

# JOHN EGGERS IS VICTIM STROKE

Former Wataugan Dies in Dakota; Other News of the Zionville Community.

(Special Correspondence)

Zionville, N. C., Feb. 17.—News has been received here of the death of John L. Eggers, formerly of Watauga county but who for the past 29 years has lived near Anamoose, N. D., died at his home Feb. 10, 1936 at the aged of 65 years. He was buried in the family cemetery at Anamoose, N. D., Feb. 12. A stroke of paralysis caused his death. He owned a farm in the Antaloop Lake region of 600 or more acres, and raised mostly wheat. He was a member of the Northern Evangelical Church. He is the father of Rev. R. C. Eggers, Zionville, C. S. Eggers, Post Falls, Idaho, Mrs. Ollie St. John, Washuena, Wash, and Joe L. Eggers, Somerset, Ky.

Rev. W. C. Payne, pastor of Zionville Church, filled his appointment here Saturday but the pulpit was filled by Rev. Dwight Edmisten on Sunday who delivered a very impressive message on "Love."

Milton Brown is recuperating nicely at his home here from an appendix operation performed recently at a Winston-Salem hospital.

Mrs. Lillie Thomas and daughter, Miss Mildred, were guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Don H. Bingham at Sugar Grove.

Miss Geneva Thomas from A. S. T. C., Boone, was a week-end visitor here.

Zel Osborne came over from Bristol to spend the week-end with relatives here.

Miss Sue Ray, who has spent the past few months with relatives here left last week for her home in Newland.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Duncan from West Jefferson were visitors in the village Sunday.

Dwight Eggers was out among friends Sunday, the first time since his illness two months ago.

Graydon Warren came in from West Virginia Sunday and moved his family to that place where they will reside for a few months.

Mrs. Howard Greer spent the week-end with relatives in Mountain City, Tenn. Her sister, Miss Mary Elizabeth Church, from Mabel, accompanied her.

Miss Ruby Wilson has returned to Elizabethton, Tenn., after visiting here for a few days with relatives.

Among the sick who are on the road to recovery are, Farris Bumgarner, Grady Norris and Mrs. W. O. Stephens.

The ones unimproved are Mrs. Lillie Reese (who is still in Banner Elk Hospital) and Mrs. Maggie Stanberry.

Elmer Bumgarner and Burl, a small son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Miller, are quite ill at their homes here.

Mrs. Polly Greer and Miss Ettie Youce were called to Neva, Tenn., the first of the week because of the illness of their sister, Mrs. J. D. Snider.

## Activities of Cove Creek Chapter of F. F. A.

The annual District Seed Judging and Identification Contest which was held at High Point Wednesday, February 12 created a great deal of interest in the chapter in the production and use of better seed. The entire sophomore, junior and senior classes competed for places on the team and the winners were Glenn Anderson, James Sherwood, and Robert Lewis. The runners-up were Gilbert Ward and Rome Coffey. These boys made the trip to High Point and the Cove Creek team, competed with other teams throughout the mountain and piedmont belts. The results of the contest have not yet been received thus far.

In connection with the above contest a seed exposition open to all farmers in the state was held. The seed exhibits and the various educational exhibits sponsored by the State Department of Agriculture and the North Carolina Crop Improvement Association were unusually good both in creation of interest and educational value. The boys who made the trip agreed that it was the best and most instructive trip they have taken thus far during the school year. It is regretted that every member of the chapter could not make the trip.

Because of weather conditions the chapter's athletic program has not been carried out as originally planned, however one basketball game has already been played with Boone chapter at the Cove Creek gymnasium and another game is scheduled with Boone chapter at Boone Thursday, February 20. In the first game the Cove Creek chapter won a hard fought battle by a score of 22 to 24. Deal was high point man for Cove Creek with a score of 10 points and Scott for Boone with 16 points to his credit.

### RECORD COLD S. AP

Professor J. T. C. Wright who operates the weather observatory at the College and keeps accurate tab on the whims of the elements, tells the Democrat that Saturday morning, February 8 brought the coldest weather in seven years. The mercury stood at seven below zero, and strange enough for this section, there was no wind blowing when the mercury hit bottom in its rapid descent.

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## "IF WINTER COMES"—IT DID!

News Photographers Brave Blizzards to Get Views of Winter's Snows and Ice Throughout the Nation



NEW YORK . . . Despite aching feet and frost-bitten fingers, news photographers continue to plow through to picture snows and blizzards which have gripped the nation. Top, is a Nebraska scene as great rotary snow plows battle to open rail transportation lines. Lower left, the National Capitol when Washington was buried under a 14 inch snowfall in about 12 hours. Lower right, a view of New York skyline through the ice-coated riggings of a fishing boat which dragged itself into port.

