

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

VOLUME XL, NO. 38.

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY MARCH 20, 1930.

\$1.50 PER YEAR

Today and Tomorrow

By FRANK P. STOCKBRIDGE

Edison

Think for a minute of what one man, still active in his 84th year, has done to change the world in a single lifetime. He made the telephone a practical instrument. He invented the incandescent light. He invented the phonograph. He invented the motion picture. Imagine a world without these inventions. It is impossible, except to those whose memories, like my own, go back to the time when Edison was known only as the inventor of the multiplex telegraph.

Now he has found a way to get rubber out of goldenrod, not as a commercial product, but as a war reserve resource. And he is still working.

"A man can't die so long as he keeps busy," he told me once.

Music

Good music is increasing in popularity, but there are more musicians out of work than ever before. We are getting our music more and more by mechanical methods of reproduction.

First the phonograph, then the radio, now the sound pictures, have brought the very best music played and sung by the highest grade of musical talent, within reach of everybody. The largest piano company in America went into bankruptcy recently. Pianos are still sold and always will be. There will always be youngsters with talent coming along to produce the good music of tomorrow. And there are more of the "break" instruments being sold than ever—saxophones, ukuleles and the like. There are probably more first-class singers of American birth and training, appearing in public now than ever before. But the second-rate and hopelessly third-rate musicians no longer command audiences. The American people have developed a higher taste in music.

Churches

"I could empty every country church and half the city churches on Sunday morning by broadcasting better sermons and services than all but a few great churches offer," the head of one of the great broadcasting chains said to me the other day.

The time is coming when small-town churches will install radio sets and get their music and their sermons out on the air. They will need no local preacher, but instead will become centers for community work in the name of God, making it their charge to protect the moral and physical health of their communities, to inspire the amusements and elevate the educational standards of their young folk.

Rubber

Rubber gets its name because its first use was to rub out pencil marks. The Spanish conquistadores found Mexican and Brazilian children playing with balls of this peculiar gum but it was three hundred years before it became a commercial product. Mackintosh, the Scotchman used it first to waterproof cloth; Goodyear, the American, found how to take the stickiness out while retaining the elasticity.

A very small amount of commercial rubber is grown in the United States, in California and Arizona, where it is produced from the guayule shrub. Most of it comes from the East Indies and South America. Harvey Firestone is planting a million acres to rubber trees in Liberia, Africa. Unskilled cheap labor is necessary to keep the price of rubber down. A difference of 50 cents a pound in the price of crude rubber may mean a difference of \$10 in the price of automobile tires.

The next step will be the discovery of a method of reclaiming old rubber and using it again.

Laws

It ought to be apparent by this time that the effort to make people good by passing laws is a failure. The other day a judge in New York sentenced a young woman to prison for life. He had no option; it was her fourth conviction for larceny and under the Baumes law a fourth offender must be locked up until he or she dies. That isn't going to do this girl or society any good. The time when something could have been done about her case was when she was a child. She grew up without moral sense, without education without any feeling of responsibility.

The only reason we put people in prison or execute them is because we are afraid of them. Our prison population has doubled in twenty years. As we grow more prosperous we become more afraid of the unknown. It might be a good plan to spend as much money trying to keep people out of prison as we spend now to keep them in it.

MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

Mr. D. G. Moretz, secretary of the Watauga Independent Merchants Association, has announced a meeting of the organization for next Tuesday evening at 7:30. The session will be held at the courthouse and Mr. Moretz is very anxious that all members attend, for the purpose of transacting very important business.

Plans for marketing eggs cooperatively has been discussed by Lenoir county farmers.

NAVAL POWERS IN LONDON ARE ONLY BEGINNING

Several Important Understandings Have Been Reached by the Delegates of the World's Most Powerful Nations. America to be Affected by Outcome as to the Size of the Navy She Maintains.

By CALEB JOHNSON
Special Writer for the Democrat

What are the Naval Conference delegates in London trying to do? What have they done? What are they likely to do, if anything? Those are questions which directly concern everybody in the United States, for several good reasons.

