

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1933

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## STATE PROPERTY OWNERS RECEIVE CUT IN TAX RATE

Average Reduction for the One Hundred Counties Amounts to 41 Cents on the \$100 Valuation. Clay County Will Get and Increase of 13.2. Watauga County Will Make a Substantial Saving.

Raleigh, N. C.—Property taxpayers in the one hundred counties of North Carolina will receive an average tax reduction for roads and schools of 41 cents on the \$100 valuation, or a total of \$16,167,949, based on a total State valuation of \$2,975,298,274, according to figures just made public by Dr. Fred W. Merrison, of the Tax Commission, as a result of the action of the 1931 General Assembly.

These figures show that the tax reduction provided under the 15-cent levy for current expenses of school operation for six months will amount to an average of 32.5 cents on the \$100, or a total of \$9,652,491, while the net reduction for roads and bridges will be an average of 8.5 cents on the \$100, or a total of \$2,515,358. The 15-cent levy for school operation will amount to \$4,462,807, the compilation shows. The tax levy for roads and bridges in 1930 totaled \$5,252,113, in addition to the \$2,736,755 in State aid for roads, devoted largely to debt service of the counties.

In one county, Clay, the tax rate will have to be increased 13.2 and produce \$3,185 more than previously, this being the only county which does not get a reduction. Thirty counties get reductions of 50 cents or more, and in only seven of the counties is the reduction less than 25 cents on \$100.

Watauga County will get a reduction of 4.5 cents in rate and \$18,649 in the amount of taxes paid, on a valuation of \$8,678,621, the compilation shows.

Watauga County levied a tax of 15 cents for roads and bridges in 1930, bringing in \$13,018, while the State aid for roads and bridges amounted to \$13,462, used largely for debt service. This gives a net loss to the county for roads and bridges for this year of \$444.37, or .5 of a cent higher in rate. Taxes for current expenses of the six months school were at the rate of 37 cents, producing \$32,111, while the 15-cent levy provided for a purpose will bring only \$13,018, a reduction of \$19,093 in amount.

## Swallowing Artificial Teeth Proves Fatal

Washington.—Exhausted by continued pain, a cross-country airplane trip and the efforts of surgeons to remove the obstruction, Private Olaf Nelson died Tuesday with two artificial teeth in his esophagus. He swallowed the teeth last Saturday at Fort Bliss, El Paso. Rushed to Washington in an army ambulance plane, five unsuccessful attempts were made at Walter Reed Hospital to extract the teeth. At 7 a. m. he died from suffocation, although three hours earlier he had been in a more satisfactory condition than at any time since he arrived here late yesterday.

Surgeon General Patterson of the army, and Dr. James F. Mitchell, a Washington surgeon, had feared septic pneumonia or a general infection, and after the fifth probing, ordered that he be permitted to rest and regain his strength.

The teeth slipped down Nelson's throat while he was eating breakfast. He tried to extract them and pushed them farther down, so they lodged about opposite the fourth vertebrae, held by four golden prongs on the bridgework. An operation from the outside, physicians asserted, would have been extremely dangerous, while if the teeth had gone into his stomach comparative simple surgery would have given relief.

Surgeon General Patterson said it was a "very unusual case."

"I don't recall when anyone has swallowed such an object that got down so far," he added.

The teeth were removed from his body in a post-mortem examination witnessed by about 40 doctors.

This confirmed physicians' opinion that it had been futile to try to remove the denture.

"It was just as though," the explanation was, "he had swallowed four fish hooks."

As X-rays indicated, the prongs were imbedded in the gullet, two through the back and the others through the forward wall.

The hospital wired Elna Johnson, Irwin, Calif., when Nelson's condition became critical. His transfer card showed she was his aunt.

Later they found his mother, Mrs. Kerstin Persson, now lives in Frenne-Wollajo, Sweden, and sent her a cable.

Fertilizers were purchased co-operatively for cash by the Midway Grange in Davidson County this season at a substantial saving to the members.

## Wins Beauty Prize



Janet Sheppard, Dallas, Texas, daughter of Senator Morris Sheppard, has been voted the prettiest girl at the University of Texas.

## PASTIME THEATRE WILL INSTALL NEW SOUND EQUIPMENT

Technical Engineer for Western Electric Company Arrives in City and Begins Work of Installation. Same Type as that Used by Metropolitan Show Houses. No Interruption in Programs. Ready Next Monday.

