

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1949

FIVE CENTS

KING STREET

BY ROB RIVERS

THE FADING muzzle blast of the hurricane, which roared up to Carolina from Florida over the week-end, brought sheets of rain driven by gusts of wind from the east, and kept local residents pretty well indoors last Sunday. Damage to corn, tobacco and other crops, blown to the ground by the strong gale, is said to be rather extensive, and the opening of the schools in Elk township has been postponed a week, due to the loss of bridges across Elk Creek. . . . New River, east of Boone, said to have been highest since the disastrous flood of 1940. . . . lawns and streets littered with leaves and twigs, and apple trees largely divested of their fruit by the raging winds. . . . Sunny skies and pleasant temperatures follow the storm. . . . ushering in the month of the turning leaves and the ripening fruit and of the harvest.

AS HARVEST TIME APPROACHES, culminating a summer of heavy rains, and general unseasonable conditions, the status of the farmers of the county often comes into the discussions of the business men of the town as they mingle with the residents of the farming districts, and there is wide diversity of opinion as to the quantities of food crops which have been provided by the farmers from the rich black earth of the mountain sides and creek bottoms. . . . Most farmers say crops are definitely on the short side, due to the rains. . . . that hay crops have rotted, taters ditto, beef cattle prices down, no fruit to speak of, and the dairy business definitely on the blink. . . . others take a more hopeful view and see a current over production of food in the area.

ONE OF THE OPTIMISTS in this regard is M. H. Edmisten of Beaver Dam township, who says the farmers in his area have a problem all right. . . . that of taking care of the bumper crop of food which has been produced. . . . Edmisten states that the dry weather in the first part of the summer did react for a time on the growing crops, but that the bounteous rains which followed, brought on a bumper production. . . . He finds that potatoes in his section are of fair quality, and haven't been destroyed by the continued rains, and that other crops are faring well. . . . According to him, the good earth has yielded from her mysterious bounty in copious quantities, despite the whimsies of the weather during the growing season.

NEW MAIL leaving Boone for the east early in the evening gives overnight mail service to Washington and New York. . . . Meeting the main line trains at Salisbury the new service allows mailings several hours later, yet providing delivery in eastern cities the following morning. . . . Strange to relate that folks in Washington, Philadelphia and New York have read their copies of the Democrat before it can reach some readers in the immediate trading radius of the town in which it is published. . . . Plans, however, are said to be underway to provide an improved mail service into these adjacent areas of the county, which have so long suffered from the inadequacy and tardiness of their postal service.

SHERMAN HOLLAR, one of the country's leading livestock dealers, cruises by in the early morning hours with a fine Hereford steer he had bought for breakfast. . . . Says good beef cattle still bringing good price. . . . Grapevine reports of outsider selling advertising space on a proposed menu cover, taking away couple of hundred dollars, and delivering nothing at all. . . . These purveyors of advertising, which even if delivered is of questionable worth, always get a good hand in the community, and just why we hand over our coin so generously to these slysters, strictly "on their faces" is one of the unsolved mysteries of the Street. . . . Operators of highway postoffice, who start their run from Greensboro near the midnight hour, sleep soundly on the lawn to the rear of the post-office during their rest period here. . . . The long lines of school children along the street Tuesday as the new term begins, and the buses lined up from the graded school back to King Street. . . . The first graders, with their toy six guns, dolls, marbles and slingshots, taking their time on their journey down into the realms of fuller understanding, and an occasional youngster, it could be seen, just wanted to go back home "plumb bad". . . . The high school kids in sport jackets, trim neat dresses and suits, tripping along joyously a bit ahead of time, looking forward to a bit of dancing or other play before classes. . . . the new pencils, and note books, and book satchels.

(Continued on page 4)

SUBJECT: GERMANY



John J. McCloy (left), United States military governor in Germany, is greeted by United States roving ambassador, W. Averell Harriman, at National Airport, Washington, D. C., upon his arrival in Washington for top-level discussion on future civilian control of the western occupation zone. The government of the people in allied Germany has been ordered removed from the hands of the military. Germans recently held an election in which Conservatives won out.

FAIR DATA IS GIVEN OUT AS DATE OF EVENT DRAWS NEARER

Fair Association Releases Information of Interest to Those Planning Exhibits in Blue Ridge Fair; Entries Enumerated, Dates Given

So that the people over the county will know what they may bring to exhibit at the Blue Ridge Fair, listed below are articles which may be exhibited in several departments. Entries in each of these departments must have been produced in 1949 and entered Wednesday afternoon, September 21.

