

# BOONE SKETCHES

By J. C. R.

WHEREIN WE SHOT A "CRAP"  
 Disregarding the repeated warnings of good friends that our intrepid ramblings into Biblical pastures would eventually lead to disaster... the editor of this column, stubborn as a Missouri jar-head, kept it up till he was caught, blood raw, misinterpreting Holy Writ. It all came about in a certain article appearing in Boone Sketches near the beginning of the year, wherein the writer made reference to the apple episode in the Garden of Eden and, dad-blame it all, he made Adam the gatherer of the fruit. Mrs. Gil Hodges, of Lubbock, Texas, in a letter to her niece, Miss Sallie Ray, couches a straightforward rebuke in a cradle of compliments, for which we're much obliged. Here's what the good lady has to say:

"I enjoyed the clippings so much. I would like to tell the new young editor of the Watauga paper that I 'amen' every word he said in his tribute to the passing out of the old year 1933. It was such true and beautiful sentiment, except the mistake he made when he said that old Father Adam plucked the apple that started sin in a sinless world. He was wrong in that, for it was old Mother Eve who committed the crime by not being able to restrain her curiosity, and I am sorry to say that I think the majority of her daughters, even in these modern times, are getting their husbands into trouble by indulging in the same inherited traits. I am so glad he published the old negro's expression of his steadfast faith, trust and hope for help in our Father's divine judgment, justice, mercy and love for all ev'ing humanity. One of my earliest and most sacred memories is the remembrance of my father singing 'O, for a heart to praise my God,' when he would gather his eight motherless children around him for evening prayer. I would like to shake the hand of that old colored man, for I feel sure that his soul is much whiter in the sight of God than the souls of many white men who sit in the 'amen corners' of our churches."

Old Omar the Tentmaker in his philosophical observations had something to say about tears having not the power to erase the written word. The ancient Persian knew his stuff, no doubt, and we have great respect for his theory... but we'll make a desperate effort to blot out that grievous wrong we attached to the memory of poor old Adam with a simple question which, no doubt, was responsible for the whole affair: "Did anyone at any time in any clime see a woman do a chore when there was a man handy to do it for her?"

**STRETCHED FROM LIFE**  
 A proud young mother in a parked auto kissing the chubby hand of a baby boy... A couple of fellows running for postmaster "work" group of loafers simultaneously... Colored minister propounding his gospel theories, in good shape, to Caucasian assembly... Fortune teller telling the "wrong thing" to local gentleman... Deaf mute soliciting funds for an education... A college girl puffing a cigarette as she puts on the "high hat" for a poor old married man... Local skeik advising friends that mid-week drunks are less disastrous, so far as the jail is concerned, than Saturday night spears... Diminutive graded-school girl wagging a man-sized load of textbooks... Relief workers cussing President Roosevelt and his recovery program... Fair brunette affectionately fingering the curly hair of her mail escort in secluded corner of picture theatre... Democratic partisan demanding that clerk of similar beliefs assist him in purchases at a local store... Roscoe Little trying to arrange ransom for an allegedly kidnaped member of upper-underworld gang... Rosy-cheeked school miss smiling languidly as she reads love message from boy friend... And a group of young fellows, heads close together, figuring on doing something to somebody.

**HOPE BLASTED!**  
 During the recent snowstorm a young gentleman passed by a local banking institution, closed to the public since away last March. A colored man was busily engaged in clearing away the "beautiful" from the doorway of the institution. Ferking up his footsteps he came like lightning to the business house where he is employed... to break the news... "they're fixing to open that bank." An investigation followed which proved his disillusionment, that he was all wet! He hung his head, the young gentleman did, and this is what he asked as he went to work: "Well, why in the hell are they cleaning the snow from in front of it?"

Three pure bred Hereford bulls have been purchased by the Avery County livestock committee from proceeds of the sale of old bulls sold recently. Under the direction of a full-time county agent, farmers of that section will make an effort to eliminate all scrubs and build up a better grade of beef cattle.

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## RIVERS IS NAMED TO POSITION OF CHIEF DEPUTY MARSHAL

Senator Reynolds Gives Out Political Plum to Boone Newspaper Man. Only Five Positions to Be Distributed Among 100 Applicants in 26 Counties of District. Senator Felicitates Local Man in Telegram.

