

# The Watauga Democrat.

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## DIRECTORS POTATO GROWERS MEET

Confidence Expressed in the Future of the Mountain Seed Potato Growers Association—Probably One of Watauga's Best Enterprises.

The annual meeting of the members of the Mountain Seed Potato Growers Association was held in the court house on Saturday November 15th. While the weather was bad and the attendance not so large as was expected, the meeting was full of interest, and confidence was expressed in the future of the business. No changes were made in the officers in Watauga County with the exception that Mr. H. Neal Blair was appointed to act as Secretary Treasurer for Watauga County.

The report of the business done in Watauga County showed that the potatoes last year netted the farmers \$1.62 for 2331 bushels of certified potatoes, \$1.50 per bushel for 875 bushels not certified and \$1.20 per bushel for no. 2's. This price was paid after setting aside 5c per bushel for a sinking fund to be used as operating capital. The price received for seed this year will probably not be quite as good as last year's price since eating potatoes are finding such low sale. The price usually varies from year to year, one year being high and the next year being low in regular succession. This rule has always held good and will probably continue to do so until the farmers get better acquainted with the action of the market and govern themselves accordingly.

In 1922 there was a record breaking crop of potatoes planted, consequently the price was very low, many farmers being unable to sell at 50c per bushel. Because of this low price in 1923 there was a light crop planted. This crop therefore sold at a good price. Encouraged by the prices received another heavy acreage was planted this year which has resulted in prices almost as low as in 1922. Judging from the history of the last 20 years the low price this year will cause a light planting next year with consequently higher prices. Because of these facts the Seed Potato Growers' Association is anxious to increase its acreage for next year so as to have a heavy yield to put on the market, which we expect to be good.

To encourage new members to join now and buy their seed potatoes while they are available the Potato Association is offering to sell to new members the potatoes they will need at \$3.50 per bag. It is hoped that these new members will join during the month of November and make arrangements for their seed which will be kept for them until the last of March. Last year were probably 100 farmers in Watauga County who wished to join the Association after the potatoes had been sold, but good seed could not be found at any price with which they could be supplied. A few seed were finally found at a cost of \$8.10 per bag. Several hundred farmers have expressed their intention to grow seed potatoes during 1925. If they could be persuaded to buy their seed now while the price is so low they would save a great deal of expense and would therefore be able to start in the business of growing seed potatoes at a minimum cost. The price of \$3.50 per bag is not promised to new members for any definite length of time but is available now.

See potato growing is probably one of the most promising enterprises for Watauga County at the present time. The cost of getting started in this line of farming as low as would be the cost in starting in growing any other farm crop.

One thing that is apparent to the potato growers of Watauga is that they must have a storage house in which to place their potatoes in the fall so that they can be shipped out any time during the winter that the market demands. This storage house should be built large enough to take care of the needs of the members of the Association for 1925, both for their seed potatoes and eating stock they may not wish to sell at the time of harvest. This is another reason why it is imperative for the officers of the Association to know what acreage to expect for next year. Watauga county grows potatoes and cabbage to perfection and the sooner we can prepare ourselves to grow these two crops in sufficient quantities and handle them in a business-like way so that we can reach out to larger mar-

## NEWS FROM THE COVE CREEK SCHOOL AND VICINITY

On Monday of last week Prof. A. J. Greene visited the school and made a helpful talk to the students. Monday of this week the Rev. Taylor pastor of the Watauga circuit was a visitor for chapel service and conducted the devotional exercises.

Sethonia high school defeated the Cove Creek school in an interesting game of basket ball on Friday the 7th. The game was played on the local court and resulted in a score of 19 to 14.

The girls of the Cove Creek High School played their first game of basket ball with the girls of the Mission School at Valle Crucis and lost by a score of 31-9. The following day they were again defeated by the Banner Elk High School team. With more practice however they will be hard to overcome.

The second boys team easily defeated the Banner Elk boys with a score of 28-3.

The regular quarterly conference of the M. E. Church was in session at Renon's chapel Saturday and on Sunday. Presiding Elder Taylor preached strong sermons on both days.

Rev. W. E. Wilson was called to Forest City Saturday on account of the death of his brother in law. For this reason the regular third Sunday services at the Cove Creek Baptist church were postponed until next Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Margaret Love spent the week end visiting Miss Blanche Horton.

Mrs. J. T. Mast continues in very poor health.

Several people of this section attended the Greer family reunion at Zionville on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Barlow and children of Lenoir were visitors at the home of their parents Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Horton Sunday.

## BOONE ROUTE 1 ITEMS

Mr. Jacob Norris and family have been indisposed with lagrippe and colds.

Mr. Glenn Castle packed his grip and left for parts unknown. Like other boys he wants to see some of the world.

Miss Cynthia Bowles and her mother will leave in a few days for Taylorsville to spend the winter with their daughter and sister Mrs. Maud Marshall.

