

# The Watauga Democrat.

VOL. XXVII

BOONE WATAUGA COUNTY, THURSDAY, September 23, 1915.

NO. 8

## At Valle Crucis

(By Old Hurraygraph)

The summer sojourner, in quest of quiet rest and beautiful natural environment, and health-giving mountain air, should spend a week during August at this delightful place—the Valle Crucis Inn during July and August, and the Valle Crucis Industrial School for the Highland girls during the rest of the year. It has a charm peculiarly its own. Scenery is unsurpassed in Western North Carolina. The school is a revelation of uniqueness in its academic, vocational and moral training of the girls of the Southern Appalachian mountains, with its dairy, poultry yards, and the appliances of electricity furnished by its own power plant from the waters of Valle Creek. Connected with the poultry plants and electrically heated incubators and brooders. As well as accommodation for two thousand hens. They have now quite 1,500 young chicks, White Leghorns, on a twelve-acre yard. Dairying is also taught, though the dairy is not yet properly equipped. With the academic courses, there is a sweet Christian training that is like a benediction from Heaven. Miss Mary E. Horner, the principal, and Miss Nannie H. Smith, her able and faithful assistant, and a splendid corps of refined and sweet-spirited women in the faculty are doing a grand missionary work in these beautiful eternal hills, and are moulding characters as interesting and as beautiful as the scenery in which they are envired. The spirit of love and service in the school is beautiful. The desire of the Highlander girls to obtain an education and a useful vocation is wonderful. But outside contributions in the shape of scholarships are needed for the development of the school into full efficiency in its most important branches of instruction, namely, poultry and dairying. Polishing the precious metal, as it were, and making happy home makers, so that the growing generation of men and women from the Appalachian Mountains shall be known of a type known as cultured Christians, "faithful unto death," serving a Heavenly Father, who has caused, through His benevolent children, "cheerful givers," the door of opportunity to be opened unto them in the Valle Crucis Industrial School.

Across the beautiful vale from the Valle Crucis School buildings on a ledge of a lovely slope of an opposite mountain, is a large wooden cross which can be seen in bold relief all during the day, except from about eleven to two o'clock. During these hours it vanishes from the sight of the naked eye. There are no shadows of mountain or trees upon it. It is there all the time. It is the way the sun light falls upon it that obscures it from the eye sight. How typical of the Sun of Righteousness. When the full glory of His brightness, goodness redeeming love falls upon the cross all shadows flee, only effulgency of His mercy is seen. This cross, which I mentioned above, was first placed on that ledge by a lady—and the sweet women are always about the cross and nearer to it than men—who expressed a desire to be buried on that spot. But she died and was buried elsewhere.

Did you ever see the operation of shoeing steers? It's worth going miles to see. It is a hundred times more difficult to shoe a steer than it is to shoe a hen. Mr. Strer is put in the stocks and strapped to the timber good and fast. His head is put through one end pegged up around the neck so that he cannot draw that

