

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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## News of Week in and About Blowing Rock

### High School Pupils to Present Comedy, "Unacquainted With Work," Saturday Night

Blowing Rock, Feb. 29.—The comedy, "Unacquainted With Work," on which pupils of the Blowing Rock high school have been rehearsing for two months, will be given Saturday night in the school auditorium. The pupils, who have been directed by Principal A. E. Mercer, are said to be exceptionally well prepared.

The cast is as follows: Glenn Coffey as the young man unacquainted with work; Jay Knight as the landlord who wants his money; Bynum Crisp as the briefless young lawyer just admitted to the bar; Fred Spann as the pugilistic aspirant in love with Biddy; Willia Holshouser as the bellhop at the "Drummer's Rest" hotel; William White as the detective; Lucy Williams as the niece of the landlord; Elizabeth Sudderth as Biddy the chambermaid; Lucile Reid as the wealthy widow, aunt of the young man unacquainted with work; Lucile Coffey as agent for "A Daughter of the Gods," and Ruby Richards as the cook.

Paul Foster will represent the Blowing Rock high school in the five-county declamation contest sponsored by Prof. I. G. Greer of the Appalachian State Normal.

Mr. John S. Williams will leave the first of the month on his spring work with the agricultural department, working twelve counties in the Elkin-Ashville section. In the fall his territory will include 25 counties in the western part of the state.

Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Prevette were hosts on the eve of February 23 at a small but delightful dinner party. Pink and white lily-of-the-valleys surrounded by candles carrying out the same colors formed a centerpiece, and an appropriate menu was selected for the occasion. Guests included Misses Loua Reeves and Connie Moody and Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Gillett.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hartley had as guests over Sunday Mrs. Hartley's sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Roberts, also her sister-in-law, Mrs. Perry Neal Kerley, all of Johnson City, Tenn. Mrs. Kerley will join her husband on his ranch in Wyoming in March and is anticipating a great deal of pleasure in the new experience of ranch life.

Miss Annie Ward is visiting relatives in Lenoir.

Ms. H. C. Hayes spent a recent week-end with Mrs. Hayes and their daughters in Raleigh. Both daughters are in school there.

## SUPREME COURT TO DECIDE FATE OF WAYNE SLAYER

Whether the conviction of Larry Newsome, Wayne county negro, sentenced to be electrocuted for the murder of Beula Teeder, 15-year-old daughter of a Wayne county farmer, following the sensational Sunday trial during which an effort was made to lynch Newsome, will be allowed to stand, or whether a new trial will be granted him, is now up to the state supreme court. The case was argued last Wednesday by M. B. Loflin, who entered the appeal for Newsome, acting as his attorney under appointment of the court.

There was a wave of protest over the state following the conviction of Newsome, since it was felt that Judge Henry A. Grady, who presided, erred in permitting the trial to proceed following the attempt made by the Teeder girl's father and others to abduct Newsome from the courtroom while the trial was proceeding. It was only after the sheriff had been compelled to fire his revolver at the ceiling in order to quell the mob, and after the judge had threatened to shoot anyone who further attempted to molest the prisoner, that the trial was able to proceed.

## MRS. GATLIN ACQUITTED

A jury of Rockingham county farmers after deliberating three hours and thirteen minutes Wednesday night acquitted Mrs. Alma Petty Gatlin, of a charge of having murdered her father, Smith T. Petty, at Reidsville, a year and six weeks ago. The verdict was rendered in dead silence as the crowd that filled the room to overflowing obeyed the mandate of the court that there was to be no demonstration. Aside from the sobs of the young woman, who had told the Rev. Thos. F. Parlane, evangelist, that she killed her father whose body was found buried in the cellar of a home they once occupied and told the court she had lied to protect the name of her dead mother, there was no noise as the verdict was read.

Mrs. Gatlin appeared for an instant to hardly comprehend the fact that words had freed her. Then with a loud sob she flung herself into the arms of her husband, Eugene Gatlin, Reidsville fire chief.

## POLITICAL EVENTS OF THE PAST WEEK

### Highlights of Political Activity of Both Major Parties Summarized From Recent News Dispatches From Over the Country

#### Hoover Against the Field

Herbert Hoover, secretary of commerce, who entered the Ohio presidential primary in opposition to Senator Frank B. Willis, Ohio's favorite son, now virtually faces the field in the fight for the convention delegates there.

The Ohio primary election law requires each candidate for district delegate, or for delegate at large, to state his first and second choices, "provided, however, that the name of no candidate for president shall be used without his written authority."

