

Normal Trustees Hold Meeting at Lenoir

Plans Discussed for School Here and Budget is Made; Dougherty and Coffey Attend From Watauga

A meeting of the executive board of the trustees of the Appalachian State Normal was held in the office of W. C. Newland in Lenoir December 20th...

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE ASKS \$30,000,000 FOR ROADS

Formal recommendations of highway legislation to the coming general assembly were submitted to Governor McLean last week by a committee from the state highway commission...

Proposal that a \$30,000,000 bond issue for highway construction be authorized led the list of recommendations, which included legislation covering a state constabulary, drivers' examination and surveillance of accident records...

No mention was made of an increased gas tax or of seeking a broader interpretation of highway routing laws. Recommendations on the latter were predicted by political observers as the result of the extended Newton and similar highway routing litigations.

Earl Moody and Deck Byrd Slain by Herbert Wagner

Christmas Day Tragedy at Fosse in Which Two Young Men Meet Tragic Death; Slayers Held in Greensboro Jail; County's First Double Homicide

For the first time in the history of the county of Watauga, a double murder occurred on Christmas Day, when Earl Moody, 22, and Deck Byrd, 19, met their death at the hands of Herbert Wagner at Fosse, in the vicinity of Stall Mills. The young men were all natives of that section.

According to the best available information, Herbert Wagner (famously known as "Hub") had just returned from West Virginia where he had been employed for some time in order that he could be with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Judson Wagner, during the holiday season. He arrived at his home on Friday night and on Saturday morning in company with some of the good citizens of the community enjoyed target practice nearby for a short time and the friendly Christmas spirit was manifest. According to witnesses, Wagner had taken a few drinks of whiskey but apparently was not intoxicated. However, his friends noted that before they had finished their sport he drifted away, going on the railway to a point a short distance away where Mr. Filmore Coffey conducts a mercantile business. There he met Earl Moody. A few words were passed between the two, after which Wagner is alleged to have said, "I'll shoot you, d---you." And he did, firing five shots, all with deadly effect. Then the assailant walked to the side of the little store building, dropped the empty shells from the

smoking revolver, reloaded and proceeded a short distance up the railroad tracks, where he met Deck Byrd, who was starting for a rabbit hunt. Byrd inquired of Wagner what had happened at the store. Wagner is said to have told him he would like him, too, and shot him down. After he fell two more bullets were sent crashing through his brain.

The killer then proceeded to the home of his father, Mr. Harrison Byrd, father of the last boy slain, demanded that he be held until it was possible to move him to the jail at Boone. A party of citizens of that section, led by Mr. Filmore Coffey, surrounded the Wagner home and finally succeeded in capturing Wagner, who was held in the depot at Fosse. Deputy Sheriffs A. L. Goss and P. C. Wyke hurried to the scene and brought Wagner to Boone and lodged him in jail where he was guarded during the night. Sunday afternoon he was taken to the Guilford county jail at Greensboro for safe keeping, where he will be held, awaiting the next term of Watauga superior court which convenes the last Monday in March.

The slain men were interred at Fosse Sunday afternoon, many friends and relatives being present. They were known as good citizens, thoroughly honorable and their death brings sadness to many friends throughout the county. Moody is survived by a wife and one child, while Byrd leaves a wife and three children.

SECOND TRIAL OF FALL AND DOHENY SET FOR FEBRUARY 2

Washington, Dec. 23.—The last legal maneuver to upset conspiracy indictments against Albert B. Fall, former secretary of the interior, and Harry F. Sinclair, growing out of the leasing of the Teapot Dome Naval Oil Reserve to Sinclair's Mammoth Oil Company, failed today and the trial was docketed to be in the supreme court of the District of Columbia on February 2. Fall and Sinclair both entered pleas of not guilty after Justice Jennings Bailey had denied two motions, one in behalf of each defendant, to quash the indictments.

HENRY STEVENS COMING TO NORTH CAROLINA

Henry Stevens, one of the defendants in the recent Had-Mills case in New Jersey, will arrive in the Oak Ridge section of Guilford county soon after the first of January. He is coming to North Carolina to hunt quail.

