

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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## BOONE CIVITANS ENJOY ADDRESS BY BRUCE WEBB

Asheville Newspaper Man Presents Details of Farm Plan to Local Club at Luncheon Meeting. Queen Bess Kennan and H. R. Niswonger Also Present. Forty Members and Visitors Enjoy Home-cooked Dinner.

Mr. Bruce Webb, promotion director of the Asheville Citizen and Asheville Times, was the honor guest at the regular Thursday meeting of the Boone Civitan Club held at the Critcher Hotel. This meeting of the club was a notable one in that the program was planned in connection with the Third Annual Farmers Institute for Watauga County. Several visitors in town for the institute were guests of the club and brought the attendance up to forty, all of whom enjoyed an interesting social hour and an excellent home-cooked dinner.

After the regular business of the club had been disposed of, Mr. Watt Gragg, president of the club, introduced the visitors, each of whom arose and told briefly what his or her occupation was. Among the visitors were Mrs. Queen Bess Kennan, national committeewoman of the Republican Party, and Mrs. John F. Johnson, both of Farmington; the Rev. Mr. L. F. Kent, of the Valle Crucis School; Mr. Joe McCoy, manager of the Daniel Boone Hotel; Mr. H. R. Niswonger, horticulturist of the State Department of Agriculture; Mr. George Smith of Cranberry High School; Mr. Dallinger, of Crossnore; Mr. Howard Walker, teacher of agriculture at Cove Creek School; Mr. W. F. Winkler, local business man; Mr. Charlie W. Hall, dairy farmer of Advance, N. C.

Following the introduction of the visitors, Tom Cushing introduced Mr. Webb who, for his address, chose to briefly outline the 5-to-10-year plan for Western North Carolina farmers. Mr. Webb explained that, while distance from Asheville, center of the eighteen counties originally included in this plan, had at first made it seem inadvisable to include Watauga County which had Winston-Salem as its more accessible market, there really was no reason why Watauga should not join the other counties and every reason for this section to come in. He then went on to tell how his plan, changing from the one farm product system to the "cow, sow and little red hen" idea, had increased the value of her farm products by \$95,000,000.

Mr. Webb pointed out that the problem in Minnesota had been to develop all products proportionately, while here in Western North Carolina the danger lies in the diversity of the crops—since everything that grows in the far-reaching section between Canada and the semi-tropics can be raised right here in these mountains. The idea, stated Mr. Webb, was to effect an organization that would, through representatives of the different sections, counties and communities, determine just what crops and breeds of stock were best for any particular section and market.

The meeting of the Civitan Club adjourned after Mr. Webb's most interesting talk in order that the members might attend the afternoon session of the Farmers Institute.

## Cove Creek High School Honors First President

Cove Creek High School impressively celebrated the 200th anniversary of the birth of George Washington Monday afternoon by giving a comprehensive dramatization of the life of the first President. Miss Constance Shoun was in charge of the excellent program, and members of the student body, costumed in Colonial garb, presented the high spots in Washington's eventful life "from the cradle to the grave."

His birth, the cherry tree episode, his work as a surveyor on the Fairfax estate, his courtship and marriage, his rise to commander-in-chief of the revolutionary army, inauguration as president, and closing scenes of his life at Mount Vernon combined to fill the program with historic interest. The auditorium was packed to capacity with students, parents, and friends of the school.

Following the program students and patrons devoted the remainder of the afternoon to planting trees and shrubbery on the grounds.

## BANK RETURNS MILLION-DOLLAR LOAN TO R. F. C.

Washington, D. C.—The Reconstruction Finance Corporation received its first real thrill Saturday. A loan of approximately \$1,000,000 made to a large banking organization on February 15 was repaid Saturday with interest for five days. The bank reported there had been a complete change in the attitude of its depositors during the five days, making the keeping of the \$1,000,000 any longer unnecessary. The corporation also has authorized a number of loans which have not been called for.

## Entire Contents of Burning House Saved

While a Wednesday morning blaze roared through the dry shingle roof of the Ray Brendall home in East Boone, neighbors were working like mad removing the personal effects and furniture from the threatened building, and although the fire alarm was promptly sounded, and the summons instantly answered by the fire company, the building was completely emptied before anything was damaged by either the fire or the hose. Some of the permanent fixtures, including a bath tub, were taken from the structure by the diligent workers.

The house was the property of W. G. Hartzog and the damages were confined to the roof, where it is thought a spark from a flue started the fire. There was an insurance coverage.

## BOONE ARTISTS TO APPEAR IN RADIO RECITAL SATURDAY

Professor and Mrs. I. G. Greer Will Present Group of Mountain Ballads Over Station WROL. Will Also Appear Before Smoky Mountains Hiking Club To Discuss Preservation of Mountain Songs.