## BLOWING ROCK VETERAN DEAD

Letcher Benfield Dies Friday; Funeral in Charge of American Legion.

Letcher J. Benfield, 43, well known Blowing Rock citizen and a veteran of the world war, died at a Lenoir hospital Friday morning after a few days' illness with pneumonia.

Funeral services were conducted from the Presbyterian Church at Blowing Rock Saturday afternoon, the Reverend Sexton Buchanan being in charge and interment was in that community. Members of the Watauga Post of the American Legion participated in the burial rites. Mr. Benfield was quite well known in the county, particularly among the veterans, having served with them during the time of the world war.

Surviving are the widow and two small children, James and Mary Jane. Four sisters and one brother are also living.

### RECORDERS COURT

Following are the cases disposed of in Recorder's Court Tuesday:

Russell Hamby, assault with deadly weapon, not guilty. Found guilty of drunkenness and assessed with the cost.

Frank Teague, possession of whiskey. Cost.

Lee Teague, operating car with improper license. Not guilty.

Floyd Church, brought in on capias for failure to pay cost. Given extension of time. Suspended sentence to become effective on failure to pay.

### DISTRICT MEETING OF JUNIOR ORDER U. A. M.

The third district, Junior Order United American Mechanics composed of the councils in Watauga, Avery, and Mitchell counties, will meet in Elk Park Friday, February 21, at 7:30 p. m.

Six candidates for initiation from the local council and also from other councils in the district will be given the degrees. Members of the Daniel Boone council who want to attend are asked to meet at the Farmers Hardware Store at six o'clock Friday.

### PRISONER RETURNED

Sheriff Howell Monday evening went to Lenoir and brought Jake Greer, county man back to Boone to answer charges of abandonment, non-support, and passing of worthless checks.

### VISIT FLORIDA

Silver Springs, Fla., Feb. 12.—Among the many tourists who spent the day at Silver Springs recently, viewing the nation's underwater fairland from glass bottom boats, were the following Boone residents: Misses Cora P. Jeffcoat and Lois V. Townsend.

## VETERAN RURAL POSTMAN QUILTS

L. T. Elrod Resigns Route 1. Had Travelled 115,000 Miles Delivering Mail.

L. T. Elrod, veteran rural carrier of route one of Boone, resigned effective February 15. He had been carrying the rural mail from the Boone postoffice for over sixteen years and his decision to take up other pursuits was a surprise to all. No charges had ever been preferred against Mr. Elrod and postmasters under whom he served state that he was very efficient as a carrier. For several months the roads on route one have been almost impassable, and since New River has to be forded twice, the carrying of the mail under such conditions may be described as hazardous. Mr. Elrod states that for a man of his age that it is better to quit while able to farm and enjoy living.

Mr. Elrod first assumed the duties of a rural carrier on March 1, 1906 and carried the mail for seven years when he resigned. Later, he took another examination and took up the same duties on Dec. 1, 1926—and served until the present time, making a total of almost seventeen years. During this time he has travelled a total distance of over 115,000 miles which is more than 4 1/2 times around the world.

The vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Elrod on route one was filled by the appointment of Mrs. Addie Clawson. Mrs. Clawson has been eligible for appointment since taking a civil service examination which was given some time ago to create an eligible list for rural carrier on route two. Despite the bad roads and weather since assuming her duties on Feb. 17, Mrs. Clawson has delivered the mail on the entire route every day.

## Local Road Damage From Severe Freeze

Watauga county has had its share of the state-wide damage to improved highways as a result of the extreme freezing, it would appear. While there has been no official estimate of the monetary damage to the system, it is reported to the Democrat that Tuesday, automobiles were mired down in the road near Zionville, the stone surface having given away when the thaw came last week.

Verne Greene returned from Abingdon Tuesday, having desisted in that city from finishing a trip to the coal fields for fuel, and states Virginia officials would only allow him a two-ton load, on account of the almost complete break down of the macadam roads in that section. He states that highway force trucks and tractors are being used to aid luckless motorists in getting their vehicles removed from the mire in many places.

## DEATH COMES TO JAMES L. WINKLER; RITES ON MONDAY

Prominent Citizen and Church Leader Succumbs After Lingered Illness.

DRS. WIDENHOUSE AND RANKIN CONDUCT RITES

Deceased Important Figure in Religious Life of the Community and Had Taught Sunday School Class 40 Years.

An illness which had become increasingly serious for the past several months resulted in the death Monday afternoon of James L. Winkler, 71 years old, prominent farmer and churchman of this community. A complication of ailments contributed to his death.

Funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon from the Boone Methodist Church where a great concourse of friends had gathered to pay their last respects, and were in charge of the pastor, Dr. Ernest C. Widenhouse. Dr. J. D. Rankin assisted in the rites. The floral offering was profuse. Interment was in the city cemetery, the arrangements being by Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home.

Surviving is the widow and five sons and daughters: Mrs. G. A. Thomson, of Hickory; Cloy Winkler, Elkin; James B. Winkler, Hickory; Anita of Shelby and Frank of Sylvia.

Two brothers and four sisters also survive: J. S. Winkler, Boone, W. W. Winkler, Valle Crucis, Mesdames J. D. Council, Boone; I. N. Corpening, Caidenton, Mo.; and R. B. Estes, of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

### Native of Boone

James Laridin Winkler was born in this community and spent his entire life here where he became closely identified with the religious, civic and educational life of the community. Although deeply concerned in educational and other worthwhile activities, Mr. Winkler was perhaps more deeply concerned in religious work and church building, although he contributed a full share to the building of the community along other lines. For many years he was a leader in Sunday School work, the superintendent, and for forty years or more had taken great delight in teaching the primary class of the Methodist Church.

Mr. Winkler lived a life of deep devotion to his family, his church and his community, and wielded a powerful influence for good in this section.

## Hardy Lyon Resigns From Grocery Chain

Mr. H. L. Lyon who for the past seven years has been employed by the Carolina (Dixie) Stores in this territory, has resigned his position as supervisor, and has entered the retail grocery business on his own in Hickory. Mr. Lyon, who was a visitor in Boone over the week-end, tells the Democrat that the establishment he has opened is known as the Sanitary Food Market and will be ultra modern in every respect. A meat market is being conducted in connection, and Mr. Lyon is highly pleased with the reception the public has accorded his new venture.

Mr. Lyon states that he will likely open two more such stores in the near future. With his background of grocery experience, including five years as store manager and two as supervisor, he may be expected to succeed well in his independent enterprise.

## TVA WINS FAVOR OF HIGH COURT

New Deal Agency Upheld in Certain Phases by New Ruling of Tribunal.

The government won a victory in the Supreme Court Monday when the justices by an eight to one vote held the Tennessee Valley Authority could dispose of surplus power manufactured at Wilson Dam at Muscle Shoals. Justice McReynolds dissented.

The decision did not reach to the constitutionality of the TVA as a whole but upheld the right of the government to dispose of dams constructed for purposes of navigation control or as national defense measures. Other manifold activities of the TVA were not thought to have been affected by the ruling.

The legality of the TVA has aroused much local interest in view of the fact that Watauga county is a part of the Authority created and since this agency of the government is now functioning in some instances in this territory. The Authority is providing an assistant county agent here, and is a co-sponsor of the public health department.

## PENROSE

Nephew of Late Political Boss May Go To Congress



DEVON, Pa. . . Boise Penrose, 2nd, (above), nephew of the late U. S. Senator and G.O.P. boss, is expected to soon announce himself a Republican candidate for congress from the 4th, Pennsylvania district.

## SALE OF WINE TO BE PROHIBITED HERE

Attention Called to Illegality of Dispensing the Fermented Beverages.

It is illegal to sell light or fermented wines in Watauga county, according to official information given the Democrat, and at the same time attention is called to the resolution passed by the Board of County Commissioners last August, which brings about the illegality of said sales.

Information is that under the terms of the statewide law, the sale of certain types of wine is legal, provided that the Board of County Commissioners of any county may preclude the sale of such beverages by resolution. The Democrat publishes the resolution passed in this connection, which is dated August 15, 1935 and which bears the signatures of the members of the Board of Commissioners:

"The Board of County Commissioners of Watauga County, N. C., in obedience to the call of its Chairman met on this day and unanimously passed the following resolution, same being adopted and recorded on the minutes of the board:

"Be it resolved by the board of County Commissioners of Watauga County, N. C., that no persons, firm or corporation shall be permitted to sell any light, or fermented wines in Watauga County, N. C.

"This resolution to be enforced from the date hereof.

"This resolution is adopted in obedience to Section Six of Chapter 393 Senate Bill 597 on page 606, and amendments thereto, of the Public Laws of 1935."

The Democrat is asked to state that peace officers are to be instructed to enforce the state prohibition law where sales of wine are concerned in accordance with the resolution.

### NO DEBTS

Two more Wataugans have joined the debtless club and are at fiscal peace with their fellow men: They are, Messrs. P. C. Carroll and J. B. Norris.