Jim Rivers, member of the staff of The Watauga Democrat, has been recommended by Senator Robert R. Reynolds as Chief Deputy Marshal for the Middle District of North Carolina, to serve first in command under William T. Dowd of Sanford, who has been appointed by President Roosevelt as Marshal. Mr. Dowd, whose confirmation is expected daily, is to succeed Marshal W. H. Gragg of Boone.

Besides Mr. Rivers, those who received the Senatorial sanction are Mrs. John W. Simpson Jr., Greensboro, as office deputy, stenographer and secretary; Lawrence Huffman of Burlington, Alamance County, as field deputy; Charles L. Vanstony of Greensboro, as field deputy; John H. Stephenson, Southern Pines, as field deputy.

Since Senator Reynolds' announcement, Mr. Dowd has wired the Wilkes Journal to the effect that Walter A. Jones of that county will also be recommended as field deputy.

Mr. Rivers, who has worked in newspaper capacities throughout his adult life, has been active in Democratic political circles, and has been one of Senator Reynolds' staunchest adherents, having been engaged in the management of his primary campaigns in Watauga County last year. He is being widely congratulated by his friends throughout this section on his preferment. He was a formidable contender for the Marshal's position, and was regarded as runner-up to his successful opponent in many quarters.

Mr. Rivers has issued the following statement: "I am deeply grateful to Senator Reynolds for the confidence he has imposed in me, and thank my other friends over the district for their loyalty. Since my good friend Bill Dowd was named for the Marshalship I feel complimented upon having been preferred the next best thing, especially since there were over one hundred contenders for five positions. I shall continue with The Watauga Democrat in my usual capacities until there are further developments, and when I enter upon my governmental duties I shall expect to perform them with satisfaction to all concerned."

In a telegram to the Boone mailed last Saturday, Senator Reynolds said:

"Pleased to advise that I have endorsed and recommended you for appointment as Chief Deputy United States Marshal for the Middle District of North Carolina, and that I have given this statement to the press. Feel confident that you will serve with credit to yourself and entire satisfaction to the government. It was a genuine pleasure for me to have been availed the opportunity of evidencing to you my appreciation of your loyalty, and high regards for your ability and qualifications for the position to which you have been selected."

**Reynolds Patronage Complete**  
 The Senator stated that in filling the United States marshal's place for the middle district, and by naming the five deputies, this completes all of the patronage he will have in North Carolina. He stated that for the five deputy marshal places he had over 100 applications, all of whom were from men of good character and high standing and well qualified, and all of whom were endorsed by some of the leading citizens of the state.

He added that there are 26 counties in the middle federal district and in view of the fact that he only had five deputy marshals for that district he obviously could not name one man from each and every county.

## Watauga Kraut Gets Valuable Publicity

Caro-Graphics, an informative cartoon feature appearing weekly in the Charlotte Observer with the admonition "know your State," recently asked the question, "Where is the finest sauer kraut in the world produced?" and the following week the answer came back: "Watauga County, North Carolina." A huge Dutchman was pictured with saxophone-style pipe sniffing a barrel, labeled with the name of the local product.

Watauga Sauer Kraut, packed by the North State Canning Company of Boone, is in increasing demand each year and is widely known as the superior kraut.

**CLAY LARKIN HARRIS DIES**  
 Clay Larkin Harris died Sunday at his home on Boone Route 2 following a prolonged illness. The body was taken to Caldwell, his native county, Monday for burial. Survivors include the widow and a number of children.

## France's Strong Man



Paris—A most recent picture of Gaston Doumergue, former president of France who headed the call during the Paris riots to come from retirement, accept the Premiership and attempt to form a new cabinet of "strong men."

## 11 CWA PROJECTS APPROVED FOR WATAUGA COUNTY

Mrs. Thomas O'Berry's Office Sanctions Work in County Which Will Employ 87 Persons. Includes Widening, Drainage and Surfacing of Road in Stony Fork Township. Several College Projects.

By M. R. DUNNAGAN  
 Raleigh—All of the CWA projects approved by Mrs. Thomas O'Berry's office here Monday were in Watauga County, involving employment of 87 persons, who will receive a payroll of \$2,965, and the total cost, much of it being for supplies and equipment for projects already approved, will be \$13,836.50. The eleven projects are listed as follows:

Revise and improve by widening, drainage and surfacing public road from Route 60 east of Deep Gap, via Stony Fork School and Stony Fork Creek to Wilkes line, approximately 2.7 miles; number of men 59; estimated payroll \$5,686.00; estimated cost \$8,059.20.

