

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MAY 30, 1929

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PLEADS FOR MORE SCHOOL SUPPORT

Dr. J. Henry Highsmith Speaks at Blowing Rock High School Finals; Diplomas Presented to Ten Graduates

Blowing Rock, May 29.—Dr. J. Henry Highsmith, state inspector of high schools, in his address last Wednesday before the graduating class of the Blowing Rock High School, made a strong plea for better support of the schools and predicted that the eight-months term would be a reality within two years. Dr. Highsmith supported his arguments with masses of statistics, vitalized by every-day illustrations that everyone could understand.

The address was preceded by a piano solo by Miss Hazel Blalock and a vocal solo by Miss Anne Greene. Diplomas were presented by Principal G. O. Mudge to the following graduates:

Bynum Crisp, Velma Cannon, Lucille Coffey, Edna Miller, Corien Knight, Christine Johnson, Pem Robbins, Lucile Reid, Elizabeth Suddarth and Beulah Wooten. The program was closed with a saxophone solo by Don Johnson and the singing of "Farewell to Thee" by the graduates.

Monday night before the commencement, the following class day program was given: Class song; by the class; Madame Varinsky, gypsy fortune teller, presiding; class history, Elizabeth Suddarth; class statistics, Velma Cannon; class poem, Lucille Coffey; grumbler, Harley Mudge; prophecy, Lucile Reid; speaker for the motto, Christine Johnson; speaker for the flower, Corien Knight; gitorian, Edna Miller; class will, Pem Robbins.

The graduating exercises of the seventh grade were held Friday night before the high school commencement week. The following program preceded the presentation of diplomas:

Invocation, Rev. P. A. Hicks; welcome, Shuford Edmisten; statistics, Estha Dula; poem, Elizabeth Greer; prophecy, Blair Suddarth; oration, Marcell Gragg; will, Oma Greene; eulogistic, Pauline Greene; literary address, Prof. L. G. Greer.

Diplomas were presented by County Superintendent Smith Hagaman to the following graduates: Blair Suddarth, Gladys Pitts, Lena Greene, Mary Lou Young, Ruth Mays, Annie Mae Galyen, Shuford Edmisten, Estha Dula, Marcell Gragg, Arnold Bolick, Terrence Triplett, Emma Coffey, Oma Greene, Mary Craie, Elizabeth Greer, Pansy Gragg, Pauline Greens, Blanche Hodges, Mae Teaster, Hazel Moody, Opal Pitts, Mae Shore, Muriel Story, Leannul Gragg.

Last Thursday evening Mrs. Howard Holshouser, president of the parent-teacher association, and Mrs. Cameron Williams were joint hostesses to the teachers of the consolidated school at a delicious dinner at Mrs. Holshouser's home. After a half hour of social chat, the teachers were invited into the dining room, where the hostesses served a delicious dinner.

The pupils of the fifth and sixth grades were presented last Thursday night in a varied program of one-act plays and negro minstrels by their teacher, Mr. Askew. A large crowd filled the auditorium to hear the program.

The Jupollo Public Service Company, which operates the Blowing Rock Light and Power Company, has opened a retail store and display room in the frame building adjacent to Holshouser's store. George Robbins, the local manager, expects to install one of the most attractive electrical displays in this part of the state. The store will also serve as offices of the company.

The Blowing Rock Bulletin, annual publication of the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce, will be ready for distribution late this week. The proofs have already been read and returned to the printer. The Bulletin will give complete information about Blowing Rock as a summer resort.

The school and community library will be open throughout the summer at the usual hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from seven to nine, and Saturdays from three to five. The juvenile library has been moved from the several classrooms to the main library room, where the books will be available during the summer to borrowers.

It was erroneously reported in the story of the Blowing Rock municipal election that Lee Robbins received only four votes for councilman. Mr. Robbins' vote was 44.

Social activities in Blowing Rock during the closing days of May

Vote to End Big Rayon Strike at Elizabethton

Elizabethton, Tenn., May 25.—A meeting of former employees of the two textile plants here, who have been on a tumultuous strike since April 15, voted almost unanimously late today to return to work.

Although L. Stubbs, organizer for the United Textile Workers of America, declined to announce conditions, it was presumed that the strikers would agree to conditions promulgated with officials of the American Bemberg and Glanzstoff plants during 48 hours of negotiations.

