

The Watauga Democrat.

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BOONE WATAUGA COUNTY, THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1915.

NO. 34.

Two More Blockade Outfits Captured.

Sheriff Moody and his deputies made another raid over in Elk township last week and succeeded in locating and destroying two more blockade outfits. While it is considered rather hazardous for officers to make themselves too much at home in this particular section at any time this last trip was unusually trying on account of weather conditions—a semi-blizzard being in progress. The first place located by the officers had the appearance, in some respects, of a regular government distillery, having a reservoir to catch still slop, in which there was a large amount, and everything about the place not only indicated recent operation but a business of considerable proportions. The still had been removed, however, but after a search the cap was found. At the other place, the boys hating to see so many apples going to waste, we suppose, had been making brandy and their still, which consisted of a gasoline tank was captured. Not finding any one at either place the sheriff divided his force and went on a kind of scout in order to try and locate the owners. During the search the supposition is they were fired upon, the report of two or more guns being heard and shot falling in the immediate vicinity of some of the officers. Going in the direction from which these reports came the officers came upon two men with guns in shooting position. They were immediately covered by the guns of the posse and put under arrest. Being questioned as to what they were doing with the guns and who or what they were shooting at, the men gave as a reason that they were trying to flush a rabbit, the aforesaid rabbit, doubtless, being at that moment somewhere near by and grazing around in innocent oblivion of its danger. The men were kept under surveillance for several hours by the officers while they continued their search, but for want of evidence sufficient to justify imprisonment they were finally released and the posse returned to town without making further arrests.

Most people know that men who engage in the illicit distillation of whiskey are, as a general thing, men who believe that it is a God-given privilege to convert their grain or fruit into any commodity that will enhance its value, and have little regard or respect for man-made laws to the contrary, and the finding of four illicit distilleries in a few days by our sheriff doesn't mean that conditions along this line are getting rapidly worse in this section but rather that this class of lawlessness hasn't received the same attention from officers heretofore, possibly, that it is now getting at the hands of Sheriff Moody, although it may be possible that since the Grier bill comes into effect on April 1st, the boys are anticipating a rush in the way of orders. Anyway, hunting a "wild cat" distillery is a good deal like hunting an animal of that name—more or less dangerous and necessitating considerable hardship on the part of the hunter, especially in a mountainous section. It is a proposition that most any officer would like to side-step and which has possibly been done in many instances, and while it is rather embarrassing to our citizenship to have to chronicle this lawlessness in our midst, we will have to add that before this article goes to print the prospects now are that other captures will be to report.

Grain constitutes about 40 per cent. of Milwaukee's entire freight receipts by rail.

WEATHER CONDITIONS IN WATAUGA

A Yarn at the Expense of Mr. Blum—The Troubles of the Star Route Rider, Etc.
Correspondence Watauga Democrat
The founder of the old reliable, Blum's Almanac, according to the story related to the writer by the late Samuel P. Rameur, of Statesville, was making a trip through the mountainous section of this State on one occasion by private conveyance, and night overtaking him while yet some distance from a settlement, he spent the night with an old mountaineer. The morning following proved to be bright and clear and every indication was favorable for a beautiful day. Noticing that the signs and prospects were so flattering for a day in which traveling would be good Mr. Blum made ready for an early start, but his host advised him to delay his journey until next morning as there would be a terrible storm during the day. Mr. Blum, hooked at the very idea and went his way. Before the day was done a storm of cyclonic proportions did come up, uprooting trees, blowing down houses, etc. On his return trip Mr. Blum made it convenient to again stop with his mountaineer friend. Before leaving he told the man of the mountains that his prediction came true and that he would be very grateful if he would enlighten him as to what sign he used that enabled him to make prognostications with such accuracy. It seems the old mountaineer hadn't as yet learned the name of his guest and in replying to the request, said: "Wall, yer see, thar's a d—n fool down thar country as what gits out er halmerneck. I tuck hit down thar mornin' yer started ter leave fer tersee what hit sed, and hit sed fair weather, an' I knowed by thar ter look out fer a pow'ful bad day."

If we had reversed the predictions received in these parts during last week from the weather bureau some of us might have been a little better prepared for the snow that began falling early Tuesday and gradually increased throughout the day until it became somewhat of a blizzard, being accompanied by considerable wind which drifted the snow in some instances to a depth of several feet. Those who sit in their comfortable homes or offices and glance over their mail during such weather rarely think of the hardship and even suffering, possibly, undergone by some mail carrier in making it possible for them to get their mail regardless of weather conditions. Disagreeable weather generally encountered in a hilly country during the winter isn't the only thing to be considered by the man who wants the job of carrying the mail, for in many instances an awkward move or step may cause the death of both carrier and his faithful beast or beasts.

