

**MOSQUITOES . . . under knife**  
The first real use ever found for mosquitoes was when it was discovered, a few years ago at the government hospital for the insane at Washington, that certain common forms of insanity could be cured if the patient had malaria. Malaria germs are carried only by certain mosquitoes, and insane asylums all over the country began to demand mosquitoes which had been infected by biting malaria patients.

Now the government scientists have found a way to operate on the mosquito, under a microscope, and extract the malaria virus, so they don't have to ship live mosquitoes, which sometime got away and spread malarial fever.

The marvelous thing about all that, as I see it, is not that malaria cures paresis, but that anybody ever found it out and that the human mind has been ingenious enough to find a way

**USHER . . . at White House**

My congratulations to "Ike" Hoover, chief usher of the White House, who has just finished his forty-second year of service there. His real name is Irving H. Hoover, and when Benjamin Harrison was President he was a young electrician. Mr. Harrison had the first electric push-buttons installed in the White House. Young Hoover did the job. They got out of order so often that the President thought there ought to be an electrician on the job all the time. He picked "Ike" and Hoover has been there since.

"Ike" is responsible for all the historic relics in the Presidential mansion, for the management of the domestic staff and the supervision of all formal social functions. He receives all distinguished visitors and escorts them to the President. And he is pretty nearly the most popular man in Washington.

**SAFETY . . . a glass law**

Nearly twenty years ago I wrote the first news item in America about a kind of glass for automobile windshields which would not shatter in case of collision. Since then many manufacturers of cars have adopted safety glass, but only within a very few years.

It has just been enacted into law in New York that after this year every car licensed in the State must be equipped with safety glass and after next year all cars must be so equipped. A surprisingly high proportion of injuries and deaths in motor accidents come from broken glass. The time will come when no car may be operated unless it has non-shatterable glass all through.

**TAXES . . . many unfair**

The State of New York has abolished all personal property taxes. That is a step in the right direction. Rhode Island was the first to do away with this unfair tax.

I call it unfair because it presses on the poor man more than on the rich. The tax assessor can count the farmer's cattle and hogs, his horses and his machinery, but what the rich man has in his safe-deposit box in stocks and bonds is out of sight and he can—and does—lie about it.

Revision of all our old tax methods is in the air. I think it is a mistake for a state to impose a retail sales tax, as so many have done lately. I believe in the sales tax, because it bears equally on everyone according to how much he spends; but I think it ought to be a federal and not a state tax.

**INFLATION . . . how it will help**

An inquiring friend writes to ask me how it will benefit the country to have the Federal Reserve banks issue three billion dollars of new money to take up Government bonds. The answer is that these bonds are now held by banks which are handicapped by having so much of their deposits tied up in these "frozen assets." If the banks can turn them over for new cash, they can use the new money to lend for productive enterprises. And there is just as much behind the new currency as behind the bonds—that is, the Government's credit.

**PAINTING . . . largest in world**

The largest picture ever painted on canvas will be one of the star attractions of the Midway at the Chicago Century of Progress exposition. It is 402 feet long and 45 feet high and depicts, against a background that shows all the famous battlefields of France, six thousand individual heroes of the World War. Every one is a perfect portrait.

Great French artists who were too old to fight started work on this huge painting while the war was still going on. It was shown to millions in a special building in Paris for years after the Armistice, and has been brought to Chicago for more millions to see.

I hope that everybody who goes to the Chicago Fair will make it a point to see this magnificent picture. And I hope everybody who reads this will go to Chicago this summer. I know of no way of spending a vacation more interestingly and more usefully.

**Northwestern's Queen**



Miss Jane Hoch, of Washington and Kansas, daughter of former Congressman Homer Koch, was voted Northwestern University queen of the May by popular vote of the student body.

**WOOL GROWERS TO MEET ON JUNE 8TH**

Committee Asks Watauga Farmers to Hold Product Until that Date in an Attempt to Get the Best Possible Prices.

Wool prices have been advancing for the past several days, and farmers of Watauga are confident that they will be better yet. The Watauga County Wool Committee, composed of W. W. Mast, Smith Hagaman, Charlie Hodges, Howard Walker and others, recently met with Mr. L. C. Sailer of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, and a decision was reached that the farmers of the county be urged to hold the wool until June 8th, at which time a meeting of the stockmen, merchants and buyers will be held in Boone for the purpose of selling the product at the highest possible price.