In the Garden and Field Crops department entries of corn (U. S. 15, W. Va. 1163, white hybrid, other yellow and other white), wheat, oats, rye, burley tobacco, turkish tobacco, alfalfa hay, mixed hay, legume hay, grass hay, Sequoia potatoes, Green Mountain potatoes, cabbage, Danish and kraut types), pumpkin, squash, onions, peppers, beets, tomatoes, carrots, snap beans, pole beans, lima beans, cucumbers, turnips, rutabagas, and sweet potatoes.

In the Canning department entries of a display of assorted fruits, vegetables, jams, jellies, preserves, etc.; quarts of peaches, cherries, blackberries, apple sauce, string beans, beets, tomatoes, corn, lima beans, carrots, soup mixtures, greens, asparagus, tomato juice, apple cider, pork, beef, chicken, mutton or any other English peas, pimento pepper, apple butter, peach, strawberry, cherry, raspberry jams and marmalades, apple, blackberry or dewberry, peach, or any other jelly, cucumber, bread and butter, peach or any other kind of pickles.

In the Farm and Garden display entry of an individual display of farm and garden products. In the Home Demonstration department, each Home Demonstration club is requested to make an exhibit showing some phase of this work. Consult your Home Agent in order that each club may have a different exhibit.

Scott To Speak At Blowing Rock

Raleigh.—An address by Governor W. Kerr Scott will highlight the program of the 18th annual convention of the North Carolina Motor Carriers Association Friday and Saturday, September 2 and 3, at Hotel Mayview Manor, Blowing Rock.

The Governor will be the principal speaker at the annual banquet at 7 p. m. Saturday. W. D. Lewis of High Point, president, will preside during convention sessions. Other features of the meeting will include election of officers, directors and committees of the association and election of officers and committees of the North Carolina Council of Safety Supervisors on Saturday morning.

Draft Board Closes Office

The local office of the Selective Service system, through which Watauga's manpower was filtered during the days of war, is closed, effective as of the close of business August 26th, it is announced by Howard J. Cottrell, chairman, who stated that the move is in line with the reduced appropriation for selective service activities.

Bids Received On River Road

The State highway and public works commission Tuesday received bids on the construction of three miles of the Watauga River road in Watauga county, the Asheville contracting Co. being the low bidder on the road-way, with a bid of \$164,532.40. John H. Brinkley of Thomasville was low with a bid of \$52,894.10 on the structures, while Walker and Miller of Warrensville offer to move the buildings on the right of way for \$3,380.

HOME IN OLD PANTS

Vincennes, Ind.—Every time Mrs. Sibyl Hunley hung the clothes on the line to dry, the wrens started to build a nest in the pockets of the pants. So, to solve the problem, Mrs. Hunley hung a pair of old, worn-out pants on the line and left them there. The wrens took the hint and have set up housekeeping in one of the pockets.

YOUR HAT, M'LORD



Hob-nobbing with dukes, duchesses and lords is getting to be all in a day's work for 18-year-old Bebe Shopp, Minneapolis, Miss. America 1949. Miss Shopp's encounter with a real live lord in person took place in London.

DR. SMITH, IN TALK TO GRADS CITES THREAT TO DEMOCRACY

Dean of the Law School, Columbia University, Tells of Need of Intelligence, Wisdom and Courage; Ninety-one Receive College Degrees

Ninety-one students were awarded degrees by Appalachian State Teachers college on Thursday night. Six received master of arts degrees, and eighty-five received bachelor of science degrees.

Dr. Young B. Smith, dean of the school of law of Columbia University, made the address to the graduating class. He said "It is appropriate to discuss American institutions and ideals in these mountains of Watauga county where so large a proportion of the inhabitants are the descendants of the pioneers who founded this great nation." Tracing briefly the birth and growth of the free society in which we live, he said "if the victories won are not to be lost, the struggle must go on. Today the belief in a free society is being challenged by the advocates of some form of stateism, whether it be fascism or communism. Already a large part of the world is enslaved by this new form of despotism. We must be alert to recognize this threat to our way of life wherever and whenever it appears and combat it at every stage. Stateism, whatever the form, is an insidious social disease because it thrives on human misery and fears. It promises security and happiness to those whom it would enslave, but in the end destroys first the freedom, then the happiness, and finally the security of its victims."

