

The Watauga Democrat

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1928

REASONS WHY THE LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT QUIT

To the Citizens of Boone: There has been a lot of talk about the fire department asking too much from the town in the way of equipment and privileges.

Here is a list of what the department asked:

First we asked the town to back us in the following:

We asked that the fire chief have the right to ask the citizens of the town and vicinity to park at the curb when the fire alarm is sounded or clear the street as near as possible and not park near fire plugs, which has not been observed in the past.

We ask for what the fire chief deems necessary in the way of helmets, coats and boots that the town furnish them, and grant each and every one of the firemen to have the right to demand anyone using the equipment belonging to the department to turn it in to the department at once and give the chief the right to take anyone to the mayor and have him fined and punished, and that the fire chief have the right to refuse to allow anyone to use the equipment for any other purpose. Hereafter this has not been done.

We ask that the town furnish the fire chief and truck driver with telephones paid by the town, or furnish a siren whistle that can be heard a distance sufficient to call in the firemen.

We ask that the town furnish maps of the town, showing fire districts, and establish signals that will direct the firemen to what section of the town the fire might be. This has not been done before this date. We as firemen think this an important factor to a department.

We ask that the chief have the right to notify the people to clear the streets and give the fire truck the right of way. At this date the department is not strong enough, we ask that the town back us in trying to enlist more strong young men for that purpose.

When we have had the assurance that the town will back us up in these requests and resolutions, we pledge ourselves to the town as firemen to make an honest effort to protect the lives and property of Boone.

If the town does not think what we have asked is necessary for the protection of its homes and property, please accept this as our resignation. Signed,

- CARTER COOK, Chief, R. W. M. GUIRE, CARL PAYNE, W. S. COOK, C. W. O'NEILL, TROY NORRIS.

The foregoing was presented twice to the town board and was refused; also the right to speed the fire truck so a speed sufficient to do something worth while, and because the chief called out the firemen at night—once time—which we thought necessary to train men to fight fire.

It required eight minutes from the time the alarm was sounded to reach the Daniel Boone cabin with a fighting force.

This is the reason the town fire department resigned February 13, 1928.

Below is a list of equipment asked for by the department: Material for abatement tanks, one shut off nozzle, 100 feet of rope, 10 helmets, four shovels, eight pairs boots, an adjustable hydrant wrench. CARTER G. COOK.

ROAD EXPENDITURES IN 7TH DISTRICT FOR JANUARY

More than \$5,000 were spent on the highways of the seventh highway district during the past month, according to the report of Office Engineer C. A. Richardson, filed Saturday, says the Winston-Salem Journal.

The report also carried with it the announcement that the stretch of five miles of paved highway from North Wilkesboro to the Yadkin county line had been completed with this project, carrying with it the largest expenditure for the month, the amount being \$12,990.60. The sum of \$7,923.30 has been spent on the highway between Sparta and the Virginia line on Route 26, in Alleghany county.

The sum of \$8,201 was spent on project 772, Route 69, from the Ashe county line to project 7,720; and \$4,464.32 on Route 69 from project 772 to Boone.

LOCAL AFFAIRS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Vilas Moretz on February 5th a daughter.

Mrs. W. E. Butler is in Stateville recovering nicely from an operation performed at the Davis hospital in that city Monday.

The condition of H. Joe Hardin remains much the same, but if any perceptible change, just a little improved.

Mr. and Mrs. Lillard Beach of Rich Mountain, announce the birth of twins, a boy and a girl, on Sunday night, February 12th.

Mrs. Hodges, widow of the late Larkin Hodges, of Adams, has been right ill for the past several days, and as we close our forms, we have the intelligence that she is unimproved.

Miss Catherine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Moore of Boone, spent the week-end with home folks here, returning early in the week to her school at Fruitland, Buacembe county, where she is a student.

James Rivers of the Winston-Salem Sentinel mechanical force, with his friend, Lawrence Hall, also of the force, visited his wife and babe in Boone Saturday evening and Sunday.

