

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

VOL. XL, NO. 2

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1929

FIVE CENTS A COPY

## NEWS OF WEEK AT BLOWING ROCK

**School Pupils to Present Play, "The Wren," Saturday Night; Fire Department Gives Chicken Supper; Delightful Valentine Party**

Blowing Rock, Feb. 21.—The fifth, sixth and seventh grades of the Blowing Rock consolidated school will present the play, "The Wren," in the auditorium of the school Saturday night, February 23, at eight o'clock. The Blowing Rock concert band will provide music before the play and during the intermissions. The admission will be 15 cents for children and 25 cents for adults. The proceeds will be used for the benefit of the school.

The members of the cast have been practicing thoroughly, and a lively evening's entertainment is promised to all who come. Those in the cast are: Blair Sudderth as Mrs. Julia Danna, Billie Coffey as Robert Danna, Pauline Greene as Jane Danna, Elise Pitts as Sarah Woodston, Jay Castle as Donald Drew, Elizabeth Greer as Mammy, Mae Tester as Mrs. Harriet Greenston, Carroll Greer as Reginald Greenston, Gladys Pitts as Mrs. Cecelia Danna Fordston, Oma Greene as Corinne Fordston, Pansy Gragg as Binkie, Shuford Edminston as Rodney Blake, Sr., Mary Lou Young as Mrs. Rodney Blake, Arnold Bolick as Rodney Blake, Jr., and Murrell Gragg as Judge Gray.

**Fire Department Entertains**  
The Blowing Rock Fire Department won many new friends last Thursday night and proved itself the most lively organization in town by giving a chicken dinner free to all comers at the Central hotel. There was no catch in the announcement that the dinner would be entirely free, for all guests were seated promptly at the tables and served by the firemen as waiters, with Chief Underdown as head waiter. The food for the supper was donated by the townspeople.

After the supper, the address of the evening was delivered by G. O. Mudge, principal of the consolidated school, and the guests spent the rest of the evening at dancing.

The fire department has re-elected the following officers: C. S. Prevette, president; Ambrose Underdown, chief; Dan Johnson, secretary and treasurer; George Robbins, captain; Lloyd Robbins, assistant chief.

**Valentine Party**  
The pupils of the Blowing Rock high school were entertained last Thursday night with a Valentine party, with their teachers as hosts, assisted by Miss Gene Story and Miss Sarah Banner of the elementary grades.

The place of the party was a deep secret, but all were told to gather at W. C. Craig's store at eight o'clock. Stewart Cannon reported that long before that hour the store was crowded by a clamoring group demanding to know where the party was to be. Presently Mrs. Gillett appeared and told them that they were to follow the white arrows posted along the streets.

These arrows led the crowd along the highway toward Boone and in the dark alley that runs behind the Barked Inn. There two highwaymen (Gene Story and Rupert Gillett) emerged from the shadows, turned flashlights on the crowd, exploded firecrackers, and called upon all to stand and deliver. After a time had been collected from each pupil, they followed the arrows to the front of the school building where they were instructed to call for more light.

At this cry, the lights in the library room were switched off, and those in the town hall across the street were switched on. Running across the street, the pupils found the hall decorated with streamers and hearts, with Grover Robbins, Jr., as Cupid and Lovine Prevette as Psyche, armed with arrows to shoot at the hearts of all present.

After an hour of Valentine games, fifteen girls crossed the street to the Mudge home and brought back plates of sandwiches, cakes and heart-shaped salads. These were passed around while coffee was served from the mayor's office. The pupils gave rousing cheers for Principal Mudge, the inspirer of the party, and to the other teachers. The high school faculty expressed its thanks to Mrs. Story and Miss Banner and to Ambrose Underdown for their help in carrying out the evening's affair.

**Mr. Coffey Returns Home**  
T. H. Coffey, who has been ill in Charlotte and Statesville for the last two weeks, was brought home Sunday. He stood the trip well and is steadily improving.

**Literary Society Club**  
This interesting program was given last Friday at the Literary Society Club by the fifth, sixth and seventh grades of the school: Song

## Civitan Club Favors County Farm Agent

The Boone Civitan Club at its monthly business meeting last Thursday evening went on record as unanimously favoring the employment of a farm demonstration agent for Watauga county. This action was taken following a talk by Civitan W. H. Gragg on the farm problem as related to this county, in which he pointed out some of the defects of agriculture and suggested ways of improving them. Mr. Gragg is preparing an article along the lines of his talk which will be published in an early issue of The Democrat, and readers are asked to look out for it, because he will have something to say that should be of benefit to every farmer and business man in the county.