Supplements to Projects 52510, 52511, 52512 and 52509, to cover lumber, bolts, nails, etc., estimated cost of all \$550.

Supplement to Project 52522, removing dirt in room back of ice plant at State Teachers College, measuring 130 feet by 20 feet and walling up sides, concreting the floor; number of men 6; estimated payroll \$648.00; estimated cost \$942.40.

Supplement to Project 52524, repairs to buildings on the campus of Appalachian State Teachers College; number of men 6; estimated payroll \$1,820.00; estimated cost \$2,306.00.

Supplement to Project 52525, labor and materials needed to make repairs at State Farm; number of men 6; estimated payroll \$504.00; estimated cost \$755.20.

Supplement to Project 525, labor and materials needed for other repairs at State Farm; number of men 1; estimated payroll \$175.50; estimated cost \$175.00.

Opening, grading, building and surfacing about 1,000 feet of city streets in Boone, supplement to Project No. 52531; estimated cost \$500.00.

Supplement to Project 52543, excavating under Watauga County courthouse and building cement wall; number of men 9; estimated payroll \$337.50; estimated cost \$596.50.

## Mrs. Mary E. McKoy Passes in Washington

Mrs. Mary E. McKoy, 74, died at her home in Spokane, Wash., on February 11th, following an illness of long duration.

Mrs. McKoy was born in Watauga County, a daughter of the late Andrew and Caroline Mast. She was married to R. M. McKoy in 1885, and to this union were born five children. The McKoys became residents of Washington many years ago, and the deceased lady had visited here only one time since.

Survivors include a brother, Mr. D. F. Mast, of Valle Crucis, and a large number of other near relatives in this county.

Older residents of the Valle Crucis community will recall Mrs. McKoy's loyalty to church and Sunday school work. A class she taught at the Valle Crucis Church more than fifty years ago has been deleted by death until only one of the number remains alive. The passing of the esteemed lady marks the close of a useful Christian life.

## HOWARD STEELMAN NAMED PERMANENT R. F. D. CARRIER

Mr. Howard F. Steelman has received notification of his appointment as permanent R. F. D. carrier at Deep Gap, the same being effective as of February 16th. Mr. Steelman has been carrying the mail over this route since last July when he received a temporary appointment.

## OVER A HUNDRED TO BE CUT FROM CWA FORCE FRIDAY

Civil Works Payroll to Be Slashed, According to Mrs. O'Berry's Instructions. 322 Will Remain on Duty. Those Most in Need With None Other Working in Family to Receive Consideration.

More than one hundred and twenty Civil Works employees are to be cut from the payrolls in Watauga County next Friday, according to advices received by Mrs. Smith Hagaman, local CWA Administrator, from Mrs. Thomas O'Berry, Monday. This reduction will leave the total of employed under the recovery program at 322.

Mrs. O'Berry's telegram states: "Effective February 23 number of employees on CWA payrolls in your county must be reduced to 322. Further reduction will be made each week until program is discontinued. In order to complete CWA projects before May 1st it will be necessary to discontinue projects that can be terminated without loss and concentrate on most necessary projects now in operation. The district supervisor and engineer will confer with you this week to determine the projects to be continued. Please have all information relative to projects ready for conference."

## To Consider Needy Ones

General instructions received by Mrs. Hagaman state that to accomplish reductions those least needing work should be dropped first, along with any workers in whose immediate family another member is working, leaving no more than one person gainfully employed in one family. Then those who have other resources should be dropped, it is said, making sure that needy women receive the same consideration as needy men. At the same time it is stated that least desirable projects should be discontinued first.

Pending further information, says Mrs. Hagaman, no new projects will be sent in. It will be necessary, she states, to concentrate the remaining men upon projects which can be completed. At this time it is said highway projects are in good shape, and many of them are virtually completed.

## MRS. UNDERDOWN CLAIMED BY DEATH

Prominent Blowing Rock Lady Succumbs to Pneumonia. Husband and Two Sons Survive. Funeral Services Conducted Monday.