Dr. J. M. Hodges has been suffering from the results of a fall on the icy pavement last Thursday. One leg was injured as was a hip which had previously been broken in a motor wreck. However, the physician is now out and taking care of his practice.

Government Title Inspector J. C. Fletcher of Lenoir and Knoxville, who is spending a short vacation with his family in Lenoir, was in town a few hours last Wednesday. He said he hoped to get to Boone again before returning to his Tennessee office.

Miss Ruby, daughter of Mr. Will Hodges, returned last week from Stateville, where she had been operated on for appendicitis at Davis hospital. The young lady is rapidly recovering her strength and seems to be on the high road to permanent recovery.

Mr. A. C. Farthing of Lenoir has been a very sick man for several days, but is now somewhat improved, according to latest advices. Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Moretz and son, Harrison, and Dr. and A. C. and Mr. Hill Farthing, all of Boone, visited the sick brother and near relative last Sunday.

Mr. Ira Ayers, local electrician, who has been having some trouble with a growth in his mouth, has returned from another visit to Kelly's in Baltimore, where he took treatment. It is hoped that the trouble is now under control at the hands of one of the nation's greatest surgeons.

The high school pupils of the Cove Creek school will present a negro minstrel on Friday night, February 17th. This promises to be a highly entertaining program and the public is cordially invited. Admission will be 50 and 15 cents, the proceeds to be used for school equipment.

Rev. R. C. Eggers, while assisting Rev. N. S. Hampton in a revival meeting at Watauga Baptist church, developed a case of mumps and was forced to leave the meeting during the closing days and return to his home at Zionville. The meeting resulted in ten additions to the church by baptism and others renewed. The church was greatly revived by the series of services.

The Democrat is sending out quite a number of statements to those who have fallen behind on their subscription, and it is gratifying to see how they are coming across with arrears and renewals. Have you renounced yet? Our office have never found one. We thank those who are responding so quickly, and confidently expect to hear from each and every one to whom we have sent statements.

Mr. R. F. Coffey, engineer for the state on the big heating and power plant being installed at the State Normal, has rented the S. E. Day property, near the depot, and will move there, probably this week. Mr. Coffey is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Judson Coffey of the Globe section of Caldwell county. The parents, who are now getting well advanced in years, will be here for the spring and summer, at least, making their home with their son and Mrs. Coffey.

BOY SCOUT DRIVE

The campaign to secure funds for the construction of a Boy Scout hut in the American Legion Park was launched Monday under the personal direction of Scoutmaster Wilford. Pledge cards have been circulated throughout the town by a band of scouts and last night collections had reached approximately one hundred dollars. Mite boxes have also been placed at various business houses of the town to receive small contributions.

The campaign will close with the

week and Mr. Wilford is hopeful that the \$600 needed will have been subscribed by that time.

WANTS FISH LAW EXPLAINED

Because of a misunderstanding of the new game law, the board of county commissioners have petitioned the state board of conservation and development to make it clear that anyone in the state who fishes must have a license to do so, regardless of the method of catching the fish.

Deputy Game Warden J. W. Bryan pointed out that the trouble arises from clause 14 of the law, which uses the words "with rod and reel."

"We have had some trouble," Mr. Bryan said, "with people who have read this clause and interpret it to mean that no license is needed for fishing with an old-fashioned pole and line. Even the barefoot boys whose only equipment is a crooked stick, a string and a hook, is supposed to have a license."

IMPROVEMENTS AT LOCAL P. O.

A five years' continuation of the present lease on the Boone postoffice building has recently been closed with the federal government by the owners of the building, Messrs. Brown & Bingham, W. D. Farthing and G. P. Hagaman. The new lease provides for a considerable increase in rental, although under its terms the lessors must provide additional equipment.

Approximately 150 new boxes and drawers, electric cancelling machine, new cabinets, tables and lockers will be added while the arrangement of the furniture will be changed. The line of boxes and windows will extend to the front porch and back with the west wall almost to the rear of the building, providing space for the additional lock boxes and a parcel post delivery window. Under the new arrangement the handling of the mails will be greatly facilitated while ample lobby room remains.

