

WATAUGA COUNTY NEEDS FOREST PROTECTION

The 14th census U. S. 1920, shows that Watauga county has a land area of 193,920 acres of which 199,752 are in forests, fern woodlands or unimproved farm lands. In other words, 96 per cent of the county is either growing trees or nothing and will probably continue to do so for another fifty years, for the farmers now have nearly as much land cleared as they can tend and almost as much new land is cleared old fields are being turned out. Much of the 96 per cent will never be in forests or nothing for the land is too steep or rocky to farm. In the past a very large part of the wealth of the county has come from the forests either through the sale of lumber or through the employment of the timber operations afforded. With protection the industry could be made permanent and continue its contribution to the wealth of the county.

Lumber Production—100,000 acres of protected forest land will bring in a yearly return of between two and four hundred thousand dollars to the land owners and will in addition furnish an equal amount of jobs to the people of the county. It is an industry that furnishes \$500,000,000 per year to the wealth of the county worth protecting.

Taxes—At present 44 per cent of agricultural land and town property is paying permits, two thirds of the total taxes of the county. This is due to the fact that the forested area has been cut and burned and greatly reduced in value. If this forested area is protected the young growth will increase its value and not only yield a profit to the land owners, but the land will pay its part of the county taxes. It is estimated that protected forest land doubles in value every ten years because of the forest growth on it. Protecting the forest land will mean spreading the taxes over the whole country rather than concentrating it on the agricultural land and the result will be a lower tax rate.

Future timber—The State of N. Carolina is cutting its timber about four times as fast as it is being replaced by young growth and it is estimated that within 15 years we will have to get our timber from some other place and then have to pay the freight.

Freight on timber—The people of the United States pay annually the sum of \$250,000,000 in freight on timber because it is not grown where it is used. Watauga county has not yet contributed to this bill, but unless the young forest growth is protected it will soon be necessary to ship lumber into the country.

Recreation—Watauga county is now spending money on good roads and on other means to attract the tourist with the hope that they will come and add wealth to the county. This will probably be the case for the county is blessed by a climate in the summer that is not excelled by any county in the state and that is better than some sections now deriving a large annual revenue from tourists. But the tourists go where they will find the things that they want and forest protection brings all these things as far as the outdoors is concerned. Most people go to Mt. Mitchell only once for the big fires that follow the lumbering operations in that region make the area a fire

near unpleasant to the eye. Forest fires ruin camp sites and destroy hunting and fishing. All of these things the county must have if the tourists are to be sure of permanent attractions. The Forestry Division of the State Department of Conservation and Development is entrusted with the state and federal funds for forest protection and is willing to help such counties as may desire the work by giving these counties some of the state money. However, the county must first show that it is interested in protecting its forests before the state can help. Any appropriation that a county may make will be met by an equal amount of state money. In addition the state will supervise the work in the county and furnish posters, literature, and such tools as available funds will procure.

The organization is a cooperating counties consists of a county forest warden who has direct supervision of the work in the county. Under him a District Forest Warden in each township who visits schools, posts notices, talks to the people about the forest laws and does everything that he can to prevent fires. In case of a fire he has authority to summon men to help fight it and he also investigates every fire and brings prosecution where the evidence warrants. Under the District Warden are a number of Deputies who act as crew leaders in case of a fire. These men are scattered about two miles apart through the districts and are usually on every fire before it makes any headway. This means a low cost of suppression and but slight damage to the forests.

Last year we were unable to take on any new counties because of limited state funds, but we are now in a position to help four more counties in this section. Watauga county needs the work as much as any county in the district and at the same time it is a constant nuisance to the adjoining cooperating counties of Wilkes, Caldwell and Avery. The largest fire in Wilkes county this spring came from Watauga and a year ago most of the trouble in Avery was caused by Watauga fires crossing the line.

\$200 is the minimum amount with which we will be able to consider that a county is desirous of cooperation. If Watauga will make this appropriation we will give an equal amount and endeavor to organize before the fall fires begin.

FRED B. MERRILL, District Forester, Lenoir, N. C.

AN APOLOGY

Owing to shut downs in the electric service this week, caused by the unprecedented dry weather of the summer, many of our most important news items, correspondence, etc. had to be omitted this week. There fore we have to give our readers "the rag" in whatever shape we can this time, and as it is are forced to come out a day late. Your kind indulgence is solicited.

MINISTERS WILL MEET

The Watauga Ministerial Association will meet Monday morning at 10:30 in the ladies parlor of the Methodist church. All ministers of the county are invited.

Bello Daddy-dont forget my Wrigleys! Slip a package in your pocket when you go home to night. Give the youngsters this wholesome, long lasting sweet-for pleasure and benefit. Use it yourself after smoking or when work drags. It's a great little freshener. WRIGLEY'S JULY FRUIT CHEWING GUM. SEaled TIGHT. KEET RIGHT.

WONDERS

(C. M. Downum, Boone, N. C.) Oh, the wonders of the valley, It's a pleasant place to be, With its flowers and its trees And the sparkling of the rills And the spreading of the meadows, Till with joy the full heart thrills. Oh, the wonders of the mountains, It's a glorious place to see And to gaze the widening scene And to hold its riches near Spread up out in richest beauty As a pleasing garden fair.

Oh, the wonders of the landscape, It's a peaceful place to roam With its ever changing forms And its irresistible lure Lending on in silent pleading As to higher ways so pure Oh, the wonders of the heaven, It's a great and beautiful dome, Filled with millions of stars and orbs Lighting on the distant way Holding all the hidden regions As a sure but secret day.

