

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

A Non-Partisan Newspaper, Devoted to the Best Interests of Northwest North Carolina.

VOL. XXXVIII, NO. 35

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, SEPT. 16, 1926

FIVE CENTS A COPY

GRAND JURY MAKES REPORT

Committees Visit County Institutions and Enumerate Repairs Needed at County Home

The grand jury, which organized last Monday by electing Mr. C. D. Taylor, as foreman, completed its work last Thursday afternoon. Following is the report in full:

To His Honor, Judge Henry P. Lane:

We, the grand jury of the fall term of superior court, do hereby make the following report:

We have carefully and diligently passed upon all bills presented to us.

We, through committees, have examined the clerk's office, finding everything neatly and well kept. Records all kept correctly, so far as we could tell. The same is true of the register of deed's office.

We found the courthouse in good condition with the exception of the toilet at the foot of the stairs, which needs immediate attention.

We find the jail in fairly good condition. Inmates well fed and well kept.

County Home

The brick over the back door were partly out and some were loose and liable to fall at any time.

The glass in the dining room door is broken out, and needs repairing.

One leak in main roof. Leaks in fourth room upstairs.

The porch roof is in bad condition, leaks about all over. Needs a new roof put on in a workman-like manner.

The ceiling of the front porch is falling off in a good many places, caused from the leaks in the roof.

Two rooms upstairs are damaged somewhat by fire, and should be repaired. The front porch needs several pillars under it.

There are 18 inmates in the county home, eight males and 10 females. Six of the 18 are children, their ages ranging from four to 15 years. All in school but two.

Mr. J. H. Brown, the manager, was there and everything was in a clean and sanitary condition. No colored people in the home.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE GOVERNMENT ECONOMICAL

Washington, Sept. 15.—North Carolina has achieved the distinction, according to an official report on the cost of state governments made public here by the commerce department, of having the second most economical administration of any of the states.

Tennessee is the lowest in administrative costs.

The figures show that the per capita cost of operating state governments has increased in practically every state of the union since the World War period. However, the percentage of increase for North Carolina is lower than many of the other commonwealths. The figures compiled by government statisticians contrast government costs in six widely scattered states for the years 1917, 1924 and 1925. In nearly every instance the operating cost of the state governments has about doubled since the World War, while in some cases the increase has been even greater. Only two states, Maine and Virginia, showed a decrease in 1925 over 1924, and these were slight.

Figures on the per capita cost of maintaining and operating the general departments of the government follow for six states.

| State | 1917 | 1924 | 1925 |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Maine | 8.56 | 13.09 | 12.93 |
| Maryland | 5.48 | 9.47 | 10.69 |
| N. Carolina | 1.96 | 3.79 | 6.09 |
| Tennessee | 2.42 | 4.70 | 5.39 |
| Virginia | 3.96 | 8.71 | 8.07 |
| Wyoming | 11.59 | 16.47 | 22.72 |

These figures do not include expenses in the way of permanent improvements and do not include interest on state debts and cost of building and maintenance of highways.

Raleigh, Sept. 13.—Rev. George Wood, Universalist preacher, who is to be tried for killing Convict J. B. Vickers while bringing the escaped prisoner back to Raleigh, will not make any disclosure of his case until the jury hears him. Mr. Wood did not avail himself of a preliminary hearing today but submitted to bond and left his case with his lawyers. Mr. Wood will probably be tried at the present term of court. There has been no suggestion that his case will be continued.

TRADE BOOSTERS HERE SEPT. 21ST

Johnson City Merchants Will Visit Points in Western North Carolina Next Week

FIFTY CARS WILL MAKE TRIP Will Have Dinner in Boone on Afternoon of Next Tuesday

From the Johnson City Chronicle it is learned that the trade tour of that city will visit Boone and other points in Watauga county next Tuesday, September 21st. The tour is to last for two days and will reach Boone Tuesday afternoon at 3:15 where the party will have dinner.

According to the itinerary the party will reach Banner Elk at 11:45 a. m. on the 21st; Valle Crucis 1 p. m.; Boone 3:15 p. m.; Blowing Rock 4:30 p. m.; Linville 6:45 p. m.; Montezuma 7:30 p. m.; Newland 8:30.

On Wednesday the motorcade will visit Crossnore, Spruce Pine, Bakersville, Toeane and other points intervening to Johnson City.

The route to be traversed by the Tennesseans is one of the most beautiful sections in the western part of the state.

With the motorcade will be music, entertainment, speakers, and the cars will be decorated with banners and business interests represented will carry samples and souvenirs for distribution. Towns to be visited are preparing elaborate entertainment for the party.

RELIGIOUS SURVEY WAS MADE MONDAY

Indicated That Less Than Half the Population of Boone Attend Religious Services

The various churches in Boone participated in the taking of a religious census Monday. All the information sought is not tabulated and is not available for publication this week.

