

## KING STREET

BY ROB RIVERS

MARCH COMES IN "like a lion" as mercury drops down near the zero mark, and folks along the street vow they're freezing to death. "winter's coming," they say as they brace themselves against the blast, and recall that "after all, the big snows always descend during the month of March". Pedestrians walk around big smear of ketchup, where the bottle had slipped from the grocery bag and smashed on the pavement. . . man carrying paper bag, which had definitely sprung a leak. . . stopped with him to inquire whether it was gin or white lightning. . . 'twas neither. . . the gold fish bowl was overflowing. . . old-fashioned mother giving the baby his dinner in the old-fashioned way. . . flocks of robins wing around uncertainly, perhaps undecided as to whether to take another trip south. . . and the music around the post-office as several cartons of baby chicks, sent via parcel post, go to chirping at the same time.

A LOT OF ARGUMENTS take place about the town, particularly since folks gather near the radiators or heating stoves, to while away the chilly hours. . . politics, prohibition, a smattering of religion, all come in for the traditional round-table treatment. . . but the other day we heard a group of the men folks get right down to some serious debate on the question of whether or not women are the intellectual superiors of their whiskersprouting sparring partners. . . We listened to the argument with increasing interest, and when it waxed fairly warm, we were invited to speak our piece. . . and we went to bed for the fairer sex with all we had. . . Our audience was decidedly hostile. . . we were in about as bad shape as we were the other day, defending the Truman administration against about a half dozen of these who trekked along with Tommy last November. . . We had the record, but they had the racket.

WE POINTED OUT THAT the women are, perhaps, not all just perfect, but that they are so close to the mark, there is little fun in it. . . That we love all of them. . . couldn't do without 'em at all. . . that they are decidedly smarter than we, own more than half of the wealth of the land, run the homes, rear the children, spearhead all worthwhile enterprises. . . and are far more attentive to business detail than men. . . We were downright proud of our efforts, but we had the wrong congregation. . . our pearls of wisdom were unappreciated. . . our discourse was emphasized forcefully and frequently, but it just wouldn't jell. . . 'twas like making one of our choice closed-door Democratic speeches in a Vermont town meeting. . . the crowd was "agin' us. . . overwhelmingly so.

ONE YOUNG FELLOW, who hadn't traveled along the road quite as long as we, and whose tender skin still smarted when he was restrained by the nuptial knot, took the floor. . . Yep, women owned more than half the wealth. . . they inherited it from the men. . . they haven't contributed much to the progress of the land. . . men invented all the gadgets. . . women aren't even smart. . . they're cagey, said the speaker. . . have a sort of cunning like a fox. . . and said he. . . a fox is a mighty smart animal. . . they have uses no doubt or they wouldn't be here. . . "but the country wouldn't have grown great had there been only foxes". . . The kids had been giving the women-folks some trouble 'round the house no doubt. . . they had been prevented in their attempts to get their necks stuck out to the fatal point. . . it had hurt when they were yanked back into the path, perhaps. . . their wives are smart!

RETAIL SALES are off some about the country, and local retailers are discussing with increased frequency the prospects for the future. . . Some of them say business is off. . . while several tell us it's going good, and better than last year (Commercial note: they advertise pretty consistently). . . at any rate the buyer is again the boss. . . One merchant told us the other (Continued on page 4)

## MINDSZENTY PROTESTS PILE UP



Thousands of letters protesting Cardinal Mindszenty's treason trial pile up daily at the state department's public views and inquiries branch. Shown here surveying a pile of letters to be acknowledged are Mrs. Mead Osborne of the department's office of public affairs and Leonard R. Cowles, chief of the public views and inquiries branch.

## N.C. Little Symphony To Appear in Concert

Tyrone in the Tyrol



Unscathed after their automobile collided with an Italian truck, Tyrone Power and his bride, the former Linda Christian, are shown upon their arrival in Kitzbuhel to spend part of their honeymoon. The accident occurred on a highway in the Austrian Tyrol.

## Whisker League Being Organized

In line with the centennial celebration planned for late June, a Whisker League is being organized here, and businessmen and others are expected soon to take on the look so prevalent among the forty-niners. Jerry Coe and Greer Hodges are starting the campaign against the use of the razor and membership cards are being prepared. Members will be asked to designate on the card whether they plan to cultivate a mustache, full beard, goatee or side burns, and it is planned to give prizes for the finest set of whiskers in each classification at the end of the whisker-growing contest on July 4. Barber permits will be issued in a pinch, and when a member insists on dragging out the razor, he will be penalized in the amount of one dollar. Some of those interested in the scheme have already taken on a healthy facial stubble.

