

The Watauga Democrat

ESTABLISHED 1888

Issued Every Thursday by The RIVERS PRINTING COMPANY R. C. RIVERS ROBERT RIVERS Publishers

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

One Year \$1.50 Six Months .75 Three Months .49 Payable in Advance

Cards of Thanks, Resolutions of Respect, Obituaries, etc., are charged for at the regular advertising rates.

Entered at the Postoffice at Boone, N. C., as Second Class matter.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1933

North Carolina's idea of the millennium right now would likely have to do with a State in which there is no Legislature in session.

Wise-cracker insists that since the North Carolina Legislature will not legalize beer, "we will have to get along with liquor for a while longer."

If there are any of the opinion that the banking system in the United States does not need a revamping, comparative figures might prove enlightening. Bank failures in the United States, 1920 to 1933, number, 10,484. Bank failures in Great Britain since 1850—None!

With the signature of President Roosevelt the bill legalizing beer becomes active Wednesday, permitting sale of the beverage on April 7th in states where local laws are in accord. The "suds" is of 3.2 per cent. potency, and is described as quite as good as domestic brews of pre-prohibition days. Only fourteen states are ready to serve beer at once, it is revealed, the number to be increased to 24 within a few weeks.

NAILING DOWN THE PLANKS

Those who have been inclined to visualize a political platform as something on which and about which to make speeches for the fleeting purposes of getting votes, are amazed at the speed with which each plank in the Democratic platform is being taken care of at Washington. Following the enactment of the emergency banking bill, Congress immediately gave the President the necessary means for his signature, made beer legal, is now engaged in form relief measures, and unemployment relief is being urged as the next item of business. The time is not recalled when such a speedy effort was made to make platform promises good.

ANTI-DANCE ACT

And now comes an ordinance forbidding the holding of further public dances within the town of Boone, which was ratified at the last meeting of the city council, and which, incidentally, furnishes one more point on which the outside world will focus its rays of ridicule. While not personally being of a dancing disposition, "The Democrat" knows a lot of good folks who trip the light fantastic without becoming inebriated or being guilty of more serious forms of immoralities, and these people will likely feel as if they have been more or less branded as criminals.

A friendly suggestion would be that the town authorities make a practice of casting the boisterously jubilant into the bastille a few times, after the ball is over... and further trouble might be prevented, if there has been much. Instead, a growing disposition is manifest locally to pass laws to reform the people instead of reforming them by the age-old law against public drunkenness. That is on the assumption that drinking is the objection to dancing.

A year or so ago Boone gained State-wide notice by raking up from the ruins of the dusty past, a curfew law... and personally we don't like to have our town ridiculed the way it was then. Whether the law was enforced or not may be determined for one's self just any evening. This law was passed on account of felonies being committed, alleged by the youngsters, when they could have been tried before the juvenile judge and sent to a reform institution.

We have an abundance of laws, and there is a growing disposition everywhere, except in this section, to get away from legislating morals into folks. It hasn't been done and can't be done, and there will be now fewer ineffectual or no less other immoral conduct with the enactment of the anti-dance act, and folks will certainly get another good laugh at our expense. Those who want to dance will dance somewhere, and if at a public dance one is drunk, he is publicly drunk... and all a police officer has to do is lock him up.

BLUE RIDGE ECHOES

Like all journals of its class, The Watauga Democrat has an especial fondness for good country correspondence, and has eagerly pounced upon all copy sent in when accompanied by the name of the writer. Most of the manuscript is good, really worth-while events of the particular section concerned. There has been one notable exception in the case of happenings reported from the Blue Ridge section. Invariably, when the paper is off the press, the folks

The Master Executive

By BRUCE BARTON

Supplying a week-to-week inspiration for the heavy-burdened who will find every human trial paralleled in the experiences of the Man Nobody Knows

A QUESTION WILL DO

On many occasions Jesus won his case with a single question—one of the best weapons in the whole armory of persuasion and all too infrequently employed. How often a blundering advocate allows himself to be dragged into futile argument, when by throwing the burden back on to his opponent's shoulders he could attain at easy mastery. Jesus seldom argued. The record of his questions is a fruitful study for all of us who, in our every-day affairs, must deal with other minds. Let us recall two of these questions.

The Pharisees set a trap for him. One Sabbath day they hunted up a man with a withered hand and deposited him in the Temple where Jesus would be sure to pass. Then they waited. If Jesus healed him, it would be a breach of the Code, which forbade any activity on the Sabbath. They would have that to recall when the crisis came. Jesus sensed the test and met it without hesitation.

