

# Watauga Democrat

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## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HAD A LIVE MEETING

The following report of a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, was handed in by the correspondent at press time last week, therefore it had to be omitted from that issue:

At the Critcher Hotel Monday at 8 p. m. the Chamber of Commerce began its regular hi-weekly session. A large crowd of the leading business men of the town were present and the meeting had the prospect from the very start of being a great success.

Chairman W. H. Gragg called the meeting to order. Prof. L. G. Greer led the crowd in singing several old and patriotic songs. Rev. Huggins, of the Baptist church opened the meeting with a fervent prayer to God for His blessings upon the meeting and the Chamber of Commerce.

The Secretary Russell D. Hodges, read the minutes of the last meeting and upon motion of the Prof. Greer which was seconded and passed. Rev. R. N. Baldwin was elected reporter for the meetings of the Chamber and upon him was imposed the duties of writing up the proceedings of each meeting for the Watauga Democrat and frequently for the daily papers of the state.

The first thing in the way of business that was transacted by the body was a resolution offered by Prof. J. C. Williams of the Normal School. This resolution was similar to the one passed Sunday by each of the churches in town and deplored the efforts of the crowd in the United States that is striving to bring about a modification of the Volstead Act and the resolution also asked the U. S. Senators and the Congress member of this district to do all in their power to uphold the cause of prohibition and to fight the advent of light wines and beer.

District Attorney F. A. Linney asked for information concerning the headway that Boone is making in the way of getting the water connections in so that the town of Boone will be out of the way of the Highway Commission, so that it may be justified in letting a contract for the paving work to start by April 1.

Chairman Gragg asked Mayor D. J. Cottrell to give a statement to the Chamber with the information asked for by Mr. Linney. Mr. Cottrell said he hoped to close a contract this week that would get Boone out of the way of the Highway Commission. But it would depend on the delivery of a lot of terra cotta pipes, connections, etc., all of which has been ordered and a notice received from the company that it had been shipped.

Mr. Linney then made a motion that the Chamber of Commerce recommend to the Board of Aldermen of Boone that they make this contract this week that will get the work done on the water connections before the first of April so that the State Highway Commission may be able to start the pouring of concrete by April 1.

This motion was opposed by Mayor Cottrell, who alleged that that it might be a dangerous thing for the town to make a contract as proposed unless the terra cotta and other necessities, which are ordered, could be delivered for the work.

Prof. L. G. Greer and the county Superintendent of Schools Smith Hagaman, entered into a debate on the motion, the preponderance of both of the speeches being in favor of the motion. The motion, being put to a vote, was passed.

Prof. B. B. Dougherty, president of the State Normal, spoke upon "Boone's Electric Lights and Power". He used about one hour and a half in which he kept his audience thoroughly interested.

Electricity is a subject about which there are but few experts. It has a dialect all of its own and to most of the people it speaks in an unknown tongue. But Professor Dougherty convinced his audience that he knows something about the subject, especially as concerns the building and maintaining of a power plant.

By way of introducing himself and his interest in the growth of Boone, he said: "As I look into your faces I do not see one man who was born in Boone, or who was raised in Boone. I have the advantage of every one of you in that particular. I was born here. I was raised here. I was here working for the growth of Boone before any of you thought enough of it to come here and live. Therefore I think I can say that there is no man in Boone who has a greater passion for, or a greater pleasure in the

## BEYOND EARTH'S GOAL

(James Monroe Downum)

How grandly sweet the tones sublime  
Now welling forth from regions far  
Such tones no human voice can form  
Nor strains a mortal ear hath heard  
Aye, richer far than earthly mind  
Could e'er conceive or fullest heart  
Could feel their truest rarest depths  
In strains beyond our highest sense  
They roll with rich harmonious thrill  
Through regions of the blissful sky  
Filling all space to touch and soothe  
The yearning heart with secret bliss  
So far beyond the carnal sense  
Or earthly powers' utmost goal.

gress of this growing town.

"What I shall say tonight is not intended to represent the State of North Carolina, nor the Normal, nor the town of Boone, but only myself—a plain private citizen."