Mrs. James E. Underdown, 27 years old, died at her home in Blowing Rock Sunday morning at 4 o'clock, following a brief illness with pneumonia. Survivors include the husband and two sons, J. E. Jr. and Jack Kenneth. Her father, Mr. J. E. Bolick, of Colettsville, also survives.

Funeral services were conducted Monday morning, 10 o'clock, in Blowing Rock Baptist Church, Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home having charge of arrangements. Rev. Sexton Buchanan of the Presbyterian Church was assisted in the rites by Rev. W. D. Ashley, Baptist minister. Interment followed in a local cemetery.

Active pallbearers were James Sudderth, William Sudderth, Don Greene, Bud Bolick, Howard Holshouser and J. B. Knight.

Honorary pallbearers included Joe Winkler, Gene Story, L. F. Coon, Will Craig, C. A. Prevette, W. L. Holshouser, Joe White, George Sudderth. The large floral offering was borne by Mrs. Howard Holshouser, Mrs. Don Greene, Mrs. Herbert Ingle, Miss Margaret Sudderth, Miss Virginia Sudderth, Mrs. James Sudderth, Miss Lois Klutz and Miss Irene Jenkins.

Mrs. Underdown was born and reared to young womanhood in Caldwell County, but had been a resident of Blowing Rock for a number of years, where she had been prominently identified with the civic and church life of the community. Her untimely passing will bring sorrow to a large circle of friends in Western North Carolina.

## Ten-Year-Old Youth Has Fine School Record

Hardin Snyder, 10-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Conley Snyder of the Pottersville school district, has the distinction of having never missed a day at school for a period of five years, and has made a grade each year. The young fellow's scholastic work is described as being of a very fine order. Miss Maude Perry is the principal of the school in which young Snyder is enrolled.

## A CORRECTION

In The Democrat last week an error was made in the list of survivors of Mrs. Joe Ward of Brushy Fork. Meadames W. W. Gragg of Boone and W. S. Trivette of Sugar Grove are sisters to the deceased, but their names were unintentionally omitted.

## "Scandalous"



Washington—Brigadier General William Mitchell, retired, of the Senate Committee that Uncle Sam has been the victim of profiteers in Army airplane contracts, spending \$187,000,000 per year on military aviation and today having about 300 planes whereas we should have 2,000.

## C W A GEOLOGIST FINDS MINERALS IN THIS SECTION

Vein of Copper Ore Traced Thirty-five Miles in Avery and Watauga. Feldspar Deposit Uncovered Near Balm, and Rare Placer Sands Are Revealed in Watauga County Near Boone.

Howard A. Michener, of Bristol, Tenn., CWA field worker engaged in a geological survey of Avery, Watauga and Ashe counties, reports that he has traced a good vein of copper for more than thirty-five miles in Avery and Watauga counties. It includes several of the copper ores, including malachite, cuprite, azurite and chalcocopyrite, says Mr. Michener.

Just south of Balm, in Avery County, a good deposit of feldspar has been opened on the land of Frank Chappell. A placer gold deposit in black sand, rare for this region, has been found near Vilas.

Residents of Avery, Watauga and Ashe counties having information about mineral deposits in these three counties, are invited to write to Mr. Michener at Lees-McRae College, in Banner Elk.

Discovery of these mineral deposits remind Wataugans of the fact that many mining operators in days gone by have prospected the hills of this section, and on different occasions tales of rich bonanzas were the cause for great excitement amongst local people.

## Number of Cases Heard by Recorder

The following cases were tried in Judge Sudderth's court Tuesday:

Dovie Edminsten, cited for non-payment of court costs; settlement made.

Hubert Winebarger, arraigned on capias for non-appearance in good behavior case; agreed to give defendant another chance.

F. A. Winebarger, assault with a deadly weapon, 4 months on roads. Appealed to Superior Court.

Spencer Blackburn, violation prohibition law, \$25 and cost; carrying a concealed weapon, \$50 and cost.

Following the judgment of Judge Sudderth, Blackburn was taken into custody on a Federal warrant, charging possession of whiskey and an assault on Federal officer. He was taken before U. S. Commissioner S. C. Eggers who placed him under \$1,500 bond for appearance before Judge Hayes in Federal Court.

Calvin Ragan, damaging county jail; suspended on payment of costs and damage.

Albert Swift, driving car while intoxicated, \$25 and cost.

