

The Watauga Democrat.

Advertising Rates on Request.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF BOONE, AND WATAUGA COUNTY.

\$1.00 Per Year

VOL. XXXI.

BOONE WATAUGA COUNTY, N. C., THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6, 1919.

NO 4.

CHATEAU-THIERA.

Col. Wade H. Harris, editor of the Charlotte Observer, now in France, writes thus interestingly of Chateau-Thiera, vividly remembered by many Watauga boys:

The little French town of Chateau Thiera, the town which which American soldiers have made forever famous in the history of the great war, will remind the American very much of the North Carolina town of Fayetteville, so far as topographical characteristics go. To the east it has the same rise of hill that Fayetteville has to the west, and with like reversal of position it has the same level stretch of plain. There are the same excellent bottles in direction of streets, water courses meander here and there and the river Marne flanks the town in the same manner in which the Cape Fear flanks Fayetteville. As a matter of fact, were the Cape Fear a stream of liquid blue, it would be a fairly good match for the French river as it rolls its sluggish way from Fayetteville to Wilmington. The rivers are about the same in depth and width, differing only in color. And again, there is a striking similarity in the size of the two towns. Chateau Thiera is fifty-nine miles distant from Paris and the military road connecting the two places is of such a fair order that an automobile may beat the local trains and give the fast through train a close push. The section of the town in which the depot is located was untouched by the shells of either Allies or enemy and hard by, across a broad plaza, is the typical French hotel which is doing a rush business for the visitors who are now beginning to go that way. It was at this hotel that the Observer and party were 'refreshed' while waiting the arrival of the automobiles that were to give them a turn over the battle fields, and it was here that our curiosity about the famous light wines the French are known to indulge in at meals was tested out. A half bottle, or enough to fill a tumbler, is provided for one franc and 25 centimes. It is of a very pale pink in color and tastes like diluted vinegar. It is needed to the proper disposition of the meal that goes with it that consists of two thin slices of tomato and a string of something that was a cross between bacon and kippered herring. This was followed by an excellently prepared fresh fish, after which the guests were served a turn of the inevitable roast beef and califlower. Then after an unfathomable dessert, enough fruit was passed out to make a show for the charge of six francs.

Very much of the debris that was piled up in the streets of the town has been removed, but the people are living amongst confused surroundings. In some instances fronts which were torn away have not been replaced. The owners of such property have simply swept out and resumed storekeeping or householding with curtained protection. Bricks recovered from the ruins are stacked up by the pavements and in alleys; roofs are temporarily thatched and the streets are thronged with soldiers, citizens and visitors. The town hall stands at the end of a central street backed up by the "rise" which reminds one much of Fayetteville's Haymount. In front of the hall flows the river and across it is the bridge at which the Americans turned back the Germans from their march on Paris. On one side of the bridge there was a force of 891 Americans, and crowding down upon them from

Rankin Heads American Public Health Society.

A New Orleans dispatch of the 29th of Oct. says: Dr. W. S. Rankin, of Raleigh, N. C., was elected president of the American Public Health Association at a general session held tonight. He is North Carolina's State Health Board Secretary. San Francisco was chosen for the 1920 convention.

the streets leading to the other end of the bridge were 10,000 German soldiers. The Americans had been given orders to hold this bridge at any cost and a personal inspection of the scene will serve to show how they were able to accomplish the task. From their side of the river they were distributed among the buildings whose windows commanded the bridge from directly in front and from the north and south sides. From hundreds of these windows American machine guns spouted a withering fire on the massed German troops and precipitated the first German retreat of the war. It was perhaps the most effective ambushade on record, the routing of the Germans and the turning of their backs permanently on Paris having been accomplished with a loss of only 17 dead Americans. The machine gun fire of the United States troops was point blank from three angles at an average range of 75 yards. It was here, in this restricted territory, that a handful of American soldiers gave Germany the licking that broke her back-bone, and that evoked from Major Dupont, on that exciting night in The Observer office when the news was coming in on the wire, that "the Germans are going back home."