It is impossible to make the distance on some routes when the roads are bad or snow interferes until long after night which increases the danger. We have in mind an incident caused by the snow first of last week. A Mr. Critcher's contractor for the route from Blowing Rock to Lenoir. The distance being too great for one team it is worked with one relay. Mr. Critcher's son carries it down the mountain some ten or twelve miles where he delivers the mail to another carrier with a fresh team who makes the trip on to Lenoir and back to this point in the afternoon, where Critcher again takes charge, bringing the mail on to Blowing Rock that night. The day after the snow young Critcher had hardly made a mile of his

Somewhat Misleading.

When the posse of officers, headed by the sheriff of the county, made a raid on, and captured two illicit distilleries in Elk township, last week, the Boone correspondent of the Charlotte Observer is writing up the same, used this paragraph in conclusion, which is not only misleading but is a perversion of the fact: "Report has it that men of prominence (referring, of course, to Wataugans) are concerned in this blockading business." Who these flagrant violators of the State and National laws are is what the sheriff is trying to find out and we are here to vouch for the assertion that no man of "prominence" is, in any way, connected with the whiskey business in Watauga. Many of our people are hurt over the publication of the unfortunate paragraph. The correspondent is a good one all right; but rushing into print with such matter as this, casting aspersions upon our mountain people, is a vital mistake, and one that he should be willing to correct through the paper which he represents. It is to be regretted that any man claiming Watauga as his home should be guilty of the illicit distilling of whiskey, but to set afloat matter in a great daily that is calculated to cast even a reflection upon as good a citizenship as the Old North State can boast of, is indeed unpardonable. Of course the reporter did the writing under the impulse of the moment, not thinking of the evil effect it might have.

Are You Rheumatic? Try Sloan's.

If you want quick and real relief from Rheumatism, do what so many thousand other people are doing—whenever an attack comes on, bathe the sore muscle or joint with Sloan's Liniment. No need to rub it in—just apply the liniment to the surface: It is wonderfully penetrating. It goes right to the seat of trouble and draws the pain almost immediately. Get a bottle of Sloan's Liniment for 25c of any druggist and have it in the house—against colds, sore and swollen joints, lumbago, sciatica and like ailments. Your money back if not satisfied, but it does give almost instant relief.

The Pennsylvania, the mightiest war vessel of the world, was successfully launched at Newport News, Va., on Tuesday, 16th.

route before he and his team, which consists of two little mules, were enveloped in a snow drift. Up in the Rocky mountain regions jack rabbits turn white in the winter. On emerging from the snow drift these little mules looked as though they might be jack rabbits of the giant variety, but they looked around at the driver and told him, the best they could, that while they were working for the government they were neither government mules or jack rabbits, were willing to tackle any kind of road or swim rivers if need be, but they intended to draw the line on snow drifts. They also intimated to the driver that they thought it would be advisable to go back to headquarters and take a new start. The driver thinking that possibly the mules knew more about the prospects than he did decided to act on this suggestion. Returning to headquarters he received orders to get that mail through in spite of snow drifts or high water. After securing a tunnel squad with shovels, the track was cleared and the mails went through. T. B. M.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

ELASTIC QUART

How it Can Be Made Many Gallons.

The Anti-Saloon League, through its state secretary, R. D. Davis, comes into the newspaper and says that the final bill, with its quart of limitation and several other things, is a decided victory for prohibition. It may be. Theoretically the blind tiger man cannot do much with a quart every fifteen days—but the real blind tiger man has never depended much on open shipments of whiskey. Whiskey is shipped in double barrels—one man we know shipped over a hundred barrels of whiskey—small barrels inside coal oil barrels—and carried on a blind tiger traffic that was fierce. The railroad company does not know what is in a barrel of lamp chimneys, and if there are ten gallons of whiskey in a crate of automobile tires the carrying companies cannot locate it. The blind tiger man does a big business when he runs, and doesn't depend on the railroads for all of it.