While the Willis forces claim to have made no effort to guide the second choices, their delegate candidates are sure to name former Governor Frank O. Lowden of Illinois, Senator Charles Curtis of Kansas, Senator James E. Watson of Indiana, and in a few local cases Colonel Charles R. Fisher of Wilmington, Ohio. Although many Willis backers wanted Vice President Dawes as second choice, he refused his consent, saying he favored Governor Lowden.

The majority of the Willis delegates, particularly in the rural districts, are expected to name Governor Lowden, for there is considerable sentiment in Ohio for Lowden or Dawes on the farm relief issue. It is the feeling among many Ohioans that Vice President Dawes is ultimately the man to be watched.

Charles H. Jones, secretary to Senator Willis, declared had not Mr. Hoover entered the Ohio primary he would have been the second choice of many of the Willis delegates, but that now none of these will support Mr. Hoover at any time at the Kansas City convention.

The Ohio primary, thus, will probably show not only Ohio's preference between Senator Willis and Secretary Hoover but the choice of the state in case either Mr. Willis or Mr. Hoover, or both, should be eliminated from the picture.

James R. Garfield, son of President Garfield and former secretary of the interior, has been picked as second choice by the Hoover faction and has written his consent.

## How Candidates Stand on Prohibition Issue

Leading candidates for the Republican and Democratic presidential nominations, in recent statements, have indicated their attitudes toward prohibition as follows:

Gov. ALFRED E. SMITH—I advocate nothing that will infringe upon the provisions of the eighteenth amendment. It is nevertheless a fact that the definition of an intoxicating beverage contained in the Volstead act is not an honest or a common sense one.

FRANK O. LOWDEN—I stand squarely with the president in what he said in his annual message (that citizens ought to obey the law).

SENATOR JAMES A. REED—I do not think the prohibition question ought to control in the convention. The question is important (Mr. Reed is an avowed wet), but it is largely a moral one.

SENATOR CHARLES CURTIS—I am heartily in favor of faithfully enforcing all our laws, and I am opposed to the repeal of the eighteenth amendment or the Volstead act.

Gov. ALBERT C. RITCHIE—Either the Volstead law must be changed or it must be enforced, and I am convinced it cannot be enforced.

SENATOR FRANK B. WILLIS—I would put forth every effort to see to it that the eighteenth amendment is observed, obeyed and respected, and the laws enacted thereunder enforced.

HERBERT HOOVER is opposed to the repeal of the eighteenth amendment. I favor vigorous, sincere and efficient enforcement of the laws and feel that whoever is elected president must, under his oath, pursue this course.

## Miss America Voting

Miss Mary Meekins, daughter of Federal Judge Isaac M. Meekins, was informed the other day that the first district convention of North Carolina had named her as an alternate to the Republican national convention in Kansas City with instructions to vote for Lowden, whereupon Miss Mary retorted, "I'll vote as I please, and if I don't vote for Lowden, what will they do about it?"

Behold Miss America in political life might be possible that time will teach the female politicians to play the game with hush-mouth tactics. It might be; but time will have a

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## New Airplane Motor Runs Without Fuel

### Electro-Mechanical Device Is Tested Out Successfully; May Revolutionize Air and Auto Transportation

Detroit, Feb. 25.—The Detroit Free Press today said that an airplane motor operated electro-magnetically, without gasoline or other fuel, has been tested successfully by Col. Charles A. Lindbergh and Major Thomas G. Lanphier, flight commander at Selfridge Field.

The motor which, the newspaper pointed out, might revolutionize the entire scheme of automotive power, was the invention of Lester J. Hendershot of Pittsburgh, the article said.

Col. Lindbergh, Major Lanphier and D. Barr Peat, of Pittsburgh, business manager for the inventor, conducted a test of the motor yesterday at Selfridge Field, and the Free Press reported it was "successful in every respect."

No direct authority for news of the invention was given other than that it emanated from one of the four men—Col. Lindbergh, Major Lanphier, Hendershot and Peat. The first two, reached early today, refused to comment.

The Guggenheim foundation for promotion of aeronautics, the article said, has arranged for an immediate demonstration of the motor, which is said to be based on the principle of electrical magnetism, as applied to the rotary motion of the earth.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Feb. 27.—F. W. Hochstetter of the Hochstetter research laboratories here, today declared the "fuel-less" motor of Lester J. Hendershot, West Elizabeth, Pa., inventor, was a "generator and not a motor at all."