Mr. Henry Norris and family of Hopkins will move back to their farm on New River.

Mrs. Granville Norris received a box of apples from her son Foss from Bentonville, Ark. They were fine indeed.

## DR DULA GIVES LOCAL LECTURE

Dr. A. W. Dula of Lenoir, N. C. gave a lecture at the chapel hour in the Appalachian Training School on Tuesday morning.

His lecture was illustrated with drawings showing the principal eye defects and their correction with lenses.

Dr. Dula emphasized the relation that good eyes bear to good scholars and the necessity of glasses to those that need them. In his remarks Dr. Dula stated that while there were many wishing for more industrial plants, that the Appalachian Training School was worth more to Boone and the state of North Carolina than a dozen cotton mills, and that Prof. Dougherty held a greater position in the state of North Carolina than the Governor does.

After the chapel lecture Dr. Dula was invited to address the new psychology class of Prof. J. A. Williams and give his class a 30 Minute talk on the Psychology of Vision.

## MEAT CAMP NEWS

Mr. P. W. Moretz of Boone has been on the creek for a few days.

Mrs. A. W. Hodgson and children spent the week end on Buffalo.

We are glad to state that our teacher Miss Margaret Beach is back in school this week. She sure enough has the resolution if she does have to walk on crutches.

Mr. L. E. Wilson and sister Miss Jessie made a business trip to Bristol last week.

The weather has changed and is now cold and windy.

Rev. Jeffcoat failed to get to his appointment on time here at the Lutheran church Sunday.

John B. Steele, County Agent.

## Woman's March to White House



Mrs. Miriam A. Ferguson, Governor-Elect of Texas. Mrs. Nellie Taylor Ross, Governor-Elect of Wyoming.

Another milestone has been passed in woman's advance upon the White House in the election of women governors in Texas and Wyoming. These two women will govern more than five million citizens when they take office.

## DEEP GAP GOSSIP

A revival meeting has been in progress at the Gap Creek Baptist church for over a week. Rev. Hodges and Ashley are the ministers in charge of the services. We are told that the meetings are growing in interest and we hope they will do much good in the chosen field of labor.

We feel that the revival meetings are very much in order in this day and time as the people grow so cold and indifferent in this rush of life for things made of hands and not eternal.

Miss Ophelia Dillard of Blackstone, N. C. has been visiting her friends in this section for a week or more. She has made many new friends while here and speaks many words of praise for our lovely section.

Mr. Andy Greer has just returned from the Davis Hospital at Statesville. The writer and a party took him there on the 5th day of November. He only stayed ten days but he feels much improved since he was operated on and hopes to regain his health again which his doctor says will be a slow case. He has a bone and pus disease from the after effects of influenza. He had suffered for more than two years. We hope to see Andy well again or much improved in time.

The writer has put in an order for buttons or badges of advertising for Deep Gap. The writer believes in publicity and the buttons will be printed as follows: "Deep Gap, North Carolina, the Gateway to Watauga. A good place to live and we need you here." "The Gateway to Watauga" who in his history bestowed this beautiful slogan which we hope to keep alive just as long as the grass grows green about our feet. We feel that we are indebted to him for this and some day we hope to have something lasting and permanent to honor his memory by as a token of gratitude and indebtedness to his beloved name.

The writer would like for the people to send him any sketches or writings of the late John P. Arthur with his biography or anything connected with his life, as we want to preserve it and also comment upon his life through the press. Send to W. A. Watson, "Deep Gap" Yuma, N. C.

Dr. G. H. Jeffcoat visits our section very often to see his patients. We are always glad to see him down. He is a hustler and looks after his patients closely and is very much interested in getting them well and strong again.

The weather seems to be growing a little cooler here as old Sol has slipped away south for the winter, but he will be back again late in the spring as he never fails to get around again if we will only give him time.

## A SMASHING VICTORY

Raleigh News and Observer. There is some consolation for the North Carolina democrats out of the last election after all. The latest returns show Angus Wilton McLean, running 104,000 ahead of his republican opponent. Some three hundred precincts yet unheard from out to bring it to 125,000. The Democratic majority will be nearly double what it was four years ago in North Carolina.

Lazy Larry Writes. In summer spring and also fall I do not like to work at all. In winter as you may have guessed My favorite indoor sport is rest.

## AMERICANS' GRAVES TO BE PERMANENTLY DESIGNATED

Washington.—The battle monuments commission, headed by General Pershing, has decided informally that the graves of the American war dead in France shall be marked for all time with white stone crosses in patterns similar to the wooden markers that have stood over the graves since the war.

"Not only will the sentiment of the cross be perpetuated," General Pershing said, but the arrangement will be unchanged, the stone crosses being fixed as permanent markers, "row on row."

General Pershing explained this decision had been approved by individual members of the battle monuments commission, and, in all probability would be voted formally at a meeting of the commission to be held here this week. The plans then will be presented to Secretary Weeks for approval before actual work of planting the stone crosses in the cemetery overseas is begun by the cemetery division of the army quartermaster corps.