Professor I. G. Greer, of Appalachian State Teachers College, will sing a group of old mountain ballads and folk songs in an appearance before the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club, Knoxville, Tenn., next Saturday evening at 8 o'clock. Immediately before this event he will give a 30-minute program over Knoxville Station WROL. He will be accompanied in both recitals by Mrs. Greer, who is an accomplished musician.

Professor Greer is in possession of one of the most comprehensive collections of mountain songs in existence, and for the past several years has made scores of appearances throughout the South bringing these unique ballads before appreciative audiences.

With an accompaniment by Mrs. Greer, he has also recorded several mountain ballads on phonograph records, including that old favorite, "Sourwood Mountain."

A movement is now on foot to preserve for posterity these folk songs, some of which date back several centuries. In connection with Mr. Greer's recital before the club in Knoxville, he will also discuss this matter with the members, as they are especially interested in the preservation of these ballads.

## Sears Roebuck President Sees Rosy Era for States Of the South Atlantic

General R. E. Wood Tells Manufacturers Section to Become Industrial Center of United States. Has Many Advantages.

Atlanta, Ga.—General R. E. Wood, president of Sears, Roebuck and Company, predicts the southeast will develop in ten years into the greatest industrial center of the United States.

Addressing a meeting of Georgia manufacturers, he declared "The South has more young people under the age of twenty than either the north or west, and it is this advantage of youthful population that in the next ten years will make it the greatest industrial section of the nation."

General Wood added the Southeast has every possible natural advantage in the way of facilities, minerals, timber, and other resources. "This section has the advantage of being near deep water, and has the raw material, miners, timber and cheap power that make manufacturing possible."

## Many Changes Made In Local Barber Shops

"Barber Bill" Hodges, for many years of the City Barber Shop, following his sale of the property to Mr. Lewis Reese several weeks ago, has taken over the lease of the Sanitary Barber Shop, and is now in charge. In turn, Mr. Ronda Hodges has left the Sanitary Barber Shop and purchased a half interest in Mr. Reese's establishment. Mr. Dewey Broom finishes out the organization of the City Barber Shop, which is conducted in the Watauga County Bank building.

Associated with "Barber Bill" in the Sanitary Shop are Joe Crawford and Roger McGuire, while Miss Hazel McGuire and Mrs. Roger McGuire have taken over the management and operation of the Queen Annie Beauty Parlor.

An advertisement for each of the establishments is carried in The Democrat today.

## FERTILIZER BILLS CAUSE NO WORRY TO VILAS FARMER

Don J. Horton Raises Bountiful Crops Without Commercial Fertilizer. Uses Leaf Mold and Stable Manure. Careful Use of Nature's Soil Building Elements Keeps Ground in Good Condition.

Don J. Horton, a real "dirt farmer" of the Vilas section, has a formula for prosperity which is well worth passing along to agriculturalists of Watauga. It is Mr. Horton's belief (and he has practiced it for many years) that a farmer should, first of all, till the soil for a living. Second, he should plant as many different cash crops as he can properly tend. Third, commercial fertilizer bills should be held to a minimum, leaf mold and stable manure being used as the main soil builder. Fourth, rye or other cover crops should be planted persistently, in order that livestock may have grazing during the winter months, thereby averting many diseases which are due to an unbalanced ration. And fifth, selected breeds of poultry and livestock should take the place of scrubs.

Mr. Horton's farm comprises 300 acres of land. Besides an abundance of apples, he produced from the cultivated acreage last year surpluses of the following crops: corn, potatoes, oats, rye, cabbage and beans. A large garden, supervised by Mrs. Horton, contributed a variety of vegetables to the family larder, the overplus of which was placed in cans for winter use. A herd of twenty purebred Holstein and Jersey cows are milked on the Horton farm and the butterfat is marketed at a nearby cheese factory. On the hillside pastures is a flock of well-kept Shropshire sheep, each of which is vaccinated regularly against hemorrhagic septicemia. The fences of the hog lot confine a group of pure-blooded Poland-China brood sows, and the squealing off-spring of these grunting, grumbling "mamas" are the source of a never-failing revenue. In the poultry pens a multitude of White Wyandotte and Mottled Ancona hens disregard low market prices and dispense eggs at a record-breaking clip.

From the woodlands a ton or more of dry leaves are hauled weekly for bedding the stables, and already the cow stalls are filled to the tops of their silos with invaluable humus which will be spread on the fields at plowing time. Mr. Horton is a great believer in manure as a soil builder, and admits that in the past several years he has used not one single bag of commercial fertilizer. Over thirty acres of his farm were treated with the leaf-manure mixture last year, and the results, as seen at harvest time, were most gratifying. The Vilas man points out that his ground is, through this method, kept at a high state of productivity all the time.