On the answer to them, depends among other things, the burden on American taxpayers for the support of the Navy. More important, the work of the London conference will have a great deal of bearing on the probability, or the improbability, of future great wars.

It is with the idea that the likelihood of war will be lessened if navies are reduced, that the United States, the British Empire, France, Italy and Japan—the only five nations which figure as naval powers—have sent delegates to discuss the question of how and by how much sea armaments can be reduced. The attitude of each of these nations is peaceful toward all of the others. But all of them realize, as the American Secretary of the Navy, Charles Francis Adams, expressed it the other day, that it is possible for the most peace-loving country to build a navy so large that its very existence breeds in other nations the fears that provoke war, and it is also true that it is possible to reduce a navy, comparatively with other navies, to such feebleness as to provoke other nations to indignities which might lead to war.

"There is between the two," said Mr. Adams, "a point at which a nation's navy breeds serenity at home and no suspicion abroad."

That is the point which the five powers represented at London are trying to agree upon, and they have made progress in spite of apparent delays.

One point on which the delegates have come to an agreement is that each delegation will recommend to its home government a treaty limiting the use of submarines against merchant vessels in time of war.

Another point on which agreement has been substantially reached is the methods by which the different navies should be compared. This is the point which was most strongly insisted upon by President Hoover, the setting up of a "yardstick" by which to measure navies. It is the point upon which previous international naval conferences have split and was the first matter to be discussed and agreed upon in London.

Each of the five nations concerned has presented to the conference the figures which it regards as necessary to meet the requirement of a navy neither too strong nor too weak. Great Britain and the United States have found themselves in perfect accord. Japan is very close to a complete understanding with those two countries. The French situation was under consideration, with difficulties being rapidly ironed out, when the fall of the French Cabinet called the French delegates back home. Now the French crisis is over, with the government again in control of the original conference and by the time this appears in print the French delegates will be back in London and the thread of negotiations will be picked up where it was broken.

It is a matter of interest and curiosity to the representatives of the other nations that the United States is the only country in the world where a government has a fixed term of office. France since the establishment of the Third Republic nearly sixty years ago, has had 81 different governments! In the past eight years Great Britain has had a Coalition government, a Labor government, a Liberal government and now a Labor government again, with a good chance that the Liberals will get back into power in May. But before then the Naval Conference will have finished its work, in all probability.

The spirit of the delegates is to sit in London until something is settled. "We have as much time as anybody," says Secretary Adams, "and America can afford to show patience, for it is well to remember that several of the other nations represented have more complicated problems of security than we have, and a few days more or less is nothing compared to the value of arriving at a solution in a calm and untroubled state of mind. This kind of conferring costs relatively little in money and has infinite possibilities of goodwill besides actual economy. It does not cost as much to keep our whole delegation in commission as it does to keep one of our smaller cruisers ready for service."

The expenses of the American delegation amount to about \$3,000 a day. It costs about \$5,000 a day to keep a single cruiser in commission. Considering what the delegates are spending personally, however, the cost of our London delegation runs up to or above that figure. Secretary of State Stimson, for example, rented at his own expense a large country estate near London to serve as a place of rest and recreation for the American delegation and attaches and their families and the entertainment of other delegates over the week-ends. In the first six weeks of the conference it is estimated that he spent more than \$40,000 of his own money in this and other ways, and the other American delegates

Republican Convention Announced for April 14

Mr. W. H. Gragg, Chairman of the Watauga County Republican Executive Committee, announced Monday that the Republican county convention is to be held at the courthouse in Boone on Monday April 14 at 11 o'clock.

The sole purpose of the convention, it is stated is to elect the delegates to the state congressional, senatorial and judicial conventions to be held during the year. Watauga is entitled to 13 delegates at these meetings, and no business except their election is expected to be transacted when the local Republicans gather.

Township meetings will be held throughout the county on Saturday the 12th, for the purpose of naming the delegates to the county convention.

