

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1926

FIVE CENTS A COPY

STATE FISH COMMISSION MET HERE LAST NIGHT

Entertained at Daniel Boone By Local Chamber of Commerce; Several Talks Made

The North Carolina State Fisheries Commission met here Tuesday night, with all members present except one. Those present were: Chairman J. K. Dixon, Trenton; Sanford Martin, Winston-Salem; F. H. Stedman, Fayetteville; Henry C. Wall, Rockingham; George Hampton, Canton; F. S. Worthy, Washington; H. V. Grant, Sneads Ferry; E. S. Aske, Windsor; M. B. Hart, Tarboro, and J. Q. Gilkey, Marion. Accompanying the commission were Owen Moon, publisher of the Winston-Salem Journal, and L. J. Hampton, staff correspondent of that newspaper.

Through the courtesy of the Boone Chamber of Commerce, the commission, together with County Warden J. W. Bryan, were tendered an elaborate dinner at the Daniel Boone hotel. The menu was tempting and heartily enjoyed. The commissioners were treated to mountain trout caught from nearby waters by Warden Bryan and J. D. Council. W. H. Gragg was toastmaster.

Many talks were made by the visitors, noteworthy among which was the one by Chairman Dixon, who outlined the program of the commission and gave some interesting figures on the fisheries industry of North Carolina. He said that special attention was to be given this section of the state and was enthusiastic over the efforts made by the local warden to protect the fish in this county. It was the general opinion that at no other place in the state had such a cordial welcome been extended, and the entire body was unanimous in its praise of this section, and none the less, of the county itself.

Short talks and addresses of welcome were made by different citizens of Boone, about seventy-five of whom were present.

Members of the commission left early yesterday morning for Spruce Pine where they will have lunch, going from there to Marion where they will spend the night.

MUST APPLY FOR WAR TIME INSURANCE SOON

Two Months Remain for Application For Reinstatement and Conversion of War-Time Insurance.

A Washington special of April 30 says: With only two months remaining in which applications for reinstatement and conversion of war-time insurance may be filed, the veterans bureau estimates that there are approximately 3,500,000 yearly renewable term insurance to lapse and have not yet filed application for reinstatement.

Twenty-nine thousand four hundred and ninety-nine applications for government life insurance have been received since January 1, 1926, totaling approximately \$160,000,000 of insurance averaging \$5,100 per policy.

An application for reinstatement and conversion should include: remittance sufficient to cover the premium for reinstatement of term insurance and at least one monthly premium on the converted policy as well as proof of insurability represented by a report of physical examination by a physician.

An application for conversion requires remittance sufficient to cover at least one monthly premium on the converted policy. If either of such applications are deposited in the mails properly addressed to the veterans bureau, central, regional or sub-office on or before July 2, 1926, they can be approved upon receipt at the bureau, but if they are incomplete when received there is no authority whatever for their later completion and approval.

General Frank T. Hines, director, is again warning ex-service men to take proper action toward filing complete applications before it is too late.

London, May 4: A general strike in all the great industries throughout Great Britain began at midnight. It affected close to 5,000,000 workers, including more than a million miners, who had already given up their labors in the coal field. Another day of suspense, of hopes and fears, ended with a complete breakdown of last hour negotiations between the government and representatives of the trade unions congress which had been delegated as spokesmen for all the men. Throughout the day and night every effort was put forward to bring about an agreement, and even at a late hour there was a promise of a renewal of negotiations which gave the anxious nation hope that a way might be found. But when A. J. Coow, secretary of the miners, left the house of commons shortly before midnight, announced that all negotiations had failed and the strike was on.

DEMOCRATS IN CONVENTION

Biennial Gathering in Raleigh Last Thursday Was Quiet Affair; Lasted Four Hours

The Democratic state convention met in Raleigh last Thursday, with a thousand delegates from the one hundred counties in attendance. No issues were raised and no contest threatened during the four hours' session, devoted to the glorification of the party's principles and record. The convention was called to order at noon by State Chairman John G. Dawson. W. J. Feimster, delivered the keynote speech. R. A. Doughton was made permanent chairman, and the platform was adopted by unanimous vote.

