



# BOONE SKETCHES

By J. C. R.

### WE'RE SORRY!

Death stalked high, wide and mighty on Boone's small town stage last week, and citizens today have bowed their heads in sorrow as their popular police chief is being laid in the tomb. Murder has been committed for the first time in a city which for more than seventy-five years has kept its skirts clear of extreme violence! Yes, we're sorry, extremely sorry... sorry for the wife and children of the slain man, who have lost a fine husband and father; sorry for the lad who committed the deed; sorry for his good parents, whose hearts are heavy with grief over the wrongdoings of an errant offspring... sorry that the model town of Boone has at last "joined the murder racket" born with bootleg liquor.

Officer Hill Haganan did his part toward ridding the town of its worst evil... and died like a man, with his face to the common enemy, we'll miss him. An efficient officer, a clean citizen, has joined the "innumerable hosts."

### FUNNY BUSINESS!

Along with the tragedy which surrounded the death of Chief Haganan, but not in connection, came a flock of funny little happenings that pierced the gloom like golden rays of sunshine:

A couple of gentlemen were having a bit of lunch at a local "night" club... the very best of pals they were. A well-lickered "burr-head" had engaged in fistfights with two white boys. The neutral diners left their seats and entered the fray, in defense of their race. The negro was between them. They drew back to strike with perfectly-timed technique. They struck! The negro ducked! Both registered hits... but neither touched that dodging, squirreling son of Ham. One landed with terrific force between the deep blue eyes of friend No. 1; another fist, packing the wallop of a Missouri mule's kick, poked the chin of friend No. 2. So figure it out for yourself!

Slightly intoxicated, a rural visitor made his way along the streets of Boone a few days ago. An officer placed him under arrest and led him to the county jail. A kinsman, feeling that the law had been too severe, went to the bastle and made an eloquent appeal for the release of the offender. He was successful in his efforts... the prison doors opened wide, and the man was free. But... the obliging kinsman, allegedly full to the brim, was given a cot in the vacated cell on a similar charge.

A disgruntled customer Tuesday visited a local merchant. Following a brief argument that had to do with the quality of a certain piece of merchandise, the visitor resorted to nasty language and, roughly speaking, "cussed the daylight" out of his mild-mannered opponent. A husky youth stood at a respectful distance and listened to the vituperous abuse. It nettled him powerfully, and he advised the loud-mouthed one that "some day you'll cuss the wrong man." Imbued with new spirit with his apparent verbal victory over victim No. 1, the enraged man directed his harsh language toward the "butter-in." The "butter-in" saw red, flashed a wicked right, waded into the battle like a modern gladiator, took hide and hair too numerous to mention... and quietly moved on his way.

### AN ALLEGATION

An alleged constable is alleged to have gone to the home of an alleged law-breaker a few days ago, for the alleged purpose of searching said premises. It is further alleged, and quite commonly rumored, that two female kinsmen of the alleged offender, enraged by the actions of John Law, used a broom and other unnamed household "tools" in an effort to drive the inquisitive constable from the dwelling. Also in circulation is a rumor that Judge Sudderth, allegedly of the belief that such acts were not exactly according to Hoyle, insisted that the two fiery dames pay the costs and, in the future, to refrain from mistreating officers.

### BUILD SCOUT CABIN

Banner Elk.—The Banner Elk Women's Club, Mrs. Henry von Cannon president, is building a Boy Scout cabin near the summit of the Beech Mountain. The cabin will be for the use of the Boy Scouts and others wishing to camp out near the pinnacles of Beech, which is 5552 feet above Sea Level.

Mrs. von Cannon said that the community hopes to obtain help from the Civilian Conservation Corps in improving the road to the summit of Beech. At present the road is impassable for cars. The summit of the Beech affords one of the finest views in this section, unbroken in every direction except by Grandfather Mountain to the southeast.

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## JACKSON M'BRIDE SUCCUMBS AFTER A LONG ILLNESS

82-Year-Old Watauga Citizen Yields to Ravages of Disease and Time. Funeral Services Conducted by Boone Lawyer and Interment in Family Cemetery. No Immediate Survivors.

A. Jackson McBride, well known and respected citizen of the Mast settlement, died at his home there last Friday evening after an illness of about a year. Since he was 82 years old, death was partially attributable to his great age.

Funeral services were conducted by Attorney W. R. Lovill from the home Saturday afternoon and interment was in the family graveyard. A large concourse of friends from over the county attended the last rites.

There are no survivors in the immediate family, and the nearest kin is his first cousin.

Mr. McBride was born in Watauga County, the son of the late Silas McBride, and had spent his entire life in the environs of his childhood. He was a farmer, was successful in his business ventures, and amassed considerable money and properties. He was an apriarist and also built the first roller mill in this section. Honest, industrious, Jackson McBride was a benefactor to all those upon whom the hand of misfortune had weighed heavily. The widows and orphans were made glad by the fruits of his charitable impulses and he will be greatly missed in his community.