Citizens' Military Training Camps

Major R. B. Patterson of the regular army, Statesville, spent last Thursday in Boone in the interest of the Citizens' Military Training Camps. Major Patterson spoke to the boys of 17 years and older of the Boone High School and the Cove Creek High School, explaining the advantages of attendance at the C. M. T. C. Camp at Fort Bragg. He also spoke at the assembly at the Appalachian State Teachers' College and at the weekly meeting of the Civitan Club of Boone.

Any young man of acceptable character and between the ages of 17 and 24 may apply for the basic course. If he can pass the required physical examination and is of good moral character, he may attend the camp at Fort Bragg.

All necessary expense covering transportation, camp facilities, food, clothing, laundry, medical examinations and service of instructors is furnished free by the government. It could not be duplicated by private enterprise for less than several hundred dollars for each member and it is an offer as a business proposition unequalled by any government at any time.

Attendance at these camps means no obligation for future military service. The training stresses citizenship, self-reliance and how to work and play hard. The moral and religious influences are kept at high standards.

Application blanks can be obtained from Mr. Smith Hagaman or from the principal of either the Boone or the Cove Creek High School. Both Mr. Mast and Mr. Horton as well as Mr. Hagaman strongly recommend these camps.

In attendance last year at Fort Bragg from Watauga county were: John Church, Cove Creek; Wade Edmisten, Boone; Raymond Hendrix, Boone; Dean McBride, Sherwood; Robert Randolph, Boone; Joe Todd, Boone and John Yount, Boone.

The camp this year is from June 13 to July 12.

PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION HOLDS INTERESTING MEETING

An interesting Parent-Teacher Association meeting was held on last Thursday afternoon in the Demonstration School auditorium.

The most important piece of business transacted was the organization and acceptance of the plans for the Piedmont Evening Star Festival. This Festival is to be given March 19, 20, 21 and 22 in the Demonstration School auditorium. Season tickets are being sold for 75 cents and \$1.50 by a committee made up of Messrs. G. K. Moore, Paul A. Coffey, Miss Annie Stanbury, Nell Coffey and their assistants.

The Civitan Club has co-operated with us by each member buying two tickets. If each member of this club can buy two tickets, why can't each member of the Parent-Teacher Association buy one?

The program for the afternoon was a negro wedding presented by the seventh grade.

Following this, the minutes were read by the secretary, Mrs. Hartzog. Then the treasurer, Mrs. F. A. Linnay, gave a report of the finances for the past year.

Byrd to Find It's A Different World

Commander Byrd is now on his way back to the United States after having spent many months in the bleak Antarctic. The New York Times in commenting on his return, says that regardless of whether he will find that he has returned to a better world than he left behind or a worse one, he is certain to find that this is a different world. The Times cites the following points of difference:

Skirts longer.
Wheat lower.
Plays cleaner.
Pocketbooks thinner.
Coldidge and Al Smith fatter and merrier.
Hovers thinner and more thoughtful.
Skyscrapers higher.
Rents lower.
Navies messier.
Republicans knifed.
Democrats running true to form.
Chicago wilder.
Frenchmen funnier.
Japanese terser.
Americans soberer and colder.
Russians fewer and colder.
Talkies louder.
Colleges richer.
Students poorer.
Weather warmer, probably snow, with west winds turning to north-west.

WATAUGA IS WELL REPRESENTED AT JACKSON DINNER

Eight Local People in Attendance at Young People's Meeting. National Chairman Shouse Speaks Encouragingly of National Outlook. Governor Gardner and J. W. Bailey on Program. Doughton Hopeful.

A delegation of Watauga Democrats composed of John E. Brown, H. G. Farthing, D. G. Moretz, R. W. Pulliam, Jim Rivers, Mr. and Mrs. Brantley Duncan and J. B. Horton attended the Jackson Day dinner in Raleigh last Saturday night. The trip was made by motor, and the attendants, on their return Sunday, brought with them tidings of a renewed militancy in the ranks of the Democracy of North Carolina, which suffered the worst defeat in its history during the campaign of 1928.

