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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

KING STREET

BY
ROB RIVERS

CARL GOERCH, editor of the State magazine, who writes more stories about Carolina and gives out more information about the area than perhaps any other man, was in town the other day, while we were away from the office . . . sorry to have missed seeing our friend . . . who along with Bill Sharpe constitute a team of public press agents, for Tarheelia who get results . . . Bower Hodges . . . the community many years ago, with the migration of Wataugans to the broader fields of Ohio, pays his first visit to the old home town for about eighteen years, and finds relatively few of the old-timers around . . . Brings word of Rom Lovell, Ernest Hicks, Plato Moody, and others, who are doing well in the vicinity of Fresno . . . Earl Norris, one of the State Highway Commission's most valued local workers, putting the asphalt on State route through town, and giving us the low-down on a few matters . . . Town Council putting in enlarged pipe line on Daniel Boone Hill, to alleviate critical water shortage in that section . . . Graham contractor shows up to begin to do some black-topping for the city and offers to do private driveways for citizens on the side . . . Large numbers of local Republican leaders included in the list of contributors to the G. O. P. national campaign . . . amounts ranged from twenty to fifty dollars . . . Edwin N. Hahn, Esquire, walks about the town, talking with friends, visiting the sick, and as always, contributing a full share to the upbuilding of the community, and to the welfare of his fellow man . . . W. G. Todd, of Perkinsville, the oldest male native of the community of whom we know, carrying on his lumber business, and giving us the information as to what the weather is likely to be on occasions.

LOCAL MEMBERS of the Masonic fraternity dealing with W. R. Winkler for hall in the new building he is erecting between the old courthouse and the new . . . Nice as the Junior Order has been to allow the brethren to hold forth in their hall, it is time for the Masons to have their own sanctum . . . By the very nature of the organization it should never hold forth, 'cept in its own quarters—if possible . . . since Dr. J. G. Rivers, our paternal grandfather was one of the founders of the now defunct Watauga Lodge, and since we make the third and no doubt the last generation of the tribe to have been raised in that lodge, we have a rather keen interest in getting the present organization housed all to itself . . . We would like to insist that the Masons join together in raising the relatively small amount of money required to buy a home and thus perhaps strengthen the fraternity, which used to be a mighty force in the community . . . Free masonry has had its lapses through the years, but has lived on to promote the brotherhood of man throughout the centuries . . . without fanfare or press agents, its work will continue to go on behind those mystic portals . . . We can now contribute to its strength and stability in this community.

CONTESTANT on Sunday quiz program, mellow with wine, couldn't quite make the grade . . . boy and girl pass down the street, arm in arm, happy as jaybirds, one trying to support the other . . . The non-chance of some auto drivers as they whisk through . . . the uncertainty of others . . . some just idling along, looking about with studied carelessness, lighting a cigarette or opening a bottle without a waver . . . one with a lovely bejeweled feminine hand toying with the lobe of his left ear . . . the brand new shiny cars that look the same front and rear . . . the tourist who wants to know what one does for recreation 'sides walking . . . didn't have the answer right off . . . school kids inquiring as to the possibility of schools being opened late due to polio . . . they want 'em to start . . . streetside discussion of the fundamentals of the Christian religion . . . don't know if either one got very close in . . . Spud Whitener gets good crowd and a big hand at his voice recital . . . The personable colleague will be missed when he takes on the new job down at Florida U. (Continued on page 4)

WOODEN SHOES STILL IN VOGUE



Despite easing of the leather shortage for Holland through the Marshall plan, the wooden shoe is still popular at large. Van Zwienen of Lekkerkerk is working daily on hand-carved shoes to meet the demands. He carves out a willow shoe, which when dried, is repellant to dampness.

Given 8 to 12 Years For Shooting Douglas Norris

College Ends Record Term

Friday, August 27, will see the close of the biggest summer school in the history of Appalachian State Teachers college. Graduating exercises for the 76 graduates will be held on Thursday evening at eight o'clock.

There have been 274 enrolled in the graduate school. This is the first time the college has offered the master's degree, though graduate work has been given since 1942.

1408 different students have been enrolled in the summer school. There were 1973 enrollments, but this included the people who registered twice.

In addition to North Carolina there were students from sixteen other states. The home state led in enrollment with 1106 students from 89 North Carolina counties. South Carolina had 127 students, Florida 72, Georgia 39 and Virginia 28.

The college was fortunate in having on its faculty some of the outstanding educators from various sections of the United States. There are faculty members from Chicago, Kansas City, Newark, N. J., New York, Gainesville, Florida, Philadelphia, Greensboro, Staunton, Va., Maryville, Tenn., Raleigh, Wittenburg, Kansas, Bristol, Va., Granville, Ohio, and a number of others. There were eleven faculty members with master's degrees, and nine with doctor's degrees teaching in the field of elementary education. The college wishes to place special emphasis upon work in primary and grammar grade education.