Hochstetter, who said he had negotiated with Hendershot on "what appeared from newspaper reports to have been the same things he is now trying to promote, asserted "it does not take electricity from the air—it gets its electricity from a concealed carbon pencil battery."

Hochstetter exhibited models of what he claimed were early models of the Hendershot motor, and said the current was supplied from cells, and in one instance from the current in a house.

"Of course, I had pencil cells in these things," said Hendershot, "I was experimenting with another affair an effort to take electricity from the air. And I still believe I actually did take some power from the air. But it had no practical use. Why, I evanuated the pencil cells to see how long they would last."

## A GOOD WOMAN GONE

Mrs. Farthing, aged consort of the late Rev. Harrison Farthing, of Beaver Dam, died at her home on Friday night of last week, the funeral being conducted by her pastor, Rev. L. A. Huest, at Bethel Baptist church Saturday afternoon. A large crowd of admiring relatives and friends were assembled to pay their last respects to the lady who had loved so fondly. Quite a number of relatives from Boone were in attendance.

Mrs. Farthing was, before her marriage Miss Carrie Dougherty, aunt of the Dougherty brothers of the Appalachian State Normal.

To Mrs. Farthing's last marriage was born one son, Mr. Carter Farthing, now a member of the county road commission.

Watauga county could boast of no better woman than she. A devoted Christian always active in church and Sunday school work, a neighbor and friend of the variety that is rapidly passing, and always had an open hand for those needing assistance and always ready to apply the balm of love and sympathy to sorrowing and broken hearts.

Truly another mother in Zion has passed to her reward.

## THREE MEN LOSE LIVES IN DISASTROUS SHELBY FIRE

A disastrous fire originating in the Central hotel in Shelby Thursday morning snuffed out three lives and caused a property damage estimated at \$300,000. Half a dozen persons were injured and for several hours the blaze threatened the entire business section despite valiant work of firemen from Charlotte, Gastonia, Cherryville, Kings Mountain and local firemen. The dead are H. H. Carmichael, Charlotte; Dr. J. R. Henderson, Charlotte, and Henry Kerr, a clerk in the hotel.

The flames were discovered in a linen closet on the second floor of the hotel at 5:30 o'clock by R. L. White, a clerk. White ran to the first floor and turned in an alarm. When he attempted to return to the upper floors he was burned by flames.

Henry Kerr, clerk, who ran through flaming corridors to warn all guests, finally crawled to a ledge over the hotel kitchen, from which he was taken by firemen only to die a few hours later at the hospital.

## H. JOSEPH HARDIN DIED SATURDAY

### Prominent and Loyal Citizen Passes After Long Illness; Interment Monday Morning at 11 O'clock

Mr. H. Joseph Hardin, aged 71, one of the most prominent citizens of the county, died at his home just without the eastern limits of the city Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock, following a serious illness of several months' duration.

Mr. Hardin died in the same home in which he first saw the light of day, having resided there throughout his long life. By dint of hard work and careful management he was able to amass a considerable fortune, as fortunes are estimated here. Although afflicted with rheumatism for several years, by the aid of crutches, he managed to personally attend to the affairs of the farm until his fatal illness. He was a consistent member of the local Methodist church and throughout the years took great pride in its achievements, contributing largely of his time and money to its upbuilding.

Funeral services were conducted from the Methodist church Monday morning at 11 o'clock by the pastor, Rev. C. H. Moser. Dr. B. B. Dougherty of the Normal, a close friend of the Hardins, paid tribute to the deceased. The floral offerings were varied and beautiful. The house was filled with sorrowing friends, a small group of faithful colored people having also been allowed to be present as the last rites were said for their esteemed friend and benefactor. Interment was made in the town cemetery.

The pall bearers were J. S. Stanbury, F. A. Linney, R. C. Rivers, R. L. Bingham, E. N. Hahn, W. H. Gage, R. J. Council and J. D. Council.

He is survived by three children, Dr. R. H. Hardin of Banner Elk, Mesdames Grady Farthing and Hooper Hendrix of Boone. Also by two brothers, and one sister, Mr. John F. Hardin of Boone, J. R. Hardin of Washington College, Tenn., and Mrs. W. R. Spanham of Boone.

## KU KLUX DISROBES

Official announcement was made last Wednesday that the Ku Klux Klan had discarded the mask as a part of its official regalia.

In a copyrighted statement issued at the organization's Washington headquarters, it was asserted that "in every Klavern throughout the nation," klansmen "tonight forewore the mask and made it clear that the order has no political ambitions for itself or for its members." At the same time, the statement said that tonight's action was in preparation for "new and larger activities in our national life."

