

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1929

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SERVICES AT NEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

Thursday Evening Dr. Schaeffer of Lenoir-Rhyne College will speak; Formal Dedication Sunday Morning with Dr. Morgan in Charge

Services are in progress at the newly constructed Grace Lutheran church every day this week, and will culminate Sunday morning at 10:30 when the new edifice is to be formally dedicated, when many denominational notables will take part in the exercises.

Tonight at 8 o'clock Dr. H. Brent Schaeffer, president of Lenoir-Rhyne College, will deliver a sermon under the subject, "Belonging to Others." Tomorrow evening Dr. J. L. Morgan, president of the United Lutheran Synod of North Carolina will preach on "A Growing Church," while on Saturday evening Mrs. W. F. Morehead of Salem, Va., president of the Women's Missionary Society, United Lutheran Church in America, is to close the week-day services, with an address from the subject, "Except the Lord Build the House."

Formal dedication will be by Dr. J. L. Morgan on Sunday morning and messages are to be delivered by the following: Mrs. W. F. Morehead, president Women's Missionary Society, United Lutheran Synod in America, and Mrs. J. F. Grigler, president Women's Missionary Society, United Evangelical Lutheran Synod in North Carolina. The dedication sermon will be delivered by Dr. F. P. Fry, secretary home missions, United Lutheran Church in America, subject, "What the Church Stands For."

At the evening service, Rev. N. D. Yount, a former pastor, will preach the sermon, using for his subject, "Jesus, the Church Member."

WEEKSIN CONSIDERING RUNNING FOR SENATE

Elizabeth City, May 21.—Judge I. M. Meekins, of the federal court, has made no decision as to whether or not he will be a candidate for election to the United States senate on the Republican ticket in opposition to the Democratic nominee, but has the matter under consideration, he said in a statement made yesterday.

Something like a boom has been started in several quarters by his friends who look upon him as the logical standard-bearer for his party. They point to the Republican majority in the last presidential election and to Judge Meekins' stand for righteous enforcement of the Volstead act while on the Federal bench as auguries of success of his candidacy.

Entry into the senatorial race would involve the sacrifice of a lifetime position on the part of Judge Meekins in favor of the uncertainties of a contest for political preferment, as he says that should he decide to run for the office he would resign his judgeship before entering into any active campaign.

FORMER WATAUGAN DIES IN MICHIGAN

News reached this office Monday that Mr. Bealer Mast, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Mast of Valle Crucis, who has long been a resident of Madrid, Mo., died at Flint, Michigan, on the 9th instant, where he was visiting. About forty years ago Bealer Mast, a lad of 15 summers, turned his face to the west and located in Missouri, where he was later married and reared a family of eight children, all of whom, with their mother, survive. He was 55 years of age, a good citizen, and, during all these years, was never a visitor but twice to his boyhood home on the Watauga.

BLAIR'S SHOES HARD TO FILL

Washington, May 21.—Things went into the air today with respect to the commissionership of revenue, was reported in White House circles. David H. Blair still hopes to make good his escape from official duties shortly, but the administration is having a hard time in finding the right man for the place. Collector Lucas of Louisville apparently had the call, and the president, it was said, liked his looks. Secretary Mellon has other views. He thinks well of District Attorney Harkins of North Carolina, and also a Tennesseean. Mr. Lucas, to make him feel right about it, was offered the position of first assistant postmaster general. This station had no attractions for him. A. C. Alvord, legislative expert of Wisconsin, appeared a likely candidate and Chairman Littleton of the board of tax appeals, whose home is in Tennessee, is also under consideration for the post.

Old Fashioned — "Her husband doesn't seem stylish enough to suit her."

"No, he embarrassed her terribly asking for old-fashioned shortcake."

Poppy Day Sale To Be Held on May 25

Maimed and faltering fingers have been busy these past weeks in the hospital wards and convalescent work shops where 25,000 of America's World war soldiers are still fighting desperately for life—still fighting eleven years after the last shot was fired.

They have been shaping bright red poppies out of paper and wire—poppies for America to wear on its coat this coming Memorial day to pay tribute to those thousands of young Americans who have been lying now eleven years beneath the poppy-flecked sod of France.

The custom of wearing a red poppy was started in 1918 by Miss Moena Michael of Georgia, then serving in the Y. M. C. A. overseas headquarters staff. Having read Col. McCrae's poem, "In Flanders Fields" she was moved to wear a poppy in honor of the war dead. Her idea has been taken up and developed by the American Legion Auxiliary into a great national program of commemoration of those who made the supreme sacrifice, and of giving aid to those who were broken in their country's service.