COUNCILL-DEVAULT

The home of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Council was the scene of a pretty home wedding last Sunday afternoon, when their daughter, Miss Virginia, was united in marriage to Mr. Richard H. DeVault, of Bristol, Tenn. There were no invited guests, only the family and a few near relatives being present. The ceremony was performed by Rev. M. B. Wooley. Immediately after which the happy couple left for their home in Bristol. The groom is a business man of the town-city, and, as we are told, is a most splendid gentleman. The bride, and we say it unequivocally, is one of the very best girls ever reared here. She is a graduate of the State Normal in Boone and an artist of marked ability. Since she completed her education, she has ever been busy, her last position being with the Watauga County Bank, where she, for many months, rendered most efficient service. She was a great church and Sunday school worker and only a few days before her marriage, she remarked that one of her great regrets was that she had to leave her Sunday school class. The Democrat extends to the happy couple warm congratulations, wishing them all the happiness possible in their future life.

SEVEN-FOLD GAIN IN NATION'S SCHOOL BILL

New York, Dec. 19.—Expenditures for public grammar schools and high schools in the United States since 1910 have more than seven-fold while the population during the same period has increased only by about half, according to a study of public education expenditures made by the national industrial conference board. Extension of educational facilities and raises in teachers' salaries account for part of the increase, the report made public today discloses. The annual budget for primary and secondary school in 1900 was \$214,000,000, but in 1924 the latest year for which figures are available, grammar and high schools required an expenditure of \$1,620,743,000, the report shows. This is an increase of 747 per cent. The increase in per capita cost in the twenty-four years was 477 per cent. In 1924 the highest amount expended in child education was the \$159.35 for each child of from 5 to 17 years of age spent by California. Nevada ranked second with \$129.19, and Wyoming third with \$106.23.

Figures Don't Lie

An Irishman working for a Dutchman asked for an increase in pay. The Dutchman replied: "If you are worth it, I would be pleased to give it to you. Now let us see what you do in a year, Pat. We have 365 days in a year; you sleep 8 hours every day, which makes 122 days you sleep taken from 365 days 243 days. Now you have 8 hours recreation every day, which makes 122 days taken from 243 days, leaves 121 days. We have 52 Sundays in a year which you have off, leaving you 69 days. You have 14 days vacation. Take this off and you have 55 days left. You don't work Saturday afternoons, this makes 26 days in a year. Take this off and you have 29 days left. Now, Pat, you are allowed 1 1/2 hours for your meals, which totals in a year 28 days. Take this off and you have one day left. I always give you St. Patrick's Day off. So I ask, Pat, if you are entitled to a raise?" Pat then answered: "Well, what the h--- have I been doing then?"

FOSCO NEWS

The public school closed here last Thursday with an entertainment, the program being under the direction of Miss Corrie Bingham, principal, and Miss Annie Lee Trevett, assistant, in which the students very handsomely carried out their parts. Music for the entertainment was furnished by a four-piece band led by Mr. Ralph Storey. This is the second school Misses Bingham and Trevett have taught here and the children are well pleased with their work. There was a Christmas tree at the Lutheran church on Clark's Creek Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock, with service conducted by the pastor, Rev. Vount. A beautiful and appropriate program was rendered under the direction of Miss Cora Jeffcoat, who is a great church worker and helper in the community.

News of a Week in Cove Creek Section

Play Given By High School Was Decided Success; School Matters; Personal Mention

Sugar Grove, Dec. 28.—Messrs. Ralph and Howard Walker, who are attending Berea College, Kentucky, are spending the holiday season with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Y. Walker.

Mrs. D. F. Horton and Miss Pearl Davis visited Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Barlow in Lenoir last week. Miss Blanche Horton returned home with them.

The play given on Wednesday night at the school was a decided success. Lloyd May as Brian Rogers was the outstanding character. The proceeds amounted to \$57.24.

Miss Annie Sherwood is home for the holidays. This is her fourth year in the Salisbury schools.

Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Horton left Sunday for a few days' visit with Mrs. Horton's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Fuller, of Wake Forest.

