

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

VOL. XL, NO. 5

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

FIVE CENTS A COPY

Amended School Bill Passed by Assembly

Raleigh, March 16—Capitulation after three days of refusal, the house today accepted the senate amendments to the Hancock school bill, chief of which was a reduction in the equalization fund to \$6,500,000. The house had set the figure at \$7,500,000.

Agreement by the house to the senate changes left only formal ratification awaiting the bill before it becomes law. The amount of state aid for the schools provided by the measure is exactly double that of the present school year.

Wednesday the house refused to concur in the senate amendments to the bill and appointed a conference committee. The committee, composed of Representatives McLean of Beaufort, Harris of Person, and Winston of Bertie, brought in a report recommending later changes in the bill, but retaining the equalizing figure set by the senate. Representative Mull of Cleveland moved that the committee be instructed to bring in a report asking the house to agree to the senate amendments. His motion was carried, 48 to 34, and the report was presented and adopted, 53 to 30.

Under the provisions of the bill, the sum of \$5,250,000 will be set up as an equalization fund for the six months term, and a fund of \$1,250,000 in addition as aid for the special tax districts supporting schools for eight months. From the equalization fund \$300,000 is to be held as an emergency fund for the relief of schools suffering unforeseen catastrophes through fire, flood, etc.

RED CROSS RESPONSIBILITY TO DISABLED EX-SOLDIERS

It will be of interest to the members of the Watauga county chapter of the American Red Cross to know that Mrs. Smith Hagaman has recently been appointed chairman of home service. Mrs. Hagaman is a Red Cross nurse and served in the World War and is well qualified to render such assistance as the chapter may be prepared to give to the disabled ex-service men and his dependents. This service consists of assistance when necessary in the preparation and presentation of claims, or temporary relief if needed when the disability originated in war service.

Chapters are daily finding veterans who have never filed claims, or dependents who have never known their rights resulting from the death of men in service or thereafter.

The estimate was recently made by Brigadier General Frank T. Hines, director of the veterans' bureau, that the need for assistance to ex-service men suffering from mental disability as a result of war service will gradually increase for the next 18 years, when the peak is expected to be reached.

With its 3,000 chapters in the United States and its insular and foreign possessions, and through close co-operation from the state department, when soldiers' claims involve international problems, the American Red Cross is already handling an average of more than 56,000 service and ex-service men's cases each month. The strength of the Red Cross lies in its interlocking system of chapters which help each other in preparing claims and in many other ways.

DR. CHAS. E. MADDRY AT BAPTIST CHURCH SUNDAY

Dr. Charles E. Maddry, general secretary of the State Baptist convention, will speak at the Baptist church here Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. In making announcement for the services Sunday, Pastor P. A. Hicks, says: "We are planning to make next Sunday, March 24th, an epoch-making day in the history of our church. We have set as our aim 500 pupils for the Sunday school. We hope to report the completion of the subscriptions for the building program. Our aim is to make a cash offering of \$2,000 as the first payment on our subscriptions. We would like for all our people to have a share in this initial offering. We are going to keep the names of all who make a contribution in a 'Book of Remembrance' and preserve it as a part of our church history."

Officials of Bangor, Me. denied Senator Thomas J. Hefflin the use of the city hall for a Klan address, making the second Maine city to turn down the Alabamian in one day.

OUTSTANDING ACTS OF 1929 ASSEMBLY

School Equalization Fund Doubled; Gasoline Tax Raised; Australian Ballot; Workmen's Compensation; Highway Patrol and Others

Outstanding achievements of the 1929 session of the North Carolina general assembly summarized:

School aid law—Providing \$6,500,000 to six months term, and \$1,250,000 for aid of eight months term special districts, for each year of the biennium. This is double the equalizing fund appropriated at the 1927 session. The act also prescribes administrative changes intended to promote economy in the schools. A 30 cent participating levy is established.

County highway aid law—Increases gasoline tax from four cents a gallon to five, and creates a county aid fund of approximately \$3,000,000 a year to be allotted to the 100 counties of the state on a population-area basis, on condition that the counties reduce their ad valorem taxes for roads by an amount equal to their quota; also establishes a \$500,000 equalizing fund to be disbursed by the state highway commission without regard to county or district lines.

Maintenance appropriation act—Authorizes expenditures of \$28,000,000 for operation of state government and institutions during two year period beginning July 1.

Bond issue—Permanent improvements appropriation act—Authorizes bond issue of \$1,972,000 for building at state educational and charitable institutions.

Revenue act—Provides for increased franchise taxes on railroads and power companies, the rates being doubled, and various other increases, principal in business license rates. License tax on soft drink bottlers doubled.

Australian ballot law—Requires secret voting in all primaries and elections, but allows "markers" to be designated to assist illiterate voters.