For miles around Chateau Thiera the positions of the American troops have been marked in permanent manner, so that the position of each regiment is easily located, and of the 68 Americans now here awaiting orders to come home, are corps of engineers and draftsmen making maps for the use of the United States Government. Within the immediate battle area are half a dozen towns that were pounded into ruins by artillery fire from both Allied and German guns, and in each town are squads of German prisoners engaged in cleaning up the ruins. They are required to cord up every bit of debris, while out over the battle-fields other squads of Germans are at work salvaging war material. All along the roads shells are stacked like so many cords of wood and over each stack is posted a warning notice to the public to have a care. In spite of these warnings every once in a while a rash individual whose curiosity was stronger than his sense of safety, is blown to bits by picking up a live shell. In going over positions occupied by Germans and which have not yet been "scrapped" by the salvage corps, one may see a gas mask or discarded helmet, lying as the Germans left it, safe from molestation because of the well understood fact that under it may be lurking a deadly charge. These are never picked up until after a shot has been fired into them.

"These Rats Wouldn't Eat My Best Grain," Says Fred Lamb.

It's hard to keep rats out of a feed store. Tried for years. A neighboring store sold me some Rat Snap. It worked wonders. Gathered up dead rats every morning. Bought more Rat Snap. Haven't a rat now. They wouldn't eat my best grain when I threw Rat Snap around. 3 sizes, 25, 50c, \$1.00 Sold and guaranteed by L. L. Critcher.

Our Two Autocracies.

Recent events tend to prove the charge that some of the labor leaders in this country desire a new autocracy tending towards Bolshevism. Those who are entirely in sympathy with organized labor, but who at the same time believe in the fundamental principles of democratic government, cannot fail to harbor grave fears for the future, if the more domineering of these labor chieftains do not change their attitude and methods. They are too impatient and overbearing.

It is too soon to forget, however, that this new autocracy was called into being by an old autocracy, that of capital—an old autocracy now much weakened through Government trust-busting but powerful and determined. Paraphrasing the words of Mercutio, the suffering public may well cry a plague on both of your autocracies.

The public has a right to demand concession and compromise from both these autocracies that have just faced each other in battle array in the Industrial Conference, and the President spoke in the name of the right of public when from his sick bed he earnestly asked that there be no adjournment until both parties had "exhausted resourcefulness and patience in an effort to come to some common agreement." In part the President wrote further: "Must suspicion and hatred and force rule us incivil life? Are our industrial leaders and our industrial workers to live together without faith in each other, constantly struggling for advantage over each other, doing naught but what is compelled?"

The President intimated that both labor and capital are arrogant, which is true, and that both must yield in some measure; otherwise it will be necessary to "confess that there is no method to be found for carrying on industry except in the spirit and with the very method of war."

What was the answer to this solemn and timely exhortation from the head of the Nation on his sick bed? In spite of the President's appeal labor withdrew from the Conference, after failing to secure agreement to one of its demands.

To the reflecting and unprejudiced observer it is quite clear that labor is also in need of government regulation. The new autocracy would receive much benefit from a similar chastening to that which was visited upon the old.—Winston Salem Journal.

Home Wanted for Fourteen Year-old Boy.

The boy is without a home; is merely going from place to place. He is not, I believe, a really bad boy, but he is in danger of becoming a delinquent. There is no place in any State institution open for him. I have been unable to place him in a private institution. I should like to find a home that would be willing to take him. I believe a little patience will make a useful man of the boy. If you are willing to take the boy and give him a chance, write me. If you are looking for a servant, don't write.

ROY M. BROWN,
Acting County Superintendent
of Public Welfare.

Will You Spend 50c on Rat-Snap to Save \$100?

One 50c pkg can kill 50 rats. The average rat will rob you of \$10 a year in feed, chicks, and property destruction. Rat Snap is deadly to rats. Cremates after killing. Leaves no smell. Comes in cakes. Rats will pass up meat, grain, cheese to feast on Rat-Snap. Three sizes, 25c, 50c, \$1. Sold and guaranteed by L. L. Critcher.

Taxes in Watauga County--1919.

MR. EDITOR: Now that the taxes for the year 1919 are due and the Sheriff has begun to call on the people for the same, it might be worth while to give a bit of information regarding it, which we will do, by your kindness through the columns of your paper.