Informed by the Associated Press of the almost unanimous vote, Dr. Arthur Mothwurf, president of the Bemberg plant and the Glanzstoff mill, declared that he was "highly pleased."

"I have not been formally informed of the vote," Dr. Mothwurf said. "I want it to be understood, however, that I will deal only with former employees, as such, and not with the union as a union. Furthermore, former employees considered undesirable will not be given their positions."

Dr. Mothwurf, however, said that membership in the union would not be considered a bar to former employees.

BRITISH AND AMERICAN CLERGYMEN URGE PEACE

A message to "the churches and to all people of goodwill" which appeals for better understanding between the peoples of America and Great Britain and signed by 186 ministers and religious educators of the two countries, was released at the World Alliance in New York last week.

Dr. Fred S. Smith, chairman of the executive committee of the Alliance, has just returned from England where he obtained the signatures of 97 British clergymen and religious leaders to the message.

"We believe the time has come when the world must have done with war, in fact, in expectation and in planning," the message read in part, and "that another collision between great nations would be an assault upon civilization and an offense against God, and we believe that the intelligence and the conscience of this generation are able to build the structure of a permanent peace."

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The names were attached, the message said, "in loyalty to our respective countries and in the conviction that the welfare of each country is likened indissolubly with friendship for the other."

centered around the high school seniors.

On Tuesday evening they were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Gillett at a picnic supper on Rebel Ridge. There around a bonfire members of the freshmen class "clapped in and clapped out" until all the seniors had found their correct places on seats marked with the superlatives best fitted to each senior, according to vote by the freshmen. These adjectives were most intellectual, Elizabeth Suddarth; most demure, Corien Knight; most attractive, Christine Johnson; sweetest, Lucille Coffey; prettiest, Beulah Wooten; most versatile, Lucile Reid; most tactful, Pem Robbins; most winsome, Edna Miller; jolliest, Velma Cannon; wittiest, Harley Mudge, and handsomest, Bynum Crisp.

After supper, the two classes chose their representatives to cut the class cakes, the smaller marked 1932 for the freshmen, and a large white confection 1929 marked in green, the senior colors. Then marshmallows were toasted around the coals and toasts given, one to the seniors by Mr. Gillett; to Principal Mudge, by Bynum Crisp, the class president; and to the freshmen by their sponsor, Mrs. Gillett.

Besides the seniors those present were Mrs. Gene Story, senior sponsor, and Mr. Story; Mr. and Mrs. Mudge, Cecil Rae Critcher, senior mascot, and Bill Lentz, De Cannon, Ola Coffey, Elizabeth Walters and Wylmath Bradshaw of the first year class. An after supper theatre party followed at which Mr. and Mrs. Story were hosts to the group. The picture was an excellent one, an all-star cast in Michael Arlin's gallant lady who wore "the Green Hat." The interlude between the supper and theatre parties was a merry ride, led by Mr. and Mrs. Story to Green Park and to "the Rock" by moonlight.

MR. HAGAMAN THINKS COUNTY FARM AGENT WOULD BE ASSET TO WATAUGA

By SMITH HAGAMAN (County Superintendent of Schools)

I do not think a farm demonstration agent would cure all the farmers' troubles; but I do believe a good man associated with, say three, five or a dozen good farmers of our county, as an advisory board would in a few years wonderfully improve farming, trucking and livestock conditions in the county.

The cost of this would be negligible as compared with the benefits derived therefrom.

It would cost the county a little less per month to employ a farm agent who is well trained, than it is costing to furnish a school for fourteen little colored children per month. One dozen eggs, at a low price, for each taxpayer will pay a farm demonstration agent for a whole year.

Every business, every profession that is worth a continental must necessarily have some overhead expense. All business men who have the least bit of sense to succeed nowadays must have a close and constant study of their business; if he does not some man who does away from him.

If the business man were to do no more than the average farmer does in saving and pushing his business, one year would put him out of business.

I am not even suggesting that the farmers of Watauga ought to get together in bands or clubs or sign up agreements. The thing, as I see it, is to get a man whose business it is to work with the farmers to stimulate a wise system of farming, growing cattle, sheep, etc., by constantly working and planning with the farmers.