President Moose called attention to the fact that a town election is to be held in May, and urged every member of the club to take an active part in seeing that good men are named for labor and board of aldermen. "If we take no part in the election," he said, "we have no right to kick if we are not satisfied with those who are named."

Co-operation with the civil authorities in the suppression of bootlegging and the apprehension of dispensers of liquor was also urged upon the membership of the organization. At attention was also called to a few "sore spots" in the town that ought to be cleaned up. While no clean-up campaign was suggested at this time, members of the club were asked to look to the beautification of their own premises.

After the reading of the secretary's report, the meeting adjourned until Friday night, February 22, when the annual ladies' right banquet will be given.

## COVE CREEK NEWS NOTES

Sugar Grove, Feb. 20.—Mrs. W. F. Sherwood has been quite ill recently. She is improving slowly.

Mr. Stanley A. Hards, National Boy Scout executive, is with his family at Amant for a few days.

Born on Feb. 19, 1929, a son, Mr. and Mrs. Will T. Pa. 33, a son.

The play, "He's My Pal," was presented a second time in the high school auditorium on Saturday night. The proceeds were divided between the church and school.

Nine members of the high school have entered the preliminaries for the annual state-wide triangular debate. The preliminary debate will be held in the auditorium Friday night, March 1. Four speakers will be selected who will represent the school against Lees-McRae and Newland on April 5.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank Horton on February 6, a son.

The following pupils were perfect in attendance during the month of January.

Second grade—Marcelle Coleman, Clayton Cole, Ralph Fletcher, Hal Johnson, Junior Mast.

Third grade—Roxana Bingham, Susie Elliot, Maple Mast, Georgia McConnell, Lenwood Blair, Elmo Brinkley, Brady Campbell, Morris Henson, Hoy Isaacs, Lynn Isaacs, Carl Woodring, Vance Henson.

Sixth grade—Jack Henson, Mattie Lou Harmon, Nell Henson.

Seventh grade—Velma Brown, Mildred Gordon, Myrtle Henson, Louise Johnson.

Eighth grade—Susie Banner, Mary Elizabeth Banner, Robert Dunn, Elizabeth Dunn, Nina Church, Annie L. Edminston, Dorothy Gyder, Berle Henson, Ray Lawrence, Gladys Mast, Jas. S. McBride, Myrle Palmer, Thos. Presnell, Erin Smith, Earl Shell, Paul Trivett, Howard Ward, Madge Williams, Lena Woodring.

Tenth grade—Ned Glenn, Dwight Gyder, Earl Hayworth, Jimmie Love, Marshall Ward, Vertie Ward, Elizabeth Wilson.

## NEWS OF MATNEY

Matney, Feb. 19.—Misses Leola and Mollie Edminston and Lavola Carender of Lees-McRae Institute, spent the week-end with home folks. Mrs. S. S. Smith, who has been sick with flu, is improved.

Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm McGhee and little son of Boone, visited Mrs. McGhee's father, Mr. Joe Baird, who has been sick for some time but who is improved.

Miss Claty Baird, who has a position at Grace Hospital, Banner Elk, spent Sunday with relatives here.

Mr. John Bentley, who has been ill for some time, is some better.

Mrs. Maggie Bentley, daughter of Mr. John Bentley, visited him here Sunday.

Miss Laura Carender, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Carender, who has been sick since last August, is greatly improved and she hopes to get around on crutches before many days.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Hartley and little daughter visited Mrs. Hartley's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Matney, Sunday.

## FULL TEXT OF NEW ROAD LEGISLATION

**Increases Tax on Gasoline and Would Further Relieve Counties by Aid From the State Highway Commission**

The text of the joint senate and house public roads committee highway bill is as follows:

"A bill to be entitled an act to amend chapter 93 of the public laws of 1927 so as to levy an additional tax of one cent per gallon on gasoline and further relieve the counties by aid from the state highway commission.

"The general assembly of North Carolina do enact:

"Section 1. That chapter 93 of the public laws of 1927, entitled an act to amend chapter 55, article 3 (a) of volume 3 of the consolidated statutes, relating to the tax on gasoline be, and the same hereby is amended by striking out the word 'four' at the end of line one of section 4 of said act and inserting in lieu thereof the word 'five' so as to provide that the tax of four cents per gallon levied and imposed a tax of five cents per gallon on all motor fuels sold, distributed or used in the state.

"Section 2. That the additional revenue which shall be collected by the levy and imposition of the additional one cent per gallon on motor fuels sold, distributed or used in the state provided for in section 1 of this act shall be held, used and treated by the highway commission as a separate and special fund to be known and designated as 'the county aid road fund,' and shall be expended only in accordance with the provisions of this act.