Too many irons in the fire might not be a good practice in all lines of endeavor, but Mr. Horton carries a deep conviction that farmers in Watauga would do well to stay away from the one-crop system and practice diversification. He fears that agriculturalists of this section are centering too much on potato culture, and will, due to prevailing marketing conditions, bring about an unpleasant congestion. It has been his experience that a small surplus of several crops insures a better farm income, and tends to more evenly balance the flow of revenue.

Another feature of Mr. Horton's farm work which is worthy of praise lies in the meticulous care he has exercised in building up uncultivated areas. There are not enough blackberry briars on the entire three hundred acres of land to cover a pig lot, and the pastures are kept absolutely free of second-growth timber. Several

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## Doughton to Distribute School Room Maps

County Superintendent Smith Hagan is in receipt of a letter from Congressman Robert L. Doughton stating that he will soon have for distribution an up-to-date map of North Carolina, and also a map of the United States, both of which are suitable for schoolroom use.

Mr. Hagan is anxious for every teacher in the county to get one of these maps, and asks that they write immediately to the Congressman, indicating in their letters which they prefer—the State or United States map. He also, on behalf of the teachers, wishes to express appreciation to Mr. Doughton for the fine portraits of Washington which now grace the walls of every classroom in the county.

## LEGION MEETING

A regular meeting of Watauga Post, American Legion, will be held on Friday evening, March 4th, at 7:30 o'clock. A full attendance of members is urged.

## Blowing Rock Celebrates The Opening of New Bank

The Bank of Blowing Rock, which closed its doors about three months ago, due to slackened collections augmented by the usual withdrawals, was opened for business Tuesday noon, after reorganization plans, under way for several weeks, had been approved by the State Banking Department. John G. Allen, liquidating accountant, was present, and declared the bank reopened after it was found that the requirements of the department had been met.

Mr. W. D. Farthing, cashier of the bank which has played an important part in the financial life of the northwest for more than a score of years, was of the opinion that the bank would not open until Wednesday morning. He states, however, that without general knowledge of the accomplishment, word was passed around the community, and that the afternoon's deposits totaled more than the full day's receipts of normal times.

### Unique Plan

The plan of reorganization which is said to have been worked out largely by Dr. B. B. Dougherty, president of the Teachers College and a stockholder of the institution, has been cited as one "never before tried in any American State." Under its terms all capital stock, time certificates, and checking accounts were canceled and then the friends of the bank raised \$16,000 in new money for capital

stock. Canceled deposits and stock, together with new subscriptions, totaled \$75,000. Twenty-five thousand of this amount was set up as a capital stock and the remainder \$50,000 retained as undivided profits. Approximately 33 per cent of the canceled deposits of each individual in the bank was issued in new stock to that person, and the balance set aside as a surplus to be paid back to the depositors.

A. C. Moody remains as president of the reorganized bank, and W. D. Farthing as cashier, while there is no change in other official positions or in the directorate.

Celebrating their release from the many handicaps which came with the closing of a bank, the people of Blowing Rock met in a good will session Tuesday evening, at which time Dr. Dougherty explained the details incident to the reorganization, and praised the assemblage for what he considered the most unified community spirit he had ever witnessed. Short discussions were entered into and a fine spirit of friendly co-operation in furthering the best interests of the town was manifest.

### Allen Adds Praise

State Liquidating Accountant John G. Allen felt that the reorganization of the Blowing Rock Bank was an accomplishment considerably above the ordinary, and

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## LARGE CROWD IN ATTENDANCE AT FARM INSTITUTE

H. R. Niswonger and Bruce Webb Principal Speakers. Local Men Add Interest to Thursday's Meeting With Practical Experiences. T. E. Brown Explains Vocational Education Movement.

### By TOM CUSHING

Under the auspices of the Boone Civitan Club, the third annual Farmers Institute for Watauga County was held in the courthouse on Thursday of last week. The program, restricted to one day instead of three as in the previous two years, was both interesting and instructive to the select group of about 175 farmers, stock raisers and dairymen attending. Addresses by visiting and local men of prominence, all authorities in some phase of farming activity, were enjoyed by the audience which, though smaller than was expected, displayed enthusiasm by the way in which it entered the discussions when the meeting was thrown open for general questions by each of the speakers in turn.

County Superintendent Smith Hagan, acting as chairman of the institute, introduced H. R. Niswonger, State Horticulturist, as the first speaker of the day. Mr. Niswonger made a general talk on farm products and methods, emphasizing the value of using selected seeds in preparation for larger and better crops. Carefully prepared charts were an aid to Mr. Niswonger in his successful effort to show the assembled planters just how, in dollars and cents, they would be benefited by careful thought before beginning their season's work.