The committee points out that if the price is satisfactory to the farmer he may take advantage of this pooling and deliver his wool on the date announced at the meeting; otherwise he may sell to whom he wishes. All those willing to hold their wool until this date are asked to report to the committee the number of pounds being held in order that they may ascertain the total poundage available. This is expected to attract buyers and stimulate prices.

**Farmers May Borrow To Refinance Loans**

Mr. S. C. Eggers, secretary to the Federal Land Bank, states that he now has the necessary application blanks to be used by farmers to secure new farm loans or to arrange refinancing of former loans. Interest rates will be charged at 4-1/2 and 5 per cent. Mr. Eggers asks those interested to call at his office in the Watauga County Bank building and secure full information. He will, at the same time, be glad to assist in filling out the applications.

**THOMAS J. JONES RIFLE CHAMPION OF MARINE CORPS**

Adding to the scores of medals and trophies he has won in shooting competitions in the Marine Corps, Gunnery Sergeant Thomas J. Jones, a native of Allegheny and brother of the late Dr. J. W. Jones of Boone, has won fresh laurels as a marksman in China, according to information received at Marine Corps headquarters in Washington. Sergeant Jones recently won the Marine Corps Cup for the third consecutive year in a rifle competition held at Hongkew, near Shanghai. Famous as a rifle expert in the Marine Corps for many years, Sergeant Jones is now attached to the Fourth Regiment of Marines at Shanghai, but he will probably return to the United States in the near future.

The Allegheny Marine began his career as marksman in 1916, and since that time has served at many posts and stations of the Corps, and has taken part in scores of rifle matches. His most important feat was in 1921, when he established a new world record while shooting in the Campbell Match at Walsfield, Mass., scoring 133 consecutive bulls eyes at 300 yards.

Prior to entering the Marine Corps, Sergeant Jones made his home with his mother, Mrs. M. E. Jones, at Scottsville, and attended the Appalachian Training School in Boone for some time. He has many friends in Watauga County.

**51 STUDENTS WILL BE GRADUATED AT LEES-M'RAE SOON**

Largest Class in History of Presbyterian College to Receive Diplomas. Commencement Was to Have Been Held This Week. Courses Finished by Correspondence. Departments to Be Consolidated.

Banner Elk.—Fifty-one boys and girls will be graduated from the two departments of Lees-McRae College, it was announced Monday by Edgar H. Tufts, president of the college. This is the largest graduating class in the history of Lees-McRae.

Commencement exercises, scheduled to have been held this week, were called off because of the scattering of students due to the early disbandment of classes in April. All courses have been carried out in full by correspondence with the faculty, and full credit will be given both by Lees-McRae and other institutions.

Thirty-one of the graduating class are in the College department, and twenty in the high school section, which next year will be combined with the two years of college work to form a four-year junior college. A majority of the graduating class will receive their diplomas this month, the remainder will be allowed to complete their work during this summer and will be given diplomas before September.

Among those expected to graduate from the college are two Watauga girls, Susan Kathryn Glenn of Sherwood, and Cleo Walker of Vilas. Two high school students from Watauga, Cline Farthing of Sugar Grove and John Preston Greene of Sugar Grove, will receive diplomas.

**Democrat Dresses Up In New Spring Attire**

The Democrat blossoms forth today with a brand-new type face in its news columns, and is the first country newspaper in the State to offer its readers an improved type of letter, especially designed to permit easy reading and to prevent eye-strain. The new type is known as Ideal News and was developed by the Inter-type Corporation for metropolitan dailies to meet the growing demand for something more legible and at the same time, kinder to the optics. Optometrists have agreed that the purpose has been accomplished, and the publishers believe that Democrat readers will find new pleasure in their latest forward step.

Those who do not readily note the difference should turn to some of the standing announcements and ads which have not been reset and which still appear in the antiquated style of lettering.

**Bank Officials Return From State Capital**

Officials of the Watauga County Bank returned Saturday from Raleigh where they had been in conference with the Banking Commission, and they report progress in arrangements for opening Watauga's closed banks.

Commissioner Hood is urging the bank to have all notes renewed as rapidly as possible. The slowness of the people to pay interest and renew paper is said to be the greatest cause of delay in opening. The bank, therefore, insists that all of its debtors make arrangements to renew immediately, and state that this will greatly facilitate reorganization work.