Workmen's compensation—Provides for compensation based upon 60 per cent of average weekly wage of injured employe, with minimum of \$7 a week and maximum of \$18 a week, with limitation of \$6,000 for compensation for death or permanent disability; sets up industrial commission of three members to be appointed by the governor to administer provisions.

Executive council act—Abolishes position of pardon commissioner, and creates instead office of executive council to governor, with salary of \$6,500 a year, who will perform duties of pardon commissioner and such other functions as may be assigned to him by chief executive.

Senatorial vacancies—Authorize governor to name successor in event either of United States senators dies or resigns before expiration of term, successor to serve until next general election.

Eugenics measure—Sterilization of mental defectives—Lays down method by which sterilization of mental defectives in public institutions may be ordered, and also conditions upon which same operation may be ordered for defectives in institutions.

Highway patrol act—Establishes force of 36 patrolmen and one chief, to be appointed by and serve under the state highway commission, with principal duty protection of highways against too heavily loaded trucks and other abuses.

Aviation code—Series of five acts setting forth regulations for the operation of airports in the state.

Constitutional amendments—Submitting to voters questions of adding two associate justices to supreme court, thus increasing personnel to seven; separation of solicitor and judicial districts, and authorizing general assembly to classify property for taxation with view to taxing so-called intangibles.

Marriage Regulated—Marriage bans—Requires that five days notice be given before application for marriage license is granted, but applies only to minors.

Bar examination—Restricts privileges of standing state bar examination to natives of state and to bona fide students of law in state institutions.

Appointment of revenue commissioner—Makes office of commission-

R. A. Doughton Named Highway Commissioner

Governor Gardner Saturday appointed Rufus A. Doughton, state revenue commissioner, as chairman of the state highway commission, and A. J. Maxwell, corporation commissioner to succeed Mr. Doughton. The governor has also offered the corporation commission job to L. M. Bailey, attorney for the commission.

Mr. Doughton was lieutenant governor during the administration of Governor Elias Carr. He has held the post of revenue commissioner for six years. He succeeded Frank Page, who resigned the first part of the year to accept a banking position. A. S. Hanes of Winston-Salem, highway commissioner from the seventh district, has been serving temporarily until a permanent commissioner was appointed.

PAUL G. SPAINHOUR DEAD

Paul G. Spainhour of Valle Crucis, 36 years old, died in the Mount Alto Hospital, Washington, D. C., Monday morning, where he had been for several months taking government treatment for tuberculosis.

Mr. Spainhour was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Spainhour of Morganton, attended school at Boone in his youth and for the last several years had been a citizen of Watauga county. In the early days of America's participation in the World War, Mr. Spainhour enlisted in the service of his country and was with one of the first contingents to be sent to the relief of the Allies in France. He remained in line of duty until the cessation of hostilities and it was while on foreign soil he contracted the malady which led to his death. He spent a greater part of last year in Oteen hospital, near Asheville, where it was finally deemed wise to remove him to Washington. From the end of the war until last year, however, he had been able to go about his usual duties. He was a prosperous farmer and a leading citizen of the Valle Crucis section.

Remains arrived in Boone yesterday at noon, where they were received by members of the American Legion. A military escort was furnished and the body taken to Henson's Chapel. There a guard of honor stood while the funeral was being conducted by Rev. W. R. Bradshaw of Morganton, pastor of the Baptist church of which deceased was a member. Interment was in the Cove Creek cemetery.

Surviving are a widow and one child, Gordon, besides a father and several brothers and sisters.

COVE CREEK NEWS ITEMS

Sugar Grove, March 19—Rev. R. A. Taylor was a visitor at Cove Creek high school chapel on Wednesday morning and conducted devotional exercises.

Mr. John E. Perry, father of Prof. W. Y. Perry, was a visitor at the school on Friday. Mr. Perry made an interesting talk to the pupils at chapel. He contracted the present day school advantages with those at the time he was a student. The school is always glad to welcome visitors.

The play, "All on Account of Polly," presented on Saturday night by the junior class was a decided success. The characters were especially well chosen and each did his or her part well. More than \$60 was realized from the sale of tickets. Attention is called to the notice elsewhere in this issue of the play to be given by the Mountain City high school on Friday night, March 22.

er of revenue filled by appointment of the governor, instead of by election by the voters.

Automobile licenses—Act requires each automobile to display two license plates.

Divorce—Statutes amended to make five years of involuntary separation, as when husband or wife is in prison, grounds for divorce.

Alcoholic Evils Taught

Alcohol and narcotics—Public schools required to teach evil effects on human system of alcohol and narcotics.

Salaries—Attorney general's pay raised to \$7,500 from \$4,000, with stipulation that incumbent give full time to duties; act passed limiting pay of any official or employe of state highway commission to maximum of \$10,000 a year. Frank Page received \$15,000 as chairman of commission prior to his resignation.

