

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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## Today and Tomorrow

By FRANK P. STOCKBRIDGE

### Politics

Both major parties are tightening their lines for the Presidential campaign of 1932. The Republicans know they have a fight on their hands to retain control of the Presidency; the Democrats believe that if they can agree upon a candidate acceptable to all sections of the country they can win easily.

That is frequently the situation two years before a Presidential campaign. It does not always follow the "out" party wins over the "ins." Having possession of the machinery of Government is a great advantage.

At the moment it looks as if it will be more difficult for the Democrats to agree upon a candidate who can rally all Democrats to his support than for the Republicans to mend their political fences.

### Jones

"Bobby" Jones has at last answered the question: How can a man play golf all the time and still keep his law practice going? The answer is that he can't. Bobby is giving up golf, except as a means of recreation.

It remains to be seen whether Mr. Jones will do as well in law as he has done in golf. He has proved that he has the important quality of thoroughness. Those who know him say he has a natural taste for law, and high intelligence. He will not have the struggle for existence which so many younger lawyers face, for while his amateur standing has kept him from making money out of his game he is to get a sum, reputed to be a quarter of a million dollars, for making a series of educational films on "How I Play Golf." That ought to keep him going until he has established himself in law.

Probably Mr. Jones is doing only what his class and caste instincts and environment urge upon him. There are still too many people who think that being a lawyer is a more respectable way of making a living than being a golf professional. But it seems to me that we have too many lawyers now and not enough good sportsmen.

### Belasco

David Belasco, a San Francisco Jew who dressed like a Roman Catholic priest, was the father of the modern realistic drama. He thought that people on the stage ought to act and talk the way people do in real life, and that the settings and furniture of the stage ought to make the scenes look like the sort of places they were supposed to represent.

Belasco's work in drama began about the time Mr. Edison invented the incandescent electric light. The electric light probably did as much as any other influence to change the drama from the old ranting pantomime into what it is today. It enabled the audience to see the actors clearly and make facial expression and careful make-up more important than they had been.

Belasco was the first theatrical producer to realize the possibilities of electric lighting on the stage and to shape his productions with the new lighting in mind. Today everybody in the theatre business, including the movie producers, follow the principles which Belasco developed.

### Prohibition

All the reports from those who profess to know indicate that the President's commission on Law Enforcement, better known as the Wickersham Commission, will report that the present prohibition law cannot be enforced and will recommend some changes.

There will be more serious attempts made at the coming session of Congress to break down the "dry" law than at any time since it was enacted. There is little likelihood of anything being accomplished by the "wets" at this last session of the 71st Congress, but if the Wickersham report proves to be friendly to the modification of the present law, watch for fireworks when the Congress just elected begins its sessions.

### Football

It took the appeal of charity to bring the Army and Navy football teams together. For several years the annual Army-Navy game has been omitted, because of a quarrel over points of sportsmanship.

When the two teams meet in New York on December 13, it will be frankly for the purpose of helping to raise money for relief of unemployment. Early estimates of the receipts indicate that they may run to a million dollars, or almost as much as the "gate" at the last Tunney-Dempsey fight.

It is a strange but interesting kind of human nature that people will pay fancy prices to see a football game for charity, who would never think

## 400 BUSHELS IS GOAL SET FOR AN ACRE OF 'TATERS

Much Interest Being Manifested in Newly-Formed Potato Club and New Members Being Added. H. R. Niswonger Gives Details for Increasing Production of Spuds to New High Levels.

Promoters of the new 400-bushel potato club are delighted with the response of the farmers of Watauga. New names are being added right along to the original list of those who expect to break records in potato raising next year. H. R. Niswonger, horticulturist of State College, has furnished the following information as to how 400 bushels per acre may be produced, and the article will be of interest to Watauga agrarians.

