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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 1949.

FIVE CENTS A COPY

KING STREET

BY
ROB RIVERS

SPRING-TIME temperatures prevailed in the mountain region last week, while Californians were shivering in sub-freezing cold. Howling windstorm rides in on heels of balmy wave, with sharp temperature drop . . . Bags of onion sets appear in window of grocery store, bringing the first sign of spring . . . Some plowing noted on Watauga farms during the last few days, as folks get ready for another seeding . . .

"WANT TO GET THIS," said publicity agent "to every class of people in the town." . . . Had been thinking all along that one of the principal reasons so many folks like this community is the absence of class lines, and different social strata . . . Folks of every kind and calling are to be found in every public gathering . . . clubs are far less restricted in membership than in other places . . . and everybody seems to go right along, in pretty close harmony, with few looking down their noses at those of smaller wealth . . . It's about the most democratic community there is!

NEWS that the first steps have been taken toward the construction of the Watauga River road, gladly received, and it is likely that Carolina's share of the entire project can be constructed before too long . . . Other information that the Blowing Rock road is being traveled brings cheer to those of us whose business is transacted to the south . . . State highway forces put down gravel to make the fresh grade passable, and will keep the stretch open until spring, when the contractors return for completion of the new link . . . Little David Coleman, grandson of the popular tobaccoist, strums toy banjo, and sings hill-billy tunes, with all the mournful intonations which are part and parcel of the tragic ballads . . . Miss Jennie Coffey sits by window and reads the home town paper . . . T. Milton Greer giving down with a bit of gossip . . . some "off the record" stuff . . . and Watt Gragg giving us a pretty good cussin' cause he says the county figures in his race for Commissioner of Agriculture were omitted from the county paper . . . We were probably entitled to that one and the figures are: Gragg 3696, Barentine 3685, Stubbs, progressive 3.

WATT says he was particularly disturbed since he is beyond doubt the "runningest" man in the county . . . can't be sure just how many times his name has appeared on the ticket, but says that he run for Mayor of Boone six times, been elected three, and that otherwise he has been beaten all the way from 24 votes to something over three hundred thousand . . . don't know for sure . . . His closest squeak was when he was nosed out for Sheriff in 1928 by L. M. Farthing with a majority of just two dozen, and the most comfortable majority an opponent had was when he ran against Cousin Charlie Johnson for State Treasurer . . . His name has appeared only twice on the State ballot, and he has offered for Congress once . . . Questioned as to his future political activity, Mr. Gragg indicated that he would likely be running again some of these days. "I kind of enjoy the thing," he said as we made due apology for omitting his local tally from the news columns last time.

GETTING a little business in shape so's we can run up to Washington this evening to see the folks give Harry his own latch-key, and to visit a bit for a change . . . Friend of ours, in Government service, said something a while back about the "Christmas-Easter" parties which were being planned . . . Hated to spill our ignorance, but kept wondering about the thing . . . Saw him since the first of the year, and asked him what they were. "They were arranged," said he, during the period when Governor Dewey was president, and were designed to celebrate turning the Democrats out . . . all the heads of depart-

POLIO HOSPITAL IN BARRACKS



North Carolina's record polio epidemic last summer so overtaxed hospital facilities there that it was necessary to convert army buildings in Greensboro and Monroe into polio treatment centers. March of Dimes funds were used in equipping and staffing the centers. Shown above are two polio patients being admitted to the center at Camp Sutton near Monroe, N. C.

Hospital Fund Passes \$13,000 Mark Here

RESIGNING?



Walter Bedell Smith, U. S. ambassador to Russia, is greeted upon arrival in Washington by Bruce Durbrow, son of one of his colleagues in the U. S. embassy at Moscow. Report was that Smith planned to resign his Moscow post.

COLLEGE MAY GET ANOTHER MILLION AND HALF OF STATE

Supplementary Appropriation In Addition to Two Million Unspent Funds from Last Legislature; Appropriation Bill Introduced in Assembly

A supplementary appropriation of \$1,576,400 to bolster the funds earmarked for building at Appalachian college in 1947, was recommended to the Legislature Thursday by the Advisory Budget commission, as a bill was introduced in both branches of the assembly designed to inaugurate the greatest building program in the history of state institutions.

The bill calls for the appropriation of \$71,800,234 in addition to the \$50,932,256 program authorized by the assembly of 1947. Most of the work authorized there has not been started and the funds are available.

