

With the new farm aid bill out of the way Congress is trying to get down to a working schedule that will let its members get away before the political conventions. A dozen or so highly controversial proposals, however, are bound to come up for discussion, and nobody can guess very accurately as yet what the outcome is going to be.

Senator Robinson, the Administration's leader in the Upper House, has announced that there are seven measures which he calls "live" bills whose consideration has been agreed upon by the Senate leaders. One of them is going to stir up a lot of debate. That is the rural electrification bill.

There probably will be even more excitement when the bill to regulate chain stores gets on the floor. This would prohibit producers and distributors of merchandise from selling cheaper to the chain stores than they do to individual retailers. It is one of Senator Robinson's pets, with Senator Patman actively interested. It will meet with strong opposition not only from the chains and from manufacturers, but from consumer groups and from newspapers. It has about an even chance of enactment as things look now.

Four "Live" Measures The Coolidge bill to tighten the barriers against undesirable aliens and make their deportation easier is on Senator Robinson's list. It has a good chance. The other four "live" measures, as the Senate leader sees them, are the Capper stockyards regulation bills, Senator Gore's Panama toll bill, Senator Fletcher's bill to increase the capital of the Commercial Credit Corporation to aid the marketing of agricultural products and another Fletcher bill exempting from taxation all securities of banks held by the RFC.

Since the passage of the bonus bill less is being heard of the so-called "pressure groups" and their influence on legislation. "Pressure group" is just a fancy word for lobbyists. It does not imply bribery, necessarily, but the pressure groups work effectively up the fears of members of Congress that they will not be re-elected if they don't give these groups what they demand.

A short time ago one of the strongest pressure groups was the currency inflation bloc. It seems to be losing influence and its particular measure, the Fretter-Lemke farm mortgage bill, looks to have a slim chance. The silver bloc, which was a very strong pressure group a year ago, is not so strong now.

Coughlin and Thompson Father Coughlin, who has been the spearhead of inflation, is not the influential figure that he formerly was. He was a powerful influence before the extent of his following was known. Now Congressmen generally pooh-pooh the notion that he is actually able to influence any important body of voters, sufficiently concentrated in particular states or districts to influence the election of particular Congressmen or Senators. The Townsend old-age pension bloc is a case in point. Outside of a few spots on the map, its strength is not yet sufficiently concentrated, or at least so the leaders in Congress believe. The impending Congressional investigation into the Townsend movement is expected to disclose its real strength. But it will have the effect of postponing any possible action along Townsend Plan lines until next session, if ever. (Continued on Page 8)

State Tax Collector To Aid Income Payers

Mr. G. H. Holmes Jr., Deputy Commissioner, will be in the office of the Clerk of Court at Boone on the 11th day of March, 1936, for the purpose of assisting taxpayers in filing their state income tax returns for the year 1935.

Unmarried persons, or married women with separate income of \$1,000 or over during the year 1935, and married men with an income of \$2,000 or over, should file a return with the State Department of Revenue on or before March 15, 1936.

WHOLESALE OIL PLANT NOW READY TO OPERATE

The wholesale distributing plant for the Puroil Company has been installed by the Hodges Tire Company and is now ready to operate. The large tanks haven't been filled due to the fact that the huge trailer tank cars can't travel to Boone until the load limit has been taken from the highways. The local distributors however, have the new motor fuel in their retail tanks, and promise bulk distribution within a short time.

Mr. Chauncey Moody of Sherwood has been employed by the local concern to assist in the management of the oil business and the outlook for business is described as bright. Meantime the store of Hodges Tire Company has undergone a renovation, newest steel display counters and cabinets have been added, the stock materially increased, and the popular place has a decidedly improved appearance.

MILLIONS IN GEMS Socialite Adorned with Million Dollars in Jewelry



NEW YORK. The necklace worn by Mrs. Wm. R. K. Taylor Jr. (above), is the famous diamond "Star of Bombay". The ring is a 49-carat emerald. In all Mrs. Taylor was adorned with a \$1,000,000 worth of jewelry at the diamond show held here.

L. PAUL NORRIS FUNERAL TODAY

Pneumonia is Fatal to Prominent Resident of Route 2; Valuable Citizen.