Varieties.—In Watauga County one may find such varieties as the Irish Cobbler, Green Mountain, Sir Walter Raleigh and the White Elephant. The Sir Walter Raleigh is a seedling of the New York Rural and the White Elephant is the Late Beauty of Hebron. The Cobbler variety predominates and seems to fill our Southern market requirements from July to late fall. As a rule the general market does not like the White Elephant on account of its numerous eyes and the shape of the tuber, which is undesirably long. The Cobbler is the earliest producer and does best in a light soil accompanied by an abundance of moisture and cool weather. The Sir Walter Raleigh and White Elephant are late maturing varieties and the Green Mountain intermediate. These varieties are not so exacting as to soil and climatic conditions. All these varieties require spraying and dusting in order to check late blight disease. In choosing variety to plant, your market requirements must be given first consideration.

**Rules to Follow**  
1. Land must be well drained and abundantly supplied with humus so as to hold the moisture. Humus can be supplied by turning under a good sod land, clovers or soybeans. Potatoes are seldom profitable without a legume or manure turned under.

2. Plow land in fall or early winter and prepare the soil before planting in such a way as to be fine and mellow as deep as the plow went. This is very important.

3. Use good seed, certified seed preferred. Only use the culms or No. 2 when they come from a high producing hill. It never pays to use No. 2's when seed is cheap.

4. Dip seed in corrosive sublimate before planting in order to control scab and black scurf diseases. Plant 25 to 30 bushels when a legume crop has been turned under, less when soil not supplied with humus. Use medium-sized potatoes. Cut blocky seed pieces by splitting the tuber lengthwise. Large potatoes lengthwise and then crosswise. Seed pieces should weigh at least two ounces or the weight of a No. 1 hen egg, regardless of the number of eyes. Plant seed as soon as cut.

5. Make rows from 36 to 36 inches apart with seed pieces twelve inches apart in the furrow.

6. Fertilizers if manure is available it should be used on the previous crop of legumes or grass at the rate of 10 to 15 tons per acre. A fertilizer mixture of an 8-4 or 8-5-5 or 7-5-5, or one high in acid and potash should be used at the rate of 1,000 to 1,500 pounds when legumes or manure are used. The more concentrated fertilizer mixtures may be used but care should be exercised in distributing the fertilizer evenly in the furrow in order to prevent damage to the roots and tubers by burning. Work the fertilizer deep in the furrow so that the elements will be available as root system develops.

7. Kill the weeds early by frequent going over the field before the potato vine appears, with a light harrow or spring tooth weeder. Some continue this practice even after the potato comes up or until they begin to damage the vines. Practice level cultivation. Do not let a weed grow.

8. Spray or dust in order to control flea beetle and late blight. Spraying—Use home-made Bordeaux Mixture made up with three pounds of bluestone, 4 pounds of lime and 50 gallons of water, adding to it 2 pounds of arsenate of lead or one pound of calcium arsenate which has been previously made into a thin paste. Thorough spraying will require 75 gallons of water per acre when the vines are small up to 125 gallons as the vines develop. Dusting—Use any of the commercial prepared poisoned copper lime dust mixture. Ten to fifteen pounds per acre at each dusting.

When spraying or dusting keep all leaves thoroughly covered. Begin spraying or dusting as soon as the plants come up and repeat every two weeks for the rest of the season.

of giving the same amount of money outright. As high as \$5,000 was offered for a box at the Yankee Stadium as soon as the Army-Navy engagement was announced.

## Seek a License For Local Radio Station

Messrs. W. H. Gragg, William Hodges, Edward Hodges and Radio Engineer Dacas left Sunday for Washington, D. C., where they went for the purpose of trying to secure a license for the radio station which has been placed in operation by Messrs. Winkler and Hodges in the Central Tire Company building here. Representative R. L. Doughton made the necessary engagement with the Radio Commission and, accompanied by Representative Jones, the desires of the Boone citizens were explained to the commission. No promises have been made so far as is known here regarding the station, but last reports are that the visitors are following up the procedure as explained to them, and are hopeful of favorable results.