However, a meeting of the workers was held at the Baptist church Monday night, at which time it developed from the cards turned in, which numbered about 1,200, that less than half the people in Boone attend church or Sunday school. This is a fact that challenges the Christianity of Boone.

This challenge was understood by the workers and it is a safe guess that this challenge will be accepted. In such a way as to put the cause of Christianity forward a good distance in the near future.

KRAUT FACTORY HANDLES 250 TONS OF CABBAGE

The enormous cabbage crop in Watauga county has been reduced about 250 tons during the last two weeks by the operation of the Watauga Kraut Factory. It is to be regretted that the little factory does not have more tank room, for there will be quite a lot of cabbage go to waste before the kraut now made can be taken out of the tanks and room made for another cutting.

Mr. H. Neal Blair, the manager, however states, that it will not be but a few days until the canning operation can be started. He is anxious to get it at the earliest possible date in order to help save the cabbage crop in the county, as well as to supply the growing demand for Watauga kraut.

The Kraut now being made was cut out of time, and is being packed in for a later pack. Since the factory began operation, an order has been received from a large kraut factory in another state for two carloads to be shipped to its trade. This is quite a compliment for a new industry to receive recognition like that from a packer with an established reputation.

The public will be advised through the columns of this paper when the factory will resume operation.

SPAIN QUITS LEAGUE NATIONS

Geneva, Sept. 11.—Spain today resigned from the League of Nations. The resignation follows rejection of her demand for a permanent seat on the league council.

CONVOCATION OF MORGANTON

Three-Day Session Will Convene at Holy Cross Church, Valle Crucis, On September 23

The semi-annual convocation of the Morganton diocese will convene at the Holy Cross church, Valle Crucis, on September 21 and continue through the 23rd. Rev. S. R. Guignard is dean, and Rev. J. P. Burke, secretary. The program for the three-day session is as follows:

September 21st

7:30 p. m.—Evening prayer and sermon, Rev. J. H. Griffith.

After service—Reception in the dining room.

September 22nd

7:30 a. m.—Holy Communion, celebrant, the Dean.

9:30—Morning prayer, the Rev. LeRoy A. Jahn.

10:00—Convene: 1. Business; 2. Welcome by the rector and response by the dean.

1. Reports of missionaries and institutions.

11:30—2. "Our Diocesan Program," the Rev. S. B. Stroupe.

12:30 p. m.—Luncheon in the dining room.

2:00—Discussion on Rural Work, led by the Rev. William E. Brown.

3:00—"Beyond the City Limits," Mrs. J. W. C. Johnson, leader.

4:00—Recreation: Hikes to Mountain Orchard, Dutch Creek falls.

6:15—Supper.

7:45—Evening prayer and sermon, the Rev. William E. Brown.

September 23rd

7:30 a. m.—Holy Communion, celebrant, the Rev. J. W. C. Johnson.

9:30—Morning prayer, the Rev. Hugh A. Dobbin.

10:00—"Our Carolina Highlanders," a study by Dr. E. C. Branson, to be read by the secretary.

10:15—Address, Dr. Richard Wilkinson, rector of St. John's church, Birmingham, Ala.

11:30—Unfinished business.

12:00—Adjournment.

12:30—Luncheon in the dining room.

BLOC WILL WIELD POWER IN NEXT SENATE

Washington, Sept. 14.—With the expected election of Blaine in Wisconsin and the probable victory of Brookhart in Iowa, hope of political control of the next senate by the administration has now apparently vanished. Even though the administration will have a paper majority, the insurgents, holding the balance of power, will really be in the saddle.

Even without Democratic gains in November, the theoretical opposition to Coolidge will consist of 40 Democrats, one farmer-laborite, and one out-and-out Republican insurgent. Otherwise 46 "Coolidge votes" and not all of them certain by any means, 50 opposing.

If the November elections leave the Republicans in power on paper, with the insurgent group able to defeat the main Coolidge policies, the situation will be more embarrassing to the administration than would be the case if the Democrats won outright control and had to assume responsibility.

Democratic leaders assert they will make important gains in the November elections, contending that Carl Hayden, the Democratic nominee in Arizona, will defeat Senator Cameron, and that a like fate will be meted out to Senator Harveld in Oklahoma by Elmer Thomas, the Democratic choice. They also assert that Claude Porter, the Democratic nominee in Iowa, has a good chance of defeating Brookhart.

COL. ROBERTSON IN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT

The following in the Johnson City Chronicle will be of interest here where Col. Robertson is well known, being the father of Oliver Robertson of the Highland Furniture Company. Col. Z. A. Robertson is again confined to his home, on account of unsatisfactory developments in connection with injuries received in a recent motor accident on the Cater county state line road. Although he was out in a few days after the accident, he suffered a relapse and a diagnosis indicates a dislocation of three ribs from the breast bone. Appearance of hemorrhages caused a further examination and additional treatment which he is now undergoing. The injury to his leg continues painful.

