

Washington, Feb. 3.—Topping all other subjects of conversation in Washington is the speech which Alfred E. Smith made at the Liberty League Dinner, and its possible effects upon the political situation.

Of course, Mr. Roosevelt will be renominated, but there is no mistaking the intention of Mr. Smith and his followers, included in the Liberty League, to bolt the party, whether they undertake to put a third ticket into the field or not.

How serious this defection may be in its effect upon the President's chance for re-election is a question upon which opinions vary widely. Naturally, the warm supporters of the administration ridicule the idea that the Liberty League crowd can influence any material volume of votes.

Rumblings From South Considerable significance was attached here to the declaration by the late Governor Allen, of Louisiana, that his organization would join up with the Liberty League in trying to prevent Mr. Roosevelt's renomination.

The point of greatest doubt is how far these attacks upon the President and his policies may be carried if they fail to stop his renomination. It is conceded by the political experts that a high percentage of those Democrats who dislike the New Deal will nevertheless swing into line under the party banner, preferring to retain their "regularity" than to bolt the ticket.

One third-party movement that seems to have been pretty well blown up is that threatened by Dr. Townsend if the present Congress did not adopt his plan of old-age pensions for everybody.

Instead of scaring Congressmen to flock to the support of his Old Age Revolving Pension plan, it has rather impelled many members to look upon it with less seriousness. That is partly due to the realization that from an economic standpoint the plan of paying every old person \$200 a month would be ruinous, and partly because the voting strength behind the Townsend plan is so far confined to a few areas and Congressional districts.

Representative John S. MacGraw of California has a modified Townsend plan in the form of a bill which would provide for \$50 a month (Continued on Page 8)

First Aid School To Be Held Later

The first aid school which was to have been held at the College on the evening of the third has been postponed indefinitely on account of the weather, and a further announcement will be made at some future date in this regard.

The school, which is to be conducted by Coach E. E. Garbee of the College faculty, is designed primarily for the benefit of WPA workers in this territory, and all foremen and at least one other man from each project are invited to attend.

Doughton Supports Chief On Inflation

Winston-Salem, Feb. 3.—Representative Robert L. Doughton, chairman of the house ways and means committee, said here tonight he "will stand by President Roosevelt on the question of currency inflation."

Pointing out that the President and secretary of the treasury are charged with the responsibility in matters of federal finance, he said he would respect their recommendations.

Doughton was en route to Washington from Laurel Springs, his home in Albemarle county.

Asked for his views on new taxes, Doughton replied that his committee had received no request for new revenue and no action would be taken until a message is forthcoming from the President or the treasury department. He expressed his personal hope that new taxes could be avoided this year.

FORD REPORTS

Auto Magnate Tells of Birthday Ball Spending



DETROIT—Edsel Ford (above) Ford Motor Company president, as a member of the National Birthday Ball Commission for President Roosevelt, announces disposition of some of the funds raised by the annual birthday ball.

MANY TO ATTEND LINCOLN DINNER

Watauga to be Well Represented at Greensboro Meet; Dickinson To Speak.

More than twenty-five Watauga county Republicans are expected to journey to Greensboro on the 12th, when the annual Lincoln Day Dinner is to be held at the King Cotton Hotel, and County Chairman Russell D. Hodges is very anxious that all those interested in attending get in touch with him at once.

Senator L. J. Dickinson of Iowa, will deliver the principal dinner address. The Senator is known as one of the most able orators in the upper branch of Congress.

Pastime Plays Nine Of Ten Best Films

The Pastime Theatre of Boone is rendering a superior service to local showgoers as is evidenced by the fact that of the "ten best" films produced in 1935, nine of them have been screened at the local playhouse.

SCHOOL HOURS ARE CHANGED LOCALLY

Effort Made to Make Hours Better for Children During Extreme Weather.

The hours at the Boone High and Demonstration schools have been changed in order to give the children a better chance to meet their classes during the cold weather.

Mr. Wilson states that classes are now beginning at 9:30 a. m. rather than 8:45, and that the students are being liberated at 3 p. m. instead of at 3:30 as heretofore.

COAL SHORTAGE REACHES BOONE

Fuel At A Premium as Another Cold Wave Looms; Situation Improves.

The home fires have been kept burning, but in many cases not so brightly as desired due to the shortage of coal which became a problem in this community the last of the week.

Monday and Tuesday there was no fuel on the local yards at all, but in the evening a supply was received which is being divided today among the residents.

Birthday Ball Was Noteworthy Success

The President's Birthday Ball, held at the Daniel Boone Hotel last Thursday evening was pronounced a decidedly successful event.

Some seventy-five couples took the floor, and a general good time was enjoyed, those not caring to dance taking hands of bridge or mingling with friends.

After hotel accommodations, orchestra fees, and other expenses were paid, said Mr. Council, there remained \$54.00 of which \$37.80 remains at home.

The sum of \$21.40 is now in care of the county welfare department and Miss Fisher, public health nurse, is working with the board in disbursing it to worthy cases.

Mrs. Stevenson Dies In Hickory On Tuesday

Mrs. Julia Bowles Stevenson, 68 years old, died at her home in Hickory on last Tuesday after an illness of one week, and the funeral was conducted Wednesday from the First Baptist Church of that city.