"Section 3. That the state highway commission shall procure upon its books to the several counties for the state the said 'county aid road fund' one-half upon the basis of the area of the said counties and one-half upon the basis of the population of the said counties according to the United States census of 1920.

"Section 4. That the state highway commission shall on or before the first Monday in July of each year certify to the chairman of the board of county commissioners of each county in the state an estimate of the amount of such county's participation in the said 'county aid road fund' for the current fiscal year, and the board of county commissioners, or other tax levying authorities in each county, shall, in preparing the annual budget for county road purposes take into consideration the fund to be derived from this source and shall reduce the levy of ad valorem tax for road purposes so that the funds produced by the rate fixed and levied for the current year, plus the amount estimated to be received by the county from the 'county aid road fund,' shall not exceed by more than 10 per cent the amount available in the county for road purposes under the levy for the year 1928.

"Section 5. That, in any county where there is no county-wide road governing body and the maintenance of county roads is now handled by township or district organizations, the board of county commissioners for such counties are hereby created as agents of such subdivisions of the county for the purpose of dealing with the state highway commission with reference to the 'county aid road fund' established by this act, and to this end such board of commissioners are hereby authorized to exercise all necessary control over the roads, machinery, equipment and maintenance funds of such subdivisions that may be necessary to enable them to establish such county-wide organization as will permit the county to share to the full extent in the benefits provided by this act.

Provided, where any road district includes territory in two counties, the state highway commission shall divide the funds available to said two counties so as to allocate to such road district its proportionate part of the funds available to said two counties under the provisions of this act, and the state highway commission shall deal with the road governing body of such district relative to the expenditure of the funds available to said district.

"Section 6. That the fund herein provided for and allocated to each of the several counties in the state shall be expended in such county by the state highway commission as follows: reimbursement in monthly installments, in whole or in part, to each county for the moneys expended by said county in the maintenance of its county road system, provided, such maintenance shall have been done under the supervision of the state highway commission. Provided, that if the board of commissioners or other road governing body of any county shall so request, then the state highway commission may ex-

"While I do not positively assert that Jones is a dishonest man," said Jones' acquaintance, "I strongly recommend people who shake hands with him to count their fingers carefully when he leaves go."

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## How to Make More Money on the Farm

BY REAL FARMERS

"There are few ways in which a farmer can increase his income more effectively than by keeping a few dairy cows," says J. E. Horton, manager of the Brushy Fork Co-operative Cheese factory. "I know of no other livestock that will bring in a larger profit when it is given the proper care, than dairy cows will."

"A good cow, for example, will give three gallons of milk a day. By a conservative estimate, she will continue to give this amount during six months of the year. Supposing that the farmer gets twenty cents a gallon for this milk, his annual gross income from this cow is \$108. With our facilities for grazing in this county, it will not cost much more than \$25 a year to feed a cow, leaving a profit of \$83. Besides this, he will raise a calf from the cow, and at three months this calf will bring \$25 on the market."

"It seems obvious, then, that raising dairy cattle is one of the most profitable aspects of farming. There are few farmers in this county who could not keep as many as three or four cows. Some could keep only two, perhaps, but most of them could keep four. These four cows ought to bring a profit of more than \$300 in a year, if they are properly fed and cared for and if they are the right kind of cows."

"This last consideration is very important, for thoroughbred stock pays so much better dividends than non-thoroughbred stock that it is folly to raise any other kind. It has been proved by the department of agriculture, and I have proved it by my own experience that cows bred to thoroughbred bulls produce offspring that give sometimes ten per cent more milk than their dams. The second generation will give still more milk, and thus the yield is continuously increased by using thoroughbred stock."

"The care and feeding of the cows is no less important than the breeding. If a cow is to give milk at a uniform rate, she should be fed about one pound of grain to every three pounds of milk. In addition to this, she should have good pasture during the warmer seasons and good ensilage during the winter. In the colder seasons, she needs some rich food like soy beans or cow peas and alfalfa, if it can be obtained."

"For a good ensilage, I find that a mixture of corn and sunflowers does excellently. After the corn has been cut and put in the silo, I usually plant sunflowers in the same

## CIVITAN LADIES' NIGHT ON WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

An event which is being looked forward to with a great deal of interest by members of the Boone Civitan Club is the ladies' night banquet to be held in the dining room of the Daniel Boone Hotel on Friday evening of this week at 7:30 o'clock. The committee in charge of the program is composed of William E. Comer, Claude H. Moser, I. G. Greer and J. Frank Moore. No details of the program have been given out except that Henry Reynolds of Wilkesboro will be the speaker, and that three prizes will be awarded to high school pupils submitting the best essays on "Citizenship." Other features of the program are being kept rather secret, but the personnel of the program committee constitutes a guarantee that the occasion will be a most delightful one.

