

By J. C. R.

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

VOLUME XLVI, NUMBER 6

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1934

\$1.50 PER YEAR

It happened like this... a few days ago, maybe a few weeks... one of these high-pressure salesmen...

A few afternoons back this salesman drove slowly along main street... allegedly he did... more or less blocking traffic...

He parked again, the story goes, and Chief Gross... maybe a wee bit hot under the collar... invited the violator to drive over to city hall...

This unworthy scribe... unhalloved and unholy at times, unwashed and unshaven at others... is not a fit subject to criticize Boone in any sense of the word...

Chief Gross has been connected with the law-enforcing agencies of Watauga County for a number of years, during which time he has served with a high degree of efficiency...

He is under arrest today charged with felonious assault, or something like that, on the pan-peddler, and an element of Boone's citizenry is licking its collective chops...

Many's been the time that we, ourselves, have veered from the straight and narrow pathway... but the teachings of long ago that laws and those who enforce them should be respected still cling in our vitals...

Sometimes it is a little grain hard to respect all officers of the law... for instance... the other day an ambitious young D. S. was spotted down near Smithy's store...

HOW TO PROCEED UNDER TOBACCO CONTROL PLANS

County Superintendent Gives Out Explanation to Farmers of County. Contracts Now in His Office for New Growers and Others Who Did Not Sign Heretofore. Matter Should Be Attended to at Once.

Following is an outline of procedure under the Kerr-Smith Tobacco Act, which should be of interest to Burley growers in Watauga:

Tax-payment warrants will be issued to contracting producers operating under tobacco production adjustment contracts to cover the amount of tobacco which may be sold under the terms of the contract.

Growers who had not signed tobacco production adjustment contracts prior to June 28, 1934, may sign such contracts, applicable to the kind of tobacco grown by them provided that such contracts are submitted to the county office not later than July 28, 1934, and provided further, that the growers meet the same requirements as were met by growers who signed contracts during the regular sign-up campaign.

Applications by non-contracting growers for allotments of tax-pay- (Continued on Page 8)

Fiddlers Convention Draws Large Crowds

The annual Fiddlers Convention, held under auspices of the Watauga Post, American Legion, was attended by a large crowd of enthusiastic spectators both Friday and Saturday nights, and a neat sum was realized for the promotion of Legion activities.

String Band: Bald Mountain String Band, first; Tom Ashley's Band, second; Zionville Band, third. Fiddlers: Dewey Osborne, first; Rayborn Mikeal, second; Charles Isaacs, third. Guitar: Carl Taylor, first; J. D. Ashley, second; Dudley Watson, third. Banjo: Tom Ashley, first; George Norris, second; Lloyd Bryan, third. Buck and Wing Dancers: Mrs. Birdie Triplett, first; W. W. Bledsoe, second; Gryder Shook, third; Roby Moretz, fourth; Wade Snyder, fifth. Charleston Dancers: Velma Shook, first; Mabel Brown, second; Dean McClain, third; Beulah Ragan, fourth; Earline Younce, fifth.

WORK STARTS ON BUILDING

Contractor Lloyd Robbins and a large force of workmen began the work on the Highland Dry Cleaning Company's building Monday morning. During the day the stone and concrete foundation was put in place, and but for the hindrance of Tuesday's rain, the brick walls would have been well under way by this time.

Dr. Vance to Preach Annual Sermon at the Blowing Rock Church

Dr. James I. Vance will preach his annual sermon for Grandfather Home at Banner Elk next Sunday in the Blowing Rock Presbyterian Church. Last year Dr. Vance was unable to conduct the annual service because of injuries suffered in a fall from his horse.

A record crowd is expected next Sunday. The offering usually runs into the thousands of dollars and has become one of the chief sources of income of the orphanage. The late Edgar Tufts, founder of the home, was also pastor of the church at Blowing Rock.

There will be extra seats and loud-speakers on the lawn for the overflow crowd, which, in case of rain, will adjourn to the Sunday School section, according to Rev. Sexton Buchanan, pastor. Any friends of the orphanage unable to attend next Sunday's service are invited to send their contributions direct to the Blowing Rock Presbyterian Church or to the Grandfather Home at Banner Elk.

Add a little vinegar to the water in cleaning linoleum and it will dry unusually bright and shiny.