The platform bespoke the party unanimity and the convention good feeling for it took care of all the questions and issues that Democracy has raised. It handled the eight-months school term proposal by reaffirming its devotion to educational advancement, pledging its efforts to equalize educational opportunities for the rural children and commending Governor McLean's educational commission as an agency that can be depended upon to investigate and determine the public school needs.

It gave the Great Smoky Mountains National Park movement a boost with an outright endorsement of it with a declaration that "the efforts of the state should be further exerted toward making the park an accomplishment." It pledged the party to "do whatever we can without violating sound business principles toward establishing rate basing ports and developing a system of water transportation." Governor McLean's administration and the work of the other state officers, the records of the representatives in congress were endorsed.

Former Governor Morrison spoke briefly in support of a resolution of tribute to the late William Jennings Bryan.

O. Max Gardner, avowed candidate for governor in 1928, delivered a rousing speech, in which he paid tribute to the governors from Aycock to McLean.

The convention Thursday was the fiftieth year since the nomination of Zebulon B. Vance. A few delegates who attended the convention last week helped to nominate the great commoner half a century ago.

DEEP GAP PROPERTY WILL BE DEVELOPED

S. P. Tesh Realty Company Will Put Estate of the late W. P. Welch On the Market

Deep Gap, May 5—A. G. Miller and A. E. Hampton, of this place, have placed in the hands of the S. P. Tesh Realty Company, of Greensboro, a part of the famous estate of the late W. P. Welch for development. This ideal property for business and residence, will be sold in lots at auction to the public as soon as it can be put in shape. A part of the estate will be reserved for a hotel and lake.

This property has been known for almost a century as the "Garden spot" of Deep Gap. A number of real estate men have longed to get hold of the property for development. There is no doubt but that this property will sell fast when put on the auction block.

Development will start within the next few weeks.

SAYS WILSON BETRAYED BY HOUSE

Philadelphia, May 3—President Wilson was "betrayed" by Colonel E. M. House, who primarily was responsible for the downfall of the war president's ideals and hopes after the Paris conference, Dr. Stanton Coit, of the Ethical Culture church of London, asserted Saturday before the Ethical Culture society of this city. Fearing Colonel House the evil genius of the late president, Dr. Coit asserted Secretary Lansing also aided in nullifying the aims of Mr. Wilson.

"When the president returned to America," Dr. Coit said, "both House and Lansing got together with Clemenceau and Balfour, the most reactionary statesmen in Europe, and this little group then undid all the brilliant work of the previous session and framed the ground work of the Versailles treaty, which was passed on the old idea of a separate military settlement, according to the dictates of Marshal Foch."

Coal legislation designed to give the president authority to seize and operate mines in emergencies such as existed during the recent anthracite strike, was approved last week by the senate labor committee. The proposed bill will not likely be considered at this session of congress.

INFLUENCE OF HOME AND RELIGION HAS NO SUBSTITUTE

So Declares President Coolidge in Addressing National Council of Boy Scouts of America.

Washington, May 1—There is no substitute, in the opinion of President Coolidge, for the influences of the home and religion.

Addressing the National Council of Boy Scouts of America here tonight, he said the Boy Scout movement "can never be a success as a substitute but only as an ally of strict parental control and family life under religious influences."

"Parents cannot shift their responsibility," he added, "if they fail to exercise proper control, nobody else can do it for them."

Reminding his audience that much talk is heard of "the decline in the influence of religion, of the loosening of the home ties, of the lack of discipline—all tending to break down reverence and respect for the laws of God and of man," the President continued:

"Such thought as I have been able to give to the subject and such observations as have come within my experience have convinced me that there is no substitute for the influences of the home and of religion. These take hold of the innermost nature of the individual and play a very dominant part in the formation of personality and character.

"This most necessary and most valuable service has to be performed by the parents, or it is not performed at all. It is the root of the family life. Nothing else can ever take its place. These duties can be performed by foster parents with partial success, but any attempt on the part of the government to function in these directions breaks down almost entirely."

PROMINENT LUTHERAN WOMEN TO VISIT BOONE

Mrs. H. C. Bell, of Pittsburgh, Pa., field secretary of the Woman's Missionary Society of the United Lutheran church in America is to visit Boone and the other points of the Watauga Lutheran mission located in this section, and will speak at each place. Mrs. Bell will be at Bailey's Camp Sunday morning, May 9, at 11 o'clock. At 7:30 of the same day she will speak at the Episcopal church in Boone. On Monday morning at 1 o'clock she is scheduled to address an audience at Holy Communion on Clark's Creek Mountain, and in the evening at Banner Elk.