## To Resign Federal Post



WATT H. GRAGG

## GRAGG TO RESIGN THE MARSHALSHIP EFFECTIVE JAN. 1

Boone Man Verifies Report That He Was Considering Vacating Middle District Office of His Own Accord. Popular Official Expresses Appreciation for Co-operation, and States that Democrats Should Taste "Pie."

W. H. Gragg of Boone, Marshal for the Middle North Carolina District, when questioned by The Democrat Tuesday as to unofficial reports that he was considering a resignation from the Federal office, verified the rumors with a flat statement to the effect that he will resign, "effective as of January 1st, or so soon thereafter as my successor may be confirmed."

The resignation, stated Mr. Gragg, will be handed in this week, and he submitted, he points out, with the best of feeling for all concerned, and promises his full co-operation to Mr. W. T. Dowd of Sanford, who is Senator Reynolds' choice as his successor.

Mr. Gragg's statement, as given to The Democrat, is: "I have greatly enjoyed the work I have been privileged to do in connection with my office, and deeply appreciate the hearty support and co-operation extended by both Democrats and Republicans during my tenure. I am leaving office with the best of feelings toward all, and shall render all possible assistance to my successor. I am a firm believer in the old adage, 'To the victor belongs the spoils,' and can easily understand why members of the opposing party should wish to control the functions of government at this time. This privilege should not be denied my Democratic friends."

An Efficient Officer  
Mr. Gragg was sworn into office April 1st, 1932, and will have served about nine months under the Roosevelt administration. He succeeded J. J. Jenkins, of Siler City, having won the endorsement of the Republican Executive Committee over a field of five strong contenders. He has maintained his residence in Boone, traveling back and forth to and from his Greensboro office. He has proven himself to be a capable official and his office has been cited as an example on account of the curtailment of expenses under the Roosevelt economy program.

## Property to Be Sold For Taxes in December

Real property of delinquent taxpayers of Watauga County will be advertised for sale the first Monday in November, A. D. Wilson, tax collector, announces today. The sales will take place on the first Monday in December. Mr. Wilson is very anxious that the people make an especial effort to satisfy their governmental dues before November 6th, in order that they may not suffer the extra costs and embarrassment incidental to the publication.

## BODY OF SPRUCE PINE MAN FOUND IN TENN. RIVER

The body of Robert N. Davenport, 58, of Spruce Pine, a first cousin of W. M. Cook, Boone, was found floating in the Tennessee River near Lenoir City last Wednesday, according to a recent press dispatch. Mr. Davenport had been visiting Mr. Davenport and Mrs. W. P. Scovel, relatives. He disappeared on Tuesday. Iron wheels were wired to the left wrist and right ankle of Davenport's body. A coroner's jury announced a verdict of suicide.

Mr. Davenport, a well-known farmer, left his home at Spruce Pine more than a week ago in an effort to find employment in Tennessee. A few days later he sent his suitcase home. Survivors include the widow, an aged mother, and five children.

## INJURED IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Mr. Burl Lowrance suffered a crushed shoulder and other injuries when a car in which he was riding overturned near Amanda Sunday night, according to reports received by The Democrat. A brother, Will Lowrance, was said to have sustained no serious injury. The auto, it was said, left the highway and turned over.

## Police Chief Haganan Is Dead From Bullets Fired In Raid; Rufe Lewis Held

Seizure of Liquor at "Blue Goose" Leads to Fatal Wounding of Popular Officer; Death Came on Tuesday and Funeral Held Wednesday. Officer Farthing Recites Story of Shooting.

Mortally wounded as he participated in a whiskey raid on a roadside barbecue stand last Wednesday night, Chief of Police Hill Haganan lost in his 5-day battle with death at a Statesville Hospital early Tuesday morning. Two copper-jacketed bullets fired from a .32 automatic in the hand of Rufus Lewis of Boone, found lodgment in the officers' body, the first smashing the right shoulder, the second, fired from the rear, opening a gaping wound through the liver and lodging in a small account book which the officer carried in his vest pocket.

Deputy Albert Farthing, who was with him on the raid after having arrested the assailant and two others, accompanied them and the wounded comrade to jail. Chief Haganan was then able to walk up the stairway to the Haganan-Linney Clinic, where it was advised that a speedy removal to Statesville would be advisable. He was taken immediately and up until Saturday physicians held out hopes of his recovery, and he remained conscious most of the time till Sunday when hope for improvement all but vanished.