The manufacture of the poppies for Memorial day was begun last November by the disabled veterans. It has been going on ever since in many parts of the country under the direction of the auxiliary. During the past winter, from seven to 10 million of the little red flowers were made by the disabled men, according to estimates made at national headquarters of the auxiliary. For many of the veterans, the poppy making has been the sole source of support for themselves and their families during the winter months.

The American Legion Auxiliary units throughout the nation buy the little flowers from the veterans for a small sum for their annual poppy sale on Memorial Day. The money received by the auxiliary from the sale of the poppies is used to carry on its rehabilitation and child welfare work.

The Boone unit is planning to sell a large number of the little paper flowers. Mrs. L. S. Isaacs is chairman of a large committee of auxiliary ladies to look after the work, and members of the organization will be on duty Saturday. Don't pass them up without buying one.

WHY MAY 20 IS OBSERVED AS HOLIDAY IN STATE

Monday was observed as a legal holiday in North Carolina in commemoration of the signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence at Charlotte May 20, 1775. The text of the declaration follows:

Resolved, That whoever directly or indirectly abets or in any way, form or manner countenances the invasion of our rights, as attempted by the Parliament of Great Britain, is an enemy to his country, to America and the rights of men.

Resolved, That we the citizens of Mecklenburg county, do hereby dissolve the political bonds which have connected us with the mother country, and absolve ourselves from all allegiance to the British crown, adjuring all political connections with a nation that has wantonly trampled on our rights and liberties and inhumanly shed the innocent blood of Americans at Lexington.

Resolved, That we do hereby declare ourselves a free and independent people, are and of right ought to be a sovereign and self-governing people, under the power of God and the general congress; to the maintenance of which independence, we solemnly pledge to each other our mutual co-operation, our lives, our fortunes and our most sacred honor.

Resolved, That we hereby ordain and adopt as rules of conduct, all and each of our former laws and the crown of Great Britain cannot be considered hereafter as holding any rights, privileges or immunities amongst us.

Resolved, That all offices, both civil and military, in this country, be entitled to exercise the same power and authorities as heretofore; that every member of this legislation shall henceforth be a civil officer and exercise the power of a justice of the peace, union and harmony in the country, and use every exertion to spread the love of liberty and of country, until a more general and better organized system of government is established.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted by express to the president of the continental congress assembled in Philadelphia, to be laid before that body.

PRESBYTERIANS PLAN MERGER

Montreat, May 21.—Union with the United Presbyterian Church in North America was approved today by the 69th general assembly of the Presbyterian church in the United States and the matter now goes to the presbyteries for their consent. Adoption of the plan of merger was by a decisive "yes" and "no" vote.

MINISTER URGES EMPLOYMENT OF COUNTY FARM DEMONSTRATION AGENT

As Watauga county is one of the very few counties not having a county demonstration agent to push forward her agricultural interests, and the development of livestock, etc., we ask the question, Does it pay to employ a county agent?

Briefly, we answer, yes, emphatically so. Let us hastily glance at some of the disadvantages under which we labor.

An agricultural county without a county agent is without contact with its district experiment stations, State College of Agriculture and the U. S. department of agriculture, employing many thousands of workers for the benefit of the farmers in each county, not only standing ready on the instant to furnish information of constructive nature in crop rotations and livestock programs, but ready to respond in an emergency of any nature whatever involving rural life regardless of whether it be an outbreak of disease in a crop of potatoes or beans, a disease in livestock; rural sanitation and dozens of other angles from which emergencies arise on short notice and a county without an agricultural agent is out of contact and almost out of reach of this combined agency supported by the taxes of this country, giving its whole and sole time to the benefit of agriculture. To use an illustration, what would the schools be without a county superintendent? Each school working along according to its own plans and aspirations, competing with each other for teachers, etc., and in a similar manner the county agent is to the farmer what the superintendent is to the schools, a guiding hand not only in their operations but also bringing to them the very best known practices in every type of agriculture endeavor.

As to the improvement in the county that the agricultural agent might produce, there is no manner of measure to indicate this except to say that the south is covered with counties where at one time were bankrupt from boll weevil and cotton.

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OPEN LETTER TO CITIZENS OF WATAUGA COUNTY

Dear Fellow Citizen: The Citizen Club was organized to promote the best interests of Boone and Watauga county. We are anxious to help.