The moonshiner is the man who knows the postoffice address and the place to meet the blind tiger in the dark. The moonshiner has been more plentiful in this Fifth Congressional district the last year than ever before. And with it impossible to ship in much whiskey in the open, the concealed packages will be coming and the moonshiner will be more plentiful. There is where the anti-saloon league must do some good work. The fact that a quart can be shipped in every fifteen days gives a man a chance to run illicit quarters. He gets the quart and thus hides his other avenues. We are glad the anti-saloon people feel they had a partial victory. We are of opinion, however, that it should have been whole or none. We cannot see how the legislature can ever explain. If we voted prohibition, and we did, we should have prohibition. Some of the quarts some of the folks will always have on hand will become amazingly elastic. Three or four gallons coming in the dark, and the one quart in daylight. They used to tell a story that the Southern railway owned one old mule and used him to put on a freight train on Sundays so they could claim live stock. That old mule was responsible for the movement of a million-cars. And the man who receives ten quarts of likker nicely labelled McCaulay's History of England, by slow freight, will exultantly receive his quart in open, and people who are not philosophers will marvel, and wonder why it is that a quart of likker under the new law will last sixteen times as long as a quart of likker under the old law.—Everything.

No Use to Try and Wear Out Your Cold. It Will Wear You Out Instead.

Thousands keep on suffering coughs and colds through neglect and delay. Why make yourself an easy prey to serious ailments and epidemics as the result of a neglected cold? Coughs and colds sap your strength and vitality unless checked in their early stages. Dr. King's New Discovery is what you need—the first dose helps. Your head clears up, you breathe freely and you feel much better. Buy a bottle today and start taking at once.

—Mr. D. W. Lloyd, who is superintending the work at Copper Knob mine in Ashe county, passed through town on his way to the mine last Friday and reported that work at the mine would be resumed Monday of this week.

Asheville has adopted the commission form of government.

From North Carolina

Arthur G. Lomax, 15 years old, of Salisbury, N. C., has Mrs. Charles Dana Gibson to thank that he was not turned over to the Children's Society in New York recently. Mrs. Gibson, who is a "Big Sister," was in the Children's Court when the boy was brought in charged with improper guardianship.

The boy told Justice Mayo in accents markedly Southern how he had lost his job as water boy on a branch railroad down home and being the eldest of five children decided to lighten the family burden by joining the army. So he went to Charlotte, N. C., he said where despite his years he was accepted by the recruiting officer and shipped to New York for final inspection at Fort Slocum. To the surgeon at the fort he confessed his age and that ended his military career. He was sent back to town and the police of the East Twenty-second Street Station took charge of him.

Touched by his story and recognizing his accent, Mrs. Gibson stepped to the bench and said: "I'll take care of him your Honor; he's one of my people."

She said she would arrange for his transportation home and take care of him meantime. Mrs. Gibson, before her marriage, was Irene Langhorne, of Richmond, Va., one of the beautiful Langhorne sisters.

BANK STATEMENT.

Following is a report of the condition of the bank of Blowing Rock in the state of North Carolina, at the close of business March 4th, 1915:

RESOURCES:	
Loans and discounts	43,829.18
Overdrafts secured	31.40
Overdrafts unsecured	38.84
Banking-house and lot	27.50
Furniture and fixtures	1,263.20
Due from b'ks and b'krs	8,367.02
Gold coin	1,625.00
Silver coin, including all minor coin currency	1,350.84
National bank notes and other U. S. notes	800.00
Total	59,055.48

LIABILITIES	
Capital stock	\$15,950.00
Surplus fund	895.00
Undivided profits, less current expenses and taxes paid	314.23
Bills Payable	2,500.00
Time certificates of deposit	24,665.13
Deposits subject to check	14,534.12
Cashier's c'ks outstanding	112.00
Total	\$59,055.48

Total.....\$ 59,055.48
State of North Carolina, Watauga county, ss: I. G. M. Sudderth, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

G. M. SUDDERTH, Cashier.
Correct—Attest: G. E. Moore, J. A. Lentz, J. D. Brown, Directors.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13th day of March 1915.
J. H. GREEN, J. P.

About 2,750,000 acres of land in Great Britain are devoted to woods and forests.

SOLDIERS IN EUROPE BECOME SICK WITH KIDNEY DISEASES

Dean's Kidney Pills Are Being Supplied Free to The Suffering Men.

Any of Our Readers Can Try This Famous Remedy Without Expense. Just Send For a Trial Box.

Hardships and exposure in the cold, wet trenches is crippling thousands of warring European soldiers with kidney troubles and rheumatism. The foreign offices of Dean's Kidney Pills are doing a good deed in giving this famous remedy free to every soldier who wants a box. Foster-Milburn Co. of Buffalo, N. Y., makers of Dean's, state that they will be glad to send a trial of their medicine free to any reader of this paper who will write them for it.

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