The dinner itself was bounteous, the various dishes being prepared from North Carolina products, and the attendance, estimated at between two thousand and twenty-five hundred, represented every county from Currituck to Cherokee. The issue now holding the attention of Democracy, namely the Simmons-Bailey Senatorial fight, was very much in evidence in the auditorium during the evening but local observers are of the opinion that much was done to overcome the bitterness of the contesting elements by the addresses of those whose names appeared on the program.

Jonett Shouse, chairman of the Democratic National Executive Committee, the main speaker on the program, brought a message of encouragement from the national body. He pointed out many recent victories for Democracy in strong Republican territory and predicted widespread gains for the party this fall. His remarks centered around the failure of President Hoover to gain the support of the Republican Congressional bodies, and the various economic problems which have faced the people of the United States during his administration.

Hon. O. Max Gardner, Governor of North Carolina, whose remarks were greeted with wild enthusiasm, declared that the principles and execution of Democracy must be entrusted to young men and women. He said in part: "It is not enough for any political party or organization to rest its case for the future solely upon its record in the past, however proud that record may be. And I want to say here and now that whatever the future may have in store for the Democratic party in the State, its past is, thank God, secure."

"We have here today one of the eight great states in the 'big league' of the American republic."

Tyre C. Taylor, toastmaster and chairman of the young Democrats, at the opening of the program stated the purpose of the Jackson Day dinner. "We are here," Mr. Taylor said, "to do honor to the memory of that great Democrat and great American, Andrew Jackson, and to dedicate ourselves to some simple ideals of human service through the means of government upon which the Democratic party was founded." Mr. Taylor introduced National Chairman Shouse.

Josiah William Bailey, candidate for the United States Senate against F. M. Simmons, the incumbent, received a wild ovation when he rose to bring the program to a close with a seven-minute address. Mr. Bailey compared the Democratic and Republican parties through the years and asserted that Democracy, the "kind of Democracy for which the Democratic party stood," was the need of the country today to combat the many "isms"—communism, socialism, etc.—and restore social peace and end distress and prostration. He made no reference to the Senatorial fight.

Other speakers of State-wide importance on the program were O. M. Mull, chairman of the State Executive Committee; Josephus Daniels, editor of the News and Observer, and the four aspirants for Governor in 1932, General Albert L. Cox, R. T. Fountain, Dennis G. Frummitt and J. B. Ehrinhaus.

It was the pleasure of the local delegation to come in contact with many men high in Democratic councils, including "Farmer Bob" Doughton, Congressman from the Eighth District. Mr. Doughton expressed confidence in the outcome of the fall election, and reported a feeling of optimism in all sections of his district which was the scene of a bitter struggle during the 1928 campaign.

BOONE SODALIS CLUB HOLDS DANCE AT CRITCHER HOTEL

The Sodalists Club, Boone's newest social organization, held a private dance at the Critcher Hotel on Friday night, March 14th. The entire membership of 21, along with an equal number of invited guests, enjoyed to the fullest the entertainment of the evening. The Appalachian Troubadours, a local musical organization, furnished music.

It is the purpose of the new organization to promote dances at intervals, to equip a club room where members may assemble for diversion, and to offer a variety of entertaining features to those who participate in its activities. An initiation fee and monthly dues are expected to finance these enterprises.

Officers of Sodalists Club are: J. A. Srooles, president; Blaine Trivett, first vice-president; Fred McDonald, secretary, and Hubert Coffey, treasurer.

Luther M. Bingham Succumbed Tuesday

Luther M. Bingham, 38 years old, veteran of the World War and member of one of the county's leading families, passed away at the National Sanatorium, Johnson City, Tenn., Wednesday morning at 5 o'clock, following an illness which had its beginning while he was serving with the American Armies in France during the World War.

As The Democrat went to press funeral arrangements had not been announced, but it was understood that the body would be returned to the old home on Cove Creek and that funeral services would be conducted there on Chapel today. It is expected that the comrades of the American Legion will be present and that the body will be interred with full military honors.