## A. S. T. C. Cagers Win At Home; Lose Away

Appalachian's strong basketball team kept a perfect record on the home court with two victories over Western Carolina Teachers College last Friday and Saturday nights. Both games were very close and furnished plenty of excitement. The contest Friday night was won by a score of 37-31. McConnell, rangy Appalachian center, led the scoring with eighteen points each night. Saturday's game was the most thrilling played on the local court this season. The score was tied with about two minutes to play when Coach Garbee substituted Brown and Weaver. Both converted, Brown with four points and Weaver with two. The game ended, Appalachian, 38, W. C. T. C., 34.

The local lads found playing more difficult on a foreign court. Last Monday night East Tennessee Teachers handed them defeat by the score of 33-33. A last minute rally was necessary for the Tennessee team to win. Lackey and McConnell did the greater part of scoring for Appalachian, getting twelve points each.

## MANY SEEK OFFICE OF POSTMASTER AS SMITH QUITS POST

Civil Service Commission Announces Open Examination to Fill Vacancy Caused by Resignation of A. W. Smith, Effective March 31. Applications To Be in Hands of Local Examiner by March 6. The Seekers

Mr. A. W. Smith, postmaster at Boone for more than six years, has tendered his resignation to the Post-office Department, effective as of March 31, and along with this information comes a call from the Civil Service Commission for an examination to fill the vacancy created.

Ten residents of the city have already signified their intention of taking the examination for the postmaster's position, which carries a salary of \$2,400 per annum. Perhaps others will have applied before the closing date for the receipt of applications on the 6th of March. Those who are understood to have purpose to take the examination are: L. L. Bingham, E. T. Council, Clyde Greene, A. E. South, F. F. McDade, Robert W. Pulliam, Cliff McConnell, Mrs. J. M. Moretz, W. G. Hartzog and G. K. Moose.

## Civil Service Rules

To be eligible for the examination an applicant must be a citizen of the United States, must reside within the delivery of the postoffice, must have resided for at least one year next preceding the date for close of receipt of applications, must be in good physical condition and within the prescribed age limits. Both men and women are admitted.

Under the terms of the Executive order, the Civil Service Commission will certify to the Postmaster General the names of the three highest qualified eligibles, if as many as three are qualified, from which the Postmaster General may select one for nomination by the President. Confirmation by the Senate is the final action.

Applicants will not be required to assemble in an examination room for scholastic tests, but will be rated on their education and business experience and fitness. The Civil Service Commission will make inquiry among representative local business and professional men and women concerning the experience, ability and character of each applicant, and the evidence thus secured will be considered in determining the ratings to be assigned to the applicants.

The Commission states that presidential postmasters are not in the classified civil service and that its duties in connection with appointments to such positions are to hold examinations and to certify the results to the Postmaster General. The Commission is not interested in the political, religious, or fraternal affiliations of any applicant.

Full information and application blanks may be obtained from the secretary of the local board of civil service examiners at the postoffice in this city, or from the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C.

## Seek Drug Convention For Blowing Rock

Mayor C. C. Robbins and Dr. C. H. Berryman of Blowing Rock went to Chapel Hill Tuesday where they attended the sessions of the executive committee of the North Carolina Pharmaceutical Association, extending an invitation for the druggists to hold their annual convention at Blowing Rock next summer.

It is understood that the convention was to have been held at Wrightsville Beach, but since the disastrous fire, the Blowing Rockers believe there is an excellent chance of the meeting being held there.

## Teachers Adult Classes In Meeting Saturday

A meeting of the teachers who are engaged in conducting the community classes for those above school age was held in the courthouse Saturday afternoon, with most of the tutors present. The meeting followed a week of organization work for the adult schools and intense interest was reported from all quarters over the training being given by the E. R. E.

Another meeting of the teachers is to be held next Saturday at 2 o'clock at which time a report of the actual classroom work for the first week will be made. The 26 teachers in the county will average about twenty-five students each.

## BENEFIT PIE SUPPER

A pie supper will be a feature of the regular skating party at Cove Creek High School next Saturday evening, the proceeds to be used for the purchase of additional volumes for the graded and high school libraries. Mrs. Vardry Mast, librarian, is sponsoring the pie supper, and in making the announcement stresses the need for the improvement of the two libraries.