Mrs. Bell is a most interesting speaker of national repute. The public is most cordially invited to hear her.

Mrs. Nettie C. Weier, of Toledo, Ohio, member of the executive board of the United Lutheran church in America, is also to visit the Watauga Lutheran mission, coming here on May 11th. Mrs. Weier has no speaking engagements, but will visit with Mrs. Cora Jefferson, the parish worker for the mission, the churches, and preaching points.

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS HAD A GREAT YEAR

Nashville, Tenn., May 5—Southern Baptist churches baptized a total of 224,151 persons during 1925 and added \$24,172,151.65 to the value of their local church property. Dr. E. P. Aldredge, statistical secretary of the Sunday school board and of the Southern Baptist convention, announced here Sunday night. The gain in value of local church property far surpasses any previous year's record, while the number of baptisms is the highest on record with one exception.

Other net gains for the year include an increase of 283 ordained ministers, 74,779 church members, 130 Sunday schools, and 154,875 Sunday school pupils, 1,193 Young People's Unions, 1,192 Woman's Missionary Union organizations, \$240,105.37 in Woman's Missionary Union contributions, 647 church houses, 100 pastors' homes, \$3,275,113.42 in contributions to local church expenses, and \$1,677,395.70 in total contributions to all objects.

Due to the fact that a number of churches have not reported for three years and were dropped from the official roll, the total number of churches was reduced by 1,050. The membership of the dropped churches at last account was approximately 65,000, so their elimination vitally affects the net gain for the past year, reducing it to 74,799. This elimination of churches also accounts in part for the loss of 14,678 in the total B. Y. P. U. membership and the decline of \$1,607,718.72 in the contributions and benevolences.

Dr. William D. Melton, president of the University of South Carolina, died at his home in Columbia at an early hour Monday morning.

Nina Bang is the first woman to become a member of the Danish cabinet and is said to be the most efficient one in it.

C. OF. C. MEETING MONDAY NIGHT

Building and Loan Association Was Principal Subject Discussed; Gragg Principal Speaker

By R. N. BALDWIN.

A good sized crowd was in attendance upon the regular meeting of the Chamber of Commerce at the Critcher hotel Monday night. The meeting was called to order by Chairman W. H. Gragg, and Rev. M. B. Woosley led the singing, accompanied by Mrs. I. G. Greer on the piano. Rev. F. M. Huggins offered prayer, followed by the singing of "Aunt Dinah's Quilting Party."

Community House. Mesdames I. G. Greer and J. M. Moretz, representing the Friday afternoon Club, and the Worth White Club, respectively, members of a committee appointed at a recent meeting of the chamber to devise ways and means of developing the American Legion Park and the erection of a community house on the park, were present and made a partial report.

Mrs. Greer, who gave the report, stated that various members of the committee had written to other towns for information and data on the proposed projects being undertaken here. So far, she said, sufficient replies had not been received to justify any definite decision concerning the matter. However, it was hoped that before the next meeting of the chamber, sufficient data will have been received to submit definite plans and begin work at an early date upon the work contemplated.

Fisheries Commission. Mr. Gragg stated that twelve members of the state fisheries commission would be here Tuesday night, and that the commission was anxious to meet as many of the people of Boone as possible in regard to the situation in Watauga county concerning fish protection.

The Chamber of Commerce voted to tender members of the commission and County Warden Bryan dinner at the Daniel Boone hotel Tuesday night.

Advertising Boone. Rev. M. B. Woosley advocated the placing of signboards on the roads leading to Boone for a number of miles in every direction, which will tell travelers and tourists some salient facts concerning the town. No action was taken on the matter.

The Building and Loan. The chief subject for discussion at Monday night's meeting was "The Building and Loan." W. H. Gragg, secretary and treasurer of the Watauga Building and Loan Association, was the chief speaker. He told of the various benefits of the building and loan in the nation, state and county. Among other things, he said: "There is no other firm, bank or corporation in the United States that is doing half as much to help people erect homes, as is being done by the building and loan associations."

Many questions were asked Mr. Gragg concerning the operation of the building and loan, to which he had ready answers. Mr. Gragg's address, together with facts about the local association, will be published in full next week.