Two years ago Appalachian got a two million dollar appropriation, which was to be spent for new building at such time as agreed by the council of State. The program then authorized is just being started, with work going forward on the power plant expansion program.

The new appropriation for Appalachian supplements the original one as follows: \$80,000 apartment house for teachers; \$30,000 ten homes for teachers; \$127,500 boys' dormitory; \$80,500 girls' dormitory; \$100,000 remodeling and enlarging demonstration school; \$70,000 enlarging library; \$125,400

Township Chairmen Are Asked To Push Efforts Until Reached Its Assigned Quota; Township Figures Are Given.

The campaign for funds to equip the Watauga Hospital in line with the improvement plan of the board of trustees, is going forward with increasing success, and Clyde R. Greene, chairman, asks that solicitors work diligently until each township has reached its prescribed quota.

Latest reports indicate that \$13,172.55 of the \$20,000.00 quota has already been subscribed, and it is hoped that the goal will be reached in the next few days, so that the hospital may be in operation soon as a standard type institution.

Boone	\$10,559.50
Blue Ridge	410.00
Brushy Fork	189.00
Cove Creek	937.55
Elk	210.00
Laurel Creek	100.00
Meat Camp	241.50
New River	100.00
Stony Fork	10.00
Watauga	415.00
Total	\$13,172.55

Hundreds of Pennies Aid March of Dimes

Bob Agle, chairman of the infantile paralysis campaign received an unusual contribution last Saturday in the form of 882 pennies, brought in by A. C. (Chuck) Williams of Shulls Mills, and saved by his son and grandchildren specifically as a gift to the March of Dimes.

A glass coin bank and a cigar box held the currency, which was given in the names of Perry Williams, 19 months old; Gary Lee Parsons 4, and Ancil Parsons, 1 month old, the latter being grandchildren of Mr. Williams.

Teachers To Hold Meeting Friday

A film showing the findings of the North Carolina Education Commission will be the main feature of the program when the Watauga county unit of N. C. E. A. meets in the Appalachian High school on Friday, January 21 at two o'clock, according to Mrs. Raleigh Cottrell, program chairman. Dr. John G. Barden, of the college faculty, will explain the film. School will close at noon throughout the county in order for the teachers to attend. Also invited to this meeting are the parents and citizens interested in the condition of the public schools. The main part of the business will consist of the nomination and election of officers for the coming year.

POLIO EFFORT GAINS FORCE AS AGLE APPEALS TO THE PEOPLE

Citizens Are Asked To Redouble Their Efforts To Make Campaign Record Success; Early Responses Have Been Generous; Need Is Pressing.

The 1949 March of Dimes, which is entering its second week, is gaining increasing momentum. Mr. Bob Agle, Chairman of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis' appeal in Watauga county, announced today, urging all citizens to redouble their efforts in the final week to make the drive a record success.

"So far," Mr. Agle said, Watauga county residents have responded generously to the 1949 March of Dimes. Judging by reports from our various committee chairmen, every segment of the public here seems keenly aware of the urgent need to make our current appeal a record success."

Mr. Agle pointed out, however, that if the goal were to be reached, the efforts of every Watauga county resident must be redoubled. During the final week of the drive, he said, March of Dimes activities will be intensified because of the pressing need to prepare for the coming polio season.

"At the same time," Mr. Agle disclosed, "funds given to the March of Dimes will be used not only to help those whom polio may strike but we still have to meet the continuing cost of care and treatment of boys and girls stricken in prior epidemic years, and insure that there is no interruption in research for a cure or preventive of the disease."

"None of us," Mr. Agle concluded, "can afford to take chances with a possible polio epidemic this coming summer. But all of us can afford a dime or a dollar toward assurance that we will be ready should infantile paralysis hit our county this year."

J. Conn Succeeded At Local Dime Store

Mr. J. Conn, manager of the Crest Stores in this city, is being transferred to North Wilkesboro where he will be in the promotion department of the organization, and is to be succeeded February 1 by a Mr. Starnes of Hickory.

Mr. Conn, his wife and small son Johnny have resided in this community for the past three years. Mr. Conn is very fond of the city and her people, and expresses regret that he is being transferred.

Brewer Liked For U. S. Post

Washington—Kidd Brewer, administrative assistant to two former senators from North Carolina, is being strongly recommended for appointment as United States marshal for the middle district of that state.

Several influential men in Tar Heel politics are reported backing Brewer as successor to Major Edney Ridge of Greensboro, who died Thursday.