This is purely an agricultural county. If the farmers are doing well, the merchants, banks and all business will be prosperous. At this time too many farms are mortgaged, too many of our citizens are loaded with debt, too much property is advertised for taxes. We are spending more than we make. We are headed for the rocks unless we do something to change the situation.

We are unanimously of the opinion that one of the best things we can do is to get a good farm agent for the county. All the best counties in the state and nation have agents. The governments pay half their salaries and all their expenses. We are losing help that we are entitled to have.

It will cost the county only \$900 a year to have an agent. This will make a tax rate of only 1 cent on each \$100 valuation. If a man lists \$500, his tax for hiring an agent would be 5c; \$1,500 worth of property will be 15c; \$6,000 tax 60c, and so on. The price of one gallon of gasoline will more than pay the average tax.

A good agent can do a great work by helping the farmers:

1. Increase the number and quality of livestock and raise the feed for them.
2. Use clover and lime, make and use more manure. This should save the county \$25,000 to \$30,000 a year in fertilizer bills.
3. In better truck farming, grading and packing products for the markets; and in finding good markets.

The agent will need to study the soils, the crops and get acquainted with the folks. We firmly believe that in two or three years he can help the farmers bring in \$200,000 to \$300,000 more each year. It may take more work, but industry is the life of the county.

The business men of the county are willing to help pay the tax while the farmer will get the direct benefit. We are sure the county commissioners want to do what the majority of the citizens want. Talk this matter over with your neighbor. Ask them to figure before deciding.

Please write your opinion and mail to the Board of County Commissioners at once. Ask your neighbor to sign with you. Let us work together to improve our county.

Your friends,
BOONE CITIZEN CLUB
G. K. MOORE, President,
A. E. SOUTH, Secretary.

OF COUNTY FARM DEMONSTRATION AGENT

banks in desperate straits but the farmers also and followed by five or eight years of work of an aggressive agent, the county is now rocking along in a high degree of prosperity with the introduction of some livestock and the growing of some crop other than cotton, and this prosperity is measureless in some counties to the extent of an increased county income to the amount of two, three or four million dollars per year of increased crop and livestock wealth.

Now, Brother Farmers of Watauga county, facts and figures are hard things to contend with. In 1920 there were in North Carolina, 8,327,106 acres of improved farm lands and in 1927, under the direction and management of county agents, we find 9,673,979 acres, a net increase of 1,246,873 in the space of seven years with a proportionate increase of agricultural products. The total income from livestock alone has increased in the same period from \$10,000,000 to \$100,000,000. The increase in the yield of hay has been as great if not greater under the direction of a farm agent.

But some of our farmers say, we produce more Irish potatoes now than the market can take care of. Listen, every surplus bushel of potatoes produced in this county could have been made to yield handsome returns if fed intelligently to livestock and poultry.

But what of the apple industry? In perhaps 90 per cent of the orchards of this county the pruning shears and the spraying apparatus is never used at all, with detrimental results to the tree and crop of fruit as well. Let me urgently appeal to you who till the soil, and to all who pay the taxes, let us claim our due part of attention and help which the agricultural department at Raleigh stands ready and willing to give, and our county officials will heartily co-operate.

Yours for advancement,
J. H. YOUNT,
By order of Citizen Club.

DR. GAITHER HEADS NORTH WESTERN DENTAL SOCIETY

Wilkes Journal, May 16, Dr. J. M. Gaither of Boone was elected president of the Northwest North Carolina Dental Society which was organized in the city Tuesday evening. Other officers are Dr. J. F. Reese of Lenoir, vice president, and Dr. W. F. Jones of this city as secretary-treasurer.

The organization meeting was held here Tuesday night and was attended by Dr. J. F. Reese, Dr. O. L. Moore and Dr. W. J. Miller of Lenoir; Dr. J. M. Gaither of Boone; Drs. W. A. Taylor, W. F. Jones, R. P. Casey and T. L. White of North Wilkesboro.

The meeting was called here following a preliminary get-together of the dentists at Boone last Thursday night. At that time, Dr. Gaither was made temporary chairman.

The Northwest North Carolina Dental Society has as its purpose elevating the dental profession and raising the standards of service. It will also, it is understood, set a scale of prices that will be uniform and at the same time low.

The following counties have been included in the final organization plans: Wilkes, Surry, Alleghany, Ashe, Watauga, Caldwell and Alexander.

COUNCIL AND LONG POST \$5,000 BONDS

William Lunsford Long, Halifax lawyer, banker and mill man, and William F. Council, Halifax banker, who were indicted last week by a federal grand jury on charges of violating the federal banking laws, went to Raleigh Thursday and gave \$5,000 bond for their appearance at the November term of court.

