

# BOONE SKETCHES

By J. C. R.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Citizens of America tonight dismiss from their minds the cares and perplexities peculiar to modern life, and join with President Franklin Delano Roosevelt in celebration of his fifty-third birthday anniversary. And it's truly an occasion for merry-making . . . under the leadership of a fearless, progressive Chief Executive, the Nation is steadily emerging from the clutches of a long-drawn-out depression . . . an era of economic chaos which reduced to poverty one-third of the New World's population . . . which chilled the bread-producing currents of commerce, and nurtured the carnal impulses of humankind!

His work is not finished . . . in fact, it's just begun . . . but the the sincerity or purpose, the ability to cope with aggravating emergencies, the pioneering spirit which prompts our President to penetrate the uncharted wilderness that lies far beyond the outposts of accepted governmental policy, the broadness of his vision and the strength of his argument . . . these unparalleled virtues have enshrined the name of this "new-style" Roosevelt in the hearts of an admiring multitude. The wee small voice of a despicable minority . . . a ranting group of demagogues and charlatans, captained by Louisiana's self-appointed dictator . . . its stirring tones, thank God, are drowned in the universal chorus of appreciation which greets America's kindly chief-tain on his natal day.

Democrats in the swamps of Georgia, Republicans along the wind-swept shores of Maine, Farmer-Laborites in the Middle West, Independents out on the Coast, Baptists in Birmingham, Methodists in Memphis, Presbyterians in Petersburg, Episcopalians in Emporia, Quakers in Quaker Town, Romanists in Rochester . . . every class and condition of the social order lays aside the jealousies and hatreds of partisan politics to shout: Happy Birthday, Mr. Roosevelt, Happy Birthday to You!"

## THE SHOW GOES ON

The much-publicized drama at Flemington, N. J., continues . . . entering its fourth week with Richard Bruno Hauptmann, accused kidnapper-murder of Charles and Anne Lindbergh's baby, maintaining the calm, cease-hardened, sinister demeanor which has characterized his long weeks of imprisonment; matching wits with an untiring, unrelenting, savage State's attorney in the person of David T. Wilentz, whose very name suggests the well-known "pound of flesh."

Flemington is scrutinizing its stuff . . . ladies of the "aid" societies are serving the Master by serving sandwiches, cakes and home-made pies to the ever-increasing throng attracted to its puritanical precincts by the most spectacular trial in this Nation's history . . . hotels are running over and private homes are jammed with morbidly curious pilgrims . . . saloons, or taverns, quickly erected to satiate the thirst of a few hundred odd choicest scribes and maybe "Pharisees," are garnering the skeleks world without end . . . souvenir vendors selling cartloads of cute little reminders of the big days of the trial . . . miniature ladders and such-like that are just the thing to take home to the children! Yes, Flemington is "on the map," and a carnival spirit pervades even the venerable courthouse where the wheels of justice are frequently halted by the unrestrained outbursts of a celebrating audience.

But the stolid German-American carpenter has given the news hounds a rare treat . . . he just naturally failed to do what the dramatic State's attorney had promised he'd do . . . he refused to break under the withering barrage of questions pried by the astute Wilentz . . . he told his tale and stuck to it—just like grim death to the proverbial skeleton! Hands that gripped the triggers of a Prussian machine gun during the World War shrank not even a little as they pointed defiantly at the crafty prosecutor, or persecutor, who punished him with his eternal thrusts and unmerciful sarcasm . . . "Liar!" and other such "fighty" words were tossed about with abandon . . . jokes were cracked, and laughter paraded the three-day cross-examination, even as if the two playful "characters" in this climactic act were garbed in the spangles of minstrel end-men.

Mr. Justice Trenchard . . . a nice old gentleman, indeed . . . is directing the performance at Flemington. He smiles occasionally as members of the stellar cast forget their "lines" . . . he rules occasionally . . . but, if press accounts are authentic, he does nothing to spoil the show! Justice Trenchard is co-operating nicely as the Nation's most deplorable tragedy is converted into a laugh-provoking farce! May the trial continue a few weeks more . . . it's most enjoyable!

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## A. S. T. C. STUDENT HAS FINE RECORD

JUNIOR AT LOCAL COLLEGE FIEND FOR HONOR ROLLS



The scholarship record of Miss Helen Greene (above), student at A. S. T. C., is phenomenal. Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Greene of Cliffside, she made the honor roll in every grade through elementary, grammar and high schools. Then, as a student at the Boiling Springs Junior College, she made the select group as a Freshman and Sophomore there. Graduating last spring, she entered Appalachian, where she has again been designated an honor student. She is scheduled to graduate in 1936.