It is expected that the changes will be made and the new furnishings installed by the beginning of the next quarter on April 1.

DELIGHTFUL CONCERT

The music lovers of Boone were given an enviable opportunity to hear one of the state's most outstanding young musicians Saturday evening at the Methodist church, when Miss Ruth Rankin, who is south on a concert tour, gave a program, assisted by Miss Mildred McDavid, Boone's talented reader.

Miss Rankin is one of the accomplished pianists of the Juillard Foundation of Music, New York City. She has won distinction there, and is already an artist of merit and reputation. Her technique and interpretation are marvelously good and music critics accord her a high place in musical attainment, while they prophesy for her a brilliant future.

Her gracious manner wins her audiences at once and her music holds it spell-bound while every listener is thrilled and satisfied. Miss Rankin was received with peculiar honor at Winthrop College, her Alma Mater, where she gave a concert, and she is delighting many great audiences on this tour. She will return to New York this week where she will resume her study. Her parents and friends, as well as all who love music are proud of her and glad she claims Boone as her home.

AMERICAN LEGION ROSTER

Watauga Post No. 130, American Legion, now has fifty members who have paid their dues for the year 1928, the largest number this early in the year, states J. Wilson Norris, adjutant of the post. Post officials are making an effort to enroll every ex-soldier in the county, and those who have not renewed their membership for the current year, are asked to do so at once.

Following is the list of members who have paid dues for 1928:

- Carl G. Cook, Walter L. Cook, James Sherwood, John H. Mast, Carl Farthing, Arthur L. Jones, Fred L. Greene, Rufus M. Grogan, Ralph G. Green, Rufus M. Ward, Sam F. Horton, Russell D. Hodges, Boy L. Dawson, Henry G. Farthing, Lorenzo D. Woodward, Dean Bingham, L. L. Bingham, Tracy Council, Joe M. Gaither, R. H. Steinert, J. H. Eggers, J. Bynum Taylor, Max E. Houck, W. S. Hamick, John F. Cook, Lionel Ward, Ed Payne, R. Kelley Osborne, Chas. C. Rogers, Troy Norris, Walter Watson, Dewey Rominger, Sylvester S. Grace, Greene E. Brown, E. M. Hodges, Chas. L. Younce, J. Wilson Norris, Asa J. Smith, Otis A. Smith, Chas. S. Stephenson, Conrad M. Yates, Howard Steelman, Ronca B. Hodges, Chas. E. Warner, W. M. Thomas, John E. Combs, Lloyd S. Isaacs, Fred Price, Thomas Broghill, Sam Adkins.

NORMAL NOTES

A fast and interesting basketball game was played in the Normal gym Monday night between the young ladies' team of the Normal and the team from the East Tennessee Teachers College. The game was exciting throughout. The Tennessee girls shot the first goal and from that time for nearly all the game the teams either tied or the Normal girls were ahead, but at the very last the Tennessee girls went two ahead, the score standing at the close 22 to 21 in favor of the visitors.

Another fast game was played here Friday night between the young men's team of the Normal and a

Important Notice to Democrat Subscribers

A strictly cash subscription policy is being adopted by the Democrat. Accordingly, statements, several hundred of them, are being sent out to those who are slightly in arrears on their subscription, or who owe for a renewal. Please regard the notice you receive as final, for we will be forced to discontinue the paper to your address unless remittance is received within a reasonable number of days. We are trying to give you a good country newspaper and feel that we should have the co-operation of our patrons. The slip you receive will show the date and if it is misplaced the mailing label tells you each week the day and year your subscription expires. Don't miss a copy.

team from Catawba College at Salisbury. The game was full of interest throughout as the rival teams were only a few points apart until right at the last when the Normal team took the lead, ending with a score of 36 to 42 in favor of the local team.

The congregation at the Methodist church here Sunday was glad to hear the splendid address of Prof. I. G. Greer of the Normal, on Sunday morning at the 11 o'clock hour. Prof. Greer took for his subject "The Brotherhood of Man" and treated it in a most impressive and effective manner.