Horseshoes To Feature Tourney

Final arrangements are being made for the horseshoe tournament which is to begin on Thursday evening. Registration for the tournament will be continued until ten o'clock Wednesday evening.

Six prizes will be given to the winners in the singles and doubles events. Prizes will also be given to the runners-up in the contests.

The following prizes have been donated: Five passes to the Appalachian Theater. One pair of suspenders donated by Bell's Dept. Store. One Tie from Hunt's Dept. Store. One bottle of hair tonic from Charlie Ray's Barber Shop, and one bottle of hair tonic from Joe Crawford's Barber Shop. Another prize will be presented to make the awards total six.

Mr. Tommy Thompson, director of the project requests that all persons interested attend the tournament either to enter, or look on. The competition should be interesting in both the doubles and single events.

Waistline raised two to three inches by Paris designer.

WILSON NAMED TO FHA BOARD; 500 FAMILIES IN COUNTY AIDED

Boone Farmer Succeeds Ben W. Farthing; Grady Tugman, Ben W. Greene Other Members of Group; Agency Approves Farm Loans.

Appointment of George A. Wilson, Boone, to a three-year term on the Farmers Home Administration County Committee for Watauga county was announced today by J. B. Slack, State Director.

Mr. Wilson succeeds Mr. Ben W. Farthing, whose term expired June 30. Also on the committee are Grady Tugman and Avery W. Greene. A committee of three serves in each agricultural county throughout the nation in which the agency makes farm ownership and operating loans. Appointments are scheduled so that a committee always has two experienced members.

The Watauga County Committee has an important place in making supervised credit available to local farmers, according to William A. Smith, County Supervisor.

Before any money can be borrowed through the agency an applicant must have the approval of the County Committee. In the case of farm ownership loans the farm to be purchased, enlarged or improved must also be approved by the committee. "The members know agricultural conditions in the county, are often familiar with the farm the applicant plans to operate," Mr. Smith explained.

In addition to approving loans the committee cooperates with the County Supervisor in overall administration of the program in the county. Periodically they review the progress of borrowers to determine whether they have reached a financial position that would enable them to refinance their loans through private lenders. A farmer who is eligible for credit from regular lending sources is not eligible for a loan from the Farmers Home Administration.

"Using this system of operation, the agency helped 500 families in Watauga county toward better farming and better living with farm purchase and farm operating loans," Mr. Smith said. In the past 12 months 400 applications have been received for this type of credit.

Park Commission Meets At Linville

Mr. W. R. Winkler, member of the State Park Commission, was in Linville Monday where he attended a meeting of the full park commission membership at a luncheon at Eseeola Inn.

Mrs. Winkler was with her husband in Linville Sunday evening, when the commissioners and their wives were guests of the Linville and Newland Chambers of Commerce at a banquet.

The commission, at its executive meeting Monday, concerned itself with the future of the Grandfather Mountain as a park area, the Cone Estate, and steps looking to the early completion of the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Among those meeting with the park commission, were R. Getty Browning, chief locating engineer for the State highway department; Raymond Smith, highway commissioner; Hugh Morton of Wilmington, and others.

Overseas Aid Plans Mapped

The town chairman of the American Overseas Aid Program, Mrs. Nora Warman, has mapped out areas of the town for the canvas in drive to aid the starving children overseas.

Each organization helping in the drive will receive this week a notification as to the territory assigned to its group and it is hoped that each will assume the responsibility of making the drive successful. Watauga county's quota is \$1,024 which is to be raised by September 30.

Wasted farmland which has been stripped of its topsoil and cut to pieces with gullies offers little in the way of food and protection for wildlife.

SET NEW NON-STOP SPEED RECORD



Here are the three pilots who, with their crew of 16, set a new non-stop 5,120 mile speed record flying a B-29 from Furstenfeldbruck, Germany. The pilots are, left to right, Capt. Walter Abbott, Des Moines, Ia.; Lieut. John Gaffney, Akron, Ohio.; and Capt. Holly Bartlett of New Macon, Ga. The pilots landed their giant bomber at Marshall Field, Kans., just 23 hours and 50 minutes after the takeoff from Furstenfeldbruck.

Say Burley Prices To Hit High Levels

60 Local Deaths Held Preventable

In 1940 there were 146 deaths in Watauga county. Of this number, 60 were preventable according to the department of rural sociology of N. C. State College. A preventable death is a death that would not have occurred if the death rates by age in North Carolina had been as low as those in the major residential group of any other state.