## SENATE PASSES DRY LAW MEASURE WITH TEETH

Washington, April 19.—First offenders along with hardened violators of the prohibition law would be liable to a maximum penalty of a fine of \$10,000 or five years in prison or both under a bill passed by the senate today and sent to the house.

By a vote of 65 to 18 the senate approved the measure introduced by Senator Jones of Washington, after several days of debate celebrated by a clash of views between Borah of Idaho and Reed of Missouri on the dry question.

The proposal to increase the maximum penalty in such a way as to make them applicable to first offenders was attacked by many senators as too drastic but the majority of the senate decided such a step necessary to enforce the prohibition law more effectively.

"The executive committee of the general board of the Baptist State convention of North Carolina, in session at Raleigh Friday, adopted resolutions condemning 'without reservation' the action of the home mission board of the church in its handling of the Clinton S. Carnes case. The action of the board was characterized as 'a flagrant miscarriage of justice' and members of the board, a statement said, 'should be required to sever their connection with the board.'

## HIGHWAY BILL PASSES SENATE

Measure Adds Cent a Gallon on Gas and Will Become Effective April First; 8 Months School Term Gets Favorable Committee Report

Raleigh, Feb. 19.—With only one dissenting vote, the senate today passed the house highway bill, providing an increase in the gasoline tax from four to five cents a gallon.

A fund of \$3,000,000 will be set aside under the provisions of the bill to be apportioned among the counties of the state for road purposes, in an effort to reduce the ad valorem road taxes. An estimated revenue of \$2,500,000 will accrue from the extra tax, and \$500,000 will be drawn from the regular fund to make up the three million dollars.

In the house the committee on education today voted 12 to 11 to report favorably the McLean bill, providing for a minimum of eight months' school term in North Carolina. The bill, sponsored by Representative A. D. MacLean of Beaufort, would extend the present state system of equalization, based on a six months school term, to cover the longer term. State department of education officials have estimated that it would require an equalization fund from the state of \$10,000,000 instead of the present \$2,250,000.

## Big Bills Yet Pending

With the Australian ballot bill, the workman's compensation bill, and the eight months school measure yet to be voted upon, it is not likely that the general assembly will not adjourn before March 15th. The house has kept well up with its calendar, but the work of the assembly as a whole has been impeded seriously by the senate which has been too busy with argument and oratory to pass on many bills sent over from the house or to pass a great many of its own. New bills continue to pour in, a list of the most important introduced since last Wednesday, being as follows:

## House—New Bills

By Alexander, Eradicate rabies and require compulsory vaccination of dogs.

By Johnson of Currituck: Joint resolution asking president, secretary of war and congress to restore the lock in the Chesapeake and Albemarle canals.

By Williams of Warren: Amend the constitution in regard to taxing homes and farms under mortgage.

By Cox, Hamlin and Wetnor: Repeal sections 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 65, 66 and 596B of the consolidated statutes relative to the absentee voters law.

By Winston: Joint resolution to adjourn the general assembly March 1 at noon.

By Hargett and Harris: Create a state patrol of highways.

By McGhee of Stokes: For better enforcement of prohibition.

To extend laborers' lien on timber for wages to cover cut logs.

By Younce: Create an officers' emergency reserve and pension fund.

By Smith of Wake: Require advance notice of five days with respect to issuing marriage license.

By Norwood: Relative to license tax on oil tank gasoline filling stations, restaurants or other business in connection therewith.

By Gill: Amend certain sections of the statutes relating to the election of commissioner of labor and printing, insurance commissioner and commissioner of agriculture.

By Williams of Warren: Regarding stop payment orders, checks or drafts against bank accounts.

By Williams: Making robbery with fire arms or other dangerous weapons, implements or means whereby the life of a person is endangered or threatened, a felony.

**New Bills—Senate**  
By Person of Franklin: To investigate the anti Smith campaign fund.

By Person: To provide for a state purchasing agent.

By Johnson of Robeson: Regulate the right of a judge to criticize a jury.

By McMullen of Beaufort: Prohibit issuance of bonds by counties, cities and towns without vote of the people.

Makepeace of Lee: To regulate interstate motor vehicle carriers.

By Makepeace: To tax motor vehicle carriers engaged interstate commerce.

By Johnson of Pender and Gay of Northampton: To provide for uniform county officers.

By Womble of Forsyth: To reduce the fees for sheriffs.

By Mackethan of Cumberland: To prohibit soldiers from carrying concealed weapons.

By Tapp of Lenoir: To appropriate \$100,000 to the corporation commission for rate case work.

By Scott of Alamance: To foster the development of farm crops and to grade and to regulate the sale of

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