Patronize your home industry, buy Boone Knitt hose at Davidson's Dept. Store.

BOONE KNITT

The first lot of Boone Hose, knitt hose is for sale at Davidson's. The hose are knitt of good hile yarn reinforced heel, toe and foot. They would be cheap at 25c but Davidson is offering them 6 pair only 98c.

KODAK FINISHING

I am now prepared to give you 24 hour service on all Kodak Developing and Printing.

The most modern methods coupled with my long experience enables me to serve you promptly and efficiently along this line. Money will not buy better work. Mail orders are especially solicited.

J. M. BAWGUS, BOONE NORTH CARO.

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE SALE

By virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain mortgage deed, executed to Allen Greene by T. D. Jones on the 29th day of October, 1924, to secure the sum of \$662.50 and default having been made in the payment of said amount, I will, on the 3rd day of August, 1925, at the court house door of Watauga county at 1:00 o'clock P. M. sell to the highest bidder for cash the following described real estate, to-wit:

BEGINNING on a locust stake on the bank of the road, Fred Greene's line, a south course to the creek; then a West course with the meanders of the branch to B. B. Greene's stable, then a Northeast course to a stake on the bank of the public road; then an East course with the public road to the beginning.

S. D. GREENE, Administrator of Allen Greene.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

NORTH CAROLINA, Watauga County, Having qualified as administrator of Frank South, deceased, late of Watauga county, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at Tamarack, N. C. on or before July 2nd, 1926, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 2nd day of July, 1925. NANNIE SOUTH, Admr. of Frank South, dec'd. Brown & Bingham, Attys. 26-6-p

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE SALE

By virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain mortgage deed executed to W. P. Moody by E. M. Cornett, dated the 23rd day of October 1920, to secure the sum of \$774.80, being the purchase money on lands hereinafter described and default having been made in the payment of said sum, I will on the third day of August, 1925, sell to the highest bidder for cash at the court house door in Boone township, Watauga County, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 2 p. m. the following described tract of land, being the same tract of land conveyed to E. M. Cornett containing 21 acres and 70 rods by deed dated the 23rd day of October 1920, by W. P. Moody and wife M. E. Moody and A. P. Moody and wife Mada Moody to which deed and the registration thereof reference is here by made for a more complete description of same.

This the 3rd day of July 1925. F. C. WARD, Trustee of A. P. Moody and W. P. Moody.

NOTICE OF SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

By virtue of a deed of assignment made to the undersigned by W. P. Moody and wife and A. P. Moody and wife, I will on Saturday August 1, 1925, at the residence of A. P. Moody in Boone township Watauga County, North Carolina, sell to the highest bidder for cash the following articles of personal property to-wit:

One red cow five years old; one Chevrolet coupe automobile; one mowing machine and rake; one krist mill; one wagon, two horses; one section harrow, one hill side plow; one feed cutter, one grain drill; and other farming tools.

The terms of sale on amounts under \$10 cash on day of sale, more than \$10 on 90 days time with note and approved security.

This 3rd day of July 1925. F. C. WARD, Trustee of A. P. Moody and W. P. Moody.

FOR SALE—18 acres of land, six room house and good barn and other buildings, a good orchard, near the Norris roller mill, handy to the store. See or write M. S. Bumgarner, Sands, N. C. 23-50

FOR SALE—18 1/2 acres unimproved farm, 1 mile from Gastonia, N. C. practically level, suitable for general farming, trucking or small dairy with water stream. \$85 per acre, good terms—write owner, C. L. Bell, West Gastonia, N. C. 23-30

NOTICE A house just completed, with six rooms and bath, water and lights, with six lots, above the court house in Boone, for sale. Will sell all lots or house and lot 100x100 feet. Terms easy. F. A. LINNEY 23-30

NOTICE

The Board of county commissioners on the first Monday in August at their regular meeting will receive bids for the construction of the new jail building. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids. S. C. EGGERS, Chairman.



Puretest Zinc Sterate A smooth waterproof powder which is unsurpassed for infant's use. Made of finest materials.

Puretest Boric Acid A safe mild antiseptic which may be freely used as a healing dusting powder and eye solution.

25c per can BOONE DRUG CO. The Retail Store

Anything Today in Our Line? We can supply you with Brick, Lime, Sand, Sheet Rock, Wall Board, Flooring, Ceiling, Siding, Casing, Windows, Doors, Builders Hardware, and almost anything you need for the new house or to repair the old one. We handle good solid material and Solicit your orders. Yours to serve,

WATAUGA FURNITURE & LBR. CO. by W. R. Cragg, General Manager.

Children Cry for Fletcher's CASTORIA. MOTHER:—Fletcher's Castoria is especially prepared to relieve Infants in arms and Children all ages of Constipation, Flatulency, Wind Colic and Diarrhea; allaying Feverishness arising therefrom, and, by regulating the Stomach and Bowels, aids the assimilation of Food; giving healthy and natural sleep. To avoid imitations, always look for the signature of Dr. J. C. Fletcher. Absolutely Harmless—No Opium. Physicians everywhere recommend it.

SAVE Fruits, berries and vegetables are very plentiful in most sections of Watauga County this year. "EAT WHAT YOU CAN AND CAN THE REST" We have a good stock of pint, quart and half gallon Fruit Jars, Caps and Rings at the right price. We also have a nice line of aluminum Preserving Kettles, etc. Yours to serve, Farmers Hardware & Supply Co.