Senators Clyde R. Hoey and J. M. Broughton, who will recommend a nominee for appointment by President Truman, will meet early this week to discuss the names of several candidates suggested to them for the post, which carries a salary of about \$6,000 a year.

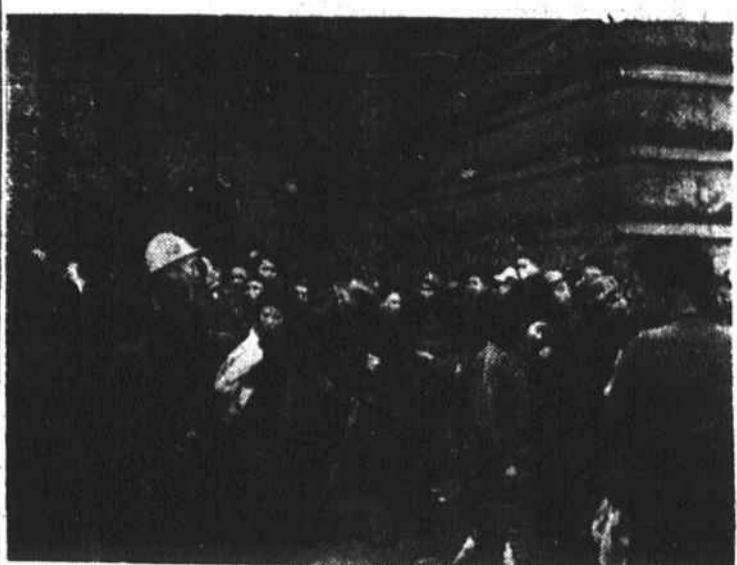
Senator Hoey has had an opportunity to observe Brewer's work on Capitol Hill for the last three years, first as aide to the late Senator Josiah W. Bailey and more recently as assistant to former Senator William B. Umstead.

Brewer came to Washington after wartime service as a lieutenant-commander in the Navy, stationed in the South Pacific. A football star at Duke university in the 'thirties, he coached the Appalachian college teams before the war.

Brewer is a native of Winston-Salem but his home now is in Boone, both located in the middle district which covers 29 counties in the heart of the state.

Domestic airlines say 1948 was tight security rules for workers.

FATE OF GOLD-MAD GATE-CRASHER



As well as they could, gendarmes and mounted police attempted to keep order in Shanghai recently as thousands of Chinese jammed the Bund in an attempt to obtain gold and silver from the banks in anticipation of the arrival of Communist armies from the north. Here, a mounted cop is hauling away a woman who tried to crash a line waiting to get into the bank for some of the precious metal.

Senator Perry Would Ban Local Beer Sales

MONARCHIST



Luisa Maria Narvaez Marcias, convicted of high treason in Madrid, was sentenced to a year in jail for her monarchistic activities on behalf of the pretender to the Spanish throne, Don Juan.

National Polio Fund Exhausted

Bob Agle, chairman of the March of Dimes campaign has been advised that the funds of the national foundation have been exhausted and that local chapters cannot hope for further assistance from that source until receipts from the current campaign are made available.

Mr. Agle is asked to hasten the campaign in every way possible so that the national foundation's share of the funds may be remitted promptly and is also asked to make a final report as quickly as possible following the end of the campaign. The need is desperate, and local people are urged to aid promptly so that expenses of those hospitalized with polio may be promptly met, and a safeguard built against the possible recurrence of the disease in epidemic form next summer.

Box Supper To Aid Local Hospital Fund

There will be a box supper at the Junior Order Hall Monday evening, February 7, at 8 p. m. The public is cordially invited to participate. The proceeds will go to the Watauga Hospital fund.

P.-T. A. Meeting Is Scheduled Monday

The Parent-Teachers Association will meet Monday night, January 24, at 7:30 p. m. at the Appalachian High School.

The subject for the program will be "Improving Our Schools Through Local State Legislatures." The three principal speakers will be Dr. Lee Reynolds, Dr. Dougherty, and Superintendent Howard Walker.

After the program a film will be shown, entitled a "Summary of the Report of the Education Commission."

8 CHILDREN IN 3 YEARS
Brussels, Belgium—Mrs. Albert Boele, of Adegem, Belgium, recently gave birth to her fourth set of twins. All eight are thriving. The Boeles were married in May, 1945.

FARM BUREAU MAKES PLANS TO TAKE PART IN STATE MEET

Clyde R. Greene To Be Local Delegate to Asheville Gathering of State Federation; Committees Named and Resolutions Are Drafted.