LEGISLATURE ENDS ON ITS 70TH DAY

Adjournment Came Tuesday Night After Day of Clearing Up Legislative Odds and Ends; Has Substantial Record of Accomplishments

Attended by only a handful of members, the 1929 general assembly—longest on record—was terminated at eight o'clock Tuesday night. The 70-day session ended after a tedious day of waiting and uncertainty as to when struggling enrolling clerks could finish the flood of last-minute bills dumped on them.

A majority of the members already were headed homeward before the end. The last of important business had been disposed of Monday, and Tuesday was devoted to clearing odds and ends and the horseplay that every assembly amuses itself with in its dying hours.

The 1929 session of the assembly added 1,089 new laws to the statute books. Its 64-day predecessor passed 1,205.

HAPPENINGS OF WEEK IN AND ABOUT BLOWING ROCK

Blowing Rock, March 21.—Funeral services were held last Friday at the Reformed church here for Emory Young, whose death in Statesville was the result of complications following an attack of acute appendicitis. Mr. Young was rushed to Statesville when he became ill, but the operation was too late to save his life.

Mr. Young belonged to one of the most prominent and respected families of Blowing Rock. He is survived by his widow and eight children, all at home in Blowing Rock, and several brothers and sisters in various parts of the state. One brother, Edgar Young, lives in Blowing Rock.

Mrs. Dora Blalock, Mrs. Young's sister, has arrived here from Bend, Oregon, and will make her home here for a while. She is accompanied by her daughter Hazel, who has entered the junior class at Blowing Rock high school. Mrs. Blalock and Hazel are making their home with Mrs. Blalock's niece, Mrs. J. Allen Gragg.

Miller-Brillon
A wedding announcement of much interest to Blowing Rock is that of Carrie O. Miller to James W. Brillon at Colfax, Wash. Mr. and Mrs. Brillon will make their home in Elberton, Wash.

Mrs. Brillon is the sister of Mrs. G. C. Robbins and Mrs. Wad of Blowing Rock, and the daughter of Mrs. Thomas H. Robbins of Lenoir. She was formerly an employe of the postoffice here.

FIRE DEPT. TO BE HONORED

The citizens of Blowing Rock will entertain Friday night at the Central Hotel, honoring the Blowing Rock Fire Department, in recognition of the excellent work of the department last week during the windstorm, when the home of Mrs. Mattie Story was destroyed by fire. Although the firemen were unable to save the house, because of the high wind, they prevented it from spreading to the surrounding houses, which would certainly have been destroyed also, with such a high wind blowing, if the firemen had not fought as strenuously as they did to save them.

The roof of Mayview Manor, which was damaged by the same windstorm, is now being repaired.

PERSONAL

George H. Coffey and son Arnold of Hickory, former Blowing Rock residents, spent a recent week-end in Blowing Rock.

Jesse Burns of Black Mountain was a recent visitor of Miss Ethel Holsinger.

Mrs. Sallie Reeves and Miss Lena Reeves left Monday for Hot Springs, Va., where they will spend some time with Mrs. Reeves' daughter, Mrs. Ernest Davis. They were accompanied by Mrs. C. S. Prevette, who returned to Blowing Rock Tuesday.

Ambrose Underdown is building a new brick veneer residence in the Windwood section.

Milwaukee has an airplane pilot who has flown the equivalent of three times the distance to the moon. Fritz Holterhoff has 3,500 flying hours to his credit. He served with the German air corps in the world war and saw service on the Russian front and against the French in Alsace-Lorraine.

Financier Passes



NEWTON L. MAST

CITIZENS' MILITARY TRAINING CAMPS

Major R. B. Patterson, U. S. Army, and his assistant, Sergeant Jack Schneider, visited Boone last Wednesday and Thursday in behalf of the citizens' military training camps. Major Patterson spoke to the high school students of Cove Creek on Wednesday and to the students of the Boone high school and Blowing Rock on Thursday.

After commending Watauga county very highly for sending more than its quota of boys to camp last summer, Major Patterson spoke of the mission of these camps. He said that strenuous efforts are being made to familiarize every young man in the state with the opportunities offered by these camps so that all may have an equal chance to apply. President Coolidge's sons and the sons of thirty-two state governors have attended these camps with the sons of men from every walk of life. They all have had an equal chance and as in the past when they come together again next summer they will eat, drill, play and bunk side by side.