Napoleon said, "The way to get a thing done is to keep everlastingly agitating, agitating, agitating!"

Most Mountain Counties Employ Farm Agents

John W. Goodman, district agent, state agricultural co-operative extension work, in congratulating a local citizen on the efforts being made for the employment of a farm agent for Watauga county, adds:

"As a matter of information to you, Haywood county made the appropriation for an agent last Monday. Alleghany county will probably complete its arrangements for one on May 28. I do not have it officially yet, but it is my understanding that Yancey county has definitely decided to put on an agent in July. This would leave in the mountain section only Mitchell and Transylvania counties without agents after the first of July, provided Watauga county makes its appropriation. This condition is not only existing in western North Carolina, but is also true in all parts of the state. This is being brought about by just such conditions as you have seen existing in Watauga county."

The following paragraph will give an idea of what the farm agent is doing to aid farmers in Avery county: "On Monday 18 farmers owning sheep met in the agent's office and formulated plans for pooling their lambs and marketing co-operatively. A questionnaire was prepared by the agent and sent to the different sheep growers for the purpose of determining how the number of lambs that would be ready for the market on dates that were set by a committee appointed by the sheep growers."

HALF ACRE OF TOMATOES YIELDS MORE THAN \$600.00

The editor was at the home of Attorney John L. Bingham, of Sugar Grove Sunday afternoon, and a more pleasant place to visit would be hard to find. Aside from his law practice, John is quite a farmer, owning as he does, one of the most fertile farms in the county. He told us this little story, which proves what intensive farming in Watauga means: "Two years ago," he said, "I rented to a man much less than half an acre of land, to be set in tomatoes. I was to have half the yield. The sales from that small plot of ground amounted to more at gathering time than \$625.00, and I had enough left to supply a number of my neighbors. This year," he said, "I am putting out nearly two acres in tomatoes, as I consider it one of our best paying crops."

His gardens, grains, etc., are simply luxuriating. He pointed with some degree of pride to a large apple tree, four feet in diameter, and said to be 125 years old, that raises its magnificent head over the road near the hospitable home, it being a relic of "Uncle" Reuben Maat, who, in years long gone, owned the farm. Tradition says that more than once a four-horse wagon load of apples has been gathered from this tree at once. Chickens, pigs, cattle, etc., are also grown on this magnificent little estate. Just why a man fixed at home like John Bingham is, would fool with the practice of law, is a mystery to us.

Englewood, N. J., May 27.—Miss Anne Morrow, daughter of Ambassador and Mrs. Dwight W. Morrow, and Col. Charles A. Lindbergh were married at the bride's home here this afternoon. The ceremony, witnessed by only a few friends in addition to the immediate family, was performed by Rev. W. A. Brown of Union Theological Seminary, New York city. Immediately afterward, Ambassador Morrow left for Washington. The honeymoon plans of the couple were kept secret.

Not Paupers.—"The way for you to straighten out your financial difficulties is to try to live within your means from now on."

"Within our means! Certainly not! We may be poor, but we're not so badly off as all that!"

cessarily have some overhead expense. All business men who have the least bit of sense to succeed nowadays must have a close and constant study of their business; if he does not some man who does away from him.

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Barbecue for Merchants of State at Blowing Rock

Hickory, May 27.—Barbecues are among the many things western North Carolina is noted for. These feasts served in the open air, prepared by skilled cooks and augmented by tasty native dishes are famous. But perhaps the biggest and most enjoyable one staged in this section in recent years is to be given at Blowing Rock June 12 by the Lenoir Merchants' Association for the delegates and visitors to the North Carolina Merchants' Association's convention.

The convention, which opens here June 11, is expected to be attended by 1,200 merchants and visitors from all parts of the state and one of the most elaborate entertainment programs ever arranged in Hickory is being prepared for them.

Lenoir is providing the barbecue part of the program. The merchants' association of that city is co-operating with Hickory in making the entertainment program a success and will be host to the throngs at the barbecue when the convention makes a sight-seeing trip to the mountain resort from Hickory.

State President Harry W. Courtney of Lenoir promises a memorable feast. Another feature of the trip to Blowing Rock by the delegates will be an organization meeting of the newly elected directors of the association.

