

By J. C. R.

A BLUNDER CORRECTED
Just a few days ago an old friend, a minister of the Gospel who for more than a half-century has served the Master with soul and mind and body, penned a brief letter to the Sketch Man. This worthy divine referred to the rambling ravings found on the initial column of The Democrat and entitled "Boone Sketches," as "gems of their kind"...

"Sir: I read your thrust at one of our county ministers of the Gospel, and was very sorry you take the stand against them that you do. I hold that after a man takes one drink of whiskey he is not wholly sober for his powers of resistance is weakened. I also do not think a God-called minister wants any money which has been contaminated by whiskey. Please stop sending your paper to me as I am tired of hearing whiskey and dram-drinking lauded through its pages. Brother Rivers, I believe if you will get on your knees and pray mightily to God for guidance, and be willing to be guided by the Holy Spirit that you will stop censuring God's servants for preaching the truths that are penned down by inspired writers in the Book of Truth. Please publish, I will pay for space, send bill to me. May God bless and guide you in all truth is my prayer.—G. B. Trivett, Vilas, N. C."

An effort to keep history straight calls for a brief explanation of a deplorable situation. Mr. Trivett's letter is published gladly, free of charge in fact, and we meekly bow beneath the "Itanic weight of his scathing denunciation. His suggestion that we bend our knees in a nightly prayer for "spiritual guidance" is a tip of real value to saint and sinner alike... and we're much obliged for his kindly interest. But there is one part of that letter that we couldn't learn to like... not in nineteen hundred and thirty-three years, and then some. The Watauga Democrat has NOT lauded dram-drinking and whiskey through its columns. The Watauga Democrat has NOT mentioned God's servants for preaching the truths that are penned down by inspired writers in the Book of Truth."

Since its inception away back in the eighties, The Watauga Democrat, guided until recently by the late Robert C. Rivers, its founder, has lambasted the enemies of Christianity with untiring zeal; liquor advertisements, in the old days a lucrative source of newspaper revenue, were thrown vehemently into the waste basket, and salted down with an impotent cud of Brown's Mule; churches were bulldozed in the community, and the management dug deeply into patched breeches and conveyed a generous portion of hard-earned substance to ecclesiastical treasuries; orphans and widows stood shivering within the sanctum, breathed their pitiful tales of sorrow into willing ears, and received the shekels, not to mention the shekels, of a poor but philanthropic editor; and ministers of the Gospel, almost as numerous as the stars in Heaven, have throughout the years been supported in their struggles against the apparently invulnerable hosts of the nether regions... supported unselfishly and without stint every day in the year.

"Boone Sketches" are intended by their unworthy author to represent a pot-pourri of inconsequential happenings... paradoxical bits of nonsense, inconsistent opinions of great men and good, brief glances at the passing throng, nonsensical comments on frivolous issues... to be taken, always, with a grain of salt. He has sought to amuse Democrat readers—not to enrage them. The "thrust" referred to by Mr. Trivett was not a thrust... neither is a mocking bird related, either by blood or marriage, to the swine. Taking the matter up with Webster, we find that this impelling little word means "to attack with a pointed weapon, to stab" but no weapons are used in "Boone Sketches," not even a hickory wryneck. Folks who possess those pestering idiosyncrasies which preclude the distinction between thrust and tomfoolery are asked to carefully overlook this column... turn to inside pages, revel in Bruce Barton's masterful articles on "The Book," study the column-length Sunday School Lesson, glance over the health sermon of "The Good Old Family Doctor," absorb the spiritual gems tucked here and there in the classic poems of James Monroe Downing, dig out the pure gold from Edwin N. Hahn's reflections on life, refer to page seven for information on church services and forget that The Watauga Democrat is a weekly newspaper.

An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Year Eighteen Eighty-Eight

VOLUME XLV, NUMBER 25

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1933

\$1.50 PER YEAR

Hears Veterans' Appeal



Governor John Harland Pollard, of Virginia, (above) is President Roosevelt's choice as Chairman of the Veterans' Board of Appeals. "Justice will be done to all," said the President in appointing Governor Pollard.

FISH HATCHERY HEARING TO BE HELD IN JANUARY

Director of Conservation and Development Proposes that Rutherford Hatchery Be Continued Until January Meeting of the Board. At that Time Friends of the Enterprise Will Be Heard. Million Trout Furnished.

B. G. JOHNSON DIES SUNDAY EVENING

Former Boone Resident Succumbs at Home of Daughter in North Wilkesboro. Funeral Service at Lenoir on Tuesday Afternoon.