## Frigid Wave Comes To Mountain Region

King Winter played a return visit to the hill country the first of the week and Tuesday morning mercury dropped to about six above zero, as winds of gale proportions swept in, and bright sunshine failed to bring relief from the cold. This is the third cold spell of the winter. One came near the end of December, one about the 20th of January, and the rest of the time warm, springlike temperatures have prevailed. Early budding fruit trees are damaged no doubt, but it is held unlikely that apples had advanced to the point of damage.

## Chamber Commerce To Meet on Thursday

The Chamber of Commerce will meet Thursday evening at the Skyline Restaurant at 7 o'clock.

## RED CROSS TO ASK \$1,271 IN ANNUAL LOCAL FISCAL EFFORT

Activities of Red Cross Explained as Plans Are Made To Make Canvass for Funds; Program Expands; 62% of Funds Go to National Headquarters.

On March 2, the Watauga County Chapter of the American Red Cross through its corps of volunteer workers began the task of raising its quota of \$1,271.00 to carry on its work for the coming year. Only once a year does the Red Cross go to the people. Every day of the year people go to the Red Cross. Its ability to help the family across the street or across the nation or across the sea is founded in the broad network of more than 3,000 chapters which reaches into every community in this country and of its foreign stations throughout the world.

Because of this far-flung network organization the Red Cross is able, at a moment's notice to go into action when disaster strikes. When floods come, when fires rage, when tornadoes or cyclones strike or any catastrophe happens which leave people helpless and suffering the Red Cross is there with the resources with which to give help and hope.

The Red Cross is under charter obligation to the government to render service to families of men in the Armed Forces of the United States, and to veterans. Last year the Red Cross Home Service of the nation gave assistance to a total of 2,741,547 cases under this obligation.

The Red Cross trains Nurses (Continued on page 8)

## Local Student on Deans List Okla. U.

Gilbert J. Ward, Oklahoma A. & M. College student who graduated from Cove Creek High School was included on the first semester Deans list of distinguished students in the School of Agriculture.

To be eligible for inclusion on the Dean's list, students must have passed in all subjects, aggregating not less than 15 semester hours with an average of "B" or higher and not having received any grade below "C".

## Six Local Students Enrolled at State

The winter term enrollment in the School of Engineering at N. C. State College includes six students from Watauga county, a survey of the institution's registration figures indicated today.

Dean J. H. Lampe announced that the School of Engineering now has a total enrollment of 2,609 students, including 1,823 veterans of World War II.

The following students from Watauga county are enrolled in the school: Homer M. Barnes, Adams; George M. Hanna, Blowing Rock; Samuel F. Horton, Sugar Grove; James C. McConnell, Boone; Earl B. Payne, Boone; William G. Winkler, Boone.

## George W. Winkler Is Taken by Death

George Washington Winkler, 74, resident of Zionville, R. F. D., died February 4 and funeral services were conducted from the home February 6 by Rev. W. C. Payne and Rev. John Hagaman. The body was interred in the John Brown cemetery in Meat Camp township.

The widow, the former Miss Rhoads Jones, and one son, Grady Winkler, survive. There are five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

## Amos W. Phillips Dies on Wednesday

Amos Ward Phillips, 75, resident of Sugar Grove, died at the Watauga Hospital February 23. Funeral services were conducted at 2 o'clock on February 24, at the Willow Valley Baptist church. Rev. W. D. Ashley and Rev. Mr. Vance were in charge of the rites and interment was in the Phillips cemetery.

Mr. Phillips, who was unmarried, is survived by two brothers, George Phillips, Lenoir, and Oscar Phillips of Lenoir. There is one sister, Mrs. Clarke Swift, Sugar Grove.

## Drys Amass 9 to 1 Lead In Beer, Wine Balloting

WASHINGTON POW WOW



Dressed in full tribal regalia, Chief Jim James (left), 71, of the Sapponi tribe and Chief Peter Dan Moses, 84, of the Moses Columbia tribe, testified before a house public lands sub-committee on Indian affairs on a bill which would restore to tribal ownership certain lands upon the Colville (Wash.) Indian reservation. Interpreting for them is Joe Monaghan of the Colville reservation.