Short talks were made by Rev. Woosley, Rev. F. M. Huggins, Prof. I. G. Greer, Frank Moore and others, concerning the work that has been done by Mr. Gragg, through which the shareholders in the Watauga Building and Loan Association are receiving more than seven per cent interest on the money invested.

Mr. Woosley dismissed the meeting with a short prayer.

NEW STAR MAIL ROUTE FROM VILAS TO ELK PARK

On last Monday morning a new star mail route of much importance was inaugurated Elk Park and Vilas. The mail leaves Elk Park in time to reach Valle Crucis at 10 a. m., and arrives at Vilas to meet the Mountain City mail, about 15 minutes after it leaves the postoffice at Boone, and takes back all mail for Valle Crucis, Banner Elk, Elk Park and intervening points. The Democrat, for instance, will reach its readers at all these points on the day of publication, when, heretofore it took them from two to three days to work themselves through via Shulls Mills. It is the same with the morning dailies that arrive here on the 10 o'clock mail. This should not only increase the circulation of the local paper, but the dailies as well.

President Coolidge late Saturday signed the bill to increase pensions of Spanish war veterans and their dependents nearly \$19,000,000 annually. At the same time in a formal statement, he said his approval was not to be taken "as an encouragement to further laws for large continuing appropriations." He gave a warning that it might be necessary to increase taxes if governmental expenditures are greatly increased.

PUBLICATION DAY

For the benefit of our rural subscribers as well as for the good of local advertisers, who especially cater to the Saturday trade, the publishers of the Democrat have arranged to issue the paper in time to catch all the outgoing mails on Thursday morning instead of Friday, as heretofore been the case. In this way we will be able to render both reader and advertiser the best service possible. It will be necessary, however, for advertising copy and correspondence to be in the hands of the printer not later than noon Wednesday.

REV. E. F. JONES DIES AT POST FALLS, IDAHO

Former Wataugan Passed Away on April 20th, As Result of Injuries Received When Hit By Engine

The Democrat learns with regret of the death of its old friend and former Wataugan, Rev. E. Frank Jones, who for about thirty years has been a resident of Post Falls, Idaho, which occurred on April 20th, as the result of injuries received when he was struck by a locomotive.

He was unconscious for a few hours after the accident, but after rallying, his mind was clear till the end came. He was laid to rest at Post Falls, beside his wife who died last February.

Mr. Jones was 78 years old, and most of his long life was spent in Watauga, which to him was the greatest part of the earth. It is said that just before he passed away he preached a great sermon, offered a powerful prayer, and his spirit winged its way to the God he had so faithfully served through a long life.

There is scarcely a Baptist church in Watauga county, whose pulpits this minister had not occupied at some time. He was known as one of the best sermonizers in this part of the state and was beloved not only by those of his own denomination but of others as well. He was pastor of all the leading Baptist churches in the county, including the church in Boone, during his many years of ministerial work here.

His many relatives and friends locally will hear of his death with deep sorrow.

MAY IS MONTH FOR LISTING OF TAXES

Annual Period for Listing Taxes Began Last Saturday; Township Lists Named

The month of May is designated by law for "listing in" property for taxation. The period for listing opened last Saturday and continues through the month. Tax Supervisor W. L. Trivett has named the following list of townships for the various townships of the county:

- Boone—E. L. Younce, Boone.
- Blowing Rock—R. B. Green, Blowing Rock.
- Watauga—R. H. Forthing, Valle Crucis.
- Laurel Creek—Mrs. Emma Harmon, Reese Creek.
- Cove Creek—G. C. Norris, Mahel.
- Beaver Dam—W. R. Johnson, Valle.
- Bald Mountain—W. H. McGuire, Brooksde.
- Meat Camp—L. E. Wilson, Boone.
- Route 1.
- Shawneelaw—T. Will' Baird, Matney.
- Blue Ridge—L. F. Elrod, Boone.
- Story Fork—Sherman, Welburn, Deep Gap.
- North Fork—J. M. May, Trade, Tenn.
- Elk—Joe Wheeler, Rambow.