The Boone station has been broadcasting for some time under a special permit, and many telegrams and letters of appreciation are coming in from over the State. The programs thus far have been old-time mountain songs with local string band accompaniments and are proving immensely popular.

## Boone High School Honor Roll for Nov.

Following is the honor roll for the third month of school term at Boone High School:

Seniors—Donald Brown, Boyd Cooke, James Farthing, Mary Austin, Mabel Cooke, Neil Cooke, Grace Edmisten, Lucy Greene, Grace Ashley, Josephine Jones, Marie Jean Jones, Mary Moretz, Dale Norris, Ruby Parsons, Margaret Taylor.

Juniors—Helene Benson, Nannie Byrd, Winton Ruckin, Brainard Watson, Mary Hayes, Glenda Hampton.

Sophomores—Gladys Hampton, Wilson Brown, Joan Little, Karl Sawyer, Dale Keller, Morris Barnett, Rex Hagaman, Della Hayes, Ruby Shull, Joe Hardin, Banne Miller.

Freshmen—Annie Adams, Edna Mae Brown, Ollie Jean Coffey, Elizabeth Cooke, Geneva Cooke, Rena Mae Farthing, Edith Greene, Brookshire Mary, Odessa Lookabill, Annie Norris, Margaret Ray, Ralph Tugman, Beah Keller, Gladys Hagaman, Edith Hamby, Winifred Hampton, Wilma Little, Lela Lookabill, Virginia South, June Russell and Vernon Robbins.

## Professional Beggars in Watauga County Ask Aid From Northerners

At frequent intervals we receive letters from church and charitable institutions in New York and other Northern points, stating that a letter has been received from some woman in Watauga County asking for help. The original letters are usually included and these letters ask for all kinds of help, clothing and money, etc., and make all kinds of statements as to the desperate needs of the writers' family.

This kind of advertising is making a very poor impression abroad for our good county. The people who receive these letters must think on receiving anywhere from ten to twenty such letters from one postoffice address in this county that we have an indigent population or else we are professional beggars. This practice has been going on for years.

We are not saying that all of these cases are unworthy, but when we look them up we usually find that they are what we call "road briers"—seldom a family really in need asks for this help. For years we have been hoping that each letter would be the last. They keep coming. Within the last month ten such letters have been received by us, and we feel that the self-respecting people in this county should know just who are writing these so-called "begging letters," and we are going to have the list of all the letters received after this date, open to the people of this county.

SMITH HAGAMAN,  
Supt. Public Welfare.  
A. J. GREENE,  
Chm. Welfare Board.

## OWL KILLED IN COLLISION WITH AUTO TUESDAY A. M.

What is the consequence when a wayfaring screech-owl, winging its way homeward from nocturnal ramblings, comes in contact with a motor car, meandering along a mountain road? Correct, Oscar, the owl is killed, the windshield is broken, and a driver is scared clean out of his skin. This is what happened about daylight Tuesday morning when Jim Carter, carrier for the Asheville Citizen, was driving down Valley Mountain. According to him, the impact of the two objects sounded very much like a French 75, and the shock he received almost caused him to leave the road at a very precipitous point. He brought the owl to Boone, along with the broken windshield, to prove his statement.

## RED CROSS DRIVE A HUGE SUCCESS; \$104 IS SECURED

Group Two and Group Three Tie for Honors With Forty Members Each. One Four-Dollar Donation, Audit of Expenditures to Be Published Next Week. List of New Memberships.

One hundred memberships and a four-dollar donation was the final result of the Red Cross Roll Call Drive, conducted by ladies of the city recently. In last week's issue, owing to a perplexing oversight, an error of \$3 was made in the list of Mrs. Bob Coffey and Miss Marguerite Miller. As it was published, they secured only thirty-seven members, when in reality they had forty, which made an even tie between them and the group composed of Miss J. M. Gaither and Miss Eric Greer.