Prof. W. Y. Perry of the Cove Creek high school, was at the Normal on Saturday and made a talk to the student body.

C. M. T. CAMP

Mr. Smith Hagaman, C. M. T. C. chairman for Watauga county, has been notified that he has been re-appointed to represent the citizens' military training camp association in Watauga county as chairman of the committee in charge of the enrollment of applicants for the C. M. T. camps this summer.

This reappointment brings all activities in behalf of this summer's camps for this county under his direct supervision.

Plans for the camp, which Mr. Hagaman has received provide for the apportionment of separate quotas to all parts of the state.

Mr. Hagaman says that, regardless of quota for this county, every acceptable young man in the county has an opportunity to apply and may be accepted.

He hopes the response to the government's offer of thirty days' camp life and training, with necessary expenses paid by the government, will exceed the quota, and that Watauga county will have the distinction of being first over the top. Only those who complete enrollment at an early date can be assured of attending camp.

Complete enrollment, Mr. Hagaman explained, includes the proper filling out of an application blank, accompanying it with a certificate of character from a reputable citizen and physical examination, vaccination and inoculation, usually performed free of charge by a local physician.

VALENTINE PARTY

The most unique and delightful social event of the season here was a Valentine party given at the Critcher hotel Friday evening, February 10th, when the Friday Afternoon Club entertained the husbands of club members, the entire faculty of the Normal and the Demonstration school, and the ministers of the town with their wives.

Mrs. M. P. Critcher, Miss Annie Stanbury and other club members received the guests at the door, and led them into the parlor and dining room, which were thrown in suite, where softly shaded lights and festoons of hearts with other decorations suggestive of St. Valentine's Day made artistic and gala the interior. The guests were introduced informally and old friends joined them in good fellowship and bright repartee until all had arrived. There was a short but delightful program as follows:

Story of St. Valentine, Mrs. D. D. Dougherty.

Group of Love Songs, Mrs. Gwynne.

Readings, "Uncle Remus Receives a Valentine," Mrs. I. G. Greer; "A Valentine to a Man of Worth," Mrs. E. A. Linney.

Mrs. Tracy Council and Mrs. David Greene who were in charge of the entertainment for the evening, then assumed command, and with clever games and appropriate contests kept interest at high pitch for an hour or more. Before one activity lost its charm another was presented, and these provided for an exchange of partners while wits were matched and hearts and voices were happy.

As all were seated with some gay partner, the dainty daughters of the club very graciously served white brick cream with red heart centers, and white cake which was decorated with the same appropriate design. The favors were red heart cups of white mints.

By and by the guests began to take reluctant leave, feeling that life was sweeter and friends dearer for this happy evening of companionship together.

ALL HAWKS NOT BAD

A Journal news story from Boone tells of the organization in Watauga

county of a Game and Fish club, the aim of the members being to improve trout streams and prevent the wanton destruction of game. This is a commendable undertaking and one worthy of being copied in other counties, writes Upton G. Wilson in "His Column," in the Winston-Salem Journal.

But if the club carries out its announced intention of offering a bounty on all hawks and snakes killed, it may partially defeat the very things it has set out to accomplish. There is no objection to killing of snakes, of course, but not all hawks deserve to be slaughtered. Some are themselves destroyers of pests.

The "blue darter," or Cooper's hawk, is the only member of the hawk family in North Carolina that does serious damage to birds and chickens. It is a veritable devil for killing small fowl and deserves no quarter, but other hawks should not be killed in atonement for the sins of this relative of theirs.

But the sparrow hawk and the red-tailed hawk eat more mammals than birds, the former destroying many harmful insects. Out of 410 stomachs of sparrow hawks examined, 314 were found to contain insects, 129 small mammals and 70, small birds. Thus comparatively few were bird killers.

Out of 530 stomachs of red tailed hawks examined, 457 were found to contain the remains of mammal pests, such as field mice, grasshoppers, ground squirrels and rats. Only 62 stomachs contained the remains of poultry or game birds. It is also known that the red-tailed hawk eats many snakes.

