

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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## Today and Tomorrow

By FRANK P. STOCKBRIDGE

### New York

Visitors to New York think that its inhabitants live a gay life, if not a wild one. They are wrong. The gayety and wildness is mostly staged for out-of-town visitors, three hundred thousand of them in town every day. The average bedtime of the real New Yorker is nearer 9 o'clock than midnight. When New Yorkers go to the theatre they buy cheap seats in the balcony; out-of-town folks pay the exorbitant prices in the pit. Very few New Yorkers would know where to find a night club or a speakeasy. They live in New York because they can make more money there, but only by working harder than they did in the small towns they came from. To get ahead they have to live regular lives. They bring their small-town habits with them and fill more than two thousand churches every Sunday.

### Water

The droughts in the Northwest and the Northeast in 1929 have made communities of every size turn serious attention to the problem of water supply. As population increases and people crowd into towns, the problem becomes more serious from year to year, even in rainy seasons. New York City looks ahead to the time when it must draw its water from Lake Ontario, three hundred miles away. Philadelphia already has to go into New York State for water. Inland cities on fresh-water lakes and rivers, are more fortunate, but the pollution of streams by sewage is increasing.

Eventually sewage will be disposed of everywhere in reduction plants and sooner or later science will find a way to purify sea-water for drinking purposes and so make a water famine in seacoast towns impossible.

### Specialists

I know a farmer who is perhaps the greatest authority on potatoes in the world. He grows nothing else; raises them in Maine in summer and in Florida in winter. He is getting rich. I know another farmer who has abandoned every other crop to raise gladioli. He is getting rich. One man in Maine specialized in pheasants, and makes several thousand dollars a year on fifty acres. I know half a dozen farms where nothing is raised but silver foxes. They make money. Some years ago I met a woman in Ohio who was earning a very good income raising skunks for their fur. I know another man who grows only violets.

I have never known a specialist who made money if he gave any attention to anything but his specialty. I have never known one to fail if he had the essential requirements of industry, common sense, salesmanship and sufficient capital to carry on until his specialty made good.

### Drivers

Automobiles kill more people in America than any other single source of accidents, far more than are killed by railroads. The cause of accidents is usually inexpert driving. We have interpreted individual liberty to mean the right of anyone to drive a car whether he is competent or not.

Massachusetts has stiffened its tests for drivers, so that now it is impossible in Bay State to get a license to drive a car unless one really knows how to drive. And that means a lot more than merely how to shift gears and apply the brakes; it means appreciation of the fact that there are other cars on the roads as well as pedestrians.

Some day nobody will be allowed to drive a car in any state who has not some sense of responsibility to others.

### Antiques

Almost any old piece of furniture, china, glass or junk, if it is battered enough, can be sold somewhere as an "antique." I attended several country auctions in New England last summer and saw absurd prices paid for trash to which most folks would not give house-room. Yet among them there was always a piece or two which was a real bargain. I bid on a Sheraton table, which might have been fifty years old or a hundred and fifty, but which was of value to me because it would fit my dining room, was beautiful in design and sturdy in construction, and a modern table equally good would cost more than \$200. I stopped bidding at \$175 and the table went to a dealer who bid \$5 more.

Just before Christmas, rummaging through the antique furniture department of a New York store in search of a good mirror at a bargain, I saw this identical table. I asked the

## SCHOOL NEWS FROM BLOWING ROCK

Circulating Library Enjoys Large Growth. 3,380 Books Loaned During Year. School Attendance for Second Term Much Larger.

Blowing Rock, Jan. 15.—A report made by the Blowing Rock Library, which is shined by the school and community, shows 3,380 books to have been circulated during 1929. This number of books lent is found to be as large, in proportion to the population of the community, as the average city library reports in North Carolina.

Gifts of books have been recently received. Altogether, over two hundred accessions have been made since summer. These books include current fiction and a number of excellent biographies, books on politics and government, and books of travel.

These books have been the gifts of friends in New York, Richmond, Washington, Wilmington and Massachusetts, besides a number coming from local friends of the library, including Mrs. John S. Williams, Mrs. T. H. Coffey Sr., Mrs. Sally Reeves, and Mrs. W. L. Crisp.