"Stand forth," he said to the poor chap.

The bigoted formalists pushed in close. This was their moment. They dug the pit cleverly and now he was about to fall in. The soft light went out of Jesus' eyes, the muscles of his jaw grew tense, he looked "round on them with anger," as he demanded:

"Is it unlawful on the Sabbath day to do good or to do harm? To save life or to kill?"

He waited for an answer but none

came. What could they say? If they replied that the law forbade a good deed, their answer would be repeated all over town. The crowd of common folks who followed him were his friends, not theirs—only too glad to spread a story which would cast discredit on the proud defenders of the law. The Pharisees had sense enough to recognize that fact, at least. They "held their peace," and sullenly slipped away.

On another day it was his own disciples who learned how he could compress a whole philosophy into a well-directed interrogation. They were by no means free from the frailties of ordinary human nature. They fussed about little things—arguing among themselves as to who should have pre-eminence; wondering how their bills were to be met, and just where the whole enterprise was coming out.

He brought them up short with a question.

"Which of you by being anxious can add a single day to his life?" he demanded. "And if you can't do this simple thing, why worry about the rest? Consider the ravens; they don't sow or reap; they have no store-houses or barns, and yet God takes care of them. Don't you suppose that you are of more value in his sight than a flock of birds?"

How trivial seemed their concern and controversy after a question like that!

Next Week: Master of Situations

THE LEGION'S FINE STAND

The American Legion is constituted with the same high-minded, devoted, patriotic men of those bloody days back yonder a few years ago who, forsaking home and friends and all, wrapped themselves in the flag of their country, and went to a distant war to fight for those principles of justice and humanity enunciated by President Wilson.

It is notably inspiring to find this Legion composed of these men, taking its stand definitely and unequivocally in line with President Roosevelt's economy move—a move that will cut severely into the present veterans' allocation of public moneys.

Through its accredited officials, the Legion has announced its willingness to share in the economy program of the President by the acceptance of a cut of 25 per cent. in its governmental allowances.

It is a step that will bring the Legion more solidly into the entrenchments of public favor.

DENVER BARBER HANDED 1866 NOTE FOR HAIRCUT

Denver, Colo.—"All the cash I have," said the customer who handed B. C. Reeves, a barber, a tattered bill in payment for a haircut.

It was a 50-cent note printed in 1866.

PROPERTY IN JOHNSON COUNTY DAMAGED BY LAST WEEK WIND

Mountain City, Tenn.—Much property damage was done in Johnson County by the wind storm of last week. At least two people are known to have been injured, Stella and Oscar Walden, of Shady Valley, having been taken to Bristol hospitals for treatment. The Walden home was badly damaged. Some livestock was killed by falling trees.

NORTH DAKOTA WOMAN GIVEN FIRST POSTOFFICE

Minot, N. D.—A local woman received the first appointment made by Postmaster General James Farley. Miss Nellie Dougherty, new acting postmistress here, received a letter from Mr. Farley saying her designation last week was his first official act of this nature as Postmaster General.

SOAP COMPANY STARTS HUGE ADVERTISING DRIVE

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The entire news paper and magazine advertising program of Procter and Gamble Company, one of the world's largest soap manufacturing concerns, has been reinstated, it was revealed here last week by officials of the concern.

The program, involving a huge expenditure, had been ordered suspended recently. As a result of the new order, which was believed to be indicative of renewed confidence in business conditions, the program now will be released immediately and according to the original schedule, officials said.

Woman, 87, Never Tired Takes Iron Daily

"I am 87, go to church and attend parties and do not get a bit tired. I eat and sleep well, thanks to Vinol Iron tonic."—Mrs. M. Batdorf, Vinol taster, fine! Watauga Drug Store.

"What do you mean, — bank holiday?" — By Albert T. Reid



Duties of Tax Collector Removed from Sheriff

(Continued from Page 1) the collection of all taxes placed in his hands for collection.

"Section 2. That A. D. Wilson be and is hereby named tax collector of Watauga County to serve to July 1, 1933, or at the will of the Board of County Commissioners and on the first Monday in June, 1933, and biennially thereafter, the said board shall appoint some competent person as tax collector whose term of office shall begin on the first day of July following appointment and shall hold office at the will of the said board.

"Section 3. That if for any cause the tax collector shall be removed from office, full and complete settlement shall be made of the taxes he has collected at the time of such removal and the tax books shall be turned over to his successor in office.