STATE ROAD BOARD TO AWARD CONTRACTS TODAY

Raleigh, May 28.—Officials in the office of the state highway commission were busy this afternoon tabulating the bids received by Chairman R. A. Doughton for approximately \$300,000 worth of highway work which will be awarded contractors at the meeting of the commission on Thursday. Commissioner Doughton reported that the bids were at splendid figures.

In addition to awarding these contracts, the commission will have several other important matters for consideration, including a decision as to the basis for adding the 10 per cent authorized for each of the next two years by the last general assembly.

A. S. T. C. PREPARING FOR RECORD SUMMER TERM

The Appalachian State Teachers' College is preparing to open its summer school June 11 to receive the largest body of summer students ever assembled here. A total of 74 courses will be offered, designed especially to meet the needs of elementary teachers seeking to raise their certificates.

An unusual amount of recreation will be offered summer students, including hikes to Blowing Rock, to the top of Howard's Knob and to other places of interest and scenic beauty; excursions to Grandfather mountain, Linville gorge and Johnson City, and free moving picture shows.

BUSES MUST CARRY NEGROES

Bus lines operating in North Carolina are held to be common carriers and as such must "provide equal, but separate, accommodations for white and negro passengers," under a decision rendered recently at Rocky Mount by Judge M. V. Barnhill, of the superior court, in the case of the North Carolina corporation commission versus the transportation committee of the North Carolina commission on inter-racial co-operation.

Would Die for Him.—The Brunette: I love him more than I can say—I'd almost give my life for him but he seems to prefer blondes.

Friend: I'd dye for him if I loved him that much.

Plans Going Forward For Big Celebration

Representatives from the various committees appointed to work out the details for the Fourth of July celebration here met at the American Legion hall Friday evening and reserved assignments of their various duties. The committee headed by W. H. Gragg to perfect the details for the fiddlers' convention to be held on June 14-15, made a report showing that arrangements are going forward in a satisfactory manner. Other committees are getting in action and it is expected that at the next meeting on Friday of next week, the program will have been completely worked out and will be submitted to the full membership of the Legion.

PROHIBITION COMMISSION WILL DODGE NOTHING

Washington, May 28.—George W. Wickersham, chairman of the national law enforcement commission, declared today in a preliminary statement that if President Hoover's newly created organization found any federal law to be unenforceable it would so report.

"We will not avoid anything," the chairman said at the conclusion of the commission's initial meeting at the White House, where it listened to an expression of hope by the president that it would "secure an accurate determination of fact and cause, following them with constructive, courageous conclusions."

Emphasizing that the commission would not act as an arbiter between the wets and the dries, the chairman said it would receive for such consideration as was merited reports and data from any organizations which had studied any of the problems facing the commission.

"Prohibition is only one angle of our work," the chairman added, as he was pressed by newspaper correspondents concerning the program of the commission in dealing with this subject.

"The attitude of the American people toward law is not bounded by prohibition," the former attorney general said, adding that the president had charged the commission with finding out what causes the present attitude of the American people toward all laws.

"The discovery of this is the most difficult of all problems," he asserted.

While a program remains to be mapped out, the chairman indicated the commission would remain in session here until the end of this week and would meet here from time to time thereafter.

HOUSE PASSES HIGHEST TARIFF LAW IN HISTORY

Washington, May 28.—The nation's 87th tariff bill with duty rates the highest in history was passed by the house and sent to the senate today. The vote was 261 to 147.

From a public standpoint the increases in the sugar rate and the boosting of the duty on raw wool from 31 to 54 cents a pound are regarded as more important than the other increases. The duties placed on shoes and raises in rates on hundreds of other farm and factory products also will have a bearing on family budgets unless producers absorb the higher imposts instead of passing them on to the consumer.

Twenty Democrats joined 241 Republicans in voting for the bill, while 12 Republicans and one farmer-labor combined with 134 Democrats in opposing the measure.

CRANBERRY SMELTER TO RESUME OPERATIONS

The Cranberry Tanning Company's smelter at Johnson City which has been idle since September 1927, is to be "set off" again this week, according to an announcement made by General Manager Hammond Prosser. The Cranberry mines in Avery county have been operating for some time and large quantities of the iron ore have already been shipped to the smelter, where the average daily production of pig iron is about 125 tons. Only a small amount of iron was stacked on the furnace property and this amount is sold and will be shipped within a few days. Officials pointed out that a large number of orders were now on hand and that the plant would be operated so long as the demand continued.