Among the recent biography of special interest in North Carolina is Stryker's "Life of Andrew Johnson," which reveals the reconstruction President, the North Carolina tailor's apprentice who arrived in the White House, as one of the most courageous and able men ever to fill the Presidency, despite the fact that former biographers have pictured him only as a man of prejudice and small ability.

Other biographies of public interest are Karsner's "Andrew Jackson," and Atherton's "Life of Alexander Hamilton," founder of the Republican Party.

The second term of the school year, beginning this week, is entered with a feeling of satisfaction because of the records made in the recent mid-term examinations and because the attendance now in the high school is twenty-five per cent. larger than for last year.

Examinations show a smaller number of failures and a higher average than was made last year at the same time, a natural consequence of the fact that each class entering high school is better prepared than the preceding one, due to improved school conditions and upper-class students having had more experience as members of an accredited school.

Early in this term work will begin on a number of entertainments to which the public will be invited.

Two features of the school this year which have broadened the activities of the students are the chapel programs prepared by the grades successively and, in the high school, the programs which have been given regularly at the close of each week by the Sidney Lanier and the Poe Literary Societies. These programs have included debates, plays, current events, readings, jokes, burlesques, a mock wedding, and a minstrel, besides programs in observance of such days as Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. The program Friday will be in honor of Lee and Jackson, whose birthdays come on January 19 and 21.

Programs to which the community has been invited were given by the pupils of Mrs. Eugene Story on Thanksgiving and those of Miss Floy Cannon on Friday before Christmas.

The Parent-Teacher Association, organized just as school closed last spring, has functioned successfully this year. Its regular monthly meeting was held Tuesday evening, with the president, Mrs. H. P. Holshouser, presiding. The program on this occasion was sponsored by the teachers.

Among the chapel programs given by the high school students was a French play by the senior class, a scene from "Cyrano de Bergerac," a one-act play by the girls of the junior class, and a dramatization of scenes from the French Revolution by the ninth grade, one of the projects designed to make European history objective rather than remote.

Each class in high school chose its representatives to take part in the Citizenship Contest sponsored by the Civitan Club, and a number of essays are being prepared.

Uncle Si Tinklepaugh says too much of a good thing is bound to make trouble, like holding five aces in a poker game.

"Nineteen hundred dollars," said the saleswoman.

As time goes on, old furniture takes on increased value, provided it is well designed, well built and in good condition. The things that our grandmothers threw away are treasures today. Tomorrow much of the junk that we discard may be priceless.

## Bank Officials Urge Purebred Livestock

The stockholders of the Watauga County Bank were in session Tuesday afternoon, the attendance being unusually full. The present board of directors was re-elected as follows: B. B. Dougherty, L. A. Greene, G. P. Hagaman, S. E. Gragg, W. V. Mast, J. F. Hardin, J. H. Mast, Baxter Linney and J. H. Council.

A 5 per cent. semi-annual dividend was paid and \$2,500 added to the surplus, making the total surplus fund \$50,000, the equivalent of the capital stock.

After other routine matters had been considered, the bank officials turned their attention to an enthusiastic round-table discussion of the purebred livestock movement in the county. Each stockholder expressed himself as being anxious for the bank to encourage the raising of purebred livestock in every way possible and at the same time foster a movement for more extensive truck farming.

The Watauga County Bank, through its cashier, Mr. G. P. Hagaman, was one of the principal factors in the organization of the Watauga Livestock Association, and has kept in the thick of the war against the scrub sire, which has already resulted in the importation of no less than fourteen thoroughbred bulls.

The first shipment of eleven head, which was purchased in Virginia has been followed by individual purchases already. Messrs. Sam Atkins and John Dugger, of Vilas, recently brought from Ashe County a thoroughbred Shorthorn bull; J. S. Snyder, of the Beaver Dam section, purchased a sire of the same kind in Tennessee, while Harrison Baker, of Meat Camp, went to Alleghany for a registered Black Angus. And the battle against the scrub is drawing new recruits and growing hotter every day. Another committee purchase of bulls is expected to be made soon and before the end of the year it is expected that a registered sire will be placed in each community in the county. The original purchase consisted solely of Herefords, however, many farmers prefer the Shorthorn or other breeds. The sponsors of the livestock movement are not interested in this phase of the proposition—what they want is to be definitely rid of the scrub. Buy the kind of a bull you want, but be sure he is thoroughbred.