**County Court Disposes Of Only Two Cases**

Only two cases were disposed of in Recorders Court Tuesday. The case against Arlie W. Brown for giving a worthless check was dismissed when it was brought out that he had made the payee to understand the check was not valid when given. Calvin Ragan, for violation of the prohibition law, was sentenced to a term in the Eastern Carolina Reform School. The sentence was suspended, however, during good behavior.

**Much Rubbish Removed During Clean-up Period**

Last week was observed in Boone as a clean-up period in which citizens were asked to take the rubbish from their premises and place in convenient spots where it might be removed by the city. Two trucks were on duty a part of the time and a good deal was done to beautify the town. Those who have not co-operated, however, should go ahead and make their premises presentable, as a matter of civic pride.

Attorney W. B. Austin of Jefferson transacted business in Boone on Wednesday.

**A Nation Pays Tribute To Its War Dead**



MEMORIAL DAY . . . 1933

**Aged Confederate Veteran Answers Final Roll Call**

Elijah Norris, Confederate veteran and esteemed gentleman of the Howards Creek section, died at his home last Thursday evening from the infirmities of advanced age, having never fully recovered from a case of influenza a year ago. Deceased was 89 years old.

Funeral services were conducted from the home Saturday at 10 o'clock. The impressive services were in charge of the pastor, Rev. W. C. Payne, and were attended by a large concourse of friends from a wide section. Former pastors of the church were present and the obituary was offered by Rev. Bob Sharras. Prayer and benediction by Rev. Murray and Rev. W. L. Aubrey. The service was on the life of deceased. Attorney W. R. Lovell of Boone, a close friend of the family, paid eloquent tribute to the life and works of Mr. Norris. A choir composed of local people was in charge of the music, and old favorite hymns, such as "How Firm a Foundation," "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," "Jesus Paid It All," and "In the Sweet Bye and Bye" were rendered. A color escort was furnished by Watauga Post of the American Legion, and the body was interred at the Joint Brown Graveyard nearby.

A Native Wataugan  
Elijah Norris was born in the Sands community of Watauga County, and was a son of Ephriam and Margaret Norris. Sixty-six years ago he was married to Mary Norris, a daughter of Jonathan and Rachael Norris, and five children were born, four of whom, with the aged widow, survive: Mrs. Bart Norris, J. E. Norris, Mrs. Roby Greene, of Watauga County, and Mrs. D. N. Trivett of Beaver Dam, Va. A brother, Silas Norris of Mabel, also survives. There are 24 grandchildren, 38 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

Joins Confederate Army  
When the clouds of the great Civil War gathered, Mr. Norris enlisted in the South's cause in the 55th North Carolina Infantry and was a gallant soldier. He ranked as a lieutenant and was five times wounded. He was at home recovering from one of these wounds when General Lee's army surrendered to the hordes of Grant. His father was killed in the raid of Stoneman's marauders through Wa-

**Claimed by Death**



ELIJAH NORRIS

tauga County, the fatal shot having been fired somewhere in the immediate vicinity of where the Daniel Boone Hotel now stands. Young Lige accompanied his father at the time. Three of General Stoneman's men are buried in the section of the city cemetery allocated to the colored residents, but by whom they were slain has not been established.

Mr. Norris was always greatly concerned as to the welfare of the rugged remains of Lee's army and attended many national reunions. He also invariably called the Watauga Confederate reunion and presided at such occasions, having been Captain of Camp Nimrod Triplett for about 25 years.

Following the war Mr. Norris did a full share toward revamping the wasted estates of a conquered people, and was quite as worthy a soldier in the days of reconstruction as on the field of battle. He helped to found Howards Creek Baptist Church in 1882, and was a consistent member throughout the intervening years. A farmer and smith by occupation, Mr. Norris lived out a useful life, and no man contributed more to the welfare of his community, church and state than did this fallen soldier.

**NEXT SATURDAY IS DESIGNATED AS POPPY DAY**

Legion Auxiliary Members Will Offer Poppies for Sale in Boone on 27th. Secretary Cites Need of Veterans at This Time and Reports Show Suffering is Alleviated from Proceeds of Sales. Needs Increase.

Next Saturday the ladies of the American Legion Auxiliary will conduct their annual campaign for the sale of miniature red poppies, paper replicas of the flowers which dotted Flanders' fields, and officials call on the people to wear poppies both in memory of the dead and for the benefit of the living. Mrs. Fred Winkler, Secretary of the Auxiliary, cites the grave needs of the organization this year, and at the same time submits a report showing the disposition of funds previously secured from the sale of the poppies.