Mr. Bingham enlisted with Battery E, 113th Field Artillery, a unit of the Thirtieth Division, following the entry of America into the war, and served on foreign soil until the cessation of hostilities. It was there he contracted disabilities which proved to be incurable. Following the war Mr. Bingham returned to his native county, where he carried on as a useful and popular citizen. He was prominent in the affairs of the American Legion and was a leader in social and civic circles. A host of friends are made sad by the news of his death.

Among the survivors are the father, George M. Bingham, a widow, two children, and several brothers and sisters.

SOCIETY CELEBRATES ITS TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

The Watauga-Appalachian Literary Society of the Boone High School celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary Wednesday night, March 12. A number of friends as well as the faculty of the school were the honored guests of the pleasant occasion. The body first assembled at the Critcher Hotel, where Edwin Dougherty, president, welcomed them in the name of the society. After being entertained there with a St. Patrick's program, the guests were invited to the Princess Cafe where a three-course dinner was served.

During the dinner Howard Cottrell, serving as toastmaster, called upon members of the faculty for speeches. The responses, white brief, were filled with good advice to the young people and sparkled with humor. Radio music entertained the assembly during the evening.

Society members present were: Edwin Dougherty, Jake and Frank Hagaman, John Hodges, Jr., Bill Casey, John Critcher, Conrad Moore, Roy Gragg, Howard Cottrell, Glenn Wyke, Erwin Norton, Jack Hodges, Horton Gragg, Victor Gragg, Joe Hardin, Joseph Townsend, Carroll Cook, William Norris, Lewis Austin, Clay Townsend.

Guests present were: Mr. and Mrs. Dave P. Mast, Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Greer, Misses Edna Holsclaw, Grace Graybill, Nell Coffey, Ella Hodges, Sarah Allen, Maude Clay, Virginia Greer, Dotsey Teams, Ruby Graybill, Ella Austin, Gertrude Perry, Frank Linnay, Missie Jean Jones, Ruby Wilson, Floy Cottrell, Ruby Trivette, Jean Little, Thelma Miller, Pauline Swift, Hazel Gragg, Messrs. Paul Gorley, Raymond Harmon and Raleigh Cottrell.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

The Democrat invites the attention of its readers to the new advertisements which appear in this issue, as follows:

Isaacs Department Store uses all of pure eight calling attention to court-wear specials.

F. C. Miller & Co. advertises bankrupt stocks of goods.

Town of Boone publishes ordinances.

High Land Furniture Company tells of new arrivals.

Harris Brothers Department Store adds Bargain Annex.

J. & E. Store—Quality Grocery Service.

Spainhour's—Worth While Sale.

Central Tire Co.—New Goodyears.

Rooney Drug Company—Sargon.

Chevrolet Motor Company—New Service Policy.

Greer Brothers—International Fertilizers.

Pastime Theatre—Movie Program.

Advertised in 64 Papers At Once; Democrat Gets Most Pleasing Results

The Editor of The Democrat is in receipt of a letter from Mr. W. T. Birmingham, realtor of Winchester, Va., and to prove the oft-repeated statement that this paper is the most thoroughly read publication of this region, the following extracts are submitted:

"I enclose check for ad run in your paper of 'Shenandoah Valley Farms.' I intended to send this check the first of the month but was so busy I just could not do it. I ran this same ad in 64 papers at the same time, and in checking over inquiries and sales, I find that I have more inquiries and more sales from your paper than any other and some of them charged me ten times what your bill is. I can give you the names of three people who have already bought farms from the ad in your paper if you want them. I will send you another ad soon."

The advertisement referred to was composed in the small body type of the news columns, single-column width, carried no glaring headlines, and occupied no preferred position. Its tremendous leverage is due simply to the fact that The Democrat reaches the people, and its subscribers are invariably thorough readers.