Dr. Smith continued, "Our people must be acquainted with the basic facts concerning the history, the structure, the operation and the consequences of both American institutions and alien ideologies, in order that they may evaluate them accurately." He stated that this would not only immunize the people against false propaganda, but will also give them a truer appreciation of the meaning of liberty and greater confidence in our free institutions. "In the performance of this task," he said, "the teachers in the grade schools and in the high schools must take an important part, because it is these schools that most of our people obtain their formal education. You, who are to become teachers in these schools not only bear a heavy responsibility, but you will have the opportunity to strike a telling blow in the present struggle between those who would preserve individual freedom and initiative and those who would subordinate the individual to the state. Never has there been greater need for men of intelligence, of wisdom, and of courage. Never has it been so important that public opinion should be shaped by straight thinking and sound judgment. Whether we are successful, or whether we break under the strain, will depend largely upon the ability of our educational institutions to equip our people to recognize the truth and to extend the boundaries of freedom to new horizons."

Over Four Thousand Kiddies at Schools

BARES FRAUD



Comptroller General of the United States Lindsay C. Warren tells a Washington house committee that former army officers were involved in fraud, collusion and bribery in war contract settlements. His testimony was part of the "five-percenters" investigation.

Record Attendance Expected As County Schools Open; A Full List of Teachers

Watauga county schools opened Tuesday and estimates from the office of county Superintendent W. H. Walker indicate that more than four thousand children are in attendance.

As a matter of fact 3985 were enrolled at the close of the term last spring, and a considerable increase is expected this year. Superintendent Walker states that all vacancies in the teaching staffs have been filled, and that considerably less trouble has been experienced this year in securing tutors, due to the improved scale of pay provided by the last Legislature.

Following is a list of the teachers for the 1949-50 term: Watauga County Schools opened Tuesday, August 30. The teachers are as follows: Appalachian High School—Herbert Wey, principal. (The teachers of this school have been listed in a previous issue.) Boone Demonstration—John T. Howell, Principal; Donald C. Thompson, Earl Petrey, Ben H. Horton, Jr., Melvin W. Lashure, Mary H. Walker, Isabell Mason, Clyde Mae Goodman, Mary E. Gibbs, Bessie Crawford, Christine H. Innings, Ennis R. Rowland, Ella Beshears, Grace M. Councill, Velma M. Cottrell, Louise W. Horton.

Howard's Creek School—Daisy A. Adams. Rich Mountain School—China R. Lutherwood School—Earl Greene, Mary Helen Cole. Bamboo School—Pearle Cowles, Helen E. Trexler, Lucy H. Storie. Green Valley—Ola T. Thompson, principal; Ruby T. Sherrill, Maggie E. Moretz. Winebarger School—Ruth L. Winkler, Imogene Barden. Deep Gap School—Edith F. Estes, principal; Lucy G. Luther. (Continued on page 8)

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Eighty Tar Heels Die on Roads

Raleigh.—Eighty persons lost their lives on North Carolina's highways last month in the highest July toll in eight years, the Motor Vehicles Department reported today.

High Waters Delay Elk School Opening

The Elk and Lower Elk schools will not open until Monday September 5th, it is announced by superintendent W. H. Walker, who states that the postponement came from the destruction of bridges and footlogs in the area during the week-end storm.

BOARD MEETING POSTPONED

The Watauga County Board of Education will not meet on the first Monday of September (a National holiday) but will meet on Tuesday, September 6.

Mobile X-Ray Unit Is Making Chest Tests

Many Questions Asked as Health Department Trailer Starts Health Campaign

When the big white trailer with the "North Carolina State Board of Health" in big black letters on either side came into town, it started people asking questions.

What is that trailer? What does it cost? Do you have to undress? Will it hurt? Are you going to be X-rayed?

The many questions soon became action when the Mobile X-ray Unit started taking chest pictures Friday morning, August 26. The Chest X-ray service is free to all Watauga citizens, 15 years of age and older, and the local Health Department hopes that as many citizens as possible will take advantage of this service.

The Mobile Unit is open from 10:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m., daily, Tuesday through Saturday. It is located in the parking area back of the Court House and next to the County Building in Boone.

If tuberculosis is present, a chest X-ray will show it before the individual notices any symptoms. Nothing but X-ray can show early tuberculosis. The great advantage of finding a case of tuberculosis early is that it can be cured in a much shorter time and there is less danger of it spreading to others.