The graves of soldiers whose bodies were returned to the United States will be marked with the stone slab in conformity with the practice followed since the civil war in all military burial grounds in this country.

There are 50,447 graves in the American fields of honor in France, Belgium and England, comprising an aggregate of 250 acres.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

Mrs. J. D. Council was hostess to the Friday Afternoon Club Nov. 14th. The gloomy atmosphere of the weather was not felt inside the room where cheerful voices and busy fingers made the hour speed merrily by.

The hostess had prepared a program on Armistice day. The program which was appropriate and interesting was feelingly carried out as follows:

Mrs. Wilson gave an editorial entitled "Armistice and Peace." Mrs. I. G. Greer read an extract from Herbert Hoover's address on Armistice Day. Mrs. F. A. Linney gave an editorial "Six Years Ago Today." This was followed by a military contest in national colors. Mrs. Greer and Miss Starbury tied and drew for the prize which was a lovely silver book mark.

The hostess assisted by Mrs. B. J. Council, served a delicious fruit and coffee and other accessories and silk flags as favors were scattered white and blue mints were passed.

During the business session the President of the club read a delightful letter from Mrs. A. C. Avery president of the Eleventh District of Federated Clubs in which she sent greetings and expressed the hope she might visit our club in the near future. She also recognized the Friday Afternoon Club as affiliated with the State Federation this year, as a social and book club.

After an exchange of books the club adjourned to meet November 28 at the home of Mrs. B. J. Council.

## Succeeds Lodge



Wm. M. Butler, Captain-General of all Coolidge's forces throughout the nation, will succeed the late Senator Lodge of Mass., and carry all battles for the President in the upper branch of Congress.

## GREER FAMILY HOLDS REUNION

Through of Friends Honor Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Greer on their Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary.—Other News Notes of Interest.

The Training School celebrated November 11th with appropriate songs and talks at chapel.

Mr. Tremblin, representing the Modern Woodmen, visited the school the past week and made a talk to the students.

Rev. Seymour Taylor, the new presiding Elder of the North Wilkesboro District, preached his first sermon at the Methodist church on Sunday to an interested congregation, and held the first quarterly conference. Reports by the pastor and others show the church in good condition in starting off the new year. Hon. W. C. Newland of Lenoir and Judge Harding were present as visitors.

About 150 friends and relatives of Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Greer of Zionville in the western part of the county, assembled at the home of Mr. Greer on Sunday the 16th to celebrate the sixtieth wedding anniversary of these excellent people. The writer had the honor of being present. Incidentally those present were seven of their children, 15 grandchildren and two great grandchildren, and a large number of relatives and friends from various parts of the county. One of their daughters and her husband come from Colorado to be present on this occasion. Each of the cars brought well filled boxes of dinner for the day, which in due time was spread on the lawn on improvised tables. Mr. and Mrs. Greer seated with a number of their friends in seats of honor, and all due honor was shown them during the day. The whole day's proceedings were entirely unexpected and unknown to these good people until the cars began to arrive and their children and friends crowded the yard and home and began their hearty greetings. All present enjoyed the dinner, but above enjoyed bringing good cheer and congratulations to this excellent couple who attained this unusual length of married life. A number of presents were given them also. After dinner was over pleasant conversation was engaged in for quite a while and then songs and speeches were called for. Many of the old religious songs were sung suitable for the occasion and speeches were made by Mr. Wiley Sherwood, Prof. W. Y. Perry and others, including the writer who finished his talk with the lines to Mr. and Mrs. Greer given at the last of this article. Mr. and Mrs. Greer are among the pioneers of the county and among the best citizens of the county and well deserve the honor that was heaped upon them on this notable occasion. They reared eight children and these now all have families of their own. One of the sons who is in the far west was not able to be present at this time.

After many hours of conversation and good cheer with Mr. and Mrs. Greer as the center of it all, the large crowd began to disperse with many good wishes for these splendid people for many more happy days, concurring in the following lines.

To Mr. and Mrs. Greer:

Dear friends we bring you fullest cheers  
 For happy days for sixty years,  
 And wish you joy for many more,  
 Yes, for those coming on before.

We greet you with a friend's true love  
 And wish all days a blessing prove;  
 We offer you our heart and hand  
 And wish you for the highest stand.

Our Father's hand has been your stay  
 And kept you thru each passing day,  
 And still I know His hand will keep  
 Even until the last sweet sleep!

And even then your joy shall be  
 Throughout a blissful eternity,  
 Then sweetest peace shall fill the soul  
 While on the endless ages roll.

J. M. Downum

Stanley county now has a board of agriculture with members from each township appointed by the county board of commissioners to further develop the agricultural and the community interests of the county. This board will work with the farm demonstration agent of the State College Extension division.