It is estimated that 90 per cent. of those farmers concerned with the production of cotton and tobacco are interested in a new crop control plan.

## DEATH BREAKS FAST 44 DAYS

Mrs. Catherine Harris of Boone Fork Dies. Hadn't Eaten Since January 3rd.

After having existed for forty-four days without food, Mrs. Catherine Harris, 78 years old, died at the home of a son-in-law, Blaine Coffey, in the Boone Fork section last Friday. Mrs. Harris suffered a paralytic stroke January 3, after which time she took no nourishment with the exception of a half glass of milk on the 36th day of her illness. She was conscious most of the time it is said, and apparently did not suffer greatly either from the self-imposed fasting or from the paralysis.

Funeral services were conducted at the Blue Ridge Baptist Church Sunday by Rev. S. E. Gragg and interment was in the neighborhood cemetery, arrangements being by Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home.

One brother, Martin Ennis of Hudson survives and a sister, Mrs. Hailey Barber also of Hudson.

Mrs. Harris was reared in Caldwell county, but spent many years in Watauga where she had acquired many friends.

## JOHN GRAGG GOES TO DEATH SUNDAY IN BLOODY AFFRAY

Sherman Henderson Arrested on Charge of Slaying Boone's Fork Citizen.

POCKET KNIFE WIELDED WITH DEADLY RESULTS

Tragedy Occurs as Church Services Are Held Near Blowing Rock. Grudge Over Girl Said to Have Been Motive.

### HEARING NEXT TUESDAY

Preliminary hearing for Sherman Henderson will be held in Boone before the Recorder next Tuesday. The hearing was deferred through mutual agreement, both sides being anxious for more time in which to gather evidence for the preliminary.

"An old grudge over a girl" is said to have been responsible for the death of John Gragg, 21-year-old Boone Fork citizen, in a Sabbath day altercation, in which the lethal agency was a pocket knife, allegedly wielded by Sherman Henderson, a neighbor.

The tragedy occurred seven miles from Blowing Rock on the Yonahlossee road, as Henderson was returning home from church, according to reports reaching the Sheriff's office. John Gragg, Floyd Church and Carl Davis, riding in some sort of motor truck overtook him, when Henderson alleges Gragg jumped from the vehicle, struck him and called upon his companions for help. The knife was drawn and a deep gash was opened in Gragg's right thigh, and one behind the knee, death ensuing from loss of blood within a space of perhaps twenty minutes. Henderson states to the sheriff that it was a case of self-defense. Another side of the story is that the truck occupied by the three men, stopped to give Henderson a lift, and that an argument ensued resulting in the tragedy. It is most generally believed however that there was bad blood over some neighborhood girl.

Sheriff Howell was immediately summoned to the scene of the fatal altercation, arrested Henderson and also took Floyd Church and Carl Davis into custody for material witnesses, or perhaps implication in the affair. Henderson will answer the homicide charge at the spring term of Superior court in April.

It is recalled that Church had been tried for aiding in the escape of a negro convict several weeks ago, while Gragg also had a court record involving larceny and attempted rape. Reports are that Henderson hasn't been in court here.

### The Funeral

Funeral services for Mr. Gragg were conducted Tuesday at the Boone Fork Baptist Church and interment was in the neighborhood cemetery.

The minister scheduled to perform the rites not having been able to attend, Mr. Douglas Redmond of Boone made an appropriate talk to the assembly.

Young Gragg was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Henderson Gragg, a member of a prominent family, and well known in this section.

Surviving are the parents, a widow, and small daughter, Claudine. Four brothers, Thurman, Radford, Arthur and Robert, all of Shulls Mills also survive as do four sisters: Iva Lee, Flossie Mae and Mrs. Mildred Marcus, Shulls Mills; Mrs. Violet Jordan, of Norfolk, Va.

## 72 Year Old Rich Mountain Man Dies

Roby Greene, 72-year-old resident of the Rich Mountain section, died Monday of last week, according to meagre information given the Democrat.

Funeral services were conducted on Tuesday and interment was in the Rich Mountain cemetery.

Survivors include the widow and two children: Mrs. Ed Culler and Mrs. Sally Ragan.

Mr. Greene was a farmer and a highly respected citizen.

### HOURS ARE CHANGED AT RE-EMPLOYMENT OFFICE

The National Re-employment office at the courthouse will henceforth be open on Monday of each week instead of on Thursday as hitherto in order that relief cases may register for employment. Mr. Frank Baird who is in charge of registration would like for those required to register to come forward as early as is convenient.

### MRS. SARAH HARMAN

Mrs. Sarah Harman, aged 79, died at the county home February 16. It was learned that burial will be at Boone but further information is lacking.