Story of Tragedy Related  
Deputy Sheriff Albert Farthing relates the story of the shooting in these words:

"Wednesday night at 11:00 or a little before, my phone rang and I was informed that there was whiskey at the Blue Goose Barbecue Stand, a short distance out on the Blowing Rock road. I immediately secured Chief Haganan, and when we arrived Rufus Lewis and one customer were in sight. When I stated my business Lewis, in a genteel manner, stated that the owner, Fred McDaniels, was out, and that while he wouldn't resist, he would be glad if we would await his return before searching the premises. We searched anyway, and found 22 pints of whiskey cleverly concealed in the ceiling. McDaniels was found in an adjoining bedroom with a young woman giving her name as Adams, and her home as Caldwell County. The three were arrested and I stood guard over them in the front portion of the building while Hill Haganan continued the search of the bedroom.

"During this period, Lewis and the girl stepped through the door and appeared to be attempting an escape. I brought them back. Then Fred started toward the door. As I headed him off, Lewis and the girl went back to where Haganan was searching.

### Heats Report of Gun

"When I got Fred back, two shots were fired and Hill exclaimed, 'Oh, Lord, he's shot me!' I hastened to him. (Continued on Page 8)

## "Buy Now" Campaign And Bargain Carnival On Way

Joining wholeheartedly in the National Recovery Administration's "Now Is the Time to Buy" Campaign, the Watauga County Chamber of Commerce has combined the start of the NRA campaign with the opening of their Third Annual Fall Bargain Carnival, and four pages of The Democrat today are devoted to the special inducements a dozen of the leading business firms are offering the buying public.

The sales event, which is launched on proportions of more extensive kind than any thus far attempted, will begin Saturday, October 14th, and continue for eight days. The entire mountain section has been covered by newspaper publicity, direct mail pieces and the like, and expectations are that a great horde of thrifty shoppers will make Boone their headquarters during the sales period.

The carnival today carries the statement of General Hugh S. Johnson regarding the necessity for those who would help in the recovery movement, buying at this time. A proclamation by Mayor Moore launching the event is also featured on the first page of the special advertising sheet, as well as a list of the prizes which will be given on the closing day. These offerings range downward from \$20 in cash, and all patrons of the participating establishments have an equal chance at the free gifts.

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## LEGION HEADED BY STEVENSON

Well Known Legionnaire Assumes Commandership of Local Post at Enthusiastic Meeting Last Friday Evening.

Charles S. Stevenson, well known local plumbing contractor, who saw much active service on the fields of France during the World War, was installed as Chairman of the Watauga Post American Legion, at an enthusiastic meeting held last Friday evening. Professor Chisholm, newly-elected district commander, delivered an inspiring address to the veterans and the members of the Auxiliary.

Other principal officers elected included C. M. Teal, as vice-commander, and Walter C. Greene as Adjutant. The new officers bid fair to uphold the fine standing of the local post, as well as to continue the progressive movements started by their predecessors. Mr. Stevenson has been very popular in Legion circles in past years as have others, and has held practically all positions in the post during his years of peace time service.

## WHITEHEAD CHILD DIES

George Whitehead Jr., eight-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. George Whitehead, Jr., Banner Elk, died at a Johnson City hospital Monday evening at 6:30. Funeral services were conducted the following afternoon by Rev. Price of the Banner Elk Presbyterian Church, and burial was at the family graveyard. The attractive child had been ill but one day with diphtheria. The grief-stricken father and mother, and two brothers, James and William, survive.

An aunt, Mrs. J. B. Taylor, and the grandmother, Mrs. Whitehead, of Boone, attended the funeral services.

## ASHLEY—LOOSE

A report from Plainfield, Ohio, tells of the recent marriage of Miss Doyce Ashley, formerly of Stony Fork and a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Ashley, to Mr. Edwin Loose, a native of that city. The popular young couple will make their home in Plainfield.

A number of Jackson County farmers are planning to harvest black locust seed this fall because of the healthy demand and the excellent crop in the mountain area.

## DEATH CLAIMS REV. MELVIN MICHAEL

Well Known Baptist Minister Dies at Home in Wilkes County. Funeral Services on 4th. Had Often Preached in Watauga.

Rev. Melvin Michael, died at his home at Harley, in the edge of Wilkes County, October 4th. Funeral services were conducted the following day from the Stony Fork Baptist Church with Rev. Finley Carlton in charge.

Surviving besides the widow are the following children: Leonard of Boone; Taft of North Wilkesboro; Charlie, Toy, Willard, Madie and Vera of Harley, and a large number of distant relatives.

Rev. Michael was widely known throughout the mountains, and had many friends in Watauga County, where he had served as pastor different times during his long ministerial career. He was a devout man and an able preacher, and was loved by the people.