The young men were indicted for violations alleged to have taken place more than two years ago.

TUNNEY SUED BY DIVORCEE

Legal papers in a half million dollar suit have been filed in the state of Connecticut wherein Mrs. Katherine King Fogarty is the plaintiff and Gene Tunney, boxing champion, the defendant. The former wife of John S. Fogarty of Fort Worth, avers that Tunney proposed to marry him. She is ready to comply with the request according to the complaint, but the retired champion "married another person." To set up her claim for damages, Mrs. Fogarty says she suffered such mental shock because of Tunney's marriage that she has been under the care of physicians at Fort Worth and New York ever since due to a nervous condition.

A German chemist has succeeded in producing fireproof paper.

Boone High School Has Final Exercises

The final exercises of the Boone High School commencement were held in the college auditorium last Saturday morning. The address, delivered by Dr. W. E. Abernethy, of Rutherford College, was a masterly one. Preceding the address came the salutatory of '29 by Miss Inez Gragg, while Miss Nell Trivette, valedictorian, made the goodbye speech with feeling and simple earnestness. The class song concluded the program. This was sung by 40 seniors, happy from the recent reception of their diplomas, which had been presented in a particularly appropriate talk by Superintendent Smith Haganman. Miss Dot Greer of Greenville was not present to receive her diploma.

The commencement honors of the literary program were as follows: Debaters, five-dollar gold piece, donated by Spaniards, went to Len Haganman; Reciter's prize, gold piece, donated by Mr. Watt H. Gragg was won by Rena Hampton; Declaimer's prize, gold piece, donated by Mr. J. Frank Moore, won by Wenton Rankin.

The play on Thursday was well received by a large audience. The characters played their parts well, especial praise going to Len Haganman in the role of the "Duc" of Duval, heart-smasher and aristocratic ladies man. Council Cooke and Mary Estes came in for a large share of praise for their work as negro comedians.

Class day was carried off in brisk fashion, Jessie Greer being in the forefront with her prophecy. Clever gifts were presented in an original manner by Stella Taylor and Edgar Brown, while Geneva Hodges, in the will, brought down the house with ridiculous duties and privileges for next year's class. A feature of the will was the presentation to the library of a copy of "Cabbages and Kings" by O. Henry, to institute the custom of a gift of books from each succeeding class.

BAILEY MAY OPPOSE SIMMONS FOR SENATE

Washington special of May 18 to Greensboro Daily News: Word comes to Washington that J. W. Bailey has finally decided to enter the next Democratic senatorial primary. Reports relative to the aspirations and intentions of Mr. Bailey have been of a conflicting character, but the latest is that he will seek to defeat Senator Simmons, who last year declined to support the Democratic national ticket.

Those who have provided the spring version of Mr. Bailey's candidacy, explain that the Raleigh man was determined some months ago to enter the senatorial primary of his party, but later on made a change in his political program and told friends that he would seek the nomination as governor. Mr. Bailey, in 1924, sought the gubernatorial nomination and, without organization support, save a personal one, he turned up \$0,000 votes, which was always regarded as a noteworthy achievement.

Now it is said that Mr. Bailey has yielded to the judgment of those Democrats who remained loyal during the last presidential campaign, and has agreed to enter the senatorial primary of his party. The contention has been heard that the Democratic party in the state must seek salvation by nominating a man who has always been regular in his political conduct.

STATE'S OLDEST PRISONER TO BE FREE THIS WEEK

Aunt Nancy Kerly, 83, oldest inmate of the state prison is to return to her home in the mountains of Haywood county this week, according to arrangements of the governor. She has been an inmate of the penitentiary for 16 years, having been sent there on a charge of shutting a grandchild in a cave and allowing it to starve. She was to have served 30 years. The aged prisoner is almost blind and gray wisps of thin hair blow from underneath the shawl that covers her head. Her step is halting and her body bent with constant stooping of her job as a scrub woman in the hospital. Aunt Nancy had formerly been in the sewing room, making garments for the prisoners, but becoming too feeble for needlework, she was sent to the hospital to scrub the floors. Prison officials will place her on the train when she is freed and she will be met in Asheville by a brother.

MARCELLA COOKE FUNERAL

Funeral services for Marcella, 14-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Len Cooke, were held Thursday afternoon from the Baptist church, Rev. P. A. Hicks being in charge of the service. Prof. E. L. Ball, principal of the Boone High School, made a few remarks and the music was rendered by a choir composed of the Girls Auxiliary of the church. Interment was in the town cemetery.