To Inform the Electorate



Clifford Frazier of Greensboro, Republican candidate for Governor, who has been named honorary vice-chairman of an organization which will carry the message of the proposed or revised Constitution to the people of every county, city and hamlet in the State before the fall election in which it will be voted upon, Governor Ehringhaus is honorary chairman.

BOGUS MONEY IS PASSED IN BOONE

Postmaster Hartzog Exhibits Fine Specimen of Counterfeit Bill Returned from Washington. Others May Have Been Passed Here.

A ten-dollar bill, apparently a bona fide bank note, was returned to Postmaster Hartzog last week from the Postoffice Department, leading the local official to wonder whether or not a veritable flood of the spurious currency has been turned loose in this community.

The bill, which was included in a departmental remittance of the latter part of July, was made out against the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, and carries the number C19128974A. The postoffice department gives the general description of the bill as "good," which is attested by the fact that it was not discovered until it had reached the Federal Reserve Bank in Richmond.

Mr. Hartzog, in commenting on the spurious note, calls attention to the information that the printing was executed from a photographic plate and that all bills made at the same time will bear the identical serial number, and thinks it would likely be wise for local people to have a good look at the notes of this denomination offered them.

The principal flaws leading to the detection of the bank note were that it was slightly off-color, and the paper appeared to be similar to an ordinary grade of bond writing paper. Mr. Hartzog, of course, has no idea who passed the bill at the window.

CAPTAIN SMITH IS GIVEN HIGH HONOR

Head of Shelby School System and Summer Resident of Boone, Chosen for Membership in National Educational Honor Fraternity.

Captain B. L. Smith, head of the Shelby (N. C.) school system and owner of a summer home here, recently received a high distinction when he was chosen for membership in Kappa Delta Pi, national educational honor fraternity, according to a story appearing last week in the Cleveland Star.

Captain Smith is usually a member of the summer school faculty of A. S. T. C., but is studying this summer at Duke University, preparing data on the evolution of North Carolina's public school education. He is expected here, however, some time this month for a brief vacation. The high honor which has been bestowed upon the well-known educator is based on distinction of scholarship and achievement in school work.

Local Furniture Store Wins Gold Seal Award

The High Land Furniture Company recently received a five-dollar prize for having installed a superior window recently featuring the Gold Seal Linoleum Rugs. The contest, which was started last spring, was conducted on a national scale, and the attention of the local establishment was called to the fact that a great delay was occasioned by the unusual number of entries in the contest.

The Popular furniture concern reports a gratifying sale of rugs during the sales period.

CAROLINA HILLS DRAMA IS SEEN IN MURDER TRIAL

Five Members of Tilley Family Go on Trial in Wilkes County for Slaying of Foster Relative. Jury Being Selected from Yadkin County Venue. Defendants Maintain Stolid Countenance as Legal Machinery Moves.

Wilkesboro, N. C.—A strange drama of the North Carolina hill country began to unfold in Superior Court here Tuesday as a farm family of five went on trial for murder of a foster relative.

With deputies forcing a path thru a crowd of neighbors and the curious who packed the little Wilkes County courtroom and surged outside its doors, Warwick W. Tilley, 60-year-old farmer; his wife, 58; his son, Luther, 32; and Claude, 18, and Luther's wife, Minerva, 30, were brought into court for trial on a charge of slaying Leoda Childress, 20-year-old foster daughter of the elder Tilleys.

Throughout a long warm day the defendants, with a traditional stolidity of the mountain people, sat unmoved as the State's attorney and their counsel battled over selection of the jury to try them for their lives.

Apparently little concerned by their situation, they paid scant heed to the proceedings even when talesmen were excused time after time because they said they had previously formed an opinion "the defendants are guilty."

A special venire of 125 was called from the adjoining county of Yadkin for jury duty, but indications were an additional venire was to be called.

When 53 talesmen had been examined, only three jurors had been chosen. They were V. M. Holcomb, a guard at a State Prison camp, and R. B. Crissman and N. C. Steelman, farmers.

The State summoned more than a hundred witnesses to present the evidence of plot and counter plot which it contends led to the slaying of Leoda last December 20th.