The sociologists assume, as basis for these findings, that the geo-physical conditions in rural and urban areas of North Carolina are as favorable to a low death rate as in any other state and that the people of this state are as sound biologically. Yet, 37 states had lower death rates than North Carolina in 1940, a situation which points to lack of adequate medical care in this state. Figures on percentage of preventable deaths for more recent years are not available, since it is necessary to have an age-race breakdown of the population in order to calculate preventable deaths. Such data have not been available since the 1940 census.

According to figures compiled by the department of rural sociology, 60, or 41.4 per cent, of the white deaths in Watauga in 1940 were preventable. There was only one non-white death and it was not listed as preventable. The county ranked 39th in per cent of preventable white deaths and lowest in per cent of preventable non-white deaths.

In human terms these figures tell a story of grim tragedy of suffering, heartache and broken homes, of social and economic waste in the loss of people who should not have died in the year in which they did.

These needless deaths give stark urgency to the report of the N. C. Hospital Association which points out that hospitals of the state are finding it increasingly difficult to stay in business. They also give urgency to efforts to provide additional hospitals.

Greene Launches Congress Race

Statesville.—At a countywide Republican rally held at the American Legion hut here Saturday afternoon, Clyde R. Greene, of Boone, officially launched his campaign for election to Congress from the ninth district this fall.

In addition to hearing their candidate for Congress, the Iredell Republicans heard local speakers and organized for the coming campaign.

Approximately fifty Republicans from all sections of the county attended the Saturday afternoon meeting. Preliminary plans for a district rally this fall which a nationally prominent Republican will be invited to attend were discussed.

SCHOOLS OPEN 2 WEEKS LATE IN WATAUGA DUE TO POLIO

Board of Education Takes Precautionary Steps On Advice Health Officials; No New Cases; Quarantine May Be Lifted Soon.

The Watauga County schools which had been scheduled to open their 1948-49 terms September 1, will not open until September 13, it is stated by county superintendent W. H. Walker, who said the postponement was brought about in the interest of preventing the further spread of polio in the county.

Although no new cases of paralysis have been noted in the past week the Board of Education followed the advice of health authorities in setting a new date for the school openings as an added precautionary measure.

Dr. Len D. Hagaman, acting public health officer states that in his opinion the polio epidemic here is definitely on the wane, but advises parents to continue to observe the voluntary quarantine of their children until at least September 1. He is of the opinion that if the quarantine should be lifted as of the opening day of school, parents might be unwilling for their children to attend.

One child, it was stated has been sent to the Asheville hospital from the county during the past week, where it was determined that polio did not exist. The total still stands at nine cases here, with one death having occurred as a result of the disease.

FOOTBALL PRACTICE DEFERRED AT HI SCHOOL
Football practice at Appalachian High School will not start until the opening of school on Sept. 13, due to polio, it is announced by Coach Quincey.

Local Farmers At FHA Meeting

Watauga county office and supervisory personnel and committeemen of the Farmers Home Administration attended a meeting of committeemen from ten North Carolina counties in Wilkesboro. The counties in addition to Watauga, are Alexander, Ashe, Wilkes, Iredell, Alleghany, Surry, Stokes, Forsyth and Yadkin.

Principal speaker was J. B. Slack, state director from Raleigh, who told of the different loans and service for low income farmers and explained the eligibility requirement of applicants for loans. He pointed out that veterans have preference in farm ownership and operation loans.

Other speakers were A. E. Rozar, chief of production loans operations, M. B. Riggle, production loan officer; and Vance E. Swift, chief of farm ownership loans, all of Raleigh. W. B. Oliver, state field representative, was in charge of the meeting.

Attending from Watauga county were William A. Smith, county supervisor, Lena A. Geer, office clerk, and Avery W. Greene and George A. Wilson county committeemen.

Mrs. Thomas Watson Is Taken By Death

Susan McRary Watson, resident of the Laxon neighborhood died last Saturday at the age of 83 years.

Funeral rites were held at the Laurel Springs Baptist Church Monday at 2 o'clock. Rev. R. C. Eggers conducting the services, and interment was in the Watson family cemetery.

Mrs. Watson, who was a widow of the late Thomas S. Watson, is survived by two sons and five daughters: Edgar L. Watson, Asheville; Otis Watson; Mrs. E. A. Watson, Wytheville, Va.; Mrs. George W. Greer, North Wilkesboro, N. C.; Mrs. Willie Greene, Lenoir; Mrs. Millard Greene, Lenoir; Mrs. Joe Coffey, Laxon, N. C.

There are 35 grandchildren and 40 great grandchildren.

CROQUET GAME
A croquet game was held between Johnson City and Sugar Grove last Saturday afternoon at A. C. Mast's store. The score was 8-3 in favor of Sugar Grove.

Olympic jury, viewing film, awards dash relay to Americans.