Mr. N. L. Mower, technical engineer for the Western Electric Company, arrived in the city Tuesday afternoon and is now engaged in the installation of the latest sound equipment at the Pastime Theatre, to take the place of the older machines which were not particularly adapted to the building. If work goes forward as satisfactorily as is expected, the new machinery will be in operation for the regular programs next Monday. Installation of the new equipment, however, it is explained, does not interfere at all with the regular screen programs and there will be no interruptions.

The local theatre has taken a decidedly forward step in securing for their patrons the Western Electric sound units, it is known as the most expensive equipment in the world, and the Boone playhouse is the only one employing it between Winston-Salem and Bristol. The identical type of equipment is used at RKO's, the Paramount and Loew's Capital, the three greatest New York theatres, and the Pastime Theatre will be producing just as good sound as is enjoyed in the Metropolis.

Under the arrangement made with Mr. Hamby, the machinery will be thoroughly adjusted by Mr. Mower, and a service man will make weekly visits of inspection, going over the equipment and insuring perfect service. Thus local theatre goers will enjoy the latest films and be assured of perfect sound reception.

## Spurious Plea for Money Sent Out from Route 1

Mrs. Cathleen Warren, Caldwell County welfare officer, has received a letter from Boone, asking aid, which she believes is a fake, says the Lenoir News-Topic, and expressed the opinion that an attempt to obtain money under the shield of charity. The letter, supposedly written by a ten-year-old girl, refers to a Government hospital at Oakwood, Ky., and Mrs. Warren stated that there is no town in Kentucky by that name or a hospital as indicated. The letter follows:

"Boone, N. C., R. 1. Dear Mrs. Warren: Will you please help me out just a bit. I am collecting 25 quarters for the crippled children at the U. S. hospital on Wood K. y. they want Ery Body to give a quarter and I am trying my luck seeing how many quarters I can collect for them in 5 months. pass the hat in Lenoir please and send Ery quarter you can collect to me and many thanks to for I have no convance to Lenoir or I would not call on you. I am just 10 years old have large Brown Eyes and Dark hair. Never see a stranger, my home is at Wilkesboro I am at Boone with my aunt collecting those quarters this summer." "P. S. I get no prize for my work. Just love all children and love to help those in need."

Mrs. Warren stated that persons are advised to refrain from making the donations in view of the facts disclosed in her investigations at Lenoir and at Boone.

## MONTEZUMA WINS OVER COVE CREEK IN ONE-SIDED GAME

A very interesting baseball game was played last Saturday afternoon on the Mable diamond between Montezuma and Cove Creek teams. Montezuma won with a score of fourteen to one. A large crowd from the two places gathered to watch the game.

## LIGHTNING PLAYS HIDE AND SEEK IN CLAY NORRIS HOME NEAR DEEP GAP

Mr. Clay Norris, resident of the Deep Gap community, was in town Friday and tells The Democrat of the narrow escape experienced by members of his household when on Thursday morning lightning struck his residence and played hide and seek through the different rooms without harming his wife or children, who were in the building at the time. The lightning, Mr. Norris states, struck the cave on the west side of the house, tore away the ends of the rafters and a part of the roof, jerked nails loose from a large section of the weatherboarding, entered a bedroom, slammed a dresser from its position against the wall and shivered the mirror, splintered the bottom of a screen door and flashed into an adjoining room.

Here the first object of its fury was five pairs of shoes, which were all damaged beyond repair, five having been absolutely torn to strings, and steel arch supports in some of them thrown clear of the leather.

## NEW OFFICERS NAMED AT JOINT LEGION MEETING

Lionel Ward Elected Post Commander at Friday Session. Legion Auxiliary With Insufficient Attendance Fails to Elect. New Officials Will Take Over Affairs at November Meeting.

The Watauga Post American Legion met in joint session with Legion Auxiliary members at Legion Hall last Friday evening and elected a slate of officers for the coming year. Small attendance of Auxiliary members prohibited naming of their officials.