SPRING TERM OF SUPERIOR COURT BEGINS MONDAY

Eleven Have Been Allotted for the Trial of the Civil and Criminal Dockets. No Cases of Major Importance Scheduled Among the 175 Entries. Judge W. F. Harding Will Preside.

The spring term of Watauga Superior court will convene next Monday morning, with Judge W. F. Harding presiding.

The trial of about 100 criminal actions is expected to occupy the first three days of the term, most of the offenders being charged with minor violations of the prohibition laws, and other infractions of a less serious nature. There are also included a large number of report cases in connection with good behavior bonds.

The civil calendar is unusually large for this session, there being 77 cases to be disposed of, the most outstanding suit, and the only one calculated to affect any considerable number of persons, is that being brought by the Wachovia Bank & Trust Co., against J. F. Mulligan, Southern Surety Co., et al. More than 100 persons and firms, it is said, have become parties to this action against the bondsmen of J. F. Mulligan, following his financial failure in road construction work. The suit, it is understood, is for the purpose of bringing legal pressure on the bonding company sufficient to cause payment of labor and material bills incurred by the former contractor.

The trial of the civil docket is expected to take the attention of the court for eight days.

Executive Committee Names Enumerators

A meeting of the Republican County Executive Committee was called by County Chairman W. H. Gragg to meet last Monday for the purpose of naming census enumerators for the various townships of the county, and it seemed the boys were all on hand. Division Supt. Barkley of Hickory was here also and of course gave the appointees wholesome instructions for the arduous work before them. It seems that all were not named and a full list of those who were, is unavailable. However we have picked up the following who were fortunate enough to have "plucked a plum": For the city of Boone, Mrs. Paul A. Coffey; for the rural districts of Boone township, Mrs. Fred Winkler; Meat Camp Nos. 1 and 2, Charles Lewis; Blue Ridge, Thos. Hampton; Bald Mountain, Wade Norris; and we hear that Miss Ruth Bingham, who is said to have made the highest grade in the county was awarded Cove Creek township. Possibly we will be able to get the complete list for our next issue.

J. C. POTTS PASSES AWAY AT HOME OF DAUGHTER

Mr. J. C. Potts, an aged and highly respected citizen of the Banner Elk community, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Ruby Townsend, at that place on Tuesday morning.

Deceased had been an invalid from paralysis for more than six years, and had been critically ill for several weeks. He is survived by his widow; three sons, Bud, Toad and Ira Potts; all of Banner Elk; and two daughters, Mrs. Walter Tate of Johnson City, Tenn., and Mrs. Berry, of Foscoe.

The remains were interred in the Banner Elk cemetery Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock.

Sow Red Clover; Seed Are Cheap

The present low price of red clover seed should be an incentive to the farmers of the piedmont section of North Carolina to sow more of this wonderful legume than ever before, declares E. C. Blair, extension agronomist of the agricultural extension service at State College.

At the present, says Mr. Blair, red clover seed are cheaper than they have been at any time since the World War, and the very best grade of American-grown seed can now be bought for less than the best European seed cost a few years ago.

Mr. Blair does not urge the use of red clover to the discontinuance of the other legumes, for the other varieties are excellent for various purposes, but none of them, he declares, can take the place of red clover on the red clay soils which are found in many sections of North Carolina.

On these clay soils red clover makes very big yields of hay and on top of that a big growth to turn under in the fall to improve the soil for next year's crop of corn or cotton.

The best method of seeding red clover is to drill five to seven pounds per acre lightly over small grain, along with 100 to 200 pounds of acid phosphate or other fertilizer. The clover seed may be mixed with the fertilizer before drilling or not in the small clover box with which many of the drills are equipped. The best time to sow the seed is usually the last few days of March.

There is no need to worry about inoculation for red clover, but it requires a fairly sweet soil. The rule is to a ply one ton of ground limestone per acre for this crop, suggests Mr. Blair.

Three Rutherford county farmers last season produced more than 100 bushels of corn per acre. They were A. G. Hamrick, T. E. Dobbin and L. G. Nash.

(Continued on page 5.)