WEATHER EXPERTS BAFLED IN THEIR FIGHT ON FOG

Washington.—Two gallons or so of water can cause almost as much damage and consternation as an unexpected earthquake, but it has to be in the form of fog.

STOLEN CAR BURNED

A Chrysler sedan, the property of Dr. J. M. Gauthier, was stolen from in front of his residence in Boone Friday night and Saturday morning was found three miles east of Boone, practically destroyed by fire. It is believed that the machine was perhaps accidentally ignited. No clues as to the identity of the thief have been uncovered.

STORE-BREAKING DEEP GAP

The store of the Deep Gap Tie and Lumber Company was entered last Thursday night and a quantity of shotgun ammunition, overalls, shirts, shoes and pants were taken. No arrests have been made. The store was entered by breaking the lock. It is said.

BUILDING & LOAN DISTRIBUTES FIVE THOUSAND IN CASH

Semi-annual Dividend Checks Mailed Out to 200 Holders of Prepaid Stock in Local Association. Safety of B. & L. is Cited and Improvements Shown in Local Receipts. Parents Buy Shares for Children.

Two hundred bank checks, aggregating five thousand dollars and representing net earnings of the last six months, have been mailed out by the Watauga Building and Loan Association to holders of prepaid stock in the institution. In commenting on releasing these dividends, Secretary W. H. Gragg calls attention to the fact that Building and Loan remains the only stock in the United States which is worth 100 cents on the dollar, and one of the very few institutions paying usual dividends despite the general collapse of securities during the past four years.

Christmas Gift Suggestion. Mr. Gragg states that a large number of parents are this year realizing the importance of giving worthwhile gifts and at the same time inculcating into their children the habits of thrift, by buying for them installment shares in the new series which opens January 1st. It is suggested that while in town Friday and Saturday parents stop at the Building and Loan office and for a very small payment provide a gift which will enhance itself throughout the years and provide much-needed revenue when the child is ready for college.

Prospects Good. According to the secretary, prospects are very good for the 26th series, which opens January 1st. The directors at the November meeting each agreed to sell 10 shares and many of them have already reported oversubscriptions of their quota. Improvements in installment payments are reported during the past three months, and the report of the insurance commissioner, recently approved, shows the local association in fine shape. Little criticism is found and much praise for the management thereof.

PAUL A. YOUNG DIES TRAGICALLY

Brother of Mrs. Fred Hodges Slain Saturday by Shotgun. Had Been Engaged in Dispute. Two Gun Wounds Brought Death.

Paul A. Young, young farmer of the Oak Ridge section, was shot and killed last Saturday and a neighbor, Rush Winfrey, is being held in the Greensboro jail on a charge of murder in connection with his death.

According to information obtained from the sheriff's office, Young was fatally shot last Saturday afternoon on the Brookbank farm, which is located between Oak Ridge and Sumnerfield, after he and Winfrey had engaged in a dispute in which Winfrey was said to have been cut across the neck by Young.

Veterans on CWA Rolls To Get Cut in Pensions

Raleigh.—Any veteran receiving a pension from the United States government who gets a job on a civil works project which pays him more than \$50 a month will automatically have his pension reduced to \$6.00 a month, Capus M. Waynick, reemployment director, said Tuesday.

Doughton Urges East Routing of Parkway

Washington.—A final appeal which he believes will bring the Appalachian Parkway from Virginia through Alleghany, Ashe, Watauga, Avery and Mitchell counties, North Carolina, and thence to the Grandfather Mountain and Linville Gorge before entering the Smoky Mountain National Park was made by Representative Doughton today. He made a special appeal for the proposed Eastern route, as it is known, instead of the western route which would cause much of the southern section of the parkway to be in Tennessee.

Oh-h-h, Here Comes Santa Again!!



CWA PAYROLL IS NOW AT \$3,000

Three Hundred and Thirty Men Have Been Given Jobs in County Thus Far and Remainder of Quota Now Being Placed.

Something over three thousand dollars were released into the channels of local trade last Saturday when 330 workers under the CWA program received their checks. Every effort is being made to finish Watauga's quota of 381 men immediately. A number of projects of minor importance have recently been approved, including repair work on various school buildings, etc., and the road crews are putting in the regulation number of hours. Before the end of the week, it is anticipated the present quota for the county will have been completed.