Furthermore, having spent the best years of my life in the public service, I now have no money to finance a State-wide campaign. In these circumstances and for these reasons, I am obliged, but quite content, to leave my candidacy in the hands of my friends and the people of North Carolina.

"With profound gratitude to my party and to the people of my State, I enter this, my last primary contest, promising only consecrated service guided and directed by conscientious devotion to duty, and earnestly indulging the hope that nothing may occur in this campaign which might create or revive division or discord in the ranks of the Democratic party in North Carolina.

"I have been in active political life for the past forty odd years. My record during those years is an open book and is known to the people of North Carolina, and I am entirely satisfied thus to leave it to them to say whether or not they wish me to remain in the Senate longer than my present term."

## Wataugans Will Attend Lincoln Day Dinner

President Hoover and Claudius Huston, chairman of the Republican National Executive Committee, will be invited to speak at the Lincoln Day dinner to be held February 12 at 7:30 in the evening at King Cotton Hotel, Greensboro, under auspices of the Young Peoples Republican Organization of North Carolina, County Chairman W. H. Gragg announced Saturday. Mr. Gragg said that he had just received the information from State headquarters, Hendersonville, and that he had already set in motion plans to have Watauga County well represented at the dinner.

It is pretty well assured that Mr. Huston will be able to attend and speak, it was said Saturday. However, no prediction was made regarding the President's coming.

Mr. Gragg said he was informed that invitations would be sent to State Chairman Brownlow Jackson, Congressman Charles Jonas, State Vice-chairman Mrs. Lillian M. B. Rodgers, Republican National Committeewoman Mrs. W. E. Kennel, Congressman George E. Pritchard and other prominent leaders of this and other States.

A representative is expected from every county in the State and definite plans call for the attendance of a large number. The meeting and dinner will have no political significance further than to promote and bring about a more extensive and cohesive organization of the young Republicans of North Carolina.

Watauga Republicans wishing to attend the meeting may make the reservations through W. H. Gragg, Boone, who asks that those wishing to attend communicate with him at once. He indicated that he expected to see as many young Republicans from this county attend as plans for the dinner can accommodate.

## WOODCRAFT NOVELTY CO. RESUMES OPERATIONS

The Woodcraft Novelty Company, which has been shut down since the first of December, until their new building could be completed and the machinery reset, resumes operations today, with a force of about twenty men. Since manufacturing was suspended, work has gone forward rapidly on the new addition to the factory and a force has been employed moving machinery and making many changes looking to the future manufacture of wood novelties on a larger scale.

## SIMMONS TO ENTER SENATORIAL FIGHT

Says He Cannot Afford a Campaign. Will Stick to His Duties at the Capital and Depend on Friends and His Record in "Last Battle."

The veteran Senator Simmons, of North Carolina, answered the challenge for his seat by announcing last Saturday for "my last primary contest."

The veteran Democratic Senator, dean of the Senate, who refused to support the Presidential candidacy of Alfred E. Smith, took no notice of the announcement recently made of opposition to himself in the Democratic primary to be held next June. Josiah William Bailey, of Raleigh, has declared his candidacy.

In the statement issued Saturday he explained that he could make no personal campaign for renomination by the Democrats because of work to finance it. He is ranking Democrat on the Finance Committee and is engaged in the pending tariff struggle in Congress.

The text of his statement read:

"More than a year ago I announced that I would be a candidate for re-election to the United States Senate and, pursuant to that declaration, I shall, in due time, file notice of my candidacy for the Democratic nomination in the primary of June 7, 1930, in offering for renomination. I feel it is due my friends and supporters to advise them of the reasons why I shall not be able personally to conduct or finance an active primary campaign.

"In the first place, the Congress, which is now in session, will not finish its work until after the primary contest is over. The party and my Democratic colleagues in the Senate have honored me with important responsibilities, and I regard it as imperative that no personal considerations shall be allowed to interfere with the proper discharge of those official duties in the interests of my constituents, party and country. Neither would my physical strength, which must be conserved for the effectual discharge of my duties in the Senate, be sufficient to carry, at the same time, the added burden of an active campaign on my part.

"Furthermore, having spent the best years of my life in the public service, I now have no money to finance a State-wide campaign. In these circumstances and for these reasons, I am obliged, but quite content, to leave my candidacy in the hands of my friends and the people of North Carolina.