## HOSPITAL SOON TO BE FINISHED

Plumbers Engaged in Installing Temporary Heating Connections in Order That Inside Work May Progress on Project.

Charles S. Stevenson, local plumbing contractor, has been engaged in making temporary connection of the heating lines at the Watauga Hospital so that the building may be made warm enough for the inside work to proceed during the remainder of the winter. Mr. Stevenson says that numbers of fixtures are being repacked which had been destroyed by vandals during the period since the building was first placed under construction. It is his understanding that work on the project will be pushed through to completion during the spring and summer.

The building, a two-story and basement brick structure, was started more than two years ago by the State in conjunction with the Duke Endowment, but lack of funds with which to go ahead stopped the work after the walls had been erected and the roof placed. It is to be a fifty-bed structure.

### OPERATION PERFORMED

Mrs. John F. Hardin, who has been a patient at the Biltmore Hospital in Asheville for several days, is showing satisfactory improvement after having undergone a very serious operation. It is expected that without complications, the well-known lady will return to her home in Boone in about two weeks.

### MRS. ETTA ISAACS DEAD

At press time The Democrat learns of the death of Mrs. Etta Isaacs of the Baird's Creek section, which occurred Tuesday night. Funeral services are to be held at the Cove Creek Baptist Church Thursday and interment will be in the Mast cemetery. No other particulars are available, but will be given in the next week's issue.

### CASE CONTINUED

Letcher Teague, only defendant brought before the Recorders Court Tuesday, was granted a continuance by Judge Bingham, after several lawyers and other citizens had intervened in behalf of the popular young man. Teague is charged with drunkenness.

### CREDIT ASSOCIATION TO HOLD STOCKHOLDERS MEET

Farmers should remember to be present at the annual stockholders meeting of the Wilkesboro Production Credit Association at Wilkesboro courthouse February 2, 11 o'clock a.m. The seven counties, Wilkes, Watauga, Caldwell, Ashe, Alleghany, Surry and Yadkin, comprising the district are expected to send large delegations and any farmer who is interested in addition to the stockholders are especially invited to attend.

## COMMITTEES OF ASSEMBLY WORK ON REVENUE BILL

Last Week Devoted to Tax and Appropriations. Sales Tax to Be Recommended. Sentiment for Salary Increases Strengthens. Bill for Acquisition of Park-to-Park Right of Way Passes Both Houses.

By M. R. DUNNAGAN  
(Special Correspondent)

Raleigh, N. C.—General Assembly activities last week were centered in committees largely, and especially the State and House Finance and Appropriations committees, dealing with revenue and appropriations bills, while the roads, judiciary, health and some other committees had work to do.

The revenue measure is receiving more attention along now. The Finance Committee has been meeting daily, House and Senate committees being merged into one temporarily, approving parts of the bill and holding hearings on the more controversial section—the general sales tax. The Fair Tax Association, opposing the sales tax, had its day, and the State Merchants Association is to be heard.

However, whether "inevitable" finally or not, the sales tax, without the exemptions on nine basic necessities, has been approved in general by the joint finance committees, although still others are to appear in opposition. About all of the arguments against it were presented last week, unless new ones are to be sprung by the merchants. How the House and Senate, when it gets to the floor, will treat the sales tax, approved by the committees, remains to be seen.

The joint Appropriations committees have been hearing State departments and all agencies and will continue these hearings through this week. Most agencies seek to have the appropriations recommended by the Advisory Budget Commission increased, although some are satisfied with the figures. This group hopes to finish hearings this week, and certainly next week.

It is more than likely that at least the chairman of the four larger committees will concur when they have about completed their deliberations to see if they are close together on expected results—a balanced budget, which Governor Ehringhaus has definitely and firmly stated must be accomplished.

Sentiment is evidently strong for

salary increases, several bills calling for increases of 20 to 40 per cent. The higher figure cannot be reached. (Continued on Page 8)

## Pending Passage Control Measure, Farmers Asked To Reduce Spud Acreage

Representative Lindsay Warren, Accompanied by Maine Congressman, Confer With Officials of the Farm Administration.

Washington, D. C.—Southern potato growers will be asked to enter a voluntary reduction movement pending the effective date of the national Potato Control Act which Representative Lindsay C. Warren of North Carolina expects to introduce next week.