Lionel Ward was chosen Post Commander, with J. C. McConnell, Vice-Commander; Stewart J. Barnes, Adjutant; B. E. Osborne, Finance Officer; L. S. Isaacs, Service Officer; Stener Miller, Guardianship Officer; Roy I. Haynes, Sergeant at Arms; Robert S. Cade, Chaplain; S. F. Horton, Historian; N. G. Cook, Athletic Officer; V. C. Howell, Child Welfare Officer; Sam Atkins, Employment Officer; Robert M. Gingrich, Membership Chairman; Fred Winkler, Publicity Officer.

Delegates to the Thirtieth Annual Convention, Department of N. C., which convenes in Moberly City on July 27th for a five-day session, were named as follows: Charles L. Younce, J. C. McConnell, Lionel Ward, and B. E. Osborne, Alternates; Roy I. Haynes, Stewart J. Barnes, Robert M. Gingrich and Spencer Miller.

The old officials will carry on until the installation meeting which is scheduled to be held on the first Friday in October.

## Advance Registration Large at Lees-McRae

Banner Elk, N. C.—The registration for Lees-McRae College for the year 1931-32 already promises a successful year for the college. The advanced registration up-to-date numbers one hundred and eighty-six. Of these, sixty-six are in the college department and one hundred and twenty in the high school. Other registrations and inquiries are being received every day.

Lees-McRae College, an accredited junior college, is offering to boys and girls in this period of financial depression both liberal and vocational college education at the lowest possible expense.

Its aim is to produce useful Christian citizens by helping the students to help themselves. This college is a special asset to the mountain sections of North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia, as it offers courses in Mountain Farming, Business Administration, Home Economics, Religious Social Work and Nurses Training—all of which will prepare students to use the opportunities and develop the resources of their own homes.

## CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OF BOONE ICE PLANT

A deal has recently been closed whereby R. E. Porter becomes the owner of the local ice plant and for the past few days work has been going forward manufacturing ice and at the same time giving the plant a general overhauling. Mr. Porter says that a large quantity of crystal ice is now available, and that there will be no future shortage. Deliveries are being made promptly and he states that if business justifies it, the plant will be operated at capacity both day and night.

## Saved Whole Regiment



Capt. John E. Scott, after 13 years has been granted the D.S.C. for saving the lives of an entire American regiment. He is on the Washington, D. C. police force.

## TWO INJURED AS BUS OVERTURNS

Mrs. A. B. Thompson and Miss Berryhill, Both of Charlotte, Receive Painful Injuries Near Valle Crucis Friday.

Mrs. A. B. Thompson and Miss Johnnie Berryhill, both of Charlotte, suffered minor injuries when a bus loaded with delegates to the Young Peoples Conference at Banner Elk, overturned on Valle Mountain above Valle Crucis Friday afternoon.

While it appeared almost miraculous that the accident did not result in a major tragedy, neither of the two suffered more than slight injuries, and no others required medical treatment according to Dr. H. B. Perry, of Boone, who treated Mrs. Thompson and Miss Berryhill.

As the bus was coming down the mountain the brakes failed and the heavy vehicle got out of control and overturned twice. Fortunately, the hill over which it turned was not steep, and injuries were held to a minimum.

The other bus containing delegates was immediately behind the overturned one and the two injured passengers were picked up and rushed to Boone.

Mrs. Thompson had a cut on the right leg and a slight injury to the chest. Miss Berryhill's right shoulder was injured, and she had two cuts on the right side of the face, one below and one above the eye.

## J. C. Fletcher Moves Office Back to Lenoir

The Lenoir News-Topic of July 15th says: "J. C. Fletcher, of Lenoir, 14th attorney for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, last week was removed to this city and will open an office at the postoffice building. Mr. Fletcher will continue here until spring abstracting titles, principally the 27,000-acre tract belonging to the Hurton and Bourbonnais Company.

## Horse Show at Rock To Be Held Aug. 4th

Blowing Rock.—At a meeting of the Horse Show Committee of the Blowing Rock Civic Club at Mayview Manor recently, it was decided to hold a horse show at Blowing Rock on Tuesday, August 4, 1931. The Horse Show will be conducted by the Blowing Rock Horse Show Association of which Mr. D. J. Boyden is president, Mr. John Bunn, vice-president and Mr. R. C. MacMahon, secretary.