"Section 4. That the tax collector shall furnish bond conditioned for the collection and settlement according to law for all taxes charged to him which shall be approved by the Board of County Commissioners for a sum not less than five per centum nor greater than ten per centum of the amount of taxes charged to him or his predecessors in office for the preceding tax year.

"Section 5. That it shall be the duty of the tax collector to daily deposit all collections of taxes in accordance with the provisions of section nineteen of Chapter one hundred forty-six, Public Laws of one thousand nine hundred twenty-seven; provided, however, instead of depositing such collections in the name of the fund or funds to which they are applied, he may deposit the same in the name of the county and report to the county accountant not less than twice each month the fund to which such deposits should be applied.

"Section 6. That the tax collector shall receive three and one half per centum of the collection of all taxes charged to him for collection as compensation for his services; provided, however, he shall receive two and one-fourth per centum for the collection of all taxes of the one thousand nine hundred and thirty-three levy and on collections of taxes levied for years subsequent thereto.

"Section 7. Beginning July 1, 1933, Sheriff of Watauga County shall receive a salary of seventy-five dollars per month payable monthly out of the general fund of the county.

"Section 8. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

"Section 9. That this act shall be in full force and effect from and after its ratification."

HORSEBACK BANKER FINALLY HEARS OF BANKING HOLIDAY

Frankfort, Ky.—A small bank way back in an isolated community "resumed" normal operations one day last week. After the State Banking Department had notified its elderly president by telegraph that it might "reopen", the banker rode horseback to the nearest telephone to find out what was wrong. He explained:

"My bank has been paying every check presented."

The banker explained he thought the proclamation of the president was minimal. Informed that a 10-year term was the penalty, he remarked:

"I won't live that long."

MABEL MAN BELIEVES WE NEED MORE EDUCATION

Editor Watauga Democrat:

Several friends of mine, who are fairly heavy taxpayers, were complaining about the high cost of knowledge. "Too many young men and women are going to school," they said. "It costs too much, takes too much time."

We may lack money, most of us do, in fact, and not always are we abundantly endowed with brains. But one thing is certain: we as a race have plenty of time. The earth on which we live is anywhere from 1,500,000,000 to 5,000,000,000 years old. The sun that heats and lights the earth has in the last 150,000,000 years lost no more than one per cent of its power to shine. It is about 1,000,000,000 to 1, and that is a tolerably scientific guess; that the earthly home of mankind will be well lighted and heated, a good place to live, 500,000,000 years from now.

In the life of our planet home, we are but an infant race. We may never become an adult race, partly because most of us are in too big a hurry to do things; but, more particularly, because we bear in our hearts the hates and the fears of our cave-dwelling ancestors. Out of our hate and our fear have sprung an array of weapons that would give the sturdy old cave fighter less chance than a schoolboy with a sling.

So, in spite of the hospitality of our planet, we may start a war today that shall not end till the shattered remains of the last man are buried with the fossil of the prehistoric Icthyopsid.

It is not a pleasing thought. We hope and pray, each one of us, for longer and happier days. If our prayers and hopes are answered we may be well assured of several things. One is that ignorance and fear never save anybody. Another is that we human beings who populate the earth have thus far hardly taken the first step of a somewhat inauspicious start, toward greater things.

Too much education? No! The human race has scarcely begun to be educated. Ask any man who knows if human kind lives on, fails to destroy itself, finally reaching a mature age and wisdom, mankind

shall gain spiritual and intellectual heights that to me and my complaining friends now are not even a dream.

—L. D. YOUNCE

Mabel, N. C.

PASTIME THEATRE "Place of Good Shows"

PROGRAM FOR THE WEEK of MARCH 27th

THURSDAY-FRIDAY, MAR. 24-25 Added Attraction

NEWS REEL OF INAUGURATION

MONDAY AND TUESDAY

Anita Page and Charles Starrett

—IN—

"JUNGLE BRIDE"

WEDNESDAY

Frederich March and Claudette Colbert

—IN—

"TONIGHT IS OURS"

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

Constance Bennett

—IN—

"ROCK-A-BYE"

SATURDAY

BETTY COMPSON

—IN—

WEST of SINGAPORE

SPECIAL for This Week

ONE FREE GREASE JOB WITH EACH OIL CHANGE.

WASHING AND GREASE JOB, \$2.00

Tires are advancing. Equip your car NOW at the lowest prices in history.

H. & N. Tire Co.

SUCCESSORS TO CENTRAL TIRE CO.—BOONE, N. C.