

The Watauga Democrat

R. C. RIVERS, Editor and Owner.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1923

A HARBINGER OF PROSPERITY

The hope of Boone for a long time has been to become the central trading point for Watauga and adjoining Counties. One reason why Boone has not long since ascended to this lofty station is that her business men have not stood together so well on certain mutually important issues. But this period has passed to a great extent.

For a town so small, our business houses are so remarkably efficient in their several lines, and so well stocked, that it is often our pleasure to hear people, even from large cities, comment on our excellent mercantile advantages.

In order that all those who are not now making this their trading center may come in and get acquainted, the merchants have united in decreeing the week of August 20-27 inclusive as "TRADE WEEK." During this period it is their policy to offer extraordinary values as well as valuable premiums to those who visit town on any day of the big days.

It is no sort of "skin game" in any sense of the word, but a hearty to come into a close business relationship with the people of the County at large.

We would add that the merchants who are joined together in this event are favored to the greatest possible extent.

EXTRA EDITION SHOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED BY ALL

The enterprise of the Watauga Democrat in its issue of an extra giving the sad tidings of the death of President Harding deserves the greatest appreciation by the people of this fine county. This issue was rushed to the county boundary on four roads and thus got very quickly to Blowing Rock and Mountain City, the latter in Tennessee. The writer had the good fortune to be given a paper by Miss Rivers, who with her father made personally the distribution to all the Boone population, and thought at once of Benjamin Franklin who personally distributed his first newspaper in Philadelphia.

FRED A. OLDS.

THE NEW PRESIDENT

Calvin Coolidge, 28th man elected vice president of the United States and fourth from the state of Massachusetts, was born in the tiny town of Plymouth, Vt., July 4, 1872.

Running in his veins by direct lineage is the blood of the Mayflower pilgrims. From them he inherited a predominant Puritan respect for law and order such as characterized his conduct as governor of Massachusetts in refusing to temporize with leaders of the Boston police strike.

Silent, reserved, uncommunicative almost to the point of brusqueness, he rose to national political ascendency in 1919 when he was mentioned for the republican nomination for President.

When the nomination went to Harding, Coolidge was first and there was no second in the contest for vice president.

Political Victor

During his political life, Coolidge ran for various offices, state and municipal, a total of 17 times. He won every race, and only once was the fight close, that occasion being in his second contest for the Massachusetts state legislature, when he received a plurality of only 63 votes.

Born to a life on the farm, during his boyhood Coolidge occupied himself doing chores and helping out in his father's general store.

He attended the little red school house at Plymouth. From there he went to the old Black Rock River academy at Ludlow, Va., to prepare himself to enter college. He had vague hopes of reaching so high, for the family farm and store were not over-productive and money in the Coolidge family was scarce.

In 1891, however, though considerably older than the average freshman because scanty means had prevented him leaving home, he entered Amherst.

Prize Winner

There, in his senior year, he won a gold medal offered by the best school in the country of the Revolutionary war, the competition being open to the undergraduates of all American colleges. In 1895 he was graduated with high honors.

In 1897, he was admitted to the Massachusetts bar and began the practice of law at Northampton. Following two terms as mayor of that city, two as city solicitor, two in the state legislature, four in the senate, three as lieutenant governor and two as governor, his political star shot into the national constellation.

In person, Coolidge typifies the New England gentleman. He has probably never slapped a man on the back. He is quiet to the point of taciturnity in his speech and possesses a twinkling eye and a mouth and chin that, with all his kindly smile, are as firm and inflexible as Plymouth rock itself.

In 1906, he married Miss Grace Goodhue, then a teacher in the Clarke school, Northampton. Two sons have been born to them. At the time of his election as vice president, the couple lived in a modest home at Northampton for which they paid \$32 a month rental.

He is said to own no real estate, and has never owned an automobile.

TRUNK LINE ACROSS THE BLUE RIDGE

(By L. D. Lowe)

If the trunk line across the Blue Ridge is to be a coal-hauling road and a competing line with the C. C. & O., the most feasible route should be adopted, and to obtain a minimum grade of about 1 per cent and not greater than 1 1-2 per cent in any one place it requires distance to ascend the Blue Ridge. It should be born in mind that the source of the Yadkin River is the spring near the Green Park Hotel, at Blowing Rock, near the very top of the Blue Ridge, at within a short distance from the head of one prong of New River.

As the Yadkin threads its course down the mountain side and along the foot-hills, it is fed by many tributaries flowing into it from the north, all of which have their origin near the crest of the Blue Ridge, none of which have as great a length as the main stream by several miles. Buffalo, Elk, Stony Fork, Lewis Fork creeks and Reddies River are streams of importance, but none of them can compare with the Yadkin River.