The statement quoted an edict from H. W. Evans, imperial wizard, as follows:

"That on and after midnight of February 22, year of our Lord nineteen hundred and twenty-eight, no mask or visor shall be upon the helmet of the regalia of any Klansman. It shall thereafter be unlawful for any Klansman who shall be unavoidably absent from the meeting of a Klan to be held throughout the invisible empire on 22nd day of February, shall as soon thereafter as possible, attend a regular meeting of the Klan, and there become a member of the Knights of the Great Forest, that on and after the said date all klansmen are forbidden to fraternize with, or remain in Klansh fidelity to any who shall thereafter wear upon his helmet a mask or visor."

## BROOKS, FORD PLANE PILOT, LOST AT SEA

Sebastian, Fla., Feb. 27.—A turbulent sea tonight apparently still clutched the body of Harry Brooks, who dived to his death off Melbourne, Fla., two days ago while trying to make aviation history in a "flivver" plane.

Spurred to greater effort by finding today the wreckage of his tiny craft where it had been tossed ashore by the waves, seaplanes, motorboats and motorcycle police redoubled their futile search for the body of the resourceful chief pilot of the Ford interests.

## NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

Spainhours—pages 2, 5 and 8.  
Boone Chevrolet Co.—page 8.  
American Tobacco Co.—page 3.  
W. R. Winkler & Co.—page 3.  
R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.—page 6.  
Watauga County Bank—page 1.  
Hodges Drug Company—page 5.  
Sheriff Farthing—page 6.  
McConnell Motor Co.—page 8.  
Isaacs' Dept. Store—page 8.

## Beech Mt. Timber Will Soon Be Cut

### Tri-County Lumber Co. Preparing to Cut County's Largest Boundary of Virgin Timber

Information reaching Boone is to the effect that the Tri-County Lumber Company, of Baltimore, Maryland, successor to the defunct Cherokee Lumber Company, is having a survey made for the construction of a tram road from Butler, Tenn., to Beech Mountain, where the company has a large boundary of timber.

W. S. Whiting has tried for several years to have a spur of the East Tennessee & Western North Carolina railroad built to this large boundary of virgin timber, but landowners living along the right of way would not give permission for the road to be built. Could this right of way be secured, the timber would have been sawed at Shulls Mills, which would have meant the expenditure of a large sum of money in Watauga county. But it appears now that Tennessee will benefit from the large operation, and Watauga will be the loser.

It is estimated that between fifty and sixty million feet of lumber is included in the boundary, and that it will take twenty years to manufacture it into lumber.

## PROHIBITION MAY SPLIT DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Washington, Feb. 28.—Two movements—one designed to put a damper on the presidential aspirations of Governor Smith of New York, the other to force both the Republican and Democratic parties to toe the mark on prohibition in the coming campaign—got under way here today under the direction of a group of dry leaders.

The offensive directed at the two political parties was launched at a conference in which representatives of 31 or more national temperance organizations participated. Resolutions were adopted demanding clear-cut prohibition planks and standard bearers genuinely dry.

While the meeting was in progress plans were disclosed for an anti-saloon league conference next month in St. Petersburg, Fla., in which friends of prohibition in nine southern states will be invited to have a hand. At that time, those in charge of arrangements predicted a counter-offensive against Governor Smith will take definite form.

While reluctant to discuss for publication what will be done, they generally forecast a discussion that would include the advisability of urging southern Democrats to bolt their party in the event the New York governor is nominated at Houston.

The announced purpose of the regional meeting at St. Petersburg is to canvass the prohibition situation south of the Mason and Dixon line and east of the Mississippi, but a political armistice is regarded as inevitable by expected participants. The conference, which will continue three days, will begin March 1.

## HAMMER INTRODUCES NEW MARRIAGE BILL

Washington, Feb. 28.—From North Carolina has come prospective protection for the District of Columbia from modernism as it relates to matrimony. A bill to prohibit common-law, or "trial," marriages in the district was introduced today by Representative William C. Hammer, of that state, and a member of the house District of Columbia committee.

In its definition of companionate marriages the bill distinguishes them as marriages in which there is an agreement at the time of the wedding that the man shall not be responsible for the support of his wife.

## OYSTER SUPPER FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES

The American Legion Auxiliary will give an oyster supper Friday evening, March 2, beginning at 5:30 o'clock, for the benefit of the Auxiliary and for miscellaneous charitable purposes. The affair will take place in the Hair Building where the new Greer Cafe is soon to open.