PRISONERS MAKE CLEAN GET-AWAY

Four Taking French Leave Last Friday Are Still at Large; Escape Effected by Cutting Bars

HANES LEAVES NOTE TO JAILER Sheriff Farthing Making Every Effort to Apprehend Fugitives

Conrad Woodring, Landon H. John C. Hodges and Coy Byers, still at large as the result of a jail breaking effected Friday night. The men had been sentenced at the present term of superior court, the terms ranging from thirty days to five years. Hanes, sentenced to five years in the state prison, gets the credit for the delivery. He left a note in the cell which reads as follows:

"At jail at 1:30 o'clock and leaving at 1:51. I thank Mr. and Mrs. Perry for your kind treatment and may God bless you both. You will never be forgot by me. I have made every jail and prison on yet. This is my 23rd jail to break. This is the tools that done the work. You may have them to remember me and all. I am known the world over as Cripple Joe, better known as Silver King and Dutch. So goodbye and don't think hard of me for freedom is what we all like. Tell the judge so long for me."

The tools referred to in the note consisted of a wire and several sticks.

The escape was discovered early Friday morning and the sheriff secured bloodhounds as quickly as possible.

The fugitives were chased to the vicinity of the home of Mr. John E. Brown where the dogs lost the trail. It is supposed that an automobile was waiting somewhere near this point for the escaped prisoners. No clues have been discovered as to the whereabouts of the fugitives, but Sheriff Farthing is making every effort to apprehend them.

LEES-McRAE INSTITUTE OPENING AT BANNER ELK

Lees-McRae Institute, the educational department of the Edgar Tufts Memorial Association, began its 27th session at Banner Elk on September 8. Two hundred students are enrolled and all facilities are being taxed to their limit. In addition to the 200 fortunate ones there were about 25 young women turned away for lack of room. Many were present on the opening day and were obliged to be sent back to their homes until more room is provided.

Edgar B. Tufts, the superintendent, is ably assisted by Miss E. Belle Meyer, of Gulf, N. C., dean of girls, and a corps of twelve teachers. Mr. Tufts succeeded his father in this work four years ago and is conducting one of the largest and best known mission projects in the Southern Presbyterian church. Miss McIver has been associated in the work at Banner Elk for 21 years.

The building program at Banner Elk goes steadily forward but all buildings are in demand before they can be completed. The plant is being built throughout of native uncut stone, and the buildings are not only durable but absolutely fire-proof.

The Edgar Tufts Memorial Association composed of Lees-McRae Institute, Grace Hospital and Grandfather Orphanage, is conducted by the Southern Presbyterian church for the benefit of the people of the Appalachian Mountain region. So long as there is a foot of space or a dollar of money no one is turned away from these institutions. The work at Banner Elk was designed to educate and uplift a section of the south's poorest and most neglected people. It is a work that has benefited in the lives of hundreds of people and is a source of homes throughout the mountain region which it seeks to serve.

United States Senator E. D. Smith was renominated to succeed himself in the South Carolina primary Tuesday. John G. Richards was nominated for governor of the Palmetto state in the same primary.

Ralph O. Brewster was on Monday re-elected governor of Maine by a majority of approximately 20,000. The entire Republican ticket was also elected.

SUPERIOR COURT ADJOURNED TUES.

Fall Term Lasted Eight Days and Disposed of a Large Number of Civil and Criminal Cases

The full term of Watauga superior court, after a session of eight days, adjourned Tuesday afternoon. The criminal docket was almost cleared, while several cases of more or less importance on the civil docket, were disposed of. Before adjournment, judge Lane, after a strong appeal by Attorney W. R. Leavelle, reversed the sentence of "Prison" Coffey, who was convicted of breaking last week and sentenced to a term of ten years at hard labor in the state prison. Coffey is rather a mild character, small of stature (which gave him the name "Peetun"), and is not intelligent to the highest degree. He has a wife and baby, but is not yet out of his teens. He has not been a good boy by any means, and it is expected that the amended sentence will tend to make of him a better citizen.

After hearing the appeal, Judge Lane ordered the sentence changed from ten years to "not more than ten or not less than five years in the state prison." The length of time he serves, of course, will depend upon his behavior as a prisoner. This changed sentence, so far as we are advised, meets with the approval of the people.

The following cases were disposed of since last Wednesday afternoon:

Harvey Coffey, arson, not guilty.

Arthur Witherspoon and L. J. Jenkins, affray, fined \$5 each and taxed with the costs.

George Horton, colored, drunkenness, 30 days on roads.

Denard Presswell, larceny, four months on roads.