He told how through the efforts of himself and his brother D. D. Dougherty, years ago a small light plant or power house was built solely for the use of the school, how one man and then another had asked for light, and how the town finally asked for current, and how eventually the plant was overloaded and as a result was burned up. How the town was in darkness for a number of months, how that through their efforts a small plant was rebuilt by taking \$3,706.72 out of a bond issue, but that this plant was never a success.

He then tried to trade with Mr. Thompson at Blewing Rock who asked him \$40,000 for a half interest in his plant. The Doughertys thought this price was too high. Then Mr. Thompson offered to sell the town "juice" at 18 cents per kilowatt hour. The town folks thought that 13 1/2 cts would be a fair price, and a trade was not made.

Then Prof. Dougherty asked the General Assembly for an appropriation of \$75,000, with which to build a power plant at Boone to supply power for the Normal School, and to sell any residue that there might be, to the town and citizens of Boone at a price to be set by the representatives of the town and the Normal School and approved by the Corporation Commission, all the net income of such sale of juice to go into a fund to be loaned to worthy and needy young men in North Carolina who can get two good people on their notes, provided these young men will use the money for the purpose of educating themselves at the Normal School.

At this juncture in his speech Prof. Dougherty called upon Prof. A. M. Norton to read the charter of the School and the act of the legislature authorizing the appropriation of the building of the power plant now supplies Boone and the Normal with light and power. This was read by Prof. Norton and Prof. Dougherty resumed his speech.

He had a blackboard and a table thickly covered with prepared data. Out of the cluster of notes and manuscripts he gathered figures with which he answered all questions put to him from time to time by members of his audience.

These answers he placed upon the blackboard so all might see what he had to say, as well as to hear it.

Upon the blackboard he compared and contrasted the rates charged by Boone for electric current with all the towns located immediately near Boone, as well as the relative rates charged in Asheville and in Johnson City.

He admitted that a little power plant could not compete with a larger one in selling electric current. But his figures showed conclusively that Boone is being served in a very considerate manner in the matter of getting juice from the Normal school. His speech was the answer of the Trustees of the Normal to the petition for lower rates for current for the people of Boone that was recently presented by the citizens to the trustees of the Normal.

The next program of the Chamber of Commerce will be held at the Critcher Hotel on the third Monday night of March at 8 p. m. The American Legion will have charge of the next program and doubtless will give a worth while program.

Rev. F. M. Huggins dismissed the meeting with a benediction prayer.

Look in this issue for an announcement by the Legion. One subject to be discussed at this meeting will be "A Public Park for Boone." Everybody should hear this discussion.

## S. C. EGGERS TELLS OF FLORIDA TRIP

Mr. Editor: May I have space in your paper for a brief account of my recent visit to Florida.

Going from Boone to Winston-Salem by bus I took the train there at 1:30 p. m. for Jacksonville, Fla., arriving there the next morning at about 9 o'clock. Immediately after breakfast in Jacksonville where I was joined by a party of twenty-five we were put on one of the fine De Luxe Hollywood busses, in which we travelled more than four hundred miles down the East Coast, stopping and observing at the following towns and places: On leaving Jacksonville we were shown the city with the main points of interest pointed out and then we crossed the St. John's River on a very fine bridge—a toll bridge. It cost the bus \$1.50 and each passenger 3 cents to cross. The St. John is a beautiful river. After leaving it we were taken through one new development after another, which shows the wonderful boom in building and real estate throughout Florida.

One of the most interesting things we saw were the large fields of potatoes already planted and a little railroad station by the name of Spud in this vicinity is the largest potato market in the South. Nearby is the village of Elkton, a large turpentine plant. Next we came to Hastings a place where onions are grown in very large quantities. Then we pass the cities Espaynola and Bunnell and then one of the many large deposits of O-jus Rock, the material with which roads are made. This material is taken from the earth in the form of sand or soft rock and after being exposed to the air for a short time it becomes as hard as rock and when it is oiled makes a very fine road and this plan of building roads makes it much cheaper than the way in which we build them in our section. The O-jus rock gets its name from the Indians. Ojus in the Indian language means plenty. We also have this legend of its name. A traveler asked a native negro what the material was that he was moving with a shovel. The negro replied, "O-jus-rock."