## Officers Are Elected For Centennial Event

RECEIVES WINGS



Lt. Roy Edward Fox, son of Mr. and Mrs. Filmore Franklin Fox of Boone, was graduated and received his wings as a jet pilot in the U. S. Air Force recently at Williams Field, Ariz. Lieutenant Fox took his basic training at Goodfellow Field, San Angelo, Texas, and has been at Williams Field since September. He will be stationed at Shaw Field near Sumter, S. C., after a short leave. A Navy veteran of World War II and a former student at the Cannon Flying school in Charlotte, Lieutenant Fox is engaged to Miss Myrtle Grey Thompson of Charlotte and Selma.

## Pool Room Law Change Sought

Legislation has been introduced in the State Senate to amend a former act of the Legislature so as to legalize the operation of pool tables in Watauga county. An act passed in 1921 outlawed slot machines, vending devices and similar machines in Watauga, at the same time forbidding the operation of pool tables.

The new act, which was introduced "by request" by Senator H. B. Perry would amend the former act so as to permit pool in the county. Pool tables, at present, have to be operated as a "club", and if the new bill passes the game will be open to the general public without the requirement for club membership of any kind.

There has been considerable demand for a modification of the law in recent years, in line with the movement to provide more recreational opportunity for the people of the town. The bill was referred to the committee on propositions and grievances.

## COW IN KITCHEN

Bristol, England.—You've heard of it's raining cats and dogs. Well, it rained a cow in John Tout's home recently—right through his kitchen ceiling. The cottage is built into a hillside and one of the eaves touches the ground on the slope side. A cow clomped her way through Tout's cabbage patch, stepped on the roof and fell through.

## Sale of Wine and Beer Disapproved by Overwhelming Majority Tuesday; Lead Will Increase with Final Returns.

Watauga county voters turned thumbs down on the legal sale of wine and beer in the special election held Tuesday, and incomplete unofficial returns indicate the most overwhelming prohibition victory in the history of the county, the drys claiming near a nine to one victory in the balloting.

Returns from all the more populous precincts in the county indicate that 2922 votes were cast against the sale of beer and 342 for, while 3164 protested the sale of wine and 332 voted for it. Returns from the other precincts, which could not be reached last night, will add to the impressive lead of the drys. Complete official returns will be published in the next edition of the Democrat.

The unofficial returns now available, are as follows:

- Boone—for beer 131, for wine 122; against beer 419, against wine 429.
- Cove Creek—for beer 8, for wine 8; against beer 704, against wine 704.
- Laurel Creek—for beer 2, for wine 2; against beer 229, against wine 229.
- Beaver Dam—for beer 9, for wine 9; against beer 385, against wine 385.
- Watauga—for beer 16, for wine 16; against beer 325, against wine 325.
- Blowing Rock—for beer 78, for wine 77; against beer 130, against wine 132.
- Meat Camp no. 1—for beer 13, for wine 13; against beer 358, against wine 358.
- Brushy Fork—for beer 16, for wine 16; against beer 304, against wine 304.
- Stony Fork—for beer 27, for wine 27; against beer 352, against wine 352.
- New River—for beer 42, for wine 42; against beer 407, against wine 407.
- Totals—for beer 342, for wine 332; against beer 2922, against wine 3164.

## Motor Inspection Law Is Killed

Raleigh.—The North Carolina Legislature killed the state's motor vehicle inspection program Friday.

The House concurred in minor Senate amendments to the repealing act. And that was the end of the inspection program.

Meanwhile, the director of the inspections divisions—Arthur Moore—said inspection of motor vehicles would be halted at the end of the following day's work. Moore added that the telegrams also notified supervisors to dismiss all temporary workers immediately. He pointed out that permanent workers will be retained on North Carolina's payroll until the end of March.

Along other lines, the Senate passed a bill to increase membership of the State Banking Commission from five to seven members. At least three of the members would represent the public.

Senator Henry McKinnon introduced a bill in the Senate to provide that unclaimed funds held by insurance companies be paid to the University of North Carolina.

The Upper Chamber also passed and enacted into law a measure to allow cities and counties to purchase or lease voting machines for use in elections.

## World Day Prayer To Be Observed Here

The annual World Day of Prayer will be observed at the Methodist Church Friday, March 4, at 7:30 p. m. All the churches of the town will take part in the meetings, which are world-wide in scope.

The World Day of Prayer went to seventy four nations in 1948, and the offerings in the United States alone have amounted to \$195,000.

Representatives from the various churches will take part in the local program, and an offering will be taken.