Representatives Warren, Biard and Brewster of Maine conferred Monday with AAA officials who have drawn a tentative bill for consideration of interested members of Congress.

Another conference will be held today when it is hoped final agreement may be reached on the terms of the bill.

At a conference Tuesday the chief snag was over the effective date. Potatoes are grown in practically all sections of the country and the seasons vary greatly. It was found impossible to arrive at any date which would be satisfactory to everyone concerned. It is now probable that the effective date will be fixed as May 1, and that Southern growers will be asked to co-operate in advance of the date.

It is said that the bill will carry a penalty tax of 50 cents per one hundred pounds on all potatoes grown in excess of quotas, and that each farmer will be allowed to use his best three years during the past five as a basis for his quota.

So far there has been little opposition to a compulsory potato law modelled on laws already applying to cotton and tobacco, which, unlike potatoes, are grown in comparatively small sections of the country.

## Trial at Flemington Continues

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New Jersey Brings Witnesses from Germany to Discredit Testimony of Hauptmann



PAS

The three witnesses, pictured above, have been brought from Germany by the State of New Jersey in the trial of Bruno Hauptmann on the charge of the murder of the Lindbergh baby. They are close relatives of Isadore Fisch, deceased, from whom Hauptmann testified he received the Lindbergh ransom money. They are, left to right: Czera Fisch and her husband, Pinhas Fisch, brother of the late Isadore, and Hannah Fisch, a sister.

State's Attorney David T. Wilentz Tuesday afternoon finished his cross examination of Hauptmann, and the defendant was turned back to his own lawyers for a re-direct examination. Throughout his more than two days of grilling by the State, Hauptmann maintained a remarkable degree of poise, and while much of his story is described as "far-fetched," he stood by it to a letter. He repeatedly maintained his innocence despite the mass of damaging circumstantial evidence piled up against him.

Mrs. Hauptmann is expected to testify today, being the last of the principal witnesses for the defense.

Other alibi witnesses are expected to be introduced by the Hauptmann counsel.

## TAX COLLECTIONS ARE ON UPGRADE

Wilson Averaging More Than Eight Hundred Dollars a Day in County Tax Receipts. January Collections Double Last Year.

A decided increase in receipts of county taxes is reported by A. D. Wilson, the collector, who says he is now averaging taking in more than eight hundred dollars a day. January collections, in toto, are expected to be more than double those of January, 1934. Mr. Wilson continues.

With continued low prices of farm products, Mr. Wilson cannot explain the sudden and decided increase other than that payments made depositors of the Watauga County Bank have helped, and that a general wave of optimism over the signs of general business recovery has induced many to spend who had hitherto desisted from parting with the currency. At any rate, tax collections are picking up, and that's a mighty good sign, Mr. Wilson rightly thinks.

### ROBBERY AT MORTIMER

Lenoir, N. C.—Robbery Saturday night of the postoffice and store at Mortimer, mountain village near here, caused a loss of around \$100 in cash, Sheriff J. C. Tolbert reported, following an investigation Sunday morning. No clues as to the identity of the thief were obtained. H. M. Little is postmaster and operator of the store.

### WORLD COURT LOSES

The Administration suffered its first major setback Tuesday when the Senate went on record as opposed to the World Court proposal by a vote of 52-36. As has been their custom, North Carolina's Senators split on the controversy. Bailey championing the measure and Reynolds opposing it. Both spoke their respective convictions during the hot debates on the floor of the Senate.

An associational meeting was held in North Wilkesboro Friday and Mr. A. H. Chambers, representing the State Department of Agriculture, was present and told of the plans of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration as will affect the raising of corn and hogs. Representatives from Wilkes, Yadkin, Surry, Alleghany, Ashe, Watauga, Alexander, Avery, Mitchell and Caldwell counties were present.

It is said that the bill will carry a penalty tax of 50 cents per one hundred pounds on all potatoes grown in excess of quotas, and that each farmer will be allowed to use his best three years during the past five as a basis for his quota.

So far there has been little opposition to a compulsory potato law modelled on laws already applying to cotton and tobacco, which, unlike potatoes, are grown in comparatively small sections of the country.

It was brought out in the meeting that contract blanks will be available

## ROOSEVELT BALL IS LOCAL TOPIC

Much Interest Shown in Annual Social Event to Be Held Tonight at Daniel Boone Hotel. Ticket Sales Have Increased.