Then we came to the Tomokis River—a fine fishing stream, later to the Great Halifax River. We traveled along this river for quite a distance. We saw a number of places where the river had been dredged and canals cut, using what earth was taken from the river and canals to build the earth up so as to be above the water, hence they call it built up soil. Then we came to the city of Daytona, a very fine city, a noted resort, crowded with people from all parts of the country. Then we came to Port Orange, another resort noted for its fine golf courses. The next was the city of New Smyrna, one of the first white ports in Florida and where the white people used to protect themselves from the Indians.

Then we came to Oak Hill, and Titusville, two fine towns, full of resort people. On leaving Titusville we start on more than a hundred mile drive down the Indian River, the road being in sight and close by the river the entire way. This river has a width of 3 to 14 miles, and is very shallow except in the channel which is kept dredged for navigation. All sea fowls of various kinds are seen, swimming, diving, wading, each one doing according to his kind, and too the large fish could be seen jumping into the air for food, and dodging the sea gulls to keep from becoming their prey.

Coming to the city of Cocoa we spent the night at the Oak Hotel on the bank of the Indian River. Here we enjoyed a good night's rest with the good food they served and especially the fine fish.

Early next morning we were on our way down the Indian River. We soon came to the city of Eaucliee, and crossing the river to Melbourne, and just below, looking across the Indian River to the left we could see what is called Ocean Gap. Here a gap has been cut in the shore of the ocean, so when at high tide the sea water runs through this gap into the Indian River giving it a supply of salt water at every tide. As we passed we could see the breakers dashing through the gap and white foam leaping high in the air, showing the terrific force with which the waters were hurled against the shore.

Then we came to Vero, which is called the Gateway to the Tropics. Vero is on the frost line. All tropical fruits are grown below this city and immediately below we came to and passed through the largest orange grove in the county. It is said to be 8 by 12 miles. The trees were full of the fine fruit. It certainly is a pretty sight. Then we came to a field of pineapples. It takes this plant four years to bear fruit and the fruit is grown above the ground. Then the bananas. The banana does not bear the first year and the fruit is produced on a sprout or sucker, and the

## NEXT ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC AT NORTH WILKESBORO 13th.

Many crippled and handicapped residents of this town are availing themselves of the wonderful opportunity provided them by the Kiwanis Orthopaedic Clinic held on the second Saturday of each month in the Commercial Club rooms at North Wilkesboro. The next clinic will be held on Saturday March 13.

During the four clinics which have been held at North Wilkesboro 80 examinations have been made. Dr. Robert Moore, the surgeon who is conducting the clinic has recommended operations for 24 of these cases. Some of these cripples are undergoing operations at the present time, occupying a free bed furnished by the Rotary Club of Winston-Salem. Several have returned home following their operations and are reporting back to the clinic each month for observation.

In addition to those who are having their deformities corrected by operations, several cripples are receiving all of their treatment at the clinic. In the clinic 10 plaster casts, 3 braces and 2 corrective shoes have been applied, and one patient is being given corrective exercises.

That this clinic is meeting a real need in providing orthopaedic treatment for the unfortunate cripples of this section is evidenced by the number reporting to the clinics and the wonderful improvements that are being obtained. Those in close touch with the clinic have expressed themselves as believing this to be the finest humanitarian work that has been undertaken in this section.

fruit grows just the opposite to the manner in which we see them hanging in markets.

Next we came to Indian City which is said to be the finest city in the South. When completed it is well located and has the possibility of really being the finest city, which however is no small task for the builders when they will have to compete the fine towns we now have. And coming on down the river we come to F. Pierce commonly called the San Rice City named for its location.

Then we were shown the old Fench whipping posts, and a place of unishment for the prisoners, and the construction of these places gives an idea of the fierceness of the punishment.

Crossing the St. Lucy River we came to the city of Stuart, where we served a delicious lunch and viewed the nice town for a while.