"Our organization, the American Legion Auxiliary, is making arrangements for the annual distribution of poppies on Saturday, May 27th. This sale is conducted each year the week or Saturday preceding Memorial Day. Destitute veterans and families in need must now look to their local communities for assistance, owing to economic conditions and the veteran cut will affect families that have heretofore been independent. This new regulation on veterans pensions will affect at least 500,000 men plus their families and dependents. This alone creates a need in our county, state and nation that we cannot ignore.

"Those who read 'Charity Be Prepared,' in The National Tribune of May 4th, will see as never before why they should assist us. For the benefit of a people who have been so generous and faithful in our every call, we want to submit the following report, showing some of the things we have been able to do. Last year it was probably more, but this is for only a part of the present year.

"Let us each wear a red poppy this year in memory of those who paid the supreme sacrifice for us and at the same time enable our organization to carry on in the future.

W. B. AUSTIN, Secretary and Treasurer

(Year beginning Sept. 1, 1932)

Clothing for ex-service man and wife	\$ 6.91
Blankets for aged mother	4.95
Cost for family in need	2.50
Paid on hospital bill for ex-service man and wife	20.00
Paid on hospital bill for child	20.00
Sweater for patient in hospital	2.49
Flowers	8.00
Gift to sick comrade	1.00
Stationery, stamps, postals and light bulbs for use in our unit	2.35
Material for quilts which Auxiliary members made for needy families	2.75
Total spent in county since last September	\$70.85
Balance in bank	56.69

**Ashe County Youth Dies at Local Hospital**

Howard B. Hamm, 16, of Lansing, Ashe County, died at the Hagaman-Limney Clinic Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the effects of an accidental gunshot wound in the intestines administered by a boy friend Sunday. Meager reports are to the effect that the wound was purely accidental, and that no charges will be preferred.

The deceased youth was the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. V. Hamm, and was born and reared in the Lansing community. The remains were taken to Ashe county Monday afternoon by the Moretz Funeral Home, and interment was expected to have taken place Tuesday.

**Hum of Whirling Motor No Hindrance to Bird**

Mr. Dave Ray, who lives in the Perkinsville section, tells of a pee-wee which doesn't at all mind the fuss and hurry incidental to the machinery age. Mr. Ray was operating a saw mill with a gasoline tractor when this tiny mother bird decided to build a nest underneath a fender on the wheel of the tractor. She had just started her work when it was found necessary to move the saw mill to another yard. Undaunted, the pee-wee followed the machinery and this time built a nest on the wheel of the tractor, and laid her eggs, which often-times would dance like peas in a skillet from the vibration of the big motor.

But pee-wees don't care, at least this one didn't, and she makes herself at home, apparently likes the noise of the machinery, the baby birds have been hatched and she is bringing them up, as most mothers do, close to the throb of modern engines of locomotion.

**Lenore Ulric to Divorce Sidney Blackmer; "No Encore" She Says**

Lenore Ulric, famed for her gorgeous eyes and raven locks, lauded for her marvellous work on stage and screen; protégée of the late lamented David Beasco, world traveler and ardent booster of the Blowing Rock section . . . has decided to divorce her actor-husband, Sidney Blackmer.

"Through with marriage—and no encore," said "America's Sarah Bernhardt," as she stepped from a train in Cleveland, Ohio, a few days ago, and thus she verified persistent rumors that she would seek absolute divorce from Blackmer.

Miss Ulric and Mr. Blackmer own cottages at Blowing Rock, and for the past three seasons have spent much time in the neighboring resort. They mingled cordially with other cottagers and were extremely

popular with the villagers. "Intermission," Miss Ulric's cottage, is located near the Blowing Rock Hotel, and visitors in the home viewed with pleasure the conjugal bliss which apparently existed between these two celebrities.

What Miss Ulric's objections are to Mr. Blackmer, reports fail to reveal, but residents of this section will be anxious to learn just what happened to these romancers who last summer billed and cooed like a couple of love-birds in a rhododendron bower up at Blowing Rock.

For clear profit, pines, poplars, locusts and sweet gums offer a challenge to farmers of North Carolina for use on lands not needed for the usual cash crops, says R. W. Graeber, extension forester.