## COMMISSIONER GURNEY HOOD IS VISITOR IN THIS CITY

Commissioner of Banks Gurney P. Hood spent Tuesday night at the Daniel Boone Hotel, he having just made a visit to all the banks in this section of the State relative to their becoming affiliated under the Deposits Guarantee Plan of the Federal Government.

He called at the Watauga County Bank and expressed pleasure at the progress being made toward a speedy reopening.

## RECORDER'S COURT

John Hudson, colored, was sentenced Tuesday by Judge Sudderth to eight months on the roads for an assault with deadly weapon, after it developed that he had engaged in an encounter with three young white men, John Critcher, Bill Casey and Craig Holler. A knife was used by the negro without serious injury.

Sherman Winebarger, assault with deadly weapon, four months suspended sentence. Defendant assessed with cost.

Dovie Brown, Kate Moretz, interfering with officer of law in execution of duties; assessed with cost.

## GRADY MORETZ IS REPEAL CANDIDATE; DRYS CITE ACTION

Former Boone Professor Takes Up Cudgel for Repealists; Question Is Raised as to Whether Drys Have Legally-Nominated Candidates. Report in Asheville Paper Draws Statement from Dry Managers.

Mr. Grady Moretz, teacher last year in the Boone High School and prominent young Democratic worker of this community, filed his candidacy to run as repealist delegate in the election of November 7th. W. W. Mast, leading Valle Crucis citizen, being slated by the drys to oppose him. The time for filing petitions expired at midnight Saturday and no others offered themselves as candidates on either side of the question.

Said Dry Delegate Not Named  
A story sent out from Boone to the Asheville Citizen gave a statement to the effect that Watauga County had not nominated a dry delegate to be voted on at the November election. Messrs. W. F. Miller and T. E. Bingham, managers for the prohibition forces, consequently, issued the following statement Tuesday evening, as a matter of explanation:

"On Friday, October 6th, 1933, a petition was filed with Mr. R. S. Swift, chairman of the Watauga County Board of Elections naming Mr. W. W. Mast as dry delegate for this election. Mr. Mast having been nominated at a dry rally on September 3, 1933. This petition contained the statement that Mr. Mast was being nominated as a dry delegate and was signed by more than the required 2 per cent. of votes cast in the county in the last general election."

### Rumors of Incomplete Compliance

There had been rumors on the streets of Boone the first of the week to the effect that the drys had not complied with the terms of the statute providing the special election, which doubtless gave subject matter for the story carried in the Asheville paper. R. S. Swift, chairman of the County Board of Elections, when asked for a statement by The Democrat, replied that the Board of Elections would meet Thursday afternoon for the purpose of confirming nominations, and that until that time he could give out no official statement. When questioned further, however, he stated that his personal belief was that the dry organization had not fully complied with the law in making their nomination, since the notice of candidacy and declaration, as required by the law from the candidate, had not been received from the candidate for Mr. Mast. The petition was filed in due time, he said, but was the only document coming into his hands.

His belief, he stated, was based on the law, and the further explanation contained in instructions received from the Chairman of the State Board of Elections under date of September 28th, in which the following statement is contained:

Statement of State Chairman  
"I instructed you in my letter of the first of September as to how the delegates to go on the ballot are to be selected by petition. You will also see in the act that each candidate must also file a notice of candidacy, supported by his petition, which notice must state that such candidate is either for or against Repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment. Please see that each candidate has properly complied with these provisions before the filing time expires."

Mr. Swift wants it expressly understood that he is not attempting to state what the action of the Board will be, but is only giving his opinion in this connection.

## Rev. Kent Will Remain Here for Time Being

Rev. L. F. Kent, popular Episcopal minister of Valle Crucis, will remain in Watauga County until such time as the Bishop of this diocese may be elected and consecrated, it was learned the first of the week. The election will be about the 17th of this month and the consecration service will occur in about two months. Previous announcement was to the effect that Mr. Kent would go to Shepherdstown, W. Va., to assume the pastorate of Trinity Church. The vestry of this church, however, are contemplating holding open the call until things become more settled in this diocese.

## LEES-McRAE COLLEGE TO INSTALL PRINTING PLANT

Banner Elk.—Lees-McRae College intends to add a printing plant to its list of self-sustaining industries this fall, Edgar H. Tufts, president, said Monday. The plant will give employment to several students and will supply Grandfather Orphanage and Grace Hospital with printing.

Mr. Tufts asked that any friends of the school who have any suitable printing equipment, either type or presses which they can spare, will communicate with him.

## CHEVROLET SALES INCREASE IN WATAUGA COUNTY

Mr. W. R. Winkler, of the W. R. Chevrolet Company, reports that during the past few months his firm has disposed of more than twenty carloads of cars and long-coupled trucks, in addition to four carloads of pick-ups. He declares that business has increased more than a hundred per cent. over last year, and that collections are steady.