After passing the next town called Selma we came to what is called the mountains of Florida. These however are mere mole hills compared with the mountains of western North Carolina. Here we noticed the first effects of the sea breezes. All the trees lean from the east due to the continual breeze from the sea and is so constant that it has forced the trees throughout the ages to lean from its pressure. Coming to Jupiter we find a decoration of flags in honor of our passing the city. Then passing thru Kelsey City we entered West Palm Beach, and were taken to a section called Northwood and from there to the beach and the deep blue sea, where we saw for the first time the broad Atlantic with hundreds upon its beach, bathing in the surging waters that beat upon its shores. Staying upon the beach for about an hour we saw ships and boats, large and small, riding upon the waves or anchored in the harbor.

While on this beach the writer took an accidental foot and leg bath while gathering shells. We forgot that the waves would come again but we suddenly found ourselves in water half leg deep and getting deeper. Some one said, "Did you run?" He said, "No, I flew."

We were driven along the main streets of Palm Beach and West Palm Beach, including the famous millionaire row and the noted gambling house where it is said that millions cross the board every day. These cities are in a palm grove, some of the trees being so perfect and uniform and look like granite posts with flowers or palm leaves planted on top.

After having dinner at the Royal Palm Hotel we crossed over to the city called Lakeworth, another small town. We drove down lover's lane, shaded on either side with palms and cedars, and lover's lane it is Leaving there and crossing Lakeworth we were shown the Travelers Palm. This palm does not grow high or bear fruit but is rightly named. At all times and under all conditions it points east and west, a travelers compass, and from each leaf can be obtained one quart of pure drinking water, hence the name "traveler's palm."

Next we came to the Royal Ponce-

## NEW DEPARTMENT ADDED TO SPAINHOUR'S STORE

Spainhours' Incorporated, one of the leading dry goods stores of this section has announced the opening of a new department, known as the Bargain Annex. This addition is to the rear of the Peoples Bank and Trust Co. and is accessible through a large arched doorway from the original building. In this department will be earned a large new assortment of piece goods bought at unusually low prices, also Millinery and ready to wear of cheaper qualities, and many other items. The main building will still carry the highest quality merchandise.

Mr. W. R. Spainhour who has been in charge of the local branch since its opening has moved to Elkin to be in charge of a store recently opened there, while Mr. L. E. Harris will be in charge at Boone, and will be assisted by Mrs. Russell Hodges and Miss Mary Council.

The Spainhours have built up a nice business in this section, and the new management promises the very best of service in all departments, and as good values as can be procured. A full page ad in this paper is of interest.

## CHARLOTTE OBSERVER GIVES PRIZES IN SPELLING BEE

Here is the chance of a lifetime for spellers of North Carolina to get real money, as well as real fun, from the covers of the old spelling book.

The Charlotte Observer will give \$175.00 in cash rewards to the best spellers in the state, and many county champion spellers will get free trips to Charlotte.

The spelling bee is to be state wide and the schools of Charlotte and in the one hundred counties have been invited by the Observer to participate. Each school will pick its best speller in a regular spelling bee. Then all school winners, city and county, are to meet at the county seat to select, in an old-fashioned spelling bee, the county champion. This lucky boy or girl may be among those who will come to Charlotte in May as the guest of the Observer. He or she will stop at the city's best hotel and will be royally entertained entering the state wide finals. Then the Observer is offering the following prizes at the all-territory finals in May; first \$1000, second \$500, and third \$250.

In addition the champion speller of North Carolina will be sent to Washington, D. C. in June to take part in the Second National Spelling Bee Contest. All the expenses of both the winner and a chaperon will be paid by the Observer. In the event that the winner is a girl, her mother will act as chaperon; in case a boy, the Observer will provide a suitable chaperon. In Washington more than twenty spelling champions will compete for \$2000 in gold and a gold medal. The first prize will be \$1,000.00; second, \$500; third \$200; fourth, 150 fifth \$100; sixth, \$50. A five day night seeing tour and other entertainments are in store for the winner of North Carolina.