As Solicitor John R. Jones has reconstructed the affair, its ramifications extend back seven years ago to the day when the body of Andrew Eldridge was found in a pond near the Tilley farm home.

He has evidence, he said, that Eldridge was slain by Luther Tilley and Winfield Stanley in a liquor feud. Leoda knew of this, he contends, and seven years later was slain because she became angry at Luther and threatened to reveal her knowledge.

The girl was found shot to death in the Tilley home by a neighbor who heard her scream for help over a party telephone line. A small calibre rifle owned by the elder Tilley was the death weapon. The house has been ransacked, but no one was there and nothing was missing.

For a time her death was charged to robbers. Later officers held a theory of suicide. The charge of murder and conspiracy to murder was brought by the Solicitor against the entire family after he discovered evidence he said linked her death with Eldridge's, until then an unsolved mystery.

Judge John M. Oglesby is presiding over the Tilley trial. Attorney J. E. Helshouser of Boone is a member of defense counsel.

Junior Order to Present A Patriotic Program

Daniel Boone Council No. 129, Junior Order United American Mechanics, will give a special program at Boone Methodist Church on Sunday night, August 19, 8 o'clock. A specially arranged program on "Liberty, Virtue and Patriotism" will be presented. All Juniors of Watauga and adjoining counties will be seated in a reserved section. The general public is cordially invited.

Mr. A. E. Hodges, manager of the Hodges Tire Company, returned yesterday from Johnson City, where he underwent a successful tonsil operation at the Jones Hospital.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Numerous misunderstandings have arisen in connection with the magazine which Mr. R. J. Clarke is promoting in this section—and for the second time it becomes necessary to state that neither the Watauga Democrat nor the Rivers Printing Company has anything whatever to do with the venture.

As previously stated we have furnished Mr. Clarke an estimate on the actual printing of the magazine, he is promoting the publication, and The Democrat is not in any way responsible to his patrons for the fulfillment of any contract entered into. Mr. Clarke is not employed by the local newspaper or printery in any capacity, and it is desired that there be no further misunderstandings.

This is not said in criticism of the proposed magazine, but merely in an attempt to keep the status of affairs straight.

Spends Vacation at Rock



Colonel Wade H. Harris, editor of the Charlotte Observer, who left last Friday after a visit of several days in Blowing Rock. Colonel Harris is one of the mountains' strongest friends, and his annual visits are looked forward to with pleasure by a wide circle of friends.

POTATO HOUSES ARE TO BE BUILT

Expert from the Department of Agriculture to Supervise Construction of Storage Warehouses for Mountain Co-operatives.

Banner Elk, N. C.—J. E. Edgar, specialist in the designing of potato warehouses from the Department of Agriculture, has come from Washington by appointment of Rexford G. Tugwell, assistant Secretary of Agriculture, to arrange the construction of four potato warehouses for the Carolina Mountain Co-operatives. One warehouse will be located in each of the four counties in the co-operative, Watauga, Avery, Mitchell and Yancey.

Mr. Edgar has gone to Raleigh with A. C. Jackson, head of the Tennessee Valley Association Co-operatives, to consult with the State Department of Agriculture and the Federal Emergency Relief Administration about the building of the houses.

The program of the Carolina Mountain Co-operatives, set up under the auspices of the Tennessee Valley Authority, is moving along rapidly. The co-operative cannery at Cranberry in Avery County is in full operation, and that at Green Mountain in Yancey County may be completed and ready for business within the next ten days.

It is the plan of the Authority, set forth by Dr. A. E. Morgan, chairman, L. L. Campbell, executive assistant, Mr. Jackson and other officers, to make these four counties a high mountain demonstration area and the success of the co-operative in its certified seed potato and canning program is the first step actually taken. Mr. Edgar was sent from Washington at the request of Mr. Morgan to the Department of Agriculture.

MOUNTAIN CITY MAN AMBUSHED

John Nave, 32, Killed While Accompanying Father to Make Arrest. Slayer Injured by Shots from Elder Nave's Weapon.

Mountain City, Tenn.—While accompanying his father to make an arrest, John Nave, 32-year-old employee of the McDade Furniture Store here, was shot and killed about 8:30 Monday night near Mountain City.