"With profound gratitude to my party and to the people of my State, I enter this, my last primary contest, promising only consecrated service guided and directed by conscientious devotion to duty, and earnestly indulging the hope that nothing may occur in this campaign which might create or revive division or discord in the ranks of the Democratic party in North Carolina.

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## Baptists Issue Attractive Year Book and Directory

On last Sunday morning each of the members of the Boone Baptist Church were presented with a copy of an attractive Year Book and Church Directory, which came from the latter part of last week.

The little book contained twenty-four pages besides the cover, of standard book size, and the subject matter was arranged and the advertisements of local business houses solicited by the pastor, Rev. P. A. Hicks. The make-up consisted of an alphabetical list of all the members of the church, resident and non-resident, the officers of the many church organizations and a history of the church, interspersed with neat advertising pages, which enabled the pastor to make free distribution of the pamphlets. Mr. Hicks is being congratulated upon his enterprise in supplying his membership with the unusually useful and attractive Year Book.

## MRS. A. W. HARDIN DIES

News has reached Boone of the death of Mrs. A. W. Hardin, which occurred at her home in Taladega, Ala., on the 7th, following a short illness with pneumonia. She was 56 years old. Surviving are a husband and two children, one boy and one girl. Mrs. Hardin was a native Alabamian, but her husband will be remembered by many friends in this section as the son of the late James Hardin.

## Mad Dog Causes Stir in Boone and Community

Boone citizens were thrown into panic last Wednesday evening, when a small dog belonging to Conrad Hodges, who resides two miles west of town, became mad, bit his master and a brother, Wilson Hodges, escaped from them and ran at will through Boone and surrounding communities for four or more hours until it was overtaken and killed by Policemen Wyke and Gross on Laurel Fork.

During the mad rampage of the rabid canine, a seven-year-old son of Henry Moretz, of Meat Camp, was bitten in the hand and leg, five dogs belonging to Stewart Brown, of Perkinsville, were victims of the animal's fangs, and dogs belonging to Alfred Adams and John E. Brown were infected. All these animals have since been put to death.

To determine whether or not the dog had hydrophobia, the head was sent to the State Chemist at Raleigh for analysis. Saturday a report came affirming that this was the trouble, and the infected ones are now being given the Pasteur treatment, which is said to be 100 per cent. effective, if properly administered.

Since the mad dog scare, which is the first in several years, dog owners of Boone have been notified by authorities that all dogs found running at large will be killed. During the time that the rabid dog was at large, many other animals may have come in contact with him, so if you are the owner of one, see that he is either kept tied up or killed.

## Thos. Wilson Buys Poultry Business

Mr. Thomas Wilson, of Zionville, was in the city Tuesday and while transacting business with The Democrat gave out the information that he had recently purchased from Mrs. Mollie Adams the Rich Mountain Poultry Farm and that he is now actively managing the business. Mrs. Adams made a signal success of the poultry business in Watauga County and was an authority on chickens. The new owner has also given most of his time of late years to brooder chickens and his success may be proven by the fact that last year his pullets produced an average all around of 224 1-2 eggs. He specializes in the single-comb White Leghorn, most of his stock having been bought in the State of Washington, where he has paid as high as \$75 for a setting of eggs. He now has 525 hens, many of them 300-egg blood, and has an incubator capacity of 2,000 eggs at a time. He sells eggs, baby chicks and does custom hatching. An advertisement for the farm appears in The Democrat today.

## M. L. GREER SUCCUMBS AT HIS CALDWELL HOME

Mr. T. F. Greer received news on Tuesday of the death of his brother, Mr. M. L. Greer, which occurred at his home near Lenoir as a result of what has been believed to have been heart trouble. Funeral services were held yesterday from the Tabernacle Church near the home of deceased by his pastor, Rev. W. L. Trivett, following which interment was in the neighboring cemetery.

Mr. Greer was a native citizen of Caldwell County where he was a leading farmer, and was also prominently identified with the business interests of Lenoir and the county. He had for several years been a member of the Caldwell County Board of Education, and had at different times been a member of the board of directors of financial institutions in Lenoir. Surviving are a widow and several children.

Among those who attended the funeral from Boone were: Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Greer, Roby and Horace Greer.