## BROKERAGE FIRM WILL BEGIN SHIPMENT OF STRING BEANS

Chairman Smith Haseman of the co-operative marketing association, states that Andrews and Knowels will have a man in Boone within the next few days to handle beans, etc., for those, at least, who signed a contract. All growers interested are requested to get in touch with this gentleman or a member of the committee immediately and advise as to how many beans they have and when they will want to place them on the market.

The Alleghany Sheep Growers Co-operative Association sold 18,000 pounds of wool for 20 cents a pound in its recent pool.

## MRS. RUTH BISHOP TAKES OWN LIFE FRIDAY MORNING

Wife of Rocky Mount Man Is Found Dead in Room at Winkler Home. Shotgun Used. Ill Health Was the Cause. Body Sent to St. Petersburg, Florida, for Interment. Two Small Children Survive.

Mrs. Ruth Bishop, 34 wife of Dr. F. M. Bishop, of Rocky Mount, N. C., was found dead in a room at the Mrs. G. C. Winkler home near Boone Friday morning at 10 o'clock, a victim of suicide. Her hand still gripped the barrel of a small bore shotgun, the charge from which had entered her right temple, torn through the skull and scattered the brain.

A note to Mrs. N. S. Fulford, of Greenville, who occupied an adjacent room, bore the following message: "Perhaps I am responsible for my acts these days, and perhaps not. No one who has never had suicidal depression can understand it. I am sincerely grateful for all you did to help me. May God bless you for it."

Mrs. Bishop came here on May 24 for a rest, having recently suffered a nervous breakdown. It is stated that about two weeks ago, she took a dozen veronal tablets in an attempt to end her life. However, medical aid was summoned over her protest and she was revived. Since that time she had frequently been in depressed moods, and had expressed to friends the desire to end it all.

The deceased was born and reared in Cleveland, Ohio, was a graduate of Wellesly College and Columbia University, and is said to have been a most talented woman. The Bishop family spent last summer in Boone, and during their stay made many friends, who were stricken with grief when they learned of the tragedy. Dr. Bishop, who is a Unitarian minister, arrived in Boone Friday night, and on Saturday left with the remains for St. Petersburg, Fla., where interment took place Monday. Surviving are the husband and two small sons, John and Francis.

## Sprinkle Company Sells Equipment to Atlantic

(Lenoir News-Topic). The Sprinkle Oil Company, local distributors of Sinclair petroleum products, will on July 31st be acquired by the Atlantic Refining Company as distributors of Atlantic gasoline and oil in Caldwell, Burke, and Watauga Counties. It was announced last week by R. F. Sprinkle Jr., owner of the Sprinkle company. Headquarters will be maintained at Lenoir, Mr. Sprinkle said.

## CHARLES WILCOX, BOONE, NOT BEFORE MAYOR

Last week in connection with the proceedings of the municipal court, it was stated that Charlie Wilcox was fined for drunkenness. There being two men of the same name, it is to be understood that the man mentioned was not Charlie Wilcox of Boone, but the other Charlie, who is a resident of the Elk section. The explanation is gladly made, since a general misunderstanding had resulted from the former publication.

## FAMOUS CLOWN PASSES

Montreal, Quebec.—John Slater, 59, chief clown with the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus, died Monday. He was taken ill when the circus was here July 9th and 7th. He was a resident of Delphos, Ohio.

## THE WEATHER

Weather report for week ending July 11th, as compiled by the Co-operative Station, Appalachian State Teachers College, J. T. C. Wright, observer:

- Average maximum temperature, 85 degrees.
- Average minimum temperature, 61 degrees.
- Average temperature, 71 degrees.
- Average daily range in temperature, 19 degrees.
- Greatest daily range in temperature, 29 degrees; date, 11th.
- Average temperature at 6 p. m. (time of observation), 74 degrees.
- Highest temperature reached, 83 degrees; date, 7th and 8th.
- Lowest temperature reached, 50 degrees; date, 11th.
- Number inches of rainfall, 1.66.
- Greatest rainfall in 24 hours, 0.83; date, 5th.
- Number of days with 0.01 inch or more rainfall, 3.
- Number of clear days, 1.
- Number of cloudy days, 2.
- Number of partly cloudy days, 4.
- Direction of prevailing wind, west.
- Dates of hail, 9th.
- Dates of fogs, 5th, 9th, 10th.
- Dates of thunderstorms, 9th.