Perfect Attendance

The following students of the Cove Creek High School have been perfect in attendance during the term just ended:

First grade—Roxana Bingham, Georgia McConnell.

Second grade—Reba Adams, Dale Adams.

Third grade—Margaret Adams, Helen Bingham, Lester Deal, Ruby Glenn, Benjamin Horton, Ruby Johnson, Clark Horton, Ruby Mast.

Fourth grade—Neil Henson, Nell Norris, Jessie Mast, Kathleen Beach, Kathleen Mast, Bobwhite Bingham, Clark Norris, Fred L. Greene, Curtis M. Brady, Marvin Deal, Jack Henson, Arthur Dea Mast, Carson Mast, Clay Mast, David Horton.

Fifth grade—Frances Mast, Elvora Hodges, Ruth Sherwood.

Sixth grade—Erin Smith, George Taylor, James McBride, James Henry Horton, Thomas Pressnell, Susie Banner, Gladys Mast, Henry Clay Henson, James Banner, Mary Lizzie Banner, Mary Emma Phillips.

Seventh grade—Bonnie Atkins, Shirley Bingham, Don Henson, Bina Mast, Harrie Moody.

Eighth grade—Blanche Bingham, Mary Lee Bingham, Grace Bingham, Frances Brinkley, Gladys Glenn, Leighton Green, Joy Glenn, Fred Jones, Bonah Mae Henson, Baxter Hodges, Robert Horton, Kathryn Horton, Pearl Mast, Dora McBride, Edward Mast, Earle Henson, Mattie Laine Sherwood, Marshall Ward, Elizabeth Wilson.

Ninth grade—Annie Brinkley, Loyd Cole, Pearl Henson, Arthur Dougherty, Roy Ellison, Jerry Wilson, Marilla Love, Blaine Byers, Ethel Elliot, Albert Farthing, Ruby Farthing, Thomas Lawrence, Minnie Wilson, Nattie Wilson, Lucy Glenn, Dwight Gryder, Mary Lee Sherwood, Clint Mast, Bonnie McBride, Bonnie Mast, Doris Mast.

Tenth grade—Atoluhus Adams, Phyllis Bingham, Don Perry, Fred Harman, Mary Miller, Sarah Sue Phillips, Clay Mast.

Eleventh grade—Ruby Arnold, Anat Bingham, Ophelia Bingham, John Henry Brinkley, Bessie Church, Ruby Pastridge, Ollie Eller, Perry Farthing, Ted Glenn, Myrtle Harman, Lucy Henson, Edith Henson, Mamie Henson, Essie Henson, Grace Hurst, Mary Alice Kohnle, D. Lawrence, Loyd May, Edith Mast, Alice Mast, Dessie Norris.

Honor Roll

Second grade—Thelma McGuire, Helen Banner.

Third grade—Benjamin Horton, Ruby Johnson, Helen Bingham, Loy Brown, Harold Moody, Alma Smith.

Fifth grade—Fleecore Hodges, Louie Johnson.

Sixth grade—Susie Banner, James McBride, Louise Mast, Erin Smith, Thomas Pressnell, George Taylor.

Seventh grade—Bonnie Atkins, Blanche Greene, Dora Dean Sherwood.

BRIEF LOCAL AFFAIRS

The board of county commissioners will be in session here Monday and Tuesday.

Mrs. J. F. Harbin, of Shull Mills, last spring planted three Irish potatoes which, combined, weighed one pound and nine ounces. From this she dug from the planting 59 pounds, lacking only one pound of a bushel. This decidedly is the largest yield we have heard of in this splendid potato county.

With the ending of the year, we find that quite a number of our subscribers are behind on our bills. We blame ourselves for this, as the shop for the past few months has been too busy to send out statements for dues on subscription. This is an invitation to all who are behind to send it in at once as it is right badly needed.

The following young ladies spent Christmas in Boone, the guests of Miss Elsie Farthing, Misses Avis and Maggie Sue Stiles, of Mooresville; Miss Pearl Bomar, of Marion, and Miss Ethel Aycock, of Winston-Salem. These young ladies have been in school here for several summers and have many friends who are glad to welcome them back to Boone.