W. H. Walker, instructor in the agricultural department of the Cove Creek High School, gave the institute an interesting hour on subjects of importance to farmers and livestock raisers, his hour was made more colorful when he called upon men who had, by study of their work, made a success of the line in which they specialized. Mr. Walker called upon Mr. John Greer, of Mabel, to tell the gathering something of the methods he had pursued in attaining success as a grower of potatoes. Mr. Greer emphasized the use of carefully selected seed potatoes, the means of fertilization, the care with which his crops had been sprayed and cultivated during the growing season. Some facts as to the relative values and costs of the Canadian seed potatoes were brought out at this time.

Don Hoxton also aided Mr. Walker in his part of the program by discussing with the authority of an expert the use of vaccination as a preventive of diseases in cattle and sheep. He stressed the fact that black leg and other incurable diseases among cattle were entirely preventable by vaccination, while hemorrhagic septicemia, a blood condition in sheep, generally believed incurable, can be eliminated by the timely use of vaccines. Mr. Horton illustrated the practicality of his methods by stating that by vaccination his sheep twice yearly he had not lost a sheep

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## Meter Cards to Be Used By Local Light Company

Cards showing current reading of light meters are being distributed to patrons of the New River Light and Power Company this week, and S. M. Ayers, superintendent believes that the measure will go far toward eliminating misunderstandings relative to light bills. The cards will be placed beside meters and the readings will be marked down monthly. All persons who do not understand just how to read his or her meter will be taught to do so by Mr. Ayers on calling at his office. He states that a meter is very easily read when once understood. The local light and power company are users of General Electric meters, said to be the best money can buy.

## Mrs. Emma Lowrance Dies at Valle Crucis

Mrs. Emma Lowrance, 35 years old, died at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Baird, at Valle Crucis Wednesday morning, the 17th inst., after a serious illness of about a week. She had been in declining health for about 18 months.

Funeral services were conducted from the home on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock by the Reverend Hurburt, Episcopal minister, and interment was in the Baird graveyard.

Surviving, besides the parents, are two children, Mary and Howard, one sister and six brothers.

Mrs. Lowrance was reared at Valle Crucis, but for twelve years had made her home at Elizabethton. Because of declining health she returned to the home of her parents for an extended visit, and the fatal illness followed. She was well known throughout the community, and leaves many friends to mourn her death.

## COLLEGE STUDENT IS ARRESTED HERE ON SHOOTING COUNT

Tom Pennington of Creston Suspected of Having Shot Joe Graybeal at Creston Sunday Night. Stoutly Maintains Innocence. To Receive Hearing on March 20. Injured Youth in Serious Condition.

Tom Pennington, 20-year-old student at State Teachers College, and resident of the Creston community, was arrested on suspicion by Sheriff Farthing Tuesday, after word had come from Ashe County officials for local authorities to be on the lookout for those implicated in the Sunday night shooting of Joe Graybeal, also of Creston. Young Pennington stoutly maintained his innocence, and denied any part in or knowledge of the gun play. He was released under \$1,000 bond and is to appear on March 20th before Esquire W. R. Osborne of Creston, to answer the charges.

According to the reports reaching Boone, young Graybeal was walking along a road in the Creston community when a car drew up alongside. A voice called out: "I've got you where I want you," and a ball from a pistol was fired into his abdomen. The injured man's condition is described as grave, the bullet having punctured the bowels at eleven places.

Graybeal, it is understood, states he knows who attacked him, but refuses to tell. It is believed that the feeling between the men came as a result of some difficulty about a community maiden, to whom perhaps one of them was paying court.

## Large Attendance at Revival Services

The revival services which are being held in the Episcopal Church by the Rev. M. B. Miller, Christian evangelist of the First Tennessee District, have been in progress for a week and the house has been filled to overflowing at each evening service. The forceful sermons of the well known evangel are being most favorably received, and the meeting may continue into next week. Announcements, however, have only been made to include Sunday night, and the subjects of the discourses up to that time are as follows:

Wednesday evening, "The Seven Wonders of Heaven"; Thursday evening, "The Seven Wonders of Hell"; Friday, "Conversion and Pardon Made Plain"; Saturday, "Four Big Fools"; Sunday morning, "Revive Us Again"; Sunday evening, "The Divinity of the Church of Christ."

There are about thirty-five members of the Christian Church residing in Boone at this time, says Rev. Miller, and at some later date, it is said, tentative plans call for the establishment of a church in this city.

## PLAY POSTPONED

On account of illness among the members, a patriotic play portraying the life and accomplishments of George Washington, scheduled for presentation next Friday evening by the Worth While Club, has been postponed until a later date. An announcement relative to the play will appear in next week's Democrat.

Library