At a meeting of the directors of the Watauga County Farm Bureau held Friday evening, a voting delegate was elected, commodity committees were named, and resolutions drawn to be presented to the State Farm Bureau convention which is to be held in Asheville February 13 to 16. Clyde R. Greene was named the voting delegate and the following commodity committees were set up; the first named in each instance being the chairman:

Tobacco: C. A. Clay, G. D. Barnett, I. D. Shull.

Fruits, vegetables, potatoes: Vance Keller, Ralph Norris, Fred Krider.

Livestock and dairying: Lewis Norris, Howard Edmisten, Ernest Hillard.

Field crops: Lynn Norris, Glenn Howell, Stewart Simmons.

Resolutions

The following resolutions were adopted for action by the county organization and consideration of the resolutions committee of the State convention:

1. Continuation of the price support program of farm products with the basic commodities of tobacco, cotton, corn, wheat, rice and peanuts supported at 90% of parity.

2. Endorse Governor Scott's program, rural road improvement, rural electrification expansion, and aid to education.

3. Endorse Governor Scott's rural telephone program and urge the State Farm Bureau to support the Governor as aggressively as possible in this endeavor; furthermore, if satisfactory expansion of rural telephone facilities cannot be obtained through existing companies to urge the REA to install phones in homes they service.

4. To urge the continuation and expansion of the soil conservation program.

5. To secure a department of vocational agriculture for Bethel High School as soon as possible and to urge the North Carolina Farm Bureau to rush a statewide program for the establishment of vocational agriculture departments in all rural high schools as rapidly as possible.

6. To support a national program of Federal aid to education on a grant-in-aid basis to the different states in order that educational opportunities for rural children may be more nearly equalized with the best town and city schools in the country.

7. To urge the State Farm Bureau to develop a complete coverage automobile insurance program for Farm Bureau members only.

The annual convention will start in Asheville Monday morning, February 14. Some of the nation's outstanding leaders in agriculture, labor and industry will appear on the program and resolutions affecting the welfare of all citizens in the State will be adopted. The board of directors of the Watauga Farm Bureau urges all members in the county who can, to attend the convention.

The following have made plans to attend: G. D. Barnett, Clyde R. Greene, C. A. Clay, Vance Keller, Ralph Norris, Howard Edmisten, Lewis Norris, Ernest Hillard, Fred Krider, Lynn Norris.

Primarily because of its tobacco industry, North Carolina is one of the leading states in the payment of taxes to the Federal government.

Bill Introduced To Dry Watauga County; Solon Believes People's Will Should Be Heeded Without Expense Of Proposed Election.

Beer and wine would lose its legal status in Watauga county, without the necessity of an election, if Senate bill no. 29, introduced by Senator H. B. Perry of Boone is enacted into law.

Senator Perry's bill is designed to prohibit the sale, manufacture, possession, and transportation of beer and wine in Watauga county, and would be effective July 1, 1949, following the expiration of licenses now in effect.

Senator Perry tells the Democrat that he shares the belief that Watauga county is not only in favor of prohibitory laws, but overwhelmingly so. He says the county will go dry by a top-heavy majority in the election which has been set for March 1, and he is making every effort to have his bill enacted so that the people of Watauga county may have their will in the matter, and at the same time be spared the expense of holding the election.

Information is that the vote will cost the taxpayers of the county, something near two thousand dollars, and the enactment of the Perry measure would represent a substantial saving at this time.

Burley Sales To End Here Friday

Sales on the floors of the Mountain Burley Warehouses here topped the five million pound mark, and indications are that from 200,000 to 250,000 pounds will be sold at the auctions today. Actual season figures last night were 5,023,648 pounds.

Information is that the season will close with the sales next Friday, and all those who still have leaf on hand, are being urged to bring it in by that time.

Prizes Are Given To Corn Growers

At the meeting of the Watauga Farm Bureau held Friday, awards were given the following farmers for their record yields of corn in Watauga county this year. Lynn Norris, of Beaver Dam, claimed first prize with a yield of 120 3-4 bushels per acre; Ernest Hillard came second with a yield of 115.1 per acre; and Ralph J. Norris of Meat Camp stood third with 110 bushels per acre.

All these farmers used hybrid seed US-13 in the competition.

Park Group Guests Of Asheville C of C

Mr. W. Ralph Winkler was in Asheville last night, where he, and other members of the N. C. Park commission were guests of the Asheville Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Winkler plans to go to Washington tonight for the inauguration of President Truman. Domestic airlines say 1948 was one of safest flying years.