Knowing the topography of this section as I do, I am of opinion that the most feasible location for a railroad can be obtained by making North Wilkesboro the starting point, then following the course of the Yadkin River to about the foot of the mountain above the Richlands, and then turn to the northeast and cross the mountain at Cook's Gap. In the construction of a road over this line some parts of the Grandin road can be used, and where it is found that parts have been washed away by being too near the river the grade could be placed on higher grounds, so as to avoid such disastrous results as have been experienced in the past.

This line can be constructed without any great expense until the point above Richlands is reached, and the heaviest grading will be encountered along the side of the mountain and in crossing the head of Buffalo and Lewis Fork Creeks, and in tunneling through some of the ridges, but it

may be that some of these tunnels may be avoided and effecting a pass through low gaps and grading around knobs on the ridges.

It would be well for the engineers to give this location due and careful consideration before adopting any route. This road will be of vast importance to not only the western counties but to the entire State.

NOTICE

All persons due the Watauga Supply Co., are notified to make settlement with me at once.

All accounts not paid by Oct. 15th will be advertised and sold at public auction.

August 1st.

J. McBride, Rec.

Insurance—Fire, Life and Casualty

All new business and expiring policies promptly attended to. Adjustments promptly made.

GEORGE F. BLAIR, BLOWING ROCK, N. C. (Office in Postoffice Bldg)

Boone Clothing Store

WILL PAY ANY ONE LIVING IN WATAUGA COUNTY FIVE CENTS PER MILE, "COMING AND GOING" IF YOU BUY A SUIT OF CLOTHES, OR ITS EQUIVALENT, OF US DURING TRADE WEEK.

"Hall Tate" and "Styleplus" CLOTHING CARRIED IN STOCK

In addition to our Men's and Boy's Suits, we want you to see our Shoes, Hats—Felt and Velours, Caps, Odd pants Shirts, Ties, Overalls, Raincoats &c.

We think we have the best Sweater for both Men and Women ever brought to Boone.

A great big guarantee—big and strong as an elephant, walks right out and right along home with every article that leaves our store.

If it don't dear right, hold its Color, stand up or do right in any way—just let that elephant of a guarantee take you by the hand and lead you right back to our store and get a new one without money and without price.

DEEP GAP

THE GATEWAY OF THE BLUE RIDGE

THE OPEN DOOR TO LOST "PROVINCES" (NOW BEING RECLAIMED)

UNTOLD THOUSANDS have wondered why this famous spot, so favored by nature, has never been developed. The trouble has been that it could not be bought in suitable lots and tracts, but at last, the owners have agreed to sell, so on

SAT. AUGUST 25, 2:30 P. M.

this beautiful spot, where the tourist swing into Deep Gap around the last curve of the climb up the Blue Ridge, will be put up at

PUBLIC AUCTION

and you will have an opportunity to own a lot in an environment of Mountain Air, White Pines, Chestnut Groves, Cold Spring Water, Blue Grass and Virgin Mountain Greenery where the foot-hills and country to the east is spread out before you as far as the eye can reach.

ALL ROADS LEAD TO DEEP GAP. THE BOONE TRAIL HIGHWAY, officially known as Proect No. 60, begins in the States largest seaport city—Wilmington—and with its maize of feeders, concentrates the tourist travel right through DEEP GAP, and on through Boone to Bristol, Tenn., Va., where its western connection affords an outlet north up the Shenadoah Valley to Washington, and south to Knoxville, and northwest to the great automobile centers. This is the only standard grade through highway crossing the Blue Ridge Range anywhere between Maryland and Georgia. The present heavy travel over this highway is only an earnest of what it is going to be, and with the arteries of travel goes rising real estate values. That is as sure as fate.

Towns are springing up in almost every gap where even secondary roads cross the Blue Ridge, so it is too certain to be a gamble that DEEP GAP will soon be a resort town with stores, garages, bungalows, Hotels etc., and the first on the ground gets the profits.

There is already one railroad within about three miles of DEEP GAP, and the NEW PROPOSED STATE AID TRUNK RAILROAD, which is now being surveyed, will go through of near DEEP GAP.

About one o'clock on the day of the sale, a

PICNIC DINNER

will be spread on the grounds. You are invited to oin us, with or without a basket, and make it a weekend outing, then after the sale we will serve a

WATERMELON FEAST

COME AND ENJOY THE DAY WHETHER YOU BUY OR NOT

H. W. HORTON, Boone, N. C.

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