The first days of the survey have been successful, but many more people should take advantage of this free service to help protect themselves and the community from tuberculosis. Last week's Democrat carried a community schedule and Community Health chairman are helping the people know about the survey. When you are in town, even if the date is not that assigned to your community, go by the Mobile Unit and have your free chest X-ray.

The Mobile Unit will be at the present location until September 8. On September 9 and 10, the Unit will be in Blowing Rock and on the Appalachian College Campus September 13 through 17. Remember—it takes only a minute to be X-rayed. There is no undressing. It is free. Get your chest X-ray today.

School Heads To Meet Here

An administrative conference of all Elementary and Secondary school principals of the county, including principals of one and two teacher schools, has been scheduled Saturday, September 3, 10:30 a. m., at Appalachian High School.

Discussion at this conference, according to Dr. J. Henry Highsmith, will be based upon the following topics:

1. The principals' elementary and annual reports for the session 1948-49.
2. The work of the "helping teacher" or supervisor.
3. New legislation affecting teachers and the instructional program.
4. The Handbook for Elementary and Secondary Schools. (Each principal should take his copy of the handbook to the meeting.)

Clubwomen Sponsor Local Fashion Show

Through the courtesy of Belk's Department Store the home and garden department of the Woman's Club is sponsoring a fashion show featuring Belk's fall fashions.

All club members are invited to attend the show which will be held Thursday September 8, at 8 o'clock in the Belk store.

Large marketings of chickens are in prospect the next few months, says the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

GOP CHAIRMAN



Guy George Gabrielson, GOP national committeeman from Bernardsville, N. J., was elected the new chairman of the Republican national committee to succeed Hugh D. Scott.

Vets Apply For Insurance Funds

Washington.—World War II veterans began applying Monday for shares in the \$2,800,000,000 insurance refund to be paid next year.

Application blanks are available, the Veterans' Administration said, in every post office, VA office, and veterans' organization throughout the country. A total of 16,000,000 ex-GI's and servicemen may be eligible.

All National Service Life Insurance policy-holders or ex-policy holders who want to share in the fund must apply.

Entitled to payments are owners of all policies issued between October 8, 1940, when the insurance first became available, and January 1, 1948—provided the policies were kept in force for not less than three months.

Refunds are due on lapsed and active policies alike. The money piled up because the rate of deaths is not as great as provided for under standard premium tables used at the start.

Beneficiaries of deceased veterans will share, but they do not apply. Their payments are being handled separately.

The Veterans' Administration asked applicants to be especially careful to give their correct service serial number.

"While hundreds of veterans may have the same or similar names, no two have the same serial number designation," a VA announcement said.

Incomplete or erroneous entries on the application forms only serve to delay payments. It is to a veteran's own interest to avoid mistakes.

The payments are to start next January and to be completed by July.

Premium payments into the insurance fund have totaled \$4,228,000,000, and it is from a surplus in the fund that the \$2,800,000,000 special refund has been declared.

Motorists have until September 8 to get rid of gutted mufflers, racing mufflers and other devices which make obnoxious noises, it is announced by the State highway patrol.

Drivers of motorcycles with straight exhausts are also affected, it is stated.

The law states that gutted mufflers and straight exhausts are prohibited, and the September 8th date is set to allow time for changes and repairs. After that time drivers who make unnecessary noises with these illegal mufflers will be arrested, the patrolmen state.

Hospital Day September 12

Plans are going forward for the expansion of the Watauga Hospital. The campaign to raise \$10,000.00 locally to match the \$10,000.00 from the Duke Foundation is meeting with fine success. Stanley Harris, chairman of the special drive, reports that there have been 19 pledges secured for the \$250.00 Club. Who will be the 20th?

Eight teams have been organized in Boone to canvass the people and a team will be set up for each township of the county. September 12th has been designated as Hospital Day and on Sunday, September 18th, all churches of the county are being asked to emphasize and take a special offering for the enlargement program of the hospital.

Plans have already been made for the enlargement and equipment of the kitchen, overhauling the heating system and installing a stoker and other equipment which will make the hospital adequate to meet all the requirements of a first class modern hospital. It is emphasized that this money should be raised as early as possible in order that the work might be done before cold weather.

Lions Club Picnic Set for Next Tuesday

The annual Boone Lions Club picnic will be held at Winkler's Creek Tuesday, September 6, from 4 to 6 o'clock. All Lions and their ladies are urged to attend.