The result of a partial canvass of the town by The Democrat last week was \$83.00 for the Goodfather Oil package. A check for that amount was sent to that institution Monday. The ladies of the Baptist Missionary Society furnished a lot of canned goods, papers, etc., that will be sent in when the goods become payable. The Democrat in behalf of the orphanage, wishes to extend to each and every one who contributed to these fatherless ones, its heartfelt thanks.

In the doll contest conducted by the Boone Drug Co., which closed Friday night, little Miss Helen Gragg was the winner of the first prize, a beautiful \$15.00 doll, Rebecca Wooley came second with a \$10.00 doll and little Miss Evans third, the recipient of a doll valued at \$7.50. Thirty-four other little girls received dolls as a result of the contest, during which time 167,000 votes were cast. A vote was the equivalent of one cent purchase, and much interest was manifested.

Christmas came a-rain'ing and the people of the city of Boone enjoyed themselves around the various firesides, some listening to the prattle of the children around the family Christmas tree, while a few weathered the rain and visited with friends in the vicinity of the town. The younger set went in groups to private parties where they were royally entertained. The boys who usually participate in a few drinking parties at the Christmas season, much to their credit, desisted, and it was probably the most quiet Yuletide season Boone has experienced in many years.

Meat 15,000 Years Old

In the frozen regions of Siberia mammoths and woolly rhinoceros have been found with the flesh in a good state of preservation. Notwithstanding the fact that these animals lived during the great ice age, perhaps 15,000 years ago, their flesh is still edible. They have been in perfect cold storage all these centuries.

Out of the Mouth of Father

Teacher: What is the meaning of the word "matrimony?" Robert: Robert: Plea-e, miss, my father says it isn't a word; it's a sentence.

The Profligate One

Judge: Sir, you are fined \$10 for contempt of court. Man: Judge, \$10 won't express my contempt for your— court, here's \$20.

DR. FRANK CRANE SAYS

Some jokes, like a kitten, apparently have nine lives. Dressed in new clothes, they appear perennially.

Such a joke is the old rug about the small town sport who stood before an elite eating place at meal times chewing a toothpick to give the impression he had just dined within.

Everyone laughs at the story, with perhaps softened malice, for to some extent he recognizes a kinship with the hero.

The genuine, sincere, unassuming man, who is content to appear what he is and nothing more, is the millionth man.

What most people want is to be known as great rather than simply great.

Try this on yourself:

If you were offered the chance to have all the power and greatness, as well as all the responsibility, work and abuse, of a president of the United States and have no one ever know you were president—never get credit for great acts if accomplished—would you accept?

Has recognition and not just pure achievement the thing desired?

Of course recognition is part of it, but when it becomes the most important consideration, it assumes an evil influence.

Not everyone who says he desires power and success really desires those things.

They are synonymous with work, worry and responsibility.

What those who say they want them to desire is the by-products of power and success, the toothpicks and not the meal.

They want the yachts, the trips to Palm Beach and the Packard limousines.

To really eat you must pay; to chew a toothpick costs nothing.

To really achieve costs work and self-denial; to seem to achieve (for a me!) requires only a weak conscience.

Even "show-off" desires the results of achievement, but is unwilling to pay the price. He would rather chew the toothpick of fraud than eat the substance of paid-in-advance actuality.

To seem to be, to all but the shrewdest eye, has all the attractions and none of the hardships of actual being.

In Sunday school we used to sing: "This day the noise of battle; The next the victor's song!" The noise of battle must precede the song of victory. The Royal Order of Toothpick Chewers try to reverse the sequence, and it can't be done.

Tact

Smith went every night to a pool room to play for ten cents a point. One night Mrs. Smith was awakened by loud and persistent knocking at her door. Putting her head out the window she asked: "Who is it? What do you want?"

"Does Mrs. Smith live here?" asked the man on the step.

"I am Mr. Smith," she replied.

"Well, I'm Mr. Kelly from the pool room up the street. Your husband shoots pool there every evening."

"Yes, I know that."

"He was shooting tonight and lost \$1,500."

"My husband lost \$1,500 shooting pool? He ought to drop dead!"