Tom Sides, violating prohibition law, not guilty.

Coy Byers, forgery, three years in state prison.

Fate Potter, violating the stock law, \$50 and costs.

69 TO BE BUILT ON ORIGINAL SURVEY

Dispute Over Location of Five-Mile Lap From Todd to Greene's Store Stalled by Mr. Hanes

At last the dispute over the location of the five-mile lap of road on Highway No. 69 has been settled. S. C. Ege, chairman of the board of county commissioners, is in receipt of a letter from Road Commissioner A. S. Hanes stating emphatically that the road will be built on the original survey, that is, from Todd to the George Greene store where it intersects with the graded road.

Mr. Hanes says bids will be received at an early date, and it is understood that before long construction work will begin.

As our readers will remember, there was a second survey made down Elk Creek and up the river, tapping the graded road at Sands, which met with the hearty approval of the people whom it passed, while the citizens on the upper, or original survey, were just as enthusiastic over the adoption of their route. A friendly contest ensued and waged warmer as time went by, but it seems now that the people on the new survey are taking their defeat very nicely.

NEW MANAGER FOR SPAINHOURS, INC.

Mr. R. F. McDade, of Mountain City, Tenn., succeeds Mr. Harris as manager of Spainhours, Inc., and has already entered upon his new duties. It is understood that Mr. Harris will go to Lenoir where he will enter the mercantile business in partnership with his brother, Mr. LeClair, and that the prospect for his business at his store is very bright.

Clever Kid Teacher: "Science tells us that heat contracts and cold expands things. Can any pupil give me an example of this?"

"Yes, ma'am. The days are longer in the summer than they are in the winter."

The Democrats of Maryland on Tuesday renominated Albert C. Ritchie for governor. This will be Ritchie's third term if he is elected in November.

WOULD PAVE HIGHWAY NO. 60

Meeting to Be Held in North Wilkesboro for Purpose of Encouraging Movement

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD

Representatives From Watauga Invited to Attend.

The following, which is of interest to the people of this section, appeared in the Winston-Salem Journal of last Friday morning:

The movement to better the hard-surfacing of highway No. 60 to the Tennessee line, took definite shape yesterday at a conference held in North Wilkesboro between representatives of the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce and the Kiwanis Club of the "Key to the Blue Ridge."

The decision was reached to hold in North Wilkesboro on Thursday, September 23, a mass meeting of representatives from Winston-Salem and points west, to plan a definite working arrangement to enter petition upon proposition to hard-surface this road. Representatives of Reister, Boone, Wilkesboro, Yadkinville, Winston-Salem, Greensboro, and High Point were invited.

President John L. Ginner of the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce and Secretary W. T. Ritter of that organization were present at the conference in North Wilkesboro yesterday. Among the citizens of Wilkesboro present were the mayor, President Eshelman and Secretary Williams of the Kiwanis Club, T. R. Call, H. W. Landon, T. E. Finley and others.

That plans should be laid for paving highway 60 as soon as possible was the sentiment expressed by every one at the conference.

It was pointed out that from every angle this was one of the most important highways on the entire system and its merits as a route for tourists from points west, as a route foring one of the richest agricultural sections of the state and as a highway connection in which not only Winston-Salem but cities more eastward were vitally interested in early justified, provision being made for its hard-surfacing at an early date.

The "Get Behind Highway Sixty" meeting on the 23rd will take place at the fair grounds in North Wilkesboro and a committee from the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis Club will be made shortly to make the necessary arrangements. President Gilmer of the Chamber of Commerce, will enlist the aid of the other civic clubs and it is expected that 50 or more will go from Winston-Salem.

Another attempt to assassinate Mussolini

Rome, Sept. 14.—Another attempt has been made on the life of Premier Mussolini. A bomb was exploded against the premier's car, but he escaped unhurt.

The attack occurred a little after 10 o'clock this morning while Mussolini's automobile was proceeding toward the Chigi Palace. A young man named Ernesto Giovannini, a stone cutter, threw the bomb against the car. The bomb struck a side window of the car but fell to the earth before it exploded and the automobile proceeded. The explosion was terrific, and four passersby were injured.

Giovannini was immediately arrested by the police agents. He said he had arrived in Rome today from abroad, and that he came into Italy through the Alps, being unable to travel by the usual routes as he was without passports or identifying documents. He is a native Italian.

SEPT. 25 TO BE OBSERVED AS "FORGET ME NOT DAY"

Declaring that "the man who is afflicted as the result of having performed a patriotic duty to his country is entitled to peculiar consideration when we come to bestow our gifts in a spirit of benevolence," Governor McLean has set aside September 25 to be observed as "Forget Me Not Day." He asks the citizens to specially observe the day and pointed out that whatever funds are realized will be devoted to relief work among disabled veterans. He asks the citizens to be "liberal."