The Roosevelt Ball, celebrating the 53rd anniversary of the birth of the President, has been the principal topic of conversation around the streets of Boone for the past few days. The event, which has been fashioned into a huge social gathering by the local committee, is to be held at the Daniel Boone Hotel this (Wednesday) evening.

Mayor Tracy Council, who is chairman of the local committee, states that advance sales of tickets are fair in advance of those of last year and predicts that the final receipts will be surprisingly satisfactory. Many who do not dance are expecting to attend, participate in the card games and otherwise be entertained during the evening.

Proceeds from the event, as is generally known, go to the relief of sufferers from infantile paralysis. This year, however, 70 per cent remains at home for the care of local children delinquent in this respect.

### SEA TAKES ITS TOLL

New York—Search for survivors of the Ward liner Mohawk was abandoned Monday long after hope had vanished that any could remain alive in the wind-lashed waters off the New Jersey Coast.

When the last Coast Guard cutter was recalled, three nights and two days had passed since the Mohawk sank Thursday night after colliding with the Norwegian freighter Tallman off Sea Girt, N. J.

The bodies of 35 victims have been recovered from the coastal steamer and ten-nine members of the crew and a woman passenger still are missing.

to the association and county agents some time next week and an early sign-up by interested farmers is urged in order that all contracts may be completed by the specified time—March 1st.

It will be necessary for everyone expecting to receive reduction payments this year to sign regardless of whether or not they signed the contracts last year. In addition to these all farmers wishing to reduce their production of corn and hogs and get paid for the reduction can sign. All Watauga farmers desiring further information may receive same by applying at the office of Mr. S. C. Eggers in the Watauga County Bank building here.

Continued cold weather has visited Boone during the past few days, mercury always below freezing and once approaching within six degrees of the zero mark.

## BUILDING & LOAN IN FINE SHAPE AUDIT INDICATES

Local Association Matures Fourteenth Series. Earnings Sufficient to Pay Dividends and Create Additional Contingency Reserve. Stevens Says Association in Fine Shape. New Series Outsell Last, Secretary Says.

The Watauga Building and Loan Association closed one of the most successful years of its existence on December 31, according to an audit of its affairs completed Tuesday evening by W. E. Stevens, certified public accountant of Lenoir.

The thirteenth and fourteenth series of installment stock were matured in the customary 84 months, which is the shortest period of maturity possible under the monthly system of payments; sufficient earnings were shown to pay all contingencies and considerably strengthen the reserve fund which has been set up against contingencies.

### Stevens Expresses Satisfaction

Mr. Stevens says that the local association's record of earnings and stability is far ahead of the average he has found in the State and continues:

"The Association has earned sufficient to apportion earnings to the installment stockholders at the usual rate, after making an addition to the reserve for contingencies of \$1,562.25.

"I find that the fiscal affairs of the Association have been handled in the usual efficient manner, all funds having been properly accounted for. Mortgage loans were found to be in their proper order with the necessary collateral papers. Your management is to be congratulated for the excellent showing made during the year. The installment and interest in arrears at December 31, 1934, were less than the arrears at December 31, 1933."

### New Series Going Strong

W. H. Gragg, secretary of the association, finds that payments are now being made by stockholders at an accelerated rate, and is highly pleased with the enthusiastic reception accorded the new series of installment stock which opened this month. Sales are being made every day, he continued, and more than four hundred shares had been disposed of the first of the week.

### Reynolds Says Congress Will Adjourn Early

Washington, D. C.—A short session of Congress was predicted Monday by Senator Reynolds of North Carolina.

He expressed the belief adjournment would come by April 1, declaring the four billion dollar relief appropriation, the bonus and social security issues would be disposed of within two months.

Reynolds said he believed Congress would grant President Roosevelt the control he wants over the relief fund, would adopt some social legislation and would approve a compromise on the bonus.

The World Court, now before the Senate, would be rejected this week by a two-vote margin, he predicted. Reynolds is a vigorous leader of the opposition to the court, having split with his colleague, Senator Josiah W. Bailey.

### Liquor Control Bills Are Being Prepared

Raleigh—Several other bills proposing some definite form of liquor control in North Carolina in the place of the present state prohibition law are known to be in process of preparation here. It is understood that Senator John Hill of Durham, an ardent onal dry and active churchman, prepared a liquor control bill which he is planning to introduce at some later date. Senator Hill takes the position that the present State prohibition law is a farce, that liquor is now being sold in North Carolina more openly than in many of the other states where its sale is legalized and that a stronger liquor control will do more to bring about a reduction in drunkenness and drinking than the present law.</p