The other twenty memberships and the \$4 contribution were secured by Mrs. Paul Coffey and Mrs. David Greene of Boone, and Mrs. F. C. Nye of Blowing Rock. The cash was in the office, and the credit attributed to Chairman Rivers, who has been known a few times in his life to make a mistake. For the drive we now have \$100 in memberships and a \$4 donation, the latter belonging to the local chapter.

In next week's issue we hope to publish an audit of the expenditures of the local chapter since the last Roll Call. Names of the members procured by the different groups follow:

Group 1—Mrs. Paul Coffey, L. M. Farthing, A. L. A. Poppy Fund, J. C. Rivers, A. Y. Howell, R. D. Hodges, Miss Jennie Coffey, C. C. Harris, Orrin Gaither, Mrs. F. A. Linney, Paul A. Coffey, Estelle Pye, Jane Elinson, Mrs. J. F. Harding, Miss Cora Joffcoat, A. E. South, Daniel Boone Hotel.

Group 2—J. G. Greer, Baxter Linney, Miss Cowan, John Howell, J. M. Downum, Miss McDade, J. T. C. Wright, Mrs. Emma Moore, Dr. J. D. Rankin, Miss Jennie Todd, Miss Harwell, Miss Grace Graybell, Rev. P. A. Hicks, Mrs. W. F. Miller, Miss Edna Holtzclaw, D. P. Mast, Miss Eula Todd, Miss Lona Moretz, Miss Maude Greene, Miss Dadds, Mrs. D. D. Dougherty, Mrs. L. G. Greer, R. F. Coffey, A. Antonakas, Mrs. D. J. Cottrell, Mrs. W. R. Spainhour, Miss Mildred Richardson, W. R. Spainhour, R. C. Rivers, Mrs. Mary Coffey, Mrs. Smith Hagaman, R. C. Johnston, Smith Hagaman, R. C. Rivers Jr., Miss Esther Fleming, Miss Lewis, C. A. Powell, Mrs. Howard Mast, Mrs. L. L. Bingham, Marguerite Miller.

Group 3—W. R. Vines, Mrs. Milton Greer, Miss Mona Greer, Mrs. J. N. Davidson, Dr. J. M. Gaither, B. R. Hodges, Ralph Mast, Mrs. B. F. McDade, W. H. Gragg, Miss Virginia Wary, G. K. Moore, J. F. Moore, W. C. Greer, Mrs. J. W. Norris, Miss Mary Krider, H. A. Saxon, J. F. Carter, R. S. Swift, Miss Gladys Bull, Miss Grace Sherrill, R. H. Townsend, G. M. Critcher, Lee Qualls, Lyda Tatam, Mrs. M. P. Critcher, Mrs. John Greer, Ralph Winkler, Cliff McConnell, Grady Farthing, Mrs. Cecil Miller, J. A. Spores, J. F. Robbins, John E. Brown, Miss Louise Fisher, Dr. J. C. Farthing, Pat McGuire, Howard Cottrell, Dr. J. E. Hagaman, A. G. Harris and E. N. Hahn.

Blowing Rock—F. C. Nye, Mrs. W. L. Holshouser, J. E. Holshouser.

## Mrs. Lee Clawson Dies At Rutherford Friday

Mrs. Lee Clawson, 60 years old, resident of the Rutherford section died at her home there last Friday after an illness of about three weeks. Funeral services were conducted from the Boone Methodist Church Saturday afternoon by the pastor, Dr. O. J. Chandler, and interment was in the city cemetery.

Mrs. Clawson was a member of the Methodist Church at Rutherford and for many years had been active in all its works, as well as in all activities of community betterment. She was a fine Christian lady and will be sorely missed.

Surviving are a husband, one son, Bland Clawson, a resident of the Rutherford section and a daughter, Mrs. Lawrence Cook, of the State of Washington.