## LOWDEN FILES AS FORMAL CANDIDATE IN N. DAKOTA

Bismarck, N. D., Feb. 28.—Former Governor Frank O. Lowden of Illinois, announced himself as a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination in a personal declaration filed late today with North Dakota's secretary of state.

## VISIT RELATIVES IN MEBANE

James W. Bryan, Esq., and nephew, Earl Phillips, returned Tuesday afternoon from a visit to Mrs. Caroline Phillips at Mebane, N. C., sister of Mr. Bryan, and mother of Mr. Phillips, who has been very ill with pneumonia following measles. They report her condition as somewhat improved, but still she is very sick.

## CITIZENS HEAR ABOUT B. & L.

### Mr. Leon Cash of Winston-Salem Addresses Joint Meeting of Citizens and Building and Loan Directors at Delightful Banquet

A number of representative citizens of Boone and Watauga county were given a sumptuous dinner at the Daniel Boone hotel Thursday evening of last week, by the Watauga Building and Loan Association and the Boone Civitan Club.

After the guests were seated around the tables, Rev. Claud Moser, pastor of the Boone Methodist church, led in prayer, following which all present joined in singing "North Carolina Hills," led by Prof. I. G. Greer. Mr. W. H. Gragg, secretary and treasurer of the Watauga Building and Loan Association, then introduced each person present. Dinner was then served.

Misses Nell Trivett, Nell Smith and Blanche Smith rendered excellent music. A reading, "The Most Popular Book in the World," was given by Miss Mildred McEade.

Prof. Greer sang some folk-lore songs with Mrs. Greer at the piano.

The main feature of the evening, however, was an address by Mr. Leon Cash, of Winston-Salem, who made an interesting talk on the various phases of the building and loan.

Mr. Gragg gave some facts concerning the Boone Civitan Club and the building and loan association, which in part are as follows:

"This meeting is sponsored by the Boone Civitan Club, which is composed of about 10 business men of the town. We meet at the Daniel Boone hotel around these tables every Thursday at 12:15. If a man calls another 'Mr.', it costs him a dime. If he fails to come for three times he becomes a non-member. We pay 75 cents for our lunch and discuss various problems that we think worthwhile to Watauga county. We want the people who live out of town to come to town more. We are all country folk moved to town. We are glad you are here tonight and we want you to come back.

Oy Club requests different members of the organization to put on programs. Tonight it is Building & Loan night. I want to say that men will not shoulder a gun and fight for a boarding house, a rooming house or a light-housekeeping apartment.

"The destiny of the country does not depend on roomers. Any government built of this kind of folk is bound to fail and is doomed for destruction. Therefore, we are putting in a good deal of our time for the building and loan associations.

"The first building and loan association ever organized in the United States was formed in Philadelphia in 1831, almost a hundred years ago. At that time we had one organization in the United States; today we have 12,926 associations, and in 1926 the building and loans in the nation helped to finance 330,000 homes. That is a lot of homes, but that is not all we did in 1926. We helped to house more than 2,000,000 men, women and children. We have 10,065,705 members a (the close of business in 1926. We had total assets of \$6,334,000,000. The building and loans of the United States take the leading place in all the building field, and the building and loans of the country have more capital and assets than all the national banks. That is a little idea of what we are doing in the nation.

"Just a little about North Carolina. The first building association in North Carolina was organized in 1886 at Wilmington. The same association is in existence today. At the close of business in 1926 we had 235 associations in the state reporting to the insurance department, with total assets of \$87,715,000. We had 96,590 stockholders and during the year we sold 504,640 shares. We built 6,879 homes at a total cost of \$15,915,655.27, an average of \$2,300. The average earning for 1926 was a little more than 6 per cent.

Coming down a little closer home. Our association was organized in January, 1921. We were 79 months old at the close of business last year. Our assets for 1923 were \$74,101.43; 1924, 133,010.63; 1925, \$189,136.78; 1926, \$264,904.68, and 1927, \$351,801.39. This shows a substantial growth for the last four years. The total number of stockholders on December 31, 1926, was 469. We had 457 white and 12 colored stockholders. We have financed and helped build 274 buildings in Watauga county; 244 of these are homes and 25 are business buildings and five are churches. The average loan to each individual is \$1,340.00. We have earned from the installments 8.4 per cent interest from December to December. We closed business with not a single bad check on our hands.

"In every mortgage we take it is

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