## THREE FORKS MINISTERS MEET WITH BOONE CHURCH

The Baptist Ministers' Conference of Three Forks and Stony Fork associations convened with Boone Baptist Church on Tuesday, January 11. A very good number of pastors were present and a very interesting program was carried out. The following topics were discussed:

1. "The Duty of the Pastor in the Way of Preparation and Equipment," Dr. W. O. Gordon and B. F. Wilcox.
2. "The Duty of the Pastor to the Church He Serves," P. A. Hicks.
3. "The Duty of the Pastor to the Community in Which He Lives," L. C. Wilson.
4. "What the Church Expects of the Pastor," by Smith Hagaman.

At the noon hour a very fine dinner was served by the ladies of the church. In the business session the conference changed its time of meeting. In the future the gatherings will take place monthly on Monday following the first Sunday at 10 o'clock a. m. at Boone Baptist Church.

## CIVITANS MEET AT VALLE CRUCIS

Local Body Motors Industrial School for Monthly Business Meeting. Rev. L. F. Kent Tells History of Episcopal Institution.

On the evening of Thursday, January 9, the Boone Civitan Club met for its business meeting at the Valle Crucis School, Valle Crucis. There were nineteen members present, with George Hagaman presiding. The club met in the beautiful dining room of the school, where a delicious dinner was served by the domestic science department of the school.

After dinner President Hagaman called the meeting to order and old business was discussed. J. Frank Moore then spoke on a more wholehearted co-operation between members in making the meetings more interesting; that each member should take upon himself the task of putting across the program of the evening when he was called upon to do so by the program committee.

Professor I. G. Greer then told the members, and especially the representatives of the Valle Crucis School, the details of the Civitan International Essay Contest. The high school department of the school will enter this contest.

The Rev. L. F. Kent, rector of the school, then welcomed the Civitans to the school and Watt Gragg responded for the members present. Mr. Kent then told briefly the history of the school, stating that the institution had been founded in 1842 by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Ives as a boys' school. During the Civil War the work was abandoned and was not revived until 1894, under the Rt. Rev. Joseph B. Cheshire, now Bishop of the Diocese of North Carolina, as a girls' school, and it has been functioning as such ever since. The school does not attempt to draw girls away from their church preference but does attempt to train them, first, in a keen appreciation of the spiritual values of life, and second, to give them the very best grammar and high school education that can be found anywhere. The school has operated a standard high school for the past two years. Mr. Kent finished by saying that the school was not only a credit to Watauga County, but the whole State of North Carolina, and everyone should feel proud of it.

A short business session followed the business of the evening, ending with a quartet singing "Till We Meet," led by Watt Gragg.

Everyone expressed himself as being delighted with the whole evening. The Civitans will meet again, before long, with the school.

## Still Is Captured On Boone's Fork

A 30-gallon copper still, four gallons of an inferior quality of corn whisky and one-half gallon of backings composed the net results of a raid made by the Sheriff's forces in the Boone's Fork section Monday afternoon. Sheriff Farthing and Deputies Poly Wyke and Lee Gross were accompanied on the hunt by Mr. Eugene Story, of Blowing Rock, and the illicit plant was found without considerable difficulty about five hundred yards from the Caldwell-Watauga line. When first sighted two men were engaged in refilling the still with mash, one ran having just been completed. The violators were aware of the presence of the officers before a catch could be effected, although a merry chase ensued. Although the blockaders are not personally known to the Sheriff, he thinks their capture may be arranged.

## Watauga County Bank In Thrift Campaign

The Watauga County Bank in affiliating itself with the National Thrift Week movement is publishing the first of a series of eight advertisements in this issue, each dealing with the declines of the "Father of Thrift," Benjamin Franklin, in honor of whose birthday the thrift period is declared.

Thrift week is sponsored by the Y. M. C. A., with which, last year, cooperation was extended to 47 other national organizations.

The purpose of this movement is to encourage the wise use of money in the realms of earning, spending, saving, investing and giving. The benefits which will ensue individually and collectively are obvious; more money in the bank, more residents living in their own homes, more comforts and luxuries and less poverty.

Readers of the Democrat should follow the publicity of the local bank for the next eight weeks. The messages are interesting, educational and a follow-up of the ideas conveyed would contribute materially to the development of a financially independent citizenship.