## JACK HARDY DEAD

Brief press-time reports tell of the death of Jack Hardy, 70 years old, which occurred at his Rich Mountain home Sunday. Funeral services will be held today from the Rich Mountain Church. Surviving are a widow, two sons, Luther and Hubert Hardy, and three daughters, Madeline, Twiss and Mrs. Henry Beach of Watauga County, and Mrs. Benfield, who resides in Michigan.

The funeral was withheld to give the latter time to reach her old home.

## Local Paving Project Will Cost \$111,734.46

The North Carolina State Highway Commission received bids Tuesday on 21 road projects, the low bids on which aggregated \$1,205,104.25. There were 140 bids received. According to State Highway Engineer John D. Waldrop, the prices are the lowest received since the war.

The link of road on the Boone Trail Highway extending from Boone 4.89 miles in the direction of Deep Gap, and calling for concrete construction came up before the session and the Powell Paving Company of Winston-Salem presented the lowest bid, \$111,734.46. The contracts will come before the commission at its monthly meeting today for final disposal.

## Call Issued for Clothing For Poor of the County

To the People of Watauga County: About a year ago we issued a call for discarded clothing. The call was answered most generously. Out of these materials we have been able to dress or help dress many a needy boy or girl, man or woman. This clothing has at been dispensed during the past few weeks of the cold weather we have had more requests for help than ever before in the same period of time. We are again asking you to send us the unused clothing in your homes. Almost anything can be used that is clean and has any wear in it—but please let it be clean. You may send these things to me at my home, to The Democrat office or to your Volunteer Service representative in your township as follows:

Boone, Mrs. Paul Coffey, Blowing Rock, Mrs. Doc Coffey; Blue Ridge, Mrs. Rodney Greene; Cane Creek, Mrs. Mary Harris; Stony Fork, Mrs. Charlie Watson; Shawneehaw, Mrs. J. L. Triplett; Watauga, Mrs. Tom Taylor; North Fork, Mrs. Marion Thomas; Laurel Creek, Susie Triplett; Beaver Dam, Mrs. Clyde Perry.

Please look over your closets, and send us what you can spare to help answer the cry of the children, the sick and the needy who are naked, that we may clothe them.

MRS. M. B. BLACKBURN,  
Co. Chm. Volunteer Service, R. C.

## Christmas Program By Baptist Choir

The choir of the First Baptist Church of this city will render a special Christmas program in the main auditorium of the State Teachers College next Wednesday evening at 6:30. The evening's entertainment will begin by the singing of song 215, followed by the reading of scripture and prayer. "Holy Night" will precede the reading of a Christmas story, and "Joy to the World" will be sung.

A cantata, "The Promised Child," will conclude the entertainment. The public is cordially invited to be present.

## BLOWING ROCK MAN GIVEN PROMOTION BY POWER CO.

George T. Robbins, division manager of the Northwest Carolina Utilities at Blowing Rock, has been promoted to the position of district manager of that company and will be in charge of the properties operated at Blowing Rock, West Jefferson, Jefferson, Lansing, Warrensville, Sparta and Roaring Gap. Mr. Robbins succeeds G. B. Woody, who has been stationed on other property operated by this company and will continue as a district manager.

Northwest Carolina Utilities has been operating in this State for only a few years, but has grown very rapidly and is enjoying a good business. The total value of their holdings in this section of North Carolina exceeds a million dollars at the present time. The company is owned by the Empire Public Service Corporation of Philadelphia.

## SILVERSTONE ITEMS

A rather cold snap is on us again. "Aunt Mary" Wilson, mother of John Wilson, died at her home near Silverstone Sunday morning at 9:00 o'clock. Funeral services were held at her home Monday afternoon and interment followed at the John Mast cemetery.

We are indeed glad to note that the pastor of Pleasant Grove Church, Rev. G. W. Sebastian, who has been in the Winston-Salem Hospital for the past month, is back at his home in North Wilkesboro and is on the road to recovery.