## The Strength of the Hills

North Carolina is on the eve of wonderful development. The Piedmont region, on account of its manufacturing enterprises, has been the most attractive portion of the State, and will hold its primacy for years to come. But not forever. That section of North Carolina lying beyond the Blue Ridge, is to be the garden of our State. For all the years this region has been inaccessible. Its people have been forced to live secluded lives because of the natural barriers that cut them off from the rest of the outside world. But the barriers are broken down. Splendid highways are making travel swift and easy. Railroads are scaling the hill sides opening new lines of commerce. Education has a stronger hold upon the men of the mountains than any other class of our people. They are not educated, but they are going to be. The rising generation will be ready for the great transformation that is coming. The lying stories that have been printed in Northern journals by religious adventurers, have not hindered the progress of this section. Instead of the huts daubed with clay, serving as residents for the "mountain whites" as pictured by these pious pretenders, the homes of the people are beautiful and attractive. We have seen more painted farm homes this year in Western North Carolina than in any other section of the State we have visited. Furthermore, the average man in our mountain section will hold his own with the average man anywhere else. They are no better and no worse than the people of the plains. They are all North Carolinians and are all animated by the same spirit. In both sections there is a great deal of ignorance, but in both the typical citizen is intelligent and progressive. And we are writing now of the average man and not of the special type. The hills have this great advantage over the east; the farmers are not slaves to one crop. Cotton has not laid its grip upon them. The crops they raise bring better prices because of the war; and they have no negro problem to worry them. The western farmer owns his little farm. He is beginning to cultivate it scientifically. He is not land poor but land rich. "Broad acres" do not promote good farming. It is the small farm that is usually well tilled. Watauga lands, which are the richest in the steering part back. He can rubber neck all he wants to but he is unable to see when they put the shoes on him. The rear part of the body is elevated by steps under the body so that the momentum of his kicking abilities may be minimized. His rear feet are strapped on incline beams to hold the hoofs steady, if such a thing can be done. The hands on the Valle Crucis Industrial School farm shod two steers a few days ago, and the stocks looked like a cyclone had struck them when the effort was accomplished. These animals with the cloven feet just persistently clove to the ideal that they preferred going barefooted, but the energy of men performed the arduous feat of giving them two shoes to the foot, and they performed all kinds of antics in their first efforts to steer their walking in fashionable steer steps, as they started off to haul rock from the mountain site to build a cold storage house for the apples from the school orchards. The school needs help in building this storage, to care for the fruit, which is destined to be a great asset to the institution when the orchards reach their full growth.

## Waited for Admission

Robt. L. Walls, the Watauga man who went to Raleigh alone and at his own expense and presented himself at the State prison with the necessary papers to show that he was under sentence to serve three and a half years for manslaughter, waited an entire week for a Watauga officer to show up and identify him so he could get into the penitentiary. To prevent substitution and fraud, prisoners can't be admitted to the State prison unless accompanied by an officer or deputy. No one in Raleigh knew Walls, and while the presumption was that he was the man named in the commitment, the State prison people, in the abundance of caution, waited to be shown. Walls was finally shown into the prison by the Watauga sheriff.

Whether that was his original purpose or not, Walls' course has made him many sympathizers and will doubtless get him a pardon. When he offered himself at the State prison and was refused admission he could have said that he had done his duty—and departed. But he didn't. He sat down and waited until such time as he could gain admission.

Many years ago a Statesville citizen, belligerently inclined, found himself in jail for misconduct. During his incarceration the jail was guarded for some reason (but not on this prisoner's account), the guards being placed inside the jail. The Statesville man had the privilege of the corridor. One night a guard went on duty who didn't know the Statesville man was a prisoner, but he knew the man and his reputation, and when he saw him walking about the corridor the guard "had a hunch" that the fellow was there for no good, whereupon he demanded, peremptorily, to know what he was doing there.

The Statesville man was sharp—as sharp as Brooks of Sheffield, and he took in the situation. So he answered that he was just looking around.

"You've no business here," said the guard, convinced by the Statesville man's answer that he was up to something. "You get out of here!" he ordered emphatically.

"Well, if you're so 'pot-gutted' about it," said the Statesville man, humble-like, "I can go."

Whereupon the prisoner took his departure, and with good cause. He didn't propose to stay where he wasn't wanted—even in jail.

The Watauga man looks at it differently. His determination to get into the State prison has naturally attracted much attention and the sympathy he has aroused (whether he deserves the sympathy is another matter) will State, command fabulous prices; and the happy owners of these lands do not loaf and hunt but push their business with intelligent zeal, and they are making money right along. "The strength of the hills lies in the fact that there will be no land monopoly. No owner of a great plantation will rent his vast domain to thrifless negroes, and go to town to enjoy life, but he will get his living from his own skillful labor, send his children to the school and his neighbors have established, attend the country church hard by, and make country life what it ought to be—the finest civilization in the world. Already the boys of the west are going to the top in the world's work, not because they are more gifted than other boys, but because they have not been enervated by the vicious influence of the small towns.—Charity and Children.