A supply of Timezrit iron, mined at Timezrit, Africa, and shipped to Johnson City, via New York, has been received and is to be mixed with the Cranberry product when melted.

FRUIT FLY QUARANTINE MAY REACH EVERY STATE

Washington, May 28.—Public hearings on June 1 to consider an extension of the quarantine on the Mediterranean fruit fly from Florida to every state in the union were called today by Secretary of Agriculture Hyde.

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE JUNE 2

Citizens Will Pay Tribute to Watauga's Soldier Dead in Appropriate Service in the Methodist Church Next Sunday

May 30, is Memorial Day, a day set aside when Americans pause to honor those brave lads who gave their lives for the cause of freedom in the recent World War. We fail not to forget the horrors of that pitiless carnage when the blood of nations poured freely to satisfy the ambitious lust and greed of a potentate of an imperial empire. Willingly we would banish forever from our memories those cruel, dark, bloody days; yet we must not forget those heroes who paid the supreme penalty, laid their lives on the altars of their countries and made possible the dawning of a new day which told to a world the story that autocracy had spent its breath and prophesied the supreme reign of the spirit of democracy. We love the memories of those dead boys; we honor them for their bravery and sacrifice; we shall pause with uncovered heads to do them reverence.

On Sunday morning, June 2, a Memorial Day service will be held in the Methodist church here. This service will be held at 11 o'clock, and Rev. Claude H. Moser, the pastor, will deliver the address. It is earnestly requested that all the churches in town worship together on that day. Let this be a day when we shall all meet for a common purpose. There will be special music rendered by a choir made up of the members of the different choirs in town. Reserved seats will be held for the ex-service men. The public in town and county is cordially invited to attend this service.

YEGGS FAIL IN EFFORT TO ROB ELK PARK BANK

The Citizens Bank of Elk Park was visited Wednesday night by yeggmen, evidently familiar with the business of safe blowing, but were frightened away just when they were ready to enter the vault and carry away a large sum of money.

There are several elements of mystery connected with the attempted robbery and Sheriff A. F. Vance of Avery county, is endeavoring to clear up the affair.

The fact that the bank had been pilfered was discovered Wednesday morning by Cashier Weaver, when he went to open the doors for business. An acetylene tank was found on the floor, the front door was standing ajar, and a long piece of burp was found in front of the vault.

No money was missing from the vault, Sheriff Vance believes that something occurred after they had blown the heavy door off the vault. The main door to the vault had been expertly drilled and was open. The chest door within the vault, however, was apparently jammed, and investigation by bank officials and the sheriff revealed that it had probably not been opened by the yeggmen as no money was taken.

"WHISTLIN' ED" WILLIAMS GETS YEAR IN PENITENTIARY

North Wilkesboro, May 28.—"Whistling Ed" Williams, expert machinist of this city, charged with manufacturing distillery equipment and selling contraband liquor from his foundry, was sentenced to a year and a day in Atlanta penitentiary and was fined \$3,000 in federal court here today. The sentence was imposed by Judge Johnson J. Hayes. A further penalty was imposed when the federal jurist ordered that the valuable automobile which was captured at the time Williams was arrested be confiscated by the government. The judge stated, however, that the forfeiture of the car, the estimated value of which is \$1,500, was taken into consideration in the fine and that should it not have been forfeited the fines would necessarily have been larger.

ABANDON TRAIN SERVICE

Lenoir, May 27.—Passenger train service from Lenoir to Edgemont has been abandoned, temporarily at least, according to Capt. Ross, veteran conductor of the Carolina and Northwestern railway. There will be mixed service for passengers and freight from Lenoir to the summer resort. One train each way will run each day, according to Capt. Ross, except on Sundays.

Wouldn't Need Help. Said a young woman in a western town:

"I'm invited out tonight to a big feed and, believe me, I'm going to do justice to it."

Said her companion: "Perhaps you would better take an emetic then."

Her reply was, "No, sir; I am not taking anybody with me; I'm going by myself."