. Graham extends a cordial invitation to the general public and states that large delegations are expected from Valle Crucis, Mabel and Salem Churches.

## CALLOWAY REUNION

The annual Calloway reunion will be held at Mitchell's Chapel four miles from Yadkinville on September 16th. Members of the family in this section are urged to attend.

## MEETING IS HELD IN INTEREST OF LOCAL FARMERS

General Welfare of Watauga's Farm Population and Means of Promoting Best Interests is Discussed on Thursday Evening. Agricultural Committee Will Be Named to Serve Without Pay.

Fifteen townships were represented at a meeting held at the courthouse Tuesday evening, for the ostensible purpose of discussing ways and means of promoting the better interests and general welfare of the farmers and of Watauga County generally, and to take such steps as necessary to establish an agricultural advisory board representing the thirteen townships of the county.

Attorney Wade E. Brown, acting as chairman, called the meeting to order and after briefly explaining the purpose and aim of the gathering, introduced Mr. A. H. McKoin, manager of the Mills Home Farm, who in turn recited the advantages of organized action among the farmers and explained the steps by which such a movement might gain momentum.

Mr. Aderholt, president of the farmers organization of Davidson, discussed the possibilities of farm organization and reported successful action in his county. Mr. Phillip Hendrix, county agent for Davidson, spoke further on farm problems and gave practical ways in which organization had worked to the interest of the farmers in other counties and communities.

Representatives were present from the following townships: Beaver Dam, Boone, Blowing Rock, Cove Creek, Elk, Laurel Creek, Meat Camp, Stony Fork and Watauga.

Following an open discussion of farm problems, it was the opinion that in the absence of a county agent, an agricultural committee should be formed, and the following resolution was adopted:

"That a committee consisting of Wade E. Brown and Newton Cook work out and present an agricultural committee, consisting of 25 farmers, each township to be represented by at least one member, and after approval of said committee by a public meeting of the farmers, to be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners for their official approval, which said committee shall serve without pay and shall be recognized as the official representatives of the farmers of Watauga County."

Another farm meeting will be held upon the call of the acting chairman.

## SUPERIOR COURT TO BEGIN MONDAY

Judge Harding to Preside Over One-Week Session. No Major Trials Are Docketed. Few Civil Cases Likely to Be Terminated.

Judge W. F. Harding of Charlotte will preside at the regular fall term of Watauga Superior Court which will convene next Monday, for one week, there being no provision for an extension.

Only fifteen criminal cases are on docket, states Clerk A. E. South, who expects the slate for the State to be wiped clean by Wednesday noon. Few serious cases are to come up, two large actions involving enough money to place them in the felonious category. Most of the other cases have to do with the violation of the Turlington Act.

Court officials do not believe that during the one-week term it will be possible to clear the civil docket to any appreciable amount, and there is a growing sentiment for a special term for the sole purpose of ridding the calendar of the constantly accumulating number of cases. Prospect is that the Governor will be asked for such a term within the near future.

## Cove Creek School to Open Next Monday

The Cove Creek and Valle Crucis schools will open next Monday, according to information coming from the Board of Education yesterday. It is stated that the new buses have not yet arrived, but that the old vehicles will be temporarily used, so that there may be no further delay in providing schools in these communities.

## BLEASE LOSES IN S. C.

Cole L. Blease, veteran South Carolina political warrior, former governor and United States Senator, went down to defeat Tuesday as he again sought gubernatorial honors in the Commonwealth to the south. Olin D. Johnson, young Spartanburg lawyer, won handily in the run-off primary election. Late returns indicate that Johnson has won by more than 30,000 votes over his politically-seasoned adversary.

## Supported by Doughton



Congressman Joseph W. Byrns of Tennessee, who is being supported by Congressman R. L. Doughton for the Speakership of the House of Representatives, seems to have the lead in the race for the coveted position made vacant by the death of Hon. Henry W. Rainey.

## DOUGHTON LOOKS FOR HUGE CROWD

Congressman Informs Newspaper That No Less Than 1,200 Political Leaders Will Be Present in Boone for Opening of His Campaign.

In a telephone conversation with The Democrat Tuesday Congressman Robert L. Doughton stated that Boone should look for no less than 1,200 people from the other counties of his district, when he appears here Saturday afternoon for the opening of his thirteenth consecutive campaign for the National House.

An open-air meeting has been arranged for the courthouse lawn, since in the opinion of the arrangements committee, no building in town would take care of those coming.

State Chairman J. W. Winborne will be present and will speak briefly after Mr. Doughton has fired his opening gun, and the chairman of the various county committees will be introduced to the assemblage.

Music will be furnished for the occasion by the Watauga High School Band of Stanly County, and a gala event is predicted by local Democratic leaders, who are insisting on a large crowd.

Mr. Doughton has not announced the subject of his discourse, but local opinion is that he will devote considerable time to the legislation as passed by the last Congress, and defend the New Deal in every detail. Mr. Doughton, as head of the Ways and Means Committee, has stood by the Administration on every question.

Convention Same Day. The county convention meets also on Saturday at 10 o'clock, the precinct meetings being held Friday afternoon. Thus with the district meeting, Saturday will be filled with political activity.