TAX LISTING

Charles L. Younce, tax lister for Boone township, will be at the following places on the dates mentioned for the purpose of listing taxes for the year 1927:

- Vilas postoffice—Wednesday, May 12th.
- Lovell postoffice—Thursday, May 13th.
- Adams—May 14th.
- Poplar Grove schoolhouse—Saturday, May 15th.
- Rutherford—Monday, May 17th.
- New River schoolhouse—Tuesday, May 18th.
- T. L. Critcher's store—Wednesday, May 19th, forenoon.
- C. M. Critcher's—Wednesday, May 19th, afternoon.
- Boone, Courthouse—Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 20th, 21st and 22nd.

JUDSON CURTIS DEAD

A letter from Miss Mattie Curtis, of Manning, S. C., brings the intelligence of the death of her brother, Mr. Judson Curtis, of Spencer, Ind., which occurred at his home there a few days ago.

FOREST FIRES RAGE IN ASHE

Heavy Damage Results From Fires Which Spread Over Area of Several Thousand Acres

Fires starting in the forests of Ashe county along the Watauga line last Tuesday afternoon, were under control Sunday. Two or three hundred men who had fought heroically against the fiery destroyer for six days, over a distance of about nine miles, spent the evening of the Sabbath at their homes. Covering an area of not less than four thousand acres of fine timberland, the fire is said to have been one of the fiercest ever experienced in the northwestern part of the state.

The acreage covered included some of the finest timber in all this section of the country, and the loss to standing trees is estimated at something near sixty thousand dollars. In addition to this one residence and all outbuildings, together with a large amount of lumber, were destroyed.

Reports of fires also come from the region of Blowing Rock on the Caldwell side of the mountains.

Burning in Caldwell

Lenoir, May 1—Between 15,000 and 20,000 acres of land in the Boone area of the Pisgah national forest is on fire, according to a report of M. A. Matton, forest supervisor of government forest land in this section of the state. Fire started in this area Sunday on Upper creek and it was brought under control Monday but due to heavy winds broke out again this morning and has continued to burn to the present time and is not now under control. The fire is centered about Mortimer and has burned over a 10-mile stretch from somewhere on Lost Cove creek, a prong of Wilson creek across Harper creek. This area is located south of Linville and Blowing Rock and west of Edgemont and Mortimer. It is just west of the famous Brown mountain, toward which it is headed. So far as can be learned no houses have been burned nor anyone hurt or killed and no estimate has been suggested for damages, but will be large.

Fires in Asheville Area

Asheville, April 3—Leaving 40 picked men to hold the fire lines after the McDowell county blaze near Old Fort had been brought under control, state and federal fire wardens hurried all available man power and apparatus into the Boone area of the Pisgah National forest late today. Tonight reports from the scene of the fire were meager but forestry officials stated that 800 men were battling the flames on the side of the Grandfather Mountain where the fire is eating into the valuable timber of the national forest. A slight rain fell on part of the territory affected today but was not sufficient to influence the fight that is being waged against the forest fire in the history of McDowell county.

Active action on the part of the county authorities last night in concentrating men for the fight resulted in the bringing of that wave of the blaze under control near Old Fort, and the men engaged by this fact were sent to the place where they were heavy timber growth on the national forest area was providing food for the flames.

A. G. MILLER HAS CHRYSLER AGENCY FOR WATAUGA

Mr. A. G. Miller, of Deep Gap, one of the county's leading merchants, was here Tuesday, and tells The Democrat of securing the agency for the Chrysler automobile in this county. He left a most convincing and telling of the merits of the automobile which will appear in The Democrat next week. Mr. Miller has long been engaged in the automobile business, and will doubtless make good with the new agency.

Washington, May 2: Further echoes of the recent wet and dry eruption before a senate committee came today in a statement by Wayne P. Wheeler, general counsel of the Anti-Saloon League, declaring "the wet" picture of a drunken nation, whose babies cry for moonshine, "was a slander on a whole people that aroused general anger." "If this nation was one-tenth as wet as the modificationists claimed at these hearings," the statement said, "the foes of prohibition would not be forced to make grandstand plays but would enter the primaries and elect congressmen and legislators who would remand the constitution. Because they are only a small minority, they have lost more of their number at each successive national election. At the primaries this year they will probably prove again that wet action causes a dry reaction."

Former Ambassador Dead. New York, May 3—Oscar S. Straus, former United States ambassador to Turkey, died here today. He was 76 years old.