Schools in both city and county have been invited to join the bee and urged by the Observer to forward their acceptances immediately to the Spelling Bee Editor.

## SMITH HAGAMAN TO REPRESENT TRAINING CAMPS

The War Department has announced the appointment of Mr. Smith Hagaman, Boone, N. C., as a county representative for the Citizens Military Training Camps, for the summer.

Mr. Hagaman states that he will receive a supply of application blanks for the training camps shortly and will be ready to pass these out to young men between the ages of 17 and 24 who might want to take a months encampment in July at government expense.

Congress appropriates nearly three million dollars annually to enable the young men to develop their physical powers under proper supervision. Railroad fare, meals en route and at camp, uniforms, laundry, athletic equipment and medical and dental treatment are furnished.

Two vacancies have been allotted Watauga County and it is expected that they will be taken by April 1. Others may apply and if vacancies occur later they will be taken care of.

## THE NEWS FROM THE NORMAL SCHOOL

Things have been rather quiet about the Normal for the past few days except the championship base ball and other games. The young ladies' basketball team from Crossnore played the Lenoir High School team, the Crossnore winning 45 to 7, and the same Crossnore team played the N. Wilkesboro team, the team from Crossnore winning by a score of 27 to 2. At another time the N. Wilkesboro boys played the Normal team, the Normal winning by a score of 24 to 16.

Rev. M. B. Woosley, pastor of the Methodist church, conducted chapel service on Saturday and made a good talk to the student body.

President Dougherty of the Normal, went to Lenoir the past week to deliver an address at a county Educational meeting. He was accompanied by Prof. Chappell Wilson of the Normal.

Mr. and Mrs. Van G. Hinson and Prof. J. M. Downum of the Normal, and Prof. Spainhour of the Cove Creek High School, were invited out to Prof. A. J. Greene's splendid country home near Vilas the past Sunday for a dinner given in honor of the Professors birthday. This was indeed a pleasant occasion as the professor and children and excellent and good hosts. The sumptuous dinner was more than ample to satisfy the most artistic showing splendid taste and skill on the part of the good wife and her helpers and the social hours passed away all too quickly being enlivened by varied conversation and by the splendid music by Prof. Green and his son and daughter. Various kodak pictures were taken of those present and the guests departed with most pleasant memories of the occasion.

## THE WORTH WHILE CLUB

Mrs. A. L. Cook, with Mrs. John W. Hodges as associate hostess, entertained the Worth-While Club on March 5th at Mrs. Cook's home. Beautiful hyacinths and narcissus gave the room a spring-like appearance. A number of the members and several visitors were present. The president being absent the vice-president, Mrs. C. S. Stevenson, presided. The business was first taken up. A Treasurers report and a report from the Library Committee were given.

Other matters were discussed by the club. Because of the nearness to St. Patrick's Day an interesting Irish program was enjoyed by all.

History of St. Patrick's Day by Mrs. Williams.

Mrs. Don Farthing read the Feast of St. Patrick.

Irish Heroism Mrs. Floy Greene. Solos—That Tumble Down Shack in Althone, Smiles and Frowns, by Miss Hopkins.

Piano Solo—Miss Elsie Farthing. The hostess, assisted by her daughters, Vivian and Geneva, served a very palatable salad course and Irish cream followed by shamrock mints.

Mrs. E. N. Hahn will entertain the Club at the next regular meeting on March 19th.

## HIGH LAND FURNITURE CO. POSTPONES OPENING

As may be seen by their advertisement in this issue the Highland Furniture Company has postponed their opening to Wednesday the 17th. This delay was caused by the inability of the factories to make deliveries by the original date.

## LAST CALL FOR THE NEAR EAST RELIEF

We are making a final appeal to the good people of the county who have not yet subscribed to the Near East relief fund to send their subscriptions in at once, as we are called upon to make a final report. Owing to the bad weather we are far behind with our quota, and we urge all to respond to this worthy cause. If everybody will help we can go over.

The following subscription has been received for the Near East relief from Valle Crucis Episcopal Church of \$7.93, for which we kindly thank these good people.

EDW. N. HAHN,  
County Chairman.

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