Deputy Sheriff Dave Nave, father of the dead man, had been called from his home to arrest a drunk man. While on the way to answer the call the Naves were accosted by the alleged drunk, Thomas J. Lane, alias Joe Bush, who without warning, shot and killed John Nave.

The elder Nave returned Lane's fire and left him for dead beside his son. It was later found, however, that Lane's wounds were of a minor nature. He was taken to Mountain City and placed in the jail.

The dead man is survived by his parents and widow.

JAMES P. SIFFORD SPEAKS TO STUDENTS AT STATE COLLEGE

The Appalachian State Teachers College was fortunate on Friday morning in having one of the leading public school men in the State as speaker at the assembly period. Superintendent James P. Sifford of Stanly County. His subject was "Pestalozzi and His Influence on Education." This was one of the most delightful addresses the students have been privileged to hear and dealt most interestingly with the current educational problems.

BOARD RULES TO FORECLOSE; TAX YEARS INCLUDED

Closure Proceedings to Be Made on Real Property on Which Taxes Have Not Been Paid for Years 27 to 1931, Inclusive. Law Provides that Tax Suits Must Be Instituted by October 1st.

Pursuant to a resolution by the Board of County Commissioners in session Monday, foreclosure suits will be instituted against all real property in the county on which taxes have not been paid for the years 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930 and 1931 and County Attorney Charles T. Zimmerman will begin preparation of the necessary papers to carry out the law during the latter part of the week.

Officials point out that under the act of the Legislature of 1933 these tax suits must start before October 1st, and the Commissioners, it is explained, have no choice in the matter.

A. D. Wilson, county tax collector, issues a plea to the people of the county today, asking that they make every effort to meet their governmental obligations so as to save the costs that will accrue, and at the same time save their property. Mr. Wilson states that collections on the newer tax books have been fairly good of late, but that there is considerable indifference where the older receipts are involved.

Dennis G. Brummitt Praises Community

Attorney General and Mrs. Dennis G. Brummitt left for Raleigh Tuesday after having spent a week as guests at the Daniel Boone Hotel, during which time students at Appalachian College were privileged to head Mr. Brummitt, voice his opposition to the proposed change in the State Constitution.

Mr. Brummitt was enthusiastic in his praise of Boone and the adjacent sections of the county, and says that in all his travels about the State he believes this is the most attractive community with which he is acquainted. He spoke especially of the superb summer climate, combined with a restful quietude, and said the innate friendliness of the mountain people contributed a full share to the enjoyment of a vacation in this region. The Brummitts contemplate further visits to Boone.

REV. W. R. SAVAGE SUCCUMBS SUNDAY

Beloved Episcopal Minister Passes in Charlotte Where He Had Been Ill for Two Weeks. Had Lived for Many Years in This Section.

Reverend William R. Savage, well known Episcopal minister, who for many years had made his home in Glendale Springs, Ashe County, died in a Charlotte Hospital last Sunday, after an illness of two weeks. He was 79 years old. Surviving is one brother, A. D. Savage, of New York.

Meager information reaching The Democrat indicated that the body was being held at a Charlotte mortuary until instructions are received from the brother in New York.

Mr. Savage came to Blowing Rock perhaps forty years ago where he was engaged as an Episcopal minister, and for perhaps a quarter of a century traveled periodically on horseback or in a buggy, ministering both to the spiritual and physical needs of his beloved mountain people. For many years he had made his home at Glendale Springs, having been retired from the ministry several years ago.

Mr. Savage was well known to the people of the mountain country and beloved by all. His death brings sadness to many old friends.

Blowing Rock Horse Show Rained Out Tues.

The Blowing Rock Horse Show, much anticipated and crowning event of the summer activities at the neighboring resort, was postponed until Wednesday morning on account of the torrential downpour of rain when the show was to have started Tuesday. Wednesday morning, however, while the sky is overcast, prospects are that the two-day event may get under way in good shape.

The last of the week more than sixty horses had already been entered in 22 different competitions and interest is said to be growing in the event from year to year. This year's entry list is about 20 per cent ahead of that of last year.

Mr. L. M. Tate is president of the association this year and he and Mr. Herbert Stewart, the secretary, have made preliminary arrangements. Reports coming to Boone late Tuesday indicated that a record-breaking crowd had gathered on the mountain for the show and that all hotels were filled.