Sunday School is progressing nicely at Pleasant Grove.

## JUNIOR CLASS OF BLOWING ROCK SCHOOL TO GIVE PLAY

The Junior Class of Blowing Rock High School will present a play, "Devon Dobbs," in the school auditorium Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock, December 13th. Here's a big treat for you. Don't miss it!

## ONE'S STORES RESPLENDENT IN HOLIDAY ATTIRE

Stores of the City Elaborately Decorated for the Christmas Season, and Thrifty Shoppers Are Urged to Make Early Selection. Indications Point to a Satisfactory Christmas Trade.

The managers of the various shops and stores of the city have been extremely busy folks for the past few days, making ready for the rush of Christmas shoppers who are already beginning to fill their gift lists. Never in the history of the city have the stores made more elaborate preparations for the holidays and it is an obvious fact that there is no longer necessity for one making shopping expeditions into the neighboring cities for their holiday purchases. The shops of Boone would do credit to a much larger city and no matter how complicated your shopping problems may be they may be solved satisfactorily and economically right here at home, and with the satisfaction of knowing that your currency is being kept in the channels of local trade, and that your town and county will benefit immeasurably by the patronage of her citizenship.

The prices on most commodities are lower than they have been for some years, and in the opinion of most of the merchants the receipts incident to the holiday trade will be of satisfactory volume. They, however, are urging their customers to make the most of the opportunity they have now of filling gift lists and avoiding the rush of the last few days before Christmas.

The Democrat this week carries a large volume of advertising and its readers are urged to use its pages as a shopping directory. The firms represented are making a definite bid for your business, and a glance through the columns of this issue will convince one that their offerings are outstanding ones. Newspaper advertising speaks the willingness of the advertiser to serve in the broadest measure, bringing a verbal picture of the stocks into the homes of most of the families of the county, facilitating selections, and making an open and helpful bid for business.

The publisher urges its readers to peruse the advertising columns and buy. Buying within itself promotes prosperity without injury. Buy, buy early, take advantage of the extremely low prices and by all means BUY AT HOME—help promote prosperity in the town and county where you reap your existence.

Following is a list of the firms who are carrying advertisements in The Democrat this week. Most of them are definitely of a Christmas nature, but all of them relate with the best of news—the kind of news that saves, and thus MAKES money for the people who look to this newspaper for at least a part of their information along all lines. We respectfully submit the names of those firms whose messages are contained herewith, invite our readers to peruse them, and visit the stores as mentioned. The following stores have messages of thrift and of good cheer for you, have turned the white light of publicity on their respective businesses and are anxious to make good to the dead letter their every promise. Visit them:

Harris Brothers, Boone Hardware Company, Central Tire Company, Boone Chevrolet Company, Walker's Jewelry Store, Hubert S. Norris, Farmers Hardware and Supply Company, Daniel Boone Shoe Shop, Carolina Stores, Watauga Building and Loan Company, Watauga County Bank, Boone Drug Company, Peoples Bank, F. C. Miller & Company, Sylvia Short, Spumbers, Inc., Boone Steam Laundry, Boone Clothing Store, J. & E. Store.

## Father of Prof. Wilson Near-Fatally Injured

Professors Chappell Wilson and Vance Howell returned last Friday from Robeson County where the former was called on account of the near-fatal accidental shooting of his father, which occurred the first of the week. First reports from the injured man were to the effect that his condition was regarded as critical, however, latest information is to the effect that he is showing satisfactory improvement and his recovery is expected.

According to the reports, the accident occurred when Mr. Wilson was trading guns with another man. It seems that the weapons had been exchanged for the purpose of inspection, and that while examining the piece, Mr. Wilson was injured by an accidental discharge.

## ASHLEY STORE SOLD

Mr. A. G. Miller of Deep Gap has purchased the stock of the Ashley Shoe Store and is now engaged in selling it out. Mr. I. L. Lanier of Charlotte is in charge of the close-out.