The total amount of property listed in the county for taxation including corporations, is \$9,748,888.00. There are also 1949 polls listed for taxation. Taking these figures as a foundation from which to compute, we get the following items of taxes:

State purposes general,	\$4,369.58
State pensions	1,706.81
State school taxes	11,897.41
Total state taxes	\$17,955.80
County school taxes	19,474.70

For county taxes:
General \$7,893.90
Roads, for interest, etc. 12,295.49
County Home 5,677.33

Total County taxes \$25,866.72
Railroad bonds, (Boone township) 1,923.17

Total tax paid by county as shown from abstract \$65,220.39

The tax rate, on the hundred dollars worth of real and personal property in each instance, is as follows:
State purposes .15%
General county purposes .19
County Home .15
Road purposes, interest, etc. 2.5%
For schools (to state) .32
For schools, (county) .35

Total tax levy in county \$1.45

To the above is added 25 cents for railroad bonds in Boone township, and 20 cents special school tax in Boone District No. 1.

The 1849 polls mentioned above are included in above figures but the poll tax is divided as follows:
For school purposes \$2.55
General county purposes .38
For state purposes .12
For road purposes .85

Total levy on each poll \$3.90

This does not include 75 cents on each poll in Boone for railroad bonds and 60 cents on each poll payable in the special school tax district No. 1, Boone township.

Hoping that this will be worth something to the tax payers of the county in ascertaining to what purposes their tax money is applied, I am

Cordially yours,
W. R. GRAGG,
Register of Deeds.

Mills' Big Profit.

Spinners can pay 75 cents per pound for good middling cotton and make a good profit at the prices they are charging for yarn, says the Monroe Journal, so a prominent young knitting mill man of the western part of the state, said this morning. He said that he was paying \$2 per pound for 52-ply yarn which is made out of an inch and a quarter staple and cost about 45 cts. per pound to spin. Figuring these quotations on 35 cent cotton it can be readily seen that the cost of the raw product and the manufacturing of yarn is 80 cents per pound, whereas the spinners are selling it at \$2, making a profit of \$1.20. By paying 75 cents per pound for raw cotton the yarn would return the mills a profit of 80 cents per pound, which is a sufficient profit for any product. The manufacturer, however, made it plain that these prices applied to the best grades of yarn. Some mills manufacture a coarse grade of material that sells in the knitting mills for \$1.50 a pound. This same man told about some buyers purchasing North Carolina cotton and shipping it to North Georgia,

Watauga's New Methodist Preachers.

The Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, which met last week in Greensboro, gave to this County a new corps of preachers.

The new Presiding Elder is Rev. W. E. Poovy. He is a graduate of Emory and Henry College. For a few years after he left college he did school work; he was pastor of Chestnut Street Church at Asheville for four years; and he comes to his present work after four years as pastor of Brevard church. He has the reputation of having been uniformly and notably successful in everything he has undertaken. It is reported that he would like to come to Boone to live.

Rev. J. R. Walker succeeds Rev. H. L. Powell on the Boone Circuit. Mr. Walker is a native of South Carolina and a graduate of Wofford College. He came to the W. N. C. Conference four years ago to become President of Weaver College. Two years ago he was transferred to Rutherford College as teacher and financial agent, and was placed in charge of a campaign to raise a building fund of \$25,000. He raised \$3,000.

On the Watauga Circuit, Rev. J. W. Bennett is succeeded by Rev. J. P. Morris. Mr. Morris was educated at Rutherford College. He studied law, practiced a while, represented Polk county in the legislature. Since he entered the ministry he has worked at Bakersville four years, on the Marion circuit one year and at Spruce Pine two years. He comes from the last named place to Watauga. He is a kinsman of Atty. F. A. Linney, of Boone.

Mr. Powell succeeds Mr. Poovy at Brevard, and Mr. Bennett takes Mr. Walker's place at Rutherford College.

A Tribute to Water.