These camps were inaugurated by President Roosevelt and are the direct descendants of the pre-war Plattsburg camp originated by the late General Wood. They have been sponsored and endorsed by our last four presidents, by leading churchmen and educators, by the American Federation of Labor and by many other prominent citizens and organizations. Physical examinations during the war indicated that nearly half the young men of the country were physically unfit for active military service. This alarming situation was partially met by congress in 1920 by creating the citizens' military training camps, which now annually provide about forty thousand young men with proper diet and exercise amidst healthful outdoor surroundings. These men return to their homes ardent exponents of the American principles of physical health and fitness.

The mission of these training camps, said Major Patterson, is to bring together for a month's training, under healthful surroundings, young men from all walks of life on a common basis of equality and by supervised athletics, military drill and instructions in citizenship to develop them physically and morally, to promote a wholesome respect for discipline, to teach the value of team work, fit them for leadership in peace or war and impress upon them their obligations and responsibilities.

Military training is not the primary objective of the camps and they are placed under the war department by congress only because it is the one existing agency with the necessary personnel and because military training is the most effective means with which to accomplish the mission for which the camps exist.

You can go to one of these camps at government expense provided you get your request in early enough. Enrollment began a month later this year so you'll not have as much time to think the matter over as was the case last year.

The boys who attended camp last year from Watauga county are:

Allen Smith Adams, Albert C. Farthing, Ralph Farthing, Len D. Hagaman, John W. Hodges, Jr., Boone; Paul William Foster, Blowing Rock; Troy Howard Harmon, Sugar Grove; Cloy Joe Mast, Zion-

N. L. MAST DIED MONDAY NIGHT

Sudden Passing Came as Shock to Family and Friends; Funeral and Interment Yesterday Afternoon at Cove Creek

Newton L. Mast, president of the Watauga County Bank and widely known business man, died almost suddenly at his home at Mast Monday evening. He was 69 years of age.

Mr. Mast had left Boone in the afternoon about six o'clock, having spent the day in Avery county looking after business matters, and was in his usual good spirits when he left town. However, at home, news awaited him of the death of his son-in-law, Mr. Paul Spainhour. After having conversed with a close friend over the telephone relative to funeral arrangements, Mr. Mast complained of a shortage of breath. His son, James, assisted him to a chair where he expired within about ten minutes. Heart trouble is supposed to have been the cause of his death.

Mr. Mast was one of the foremost merchants of the county, having opened his place of business to the public about 49 years ago. His success was phenomenal, he was an able financier, and was one of the wealthiest citizens of the county. He was one of the founders of the Watauga County Bank, and was the president of that institution from its organization nearly twenty-five years ago, until his death. The rapid growth of that organization from a tiny country bank to one of the foremost financial institutions in northwest North Carolina, was due largely to the keen business judgment and vision of its president.

Mr. Mast was a leader always in public affairs and was ever closely affiliated with those movements calculated to bring about more wholesome conditions for the citizenship as a whole. He was one of the leading spirits in the Cove Creek Baptist church, having been a member since early youth. He was broad in his church views and a co-worker with the Methodist people. He was a social and moral leader and his business ability has been a great asset in the development of his native county.

Funeral services were conducted yesterday (Wednesday) at 2:30 o'clock from Henson's Chapel Methodist church, by Rev. Will O. Gordon, pastor of the Cove Creek Baptist church, Rev. R. A. Taylor assisting. Rev. W. R. Bradshaw of Morganton was also present and conducted the funeral of P. G. Spainhour which was held immediately following in the same church. Interment was in the Cove Creek cemetery.

Mr. Mast is survived by a widow and two children, James Mast and Mrs. P. G. Spainhour.

BOONE H. S. BANQUET

The boys' and girls' basketball teams of the Boone high school were entertained at a banquet given at the Boone Trail Cafe last Thursday evening at 7 o'clock.

Between courses talks were made by Earline Mast, captain of the girls' team; Len Hagaman, Anne Cooke, high scorer of girls' team; and Raleigh Cottrell, high scorer for the boys. Mr. Cottrell presented Mr. C. L. Hewitt, coach, with a gift from the two squads.

At the end of the banquet, Coach Hewitt made a talk which was greatly enjoyed by all.

Following the dinner the boys and girls were taken to the Pastime theater, where they enjoyed a good picture.

Those attending were: Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Hewitt, E. L. Ball, Evelyn and Pauline Bingham, Earline Mast, Anne Cooke, Reba Gambill, Inez and Hazel Gragg, Evelyn Eury, Nell Trivett, Raleigh Cottrell, Walter Edminsten, Ralph Estes, Edgar Brown, Len Hagaman, Glenn Wyke, Roger Greene, Bill Casey, Frank Hagaman, Maude Clay and Council Cooke, cheer leaders.

ville; Ralph Jones Williams, Mabel, and Joe William Todd, Boone.

Mr. Smith Hagaman, the county representative for the C. M. T. C., earnestly recommends these camps and believes that this year Watauga will send even more boys than last year.