"That's just what he did, madam. Goodnight!"

GENERAL NEWS NOTES

Paris, Dec. 26.—All France is freezing, which is a rare occurrence. The Paris lakes have an inch of ice. Scores of deaths have been reported in the last three days.

Alexander M. Dockery, governor of Missouri from 1901 to 1905, and third assistant postmaster general under President Wilson, died at Galatin, Mo., on Sunday following an illness of several months.

Yoshihito, Japan's invalid emperor, died in the early hours of Christmas morning. Hirohito, his elder son, who since November, 1921, had ruled the empire as regent, immediately became Japan's 124th emperor.

Hoyle R. Smith, aged 19, an attorney in charge of files of the department of justice at Washington, was found dead in his basement Sunday with a revolver clutched in his hand and a bullet wound back of his ear.

Construction in the United States in 1926 will amount to approximately \$5,200,000,000, a total only five per cent smaller than that of 1925, S. W. Strauss and Company, of Chicago, said in a building review issued Friday.

Patrick Eugene McDermott was found guilty at Canton, Ohio, Friday of first degree murder for the death of Don R. Miller, Canton publisher. The jury of ten men and two women returned a verdict with a recommendation of mercy after deliberating but one hour.

Flying at the rate of two and three-quarter miles a minute and aided by a strong wind, Lieut. Barney Giles, Fairfield Depot, set what is believed to be a new record for a flight between Dayton and Washington, Saturday. He flew 440 miles in exactly two hours and 10 minutes.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Dr. Herman N. Bundesen, city health commissioner, tonight estimated that "poison" costing upward of \$10,000,000 had been distributed in Chicago in the guise of Christmas gifts. His statement came after an investigation of the amount of Kofay liquor purchased here, which he estimated to have cost more than \$10,000,000.

German Christmas shoppers were busy this year to find so many "Amerikaner" the stores and at the street corners. "Amerikaner" in this connection means the German the bright red Jonathan and other brands of red-checked apples imported from the United States. The standard price is 12 cents a pound and every lot stand had them for sale over the holiday.

STATE NEWS

Deputy Marshall W. A. Hendrix, of Ronda, Wilkes county, died last week following an excruciating illness. Mr. Hendrix was well known in the western part of the state having been in the federal revenue service for many years.

Central highway No. 10 will, within a few days, be open from Statesville to the sea, the final stretch to be seen Southfield and Princeton has been completed and awaits only the drying out process for the road to be completed.

Concrete has been poured from Hickory to the Catawba river on the new stretch of highway No. 17, leading from Hickory to Boone, and work on the other side of Granite Falls has been started. It is hoped to have the road open for traffic by February 1.

A new furniture manufacturing plant is announced for Lenoir. This is the Lenoir Chair Company, manufacturers of overstuffed living room and parlor sofas and overstuffed and slip seat bendair, odd and occasional chairs. J. E. Broyhill is the moving spirit behind the movement.

HODGES GAP NEWS

Hodge Gap, Dec. 30.—A very successful term of school at Poplar Grove taught by Miss Floy Cannon and Mrs. Fred Winkler, closed on December 23, with an interesting program and Christmas tree.

Miss Muriel Hodges was hostess to a delightful party on Christmas night. The reception room was decorated beautifully with holly wreaths, pine and Christmas bells. At the beginning of the party games were played and two contests were entered into. Soon the guests were called into the dining room where refreshments were served, following which the guests returned to the reception room where more games and contests were enjoyed. Those winning prizes were Misses Floy Cannon, Kate Hodges and Messrs. Ernest Vannoy and Fred Blair. Music was furnished by a string band while candy and apples were served.

Messrs. Tom Vannoy and Ira Grange are home from Granite Falls for the holidays.

Mr. Ernest Vannoy, who has been at Baden for the last few months, is home for the Christmas season.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Y. Howell and little sons of Boone, spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Cannon.

Miss Alma Barnes is spending the week with her friend and class-mate, Miss Mairril Hodges.

Miss Pearl Vannoy is spending the holidays with relatives at Damascus Va.

Miss Rita Hodges is quite ill at this time at her home here.