In view of our experience during the past three months, says the Winston-Salem Journal, it seems particularly fitting to publish this toast by "Joe" Cannon, former speaker of the House of Representatives. While the sentiment contained therein is probably shared by most of us, there are few, if any, who could express it so beautifully and with such a depth of poetic feeling:

"Mr. Toastmaster, ladies and gentlemen, you have asked me to respond to the toast, 'Water' the purest and best of all the things that God created. I want to say to you that I have seen it glisten in tiny tear drops on the sleeping lids of infancy, I have seen it trickle down the blushing cheeks of youth, and go in rushing torrents down the wrinkled cheeks of age. I have seen it in tiny dew drops on the blades of grass like diamonds when the morning sun bursts in resplendent glory o'er the eastern hills. I have seen it in the rushing river rippling over pebbly bottoms; roaring over precipitous falls in its mad rush to join the mighty Father of Waters. And I have seen it in the mighty ocean on whose broad bosom float the battle fleets of all nations and the commerce of the world, but, ladies and gentlemen, I want to say to you now, that as a beverage it is a damn failure."

where it was re-billed as local cotton, bringing from a cent to two cents per pound more than it sold for in this State. It begins to appear that Mr. Wanamaker is correct in his position that the mills can pay more for cotton without increasing the cost of manufactured goods to the consumer, and Union county farmers should by all means join in the great fight for justice to the producer.

C. C. Miller Still in Military Service.

The following paragraph is from 'Observations from Paris,' by Col. Wade H. Harris, Editor of the Charlotte Observer:

"Strolling about the streets or lounging in hotel lobbies are numbers of American soldiers and officers, eating their hearts out for the orders that will bring them back to America. By chance The Observer ran up against one man from Camp Greene in the person of Capt. C. F. Hogan from Portland, Oregon. He is now the last of the North western boys in France, the entire contingent, except himself, having departed the previous week. Most of the soldiers now here are New Yorkers and New Englanders and every mother's son of them keeps his face set toward home. Among them is a lone North Carolina boy—C. C. Miller, detained for work in the Quartermaster's Department. He called at the hotel just to see folks from home and to get some word of what was going on."

C. C. Miller, of Meat Camp, this county, was just finishing his course at the University of North Carolina, where he had made a record second to that of no other man who has gone to that institution from Watauga, when the war came. He was among the first to volunteer for the officers' training camps. Here's hoping that he may soon return. North Carolina needs all of her young men of the Miller type.

FOR SALE: THE BEST GRASS

farm in Avery county, containing 215 acres, practically all cleared and in a high state of cultivation. Over one hundred acres of rich, level land. Produced over 75 tons of hay this season and should produce 125 tons next season. Pastured 300 sheep and over 50 head of cattle and horses this season. Is close to church and school, good roads and neighborhood. Excellent fences, barn, etc. Price \$12,000. Terms reasonable. Address J. M. Phillips, Ingalls, N. C. 925 3t.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION.

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of I. J. McGinnis, deceased, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned administrator on or before the 25th day of August 1920 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please come forward and make immediate settlement. This Aug. 25, 1919.
R. A. ADAMS,
Admin'r of I. J. McGinnis, deceased.
T. E. BINGHAM, Attorney.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE,

North Carolina, Watauga County. Having qualified as administrator of the estate of Chas. P. Todd, deceased, late of Watauga County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to exhibit them before the undersigned at Todd, N. C. on or before the 18th day of October 1920, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 18th day of October 1919.
JENNIE TODD RAY,
Administratrix of C. P. Todd, dec'd.
T. E. BINGHAM, Attorney.

Notice of Administration.

The undersigned having been appointed and duly qualified as administrators of the estate of Thomas Bingham, deceased, all persons having claims against said estate are notified to exhibit them on or before the 25th day of July, 1920, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement. This 25th day of July, 1919.
J. H. BINGHAM,
W. H. BINGHAM,
Administrators of Thomas Bingham, deceased.

James Stucky Says, "Rat Cost Me \$125 for Plumbing Bills."

"We couldn't tell what was clogging up our toilet and drains. We had to tear up floor, pipes, etc., found a rat nest in basement. They had choked the pipes with refuse. The plumber's bill was \$125. Rat Snap cleaned the rodent out." Three sizes, 25c, 50c, \$1 Sold and guaranteed by L. L. Critcher.