GEN. COX TO BE 4TH OF JULY SPEAKER

Barbecue Dinner, Parade, Fireworks and Athletic Events Will Make Day Memorable in History of the Town and County

General Albert L. Cox, prominent Raleigh attorney and an outstanding figure in the World war, has accepted an invitation to deliver an address at the Fourth of July celebration which is being sponsored by the American Legion and co-operating bodies, according to a letter received by Messrs. Dean Swift, H. Grady Farthing and John E. Brown, who composed a committee appointed to secure a speaker. General Cox will be remembered as first having served as colonel with the 113th field artillery, later having been promoted to the post of brigadier general of the Thirtieth division, to which unit a large percentage of the local soldiery was attached. He and his cohorts played a memorable part in the history of America's participation in the war, he is an able speaker and will contribute a full share to the success of the celebration.

At a meeting of the Legion and Auxiliary last Friday night, seventeen committees were appointed to cover every phase of putting the celebration over in approved style. The personnel comes from the American Legion, the Legion Auxiliary, the Boone Civitan Club and also includes a number of citizens who are members of neither organization. A call meeting of the committees is to be held Friday evening of this week and it is hoped the full membership will attend in order that definite working plans may be formulated. The appointments are as follows:

Committees
Finance—L. S. Isaacs, chairman; G. P. Haganman, W. H. Gragg, Chas. L. Younce.

Parade—John E. Combs, chairman; B. K. Osborne, Tracy Council. Purchasing—R. F. McDade, chairman; Mrs. J. E. Taylor, C. M. Yates.

Entertainment—S. F. Horton, chairman; Leo B. Vaughn, Mrs. A. E. South, H. Grady Farthing.

Speakers—Dean Swift, chairman; H. Grady Farthing, John E. Brown. Band—L. S. Isaacs, Spencer Miller, C. M. Bingham.

Fireworks—Wilson Norris, chairman; J. C. McConnell, J. B. Taylor. Publicity—M. W. Beach, chairman; A. E. Hamby, W. E. Comer, Charles Bingham, Mrs. R. D. Hodges.

Carnival—H. G. Farthing, chairman; J. C. McConnell, Lionel Ward. Airplane—E. M. Hodges, chairman; R. C. Rivers, Jr., A. E. South. Greased Pig—Roe E. Haynes, chairman; C. H. Winkler, Fred Winkler.

Athletics—G. N. Cook, chairman; Pat McGuire, L. M. Bingham, Fred Hodges.

Program—C. S. Stevenson, chairman; J. T. C. Wright, I. G. Greer, G. K. Moore, Mrs. Tracy Council.

Float—Mrs. L. S. Isaacs, chairman; R. C. Rivers, Jr., Mrs. H. G. Farthing, J. A. Sproule.

Dinner—Mrs. Smith Haganman, chairman; D. J. Cottrell, Mrs. S. F. Horton, Mrs. Rupert Gillett.

Police—E. L. Payne, chairman; W. L. Cook, E. M. Hodges, M. G. Barzes, E. M. Hodges, Troy Norris, Lionel Ward, Jim Ragan.

Traffic—R. S. Swift, chairman; J. D. Rankin, L. L. Bingham, H. B. Perry.

In addition to the address of General Cox, the tentative program calls for a barbecue dinner, parade, music, fireworks, carnival, airplane, greased pig contest and athletic events and other events that will go to make up a full day of pleasure and entertainment.

MCADOO TO HEAD AIR LINE

William G. McAdoo, it has been announced, will be chairman of the board of directors of a new aeronautical concern, incorporated under the laws of the state of Delaware as the Southern Skyline, Inc. The transcontinental air-rail service is expected to be operated on a 48-hour schedule from New York to Los Angeles by way of Philadelphia, Washington, Danville, Atlanta, Birmingham, Shreveport, Dallas, Fort Worth, El Paso, Phoenix and San Diego.

BOWIE HAS DISASTROUS FIRE

West Jefferson Special of May 17 to Greensboro News: The town of Bowie, 11 miles southwest of here on the Norfolk and Western railroad suffered fire loss of between \$10,000 and \$20,000 about 3 o'clock this morning when an entire business block was wiped out.

A hotel, garage, Cook's store, Walker's store, postoffice and other buildings were destroyed. Origin of the fire is unknown. L. M. Cook was the biggest loser with a \$7,000 stock of goods being destroyed.