It eats poultry and game birds on occasion, it is true, but it more than offsets this debit by the good it does in killing harmful rodents. It is probable that it seizes game birds and poultry only when rodents become scarce.

Furthermore, though there is no evidence to sustain such an assertion, it is probable that the red-tailed hawk kills many weasels, one of the most destructive small animals known. The weasel kills game birds and chickens for the mere love of killing.

One weasel will probably do more damage in a single night than a hawk will do in a whole season. Nor does the weasel always accomplish his devilry at night. Often he comes forth during daylight, which gives the red-tailed hawk a chance at him.

All hawks, like all snakes, however, bear a bad name. Only few hawks, just as there are poisonous snakes are poisonous, not nearly all of us feel to handle any of them, considering them deadly. Hawks are ranked in the same way. We see a hawk of one species swoop down into the poultry yard and make off with a chicken and immediately we condemn all hawks.

It is time for man to become better acquainted with his neighbors of the animal and bird world in order that he may know whom to trust and whom to watch. At present his friends are sometimes punished along with his enemies.

"The blue darter" is to be recognized by his long tail and comparatively short wings. He is a sly rascal, too, and darts out from the cover of a tree or hedge, pounces upon his victim before it is aware of his presence, and then beats it for the woods.

Out of 123 stomachs of this hawk examined, 38 contained the remains of poultry and game birds, 66 the remains of other birds and only 12 the remains of mammals. He is a fowl

eater almost exclusively.

Bird lovers and game conservationists will be justified in placing a big bounty on this fellow. The destruction of one of these hawks will mean the saving of the lives of numerous game birds and songsters.

To punish other hawks for the misdeeds of the "blue darter," though, is hardly fair. Some distinction should be made in hawks. There are good hawks as well as bad snakes as well as non-poisonous snakes. The farmer who turns his gun on a red-tailed hawk turns it on a friend.

PARENT-TEACHER MEETING

The Boone Parent-Teacher Association will meet this (Thursday) afternoon at 3 o'clock in the auditorium of the Demonstration school building. A full attendance of members is desired.

FOR SALE—7-room house between Boone postoffice and school. All modern conveniences. Offered at a bargain. See D. W. Sale, Boone, N. C.

BABY CHICKS—Barron English Strain White Leghorns. After inspecting thousands of birds, Mr. H. C. Kennett, state inspector, placed his order with us for chicks. Why? Because we sell better chicks for less. You cannot beat our Leghorns. One customer is selling \$25.00 worth of eggs a week on a feed bill of \$7.00. Others are doing equally as well. Champion Poultry Farm, Champion, N. C.

Money In Poultry

Ancona and Leghorn Pullets now laying. Day old chicks: Thompson's Banded Rocks, Fishel's White Rocks Tompkins' Single Comb Reds, English White Leghorns, from blood tested, state inspected flocks.

Send us your custom hatching. Plenty of room, best equipment, \$3.00 per hundred. Write for catalogue.

WILKES HATCHERY North Wilkesboro, N. C.

Pastime THEATRE - THE PLACE OF GOOD SHOWS - Thursday-Friday, Feb. 16-17 - "CHANG" A Sensational Melodrama of the Jungles Saturday, Feb. 18 - Bob Steele IN "The Bandit Son" Monday, Feb. 20 - Margaret Livingston IN "The Slaves of Beauty" Tuesday-Wednesday, Feb. 21-22 - Mary Pickford The World's Sweetheart in one of her best pictures "Sparrows" Thursday, Feb. 23 - Alice Terry IN "The Garden of Allah" From the novel by Robert Hutchins

George Washington Advised Us to HAVE MONEY! George Washington saved his money; Marth Washington helped him to save. He became a rich man and the first President of our Nation. A man who saves his money gains the respect and CONFIDENCE of his fellow men; this helps him to succeed and prosper. START SAVING REGULARLY NOW WE INVITE YOUR BANKING BUSINESS THINK! WATAUGA COUNTY BANK "Home of the Thrifty" Boone, N. C. Let's DEVELOP Our County HAVE MONEY!