GROUND HOG FAILS TO CAST SHADOW

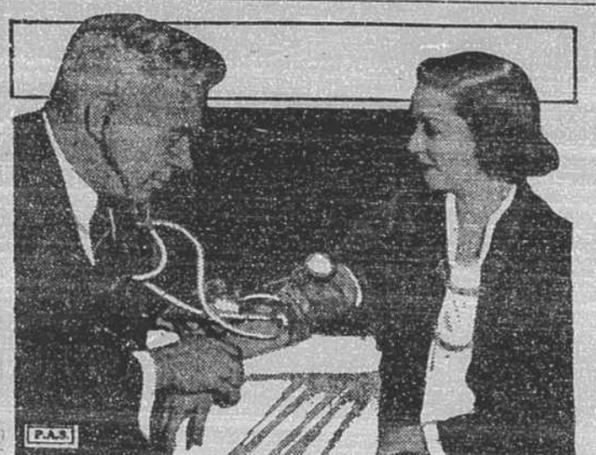
Legendary Prediction of Woodchuck Runs Afoul With Human Prognosticators.

The lowly groundhog, most primitive if not the most accurate prognosticator of pending weather conditions, couldn't have seen his shadow Sunday, even though he had used binoculars, for the sun didn't peep out for an instant in this locality.

"Groundhog Day" found moderated temperatures with snow, Monday came warm and raining, Tuesday carried away the most of the snow, and believe it or not, Wednesday noon, the sun is shining, and the predicted blizzard hasn't arrived.

ASKS TO MAKE LIE DETECTOR TEST

Inventor of Lie Detector Asks Governor Hoffman to Allow Its Use In Hauptmann Case



TRIDENTON, N. J.—Above is pictured Dr. Will H. Johnston of New York, inventor of the Systeonic Blood-Pressure Deception Test, which he has requested Governor Hoffman to allow him to use on Bruno Hauptmann, convicted murderer of the Lindbergh baby, now under reprieve from death.

Many Local Veterans File Applications Bonus Bonds

QUEEN OF ICE



PETOSKY, Mich.—On February 7th, Gov. Fitzgerald will crown 17-year-old Shirley Squier of Harbor Springs (above) "Michigan Ice Queen for 1936." She will rule over the National Amateur Speed Skating Championship races.

REV. NORRIS HURT BY FALLING TREE

Former Wataugan Seriously Injured as Timber Is Cut For Church Annex.

Rev. J. L. Norris, Lutheran pastor at Maiden, N. C., was seriously hurt last Wednesday by a falling tree. He was assisting members of one of his congregations in cutting timber to build an annex to their church building.

Rev. Norris is a former Watauga boy, being the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Norris of Route 1, Boone. He has a host of relatives and friends in the county who wish for him a speedy recovery.

Mother And Son Are Buried At Same Time

Brushy Fork cemetery was the scene of a double burial Monday when the bodies of Mrs. Stuart Hayes, 45, of that section, and a one-year-old son, Alton, were interred.

The U. S. Forest Service will sponsor an educational program and motion picture show at Blowing Rock February 10, at 7 p. m. There is no admission charge and everyone is invited.

THE LOW DOWN ON WEATHER GIVEN; LOW RECORD IS SET

Professor Wright Has Kept Accurate Account of Weather For Seven Years.

SAYS TEMPERATURE FOR 2 MONTHS AVERAGED 30

Accurate Instruments at College Tell of Record Frigid Wave; A Resume of Weather Conditions In The Past.

Professor J. T. C. Wright, member of the faculty at Appalachian College has for the past seven years kept an accurate record of the whims of the elements, and states with authority that the months of December and January are the coldest he has known during the time or in fact since 1917-18.

"At the request of the publishers of the Democrat, I have compiled a few statistics on the weather in Boone over a period of the past seven years.

"I commenced keeping a record of the weather, beginning December 1, 1928, at the request of Prof. D. D. Dougherty. I immediately became interested in keeping as accurate a record of what happened as I could obtain.

"I keep the instruments in an instrument house, constructed according to specifications supplied me by the Weather Bureau Station at Raleigh, N. C. This instrument house is located back of my house on what is known as cemetery hill. The instrument (Continued on Page 8)

DISTRICT LEGION MEETING FRIDAY

High Officials of Soldiers' Organization Will Address Local Gathering.

A district meeting of the American Legion and Legion Auxiliary is to be held at the Legion Hut in Boone Friday evening, February 7th.

Officials of the local post are urging all world war veterans of this territory to be present at the gathering, when full information on the bonus payment will be given.

Vice Department Commander Burghin Pennell of Asheville and Department Vice-Pres. Mrs. C. M. Taylor, of Oteen, will be the principal speakers of the occasion.

DISTRICT AUXILIARY MEETING

The Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion, seventeenth district, will meet at the Daniel Boone Hotel Friday afternoon, February 7th, at 4:30.

Mrs. C. M. Taylor of Oteen, department vice-pres., will be in charge of the meeting and a large number of ladies from the Lenoir, Morganton and Newland units are expected.

Stockholders of Bank Meet; Elect Officers

A considerable number of the stockholders of the Watauga County Bank were present at the annual meeting last Wednesday and heard reports of improved financial conditions and a greatly bettered outlook as to the future of the local institution.

Mr. L. A. Green remains as president of the bank, G. P. Hagaman, vice-president and P. A. Coffey, cashier, while the board of directors will likewise remain the same as heretofore.

RECORDER'S COURT

After having missed two sessions of recorder's court for lack of defendants, only one case appeared on the docket Tuesday involving the possession of a negligible amount of whiskey.

Vassar will double its present library capacity of 200,000 books.