## Typographical and Moral Errors

It is just as hard, or harder, to rid the day of errors moral as it is to rid a newspaper issue of errors typographical. And the possibilities of mistake in a journalistic print-shop are well-nigh incalculable. For instance, a printer's magazine says: "To set an ordinary column of type requires 10,000 pieces of type. There are seven positions in which each letter may be placed, and there are over 100,000 chances to make transpositions. In the sentence, 'To be or not to be,' by transposition alone, it is possible to make 575,022 errors." How can we ever get out one single paper without errors? How can one play an "errorless game" in life? Ought we not to be more considerate of each others' faults? And should we not continually look to the great Forgiver to correct and counteract errors we make.—Biblical Recorder.

## Study Their Business

Professional criminals study their business and are always up-to-date. When robbers laid siege to a bank at Jefferson, Okla., they first took the precaution to break into a hardware store and secure a quantity of barbed-wire, with which they erected barbed-wire entanglements about the bank. When citizens were aroused by the noise of the explosion that wrecked the safe the barbed-wire barricade held them at bay until the burglars got away with \$2,000. It is suggested that the burglars got the barbed-wire barricade idea from the trench warfare in Europe, but The Landmark is under the impression that professional burglars had worked the same methods in this country before the European war began. Anyway, barbed-wire entanglements didn't originate with the European war. They were used in Cuba during the Spanish-American war, 17 years ago.—Statesville Landmark.

## BANK REPORT.

Following is the report of the condition of Valle Crucis Bank at Valle Crucis, in the state of North Carolina at the close of business Sept. 2, 1915.

RESOURCES:	
Loans and discounts	\$17,155.13
Overdrafts Secured	75.00
Overdrafts Unsecured	17.05
Banking House	1,349.82
Furniture and Fixtures	1,000.01
Demand loans	250.00
Due from banks and banks	3,317.18
Cash items	16.97
Gold coin	45.00
Silver coin, including all minor coin currency	43.57
National bank notes and other U. S. notes	375.00
Total	\$33,646.06
LIABILITIES:	
Capital stock paid in	10,000.00
Surplus fund	224.31
Notes and Bills rediscounted	875.00
Time certificates of deposit	2,787.32
Deposits subject to check	9,746.72
Cashier's checks outstanding	12.71
Total	\$33,646.06

State of North Carolina, County of Watauga, I, L. M. Farthing, cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

L. M. FARTHING, Cashier.  
Correct—Attest:  
W. F. WINKLER,  
H. B. PERCY,  
D. F. MAST,  
Directors.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13th day of September, 1915.  
W. H. MAST, N. P.

## FOR SALE

Sixty acres of good mountain land located on Wilson's Ridge, this county, 50 acres in cultivation, mostly grass, none better, good cottage and outhouses, fine young orchard, place well watered. Price to quick buyer, \$3,000. Big bargain, this. Call on J. M. Buntley, Boone R. F. D.

probably be the means of shortening his term of imprisonment.—Statesville Landmark.

## War is National Insanity

War is the product of national insanity. It never was the outcome of sober reasoning. Fighting, either on a large or a small scale, is simply the letting loose of the passions of the lower nature; and the present bloody conflict in Europe, in which millions of brave men are lying in gory graves, abundantly proves this assertion, for the poor fellows died for no principle in the world, but simply because of the stupidity and conceit of a few royal families. Out of the stygian darkness the broad daylight will come.—Charity and Children.

**Caldwell County Fair**  
 TO BE HELD AT  
**Lenoir Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Oct. 13, 14, 15, 1915**  
 This is to be, without doubt, the biggest and in every way the most important public event ever held in Caldwell County. List of exhibits and prizes and premiums offered will soon be announced. Plenty of entertainments and amusements will be provided for both old and young. Begin now to make your arrangements to attend, for you can not afford to miss any of the three days attractions.

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