I. G. HARRIS PASSES LAST WEDNESDAY

Mr. A. S. Harris of the Spanhour Stores was called to Troy the first of the week on account of the serious illness and subsequent death of his father, I. G. Harris, 70-year-old Montgomery County resident. The illness which resulted in death was of only a few days' duration.

Moose New Member Board of Aldermen

Dr. George K. Moose, popular local druggist, was named last Friday evening as a member of the board of aldermen to fill the vacancy caused when Tracy Council was made Mayor, following the resignation of J. F. Moore.

WATAUGA INDUSTRIES PROVIDE SOURCE OF REVENUE TO PEOPLE OF BLUE RIDGE

State and Lutheran Church Contribute to Salary of Man to Teach Vocational Pursuits and Product of Looms Are Finding a Ready Market. Schooling Free and No Cash Outlay Required for Materials. Many Useful Articles Being Made.

Watauga Industries, established on July 1st, is an enterprise of which people of this section, generally speaking, know nothing, but curiosity developed the other day when a large crowd gathered around the front of the Farmers Hardware Store. Investigation revealed a young lady busily engaged in fashioning towels, table runners and the like, by the aid of the old-fashioned loom. The product was on sale in the store, and it was found that weaving was being done, not alone as a curiosity, but as a part of a thriving industry.

J. L. GOODNIGHT RITES SATURDAY

Well Known Boone Citizen Succumbs in Lincoln Hospital. Wife and Four Children Survive. Prominent Farmer and Churchman.

J. L. Goodnight, 58-year-old Boone citizen, died at a Lincoln hospital Friday morning after an extended illness, and funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at Palm Tree Methodist Church, interment being in Lincoln County.

Surviving are the widow and seven children: Mrs. Charles C. Berry of Drexel, Mrs. G. E. White of Belmont, Howard, Joe, J. C. and Otan, all of Boone; two sisters, Mrs. J. P. Chapman of Hickory and Mrs. J. L. Yount of Vale, and one brother, W. S. Goodnight of Boone.

Only Seven Veterans Remain on Pension Roll

Pension checks for Watauga's few remaining Confederate veterans and for the widows of their comrades are being distributed from the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court this week. Only seven soldiers received checks, as follows, four having expired during the year: Lemuel Green, Newton Greer, Thomas Love, J. E. Luther, W. K. Millsaps, W. H. Norris and Enoch Swift.

Donations Coming In to the Legion Committee to Pay the Expenses of the Gargantuan Benevolent Enterprise.

Donations are still coming in to the Legion committee to pay the expenses of the gargantuan benevolent enterprise. Last week \$55 was reported from C. W. Teal's collection, which is enhanced by \$10 from the following: P. A. Coffey, \$1; A. W. Smith, \$1; G. P. Hagaman, \$1; Grady Tugman, apples; John W. Hodges, \$1; C. M. Bingham, \$1; Mrs. Stewart Barnes, \$1; Niley G. Cooke, \$1; W. C. Greene, 50c; V. C. Howell, \$1; S. C. Eggers, \$1; Jim Miller, 50c. Total, \$65.00.

SANTA CLAUS TO ARRIVE ON TIME NEXT SATURDAY

American Legion Has Thrill in Store for the Needy Children of the County, and Santa Will Distribute Hundreds of Packages When He Comes to Town. Children Should Be in Boone by Noon.

Santa Claus will be in Boone Saturday at noon with bells on, is the word that comes to the American Legion who have erected a large Christmas tree at the corner of the Critcher Hotel, from which vantage point Kris Kringle in person will distribute some fifteen hundred packages to needy children of the county. The Patron Saint of childhood will arrive in town promptly at noon, it is said, and parents should arrange to have the kiddies here at that time as distribution will begin at once.

The Legion has appointed the following committees to take charge of the packages that Santa has for the children of their communities and are asked to be in Boone Saturday.

Joe Wellborn, Stony Fork; Edgar Hardin, Laxon; T. A. Weaver, Blowing Rock; Eddie Hagaman, Zion Hill; Fred Wilson, Vilas; Floyd Vaughn and Hill Eggers, Beaver Dam; Dewey Rominger, Rominger; E. B. Hagaman, Laurel Creek; Fred Winkler, Poplar Grove; Wade Luttrell, Shulls Mills; Spencer Miller, Zionville; Clay Baird, J. T. Mast, Valle Crucis; John Cook, Bamboo; Nile Cook, Blowing Rock; Ralph Greer, Todd; Hall Skook, Matney; Charlie Rogers, Elk; Thomas Hayes, Green Valley; George Harman, Kellerville.

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