## RETURN FROM EXTENDED TRIP

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Watson, son Lionel, and Mesdames James Ragan and Carrie Watson returned Tuesday from a visit of ten days with relatives in Washington, D. C., and different points in Maryland and Pennsylvania. The trip covered 1,500 miles and was described as a most enjoyable one. While away they visited Mrs. Clawson's brother, Mr. Ensie Clawson, who has been a patient at Johns Hopkins Hospital for the past four months. Although he has undergone two or three serious operations, his friends in Watauga are informed that he is at last recovering, and physicians are hopeful that he may be dismissed from the hospital in about three weeks.

## New Deal Said to Be Upheld in State of Maine

Governor Louis J. Brann of Maine, Democrat, won the governorship for the second time in the election Monday, the first time in the history of the State a Democratic governor was able to succeed himself. Late reports indicate that Brann's lead has passed the 30,000 mark, while Senator Frederick Hale, Republican, is depending on the slender lead of 1,238 to send him back to the United States for the fourth consecutive term. Democrats, at the same time, are claiming two of the three seats in the House of Representatives, near complete returns indicate.

Since the "New Deal" was in the forefront of the Maine campaign, followers of the present administration over the country are using the results as proof that the Rooseveltian policies are still meeting with public approval.

At the same time the Maine electorate shattered another precedent in repealing the State's 50-year-old constitutional prohibition amendment. The final returns are expected to indicate a two-to-one victory for the repealists.

## G. O. P. CONVENTION MONDAY; MEEKINS TO BE KEYNOTER

Hon. Joseph M. Pevette, Republican Candidate for Congress, Also to Speak as Watauga Republican State County Ticket. Precinct Meetings Will Be Held Saturday Afternoon to Name Delegates.

Pursuant to a call issued Wednesday morning by Russell D. Hodges, county chairman, Watauga Republicans will gather at the courthouse in Boone next Monday evening, September 17th, at 7 o'clock, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the various county offices.

Precinct chairmen have been notified to hold meetings in their respective precincts on Saturday, September 15th, at 1 p. m. for the purpose of electing delegates to the county convention.

Based on the vote cast for the Republican gubernatorial nominee in 1932, the different townships are entitled to the numbers of delegates indicated below:

- Bald Mountain, 4; Beaver Dam, 5; Blowing Rock, 8; Blue Ridge, 11; Boone, 21; Cove Creek, 13; Meat Camp No. 1, 9; Meat Camp No. 2, 2; North Fork, 6; Shawneehaw, 7; Stony Fork, 14; Watauga, 18; Elk, 5; Laurel Creek, 10.

### Chairman Meekins to Speak

Hon. W. C. Meekins, chairman of the Republican State Executive Committee, will speak at the convention as will Hon. Joseph M. Pevette, Republican candidate for Congress in the Ninth District, and the event will be filled with interest for partisans of this section. Mr. Meekins, son of Hon. Isaac M. Meekins, Federal Judge for the Eastern North Carolina District, distinguished himself in political circles last April, when he "upset the dope" and defeated Hon. James S. Duncan, veteran G. O. P. leader, for the State chairmanship. He is a graduate of Harvard University, and soon after locating for the practice of law was elected judge of the county court in Henderson county. He is known as a young man of exceptional ability, and like his distinguished father, is said to be a platform orator of great ability.

Mr. Pevette, who opposes Congressman R. L. Doughton for his seat in the National House of Representatives, is a native Wilkes County man, and has enjoyed success as a practicing attorney in Salisbury and in West Jefferson, where he now resides. He is regarded as a logical and fluent speaker, local Republicans feeling fortunate in having been able to present both he and Mr. Meekins.

The Democrat today carries the official convention call, and Chairman Hodges believes that a record-breaking number will attend the meeting this year. An especial invitation is extended to both men and women voters to be present at the deliberations of the convention, and hear the issues of the day discussed from a Republican viewpoint by the widely known and able leaders.

## ASKEW BOUND TO U. S. COURT; FILLS BOND OF \$5,000.00

Goldsboro, N. C.—Rev. R. H. Askew was given a preliminary hearing Saturday on a charge of violating the "Lindbergh law" for his alleged kidnaping hoax and his trial set for November 5th in U. S. District Court at Raleigh.

Wan and thin after several weeks illness, the 28-year-old evangelist and head of a four-square gospel group here, sat slumped in a chair beside his wife, the former Miss Hattie Greer of Watauga, during the brief proceedings and evidenced little interest in them.

U. S. Commissioner L. E. Pearson fixed the amount of bond at \$5,000. It was given later in the day and Askew was released.

Sheriff Paul Garrison and C. A. Whitton, department of justice agent who signed the original warrant against the evangelist, were the only witnesses heard.

Their testimony dealt principally with the purported confession by Askew that he himself wrote the ransom demands received after his disappearance from Goldsboro on August 14th.

Whitton revealed that in addition to the original letter to Mrs. Askew demanding \$25,000 if she wished to see "your husband alive again" and a telegram telling her to "have the money ready Saturday," she also received a telephone call from Knoxville, just before Askew made his appearance in Nashville, asking if the money was available. Whitton said Mrs. Askew told Federal agents that she did not recognize the voice.

Askew was allowed to return to Goldsboro, and the purported confession was made after he was questioned here.