Funeral services are to be conducted this afternoon from the old Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church for L. Paul Norris, who died at his home on Route 2 Tuesday morning, following a ten days illness with pneumonia. The rites will be in charge of the pastor, Rev. H. A. Kistler, who will be assisted by Dr. W. A. Deaton and Rev. J. A. Yount. Interment will be in the nearby cemetery. Mr. Norris was 36 years old.

Active pallbearers included brothers and brothers-in-law of the deceased: I. A. Earl, Dean, Dale Norris, Ira Coffey and Walter Coffey.

Survivors include a wife and four children, Kay, Bonnie, Wanda, and Stanley Paul Norris; five brothers and one sister, Rev. J. L. Norris, Maiden; I. A. Norris, Oklahoma City; Dean Norris, Hickory; Earl and Dale Norris, Boone and Mrs. Leon Coffey, Blowing Rock. The parents also survive.

Mr. Norris was a son of Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Norris and was reared in this section. He received his education at Appalachian College, and was a member of the state militia during the latter part of the world war. For the past several years he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits. He had been a devout member of the Lutheran Church since boyhood, and had served in the capacity of Sunday School teacher. He was especially active in religious activities, and lived an exemplary life. His death has brought deep sorrow to the community.

Chicken Theft Foiled; Fountain Pen Is Left

Mr. S. C. Eggers states that two shots fired from a revolver by him a few nights since put to rout an invader of his chicken house, and that no fowls have been checked short as a result of the nocturnal raid. However Mr. Eggers next morning found quite an expensive fountain pen beside the chicken roost, and says he would like very much for the owner of same to have his property. Mr. Eggers will gladly return the pen when ownership is reasonably well established.

Surveyors Work On Laurel Creek

Information coming to Boone Wednesday morning is to the effect that a crew of engineers from the State Highway and Public Works Commission are starting the preliminary survey on the road down the river from Sugar Grove. Information coming from another source indicates that the first letting on the big project will come as soon as possible, depending on the speed of the survey and will cover two and a half miles from Sugar Grove.

HOLLER INFANT

Bobby Eugene Holler, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Hight Holler, of Boone, died Thursday, and burial was on Friday.

SEWING ROOMS TO PREPARE EXHIBIT OF ARTICLES MADE

Supervisor of WPA Projects Tells of Work Being Done in the County.

SEVENTY WOMEN ARE USEFULLY EMPLOYED

An Accounting of the Accomplishments of the Women's Work Under W. P. A. is Given; Miss Miller has 4 Assistants.

A public exhibit of wearing apparel and other products of the Works Progress Administration sewing rooms in Watauga county, is to be held at an early date, according to an announcement coming from Miss Marguerite Miller who is supervisor of this branch of the relief program in this section. Plans for the showing of the handwork of the relief workers have not been completed but it was definitely decided at a meeting of the assistant supervisors to acquaint the public with the program through an exhibit.

Miss Miller states that the co-operation of the people of the county has been of untold benefit to her in launching the work in different sections of the county, and expresses appreciation to the merchants, civic organizations and individuals who have helped in connection with the establishment and operation of the different sewing rooms.

At the beginning of the work November 8, two sewing rooms were opened in the county with ten relief clients working. The program has been expanded to the point where on February 28, 70 women were employed. During the time the following articles have been made: 319 quilts, 84 pairs pillow cases, 1147 towels and 1305 different garments for men, women and children.

Miss Miller's assistants are: Mrs. Z. E. Buchanan, Sugar Grove; Miss Stella Dunn, Valle Crucis; Mrs. Tom Miller, Blowing Rock, and Mrs. Frank Critcher, Boone.

OFFICERS NAMED BY CIVIC GROUP

Chamber of Commerce in Enthusiastic Meeting Discusses Many Subjects.

About twenty-five members of the Boone Chamber of Commerce gathered Tuesday evening for the purpose of naming officers for the ensuing year and to discuss briefly a number of questions of vital importance to the further development of the community.

Wade E. Brown was chosen president of the body; Clyde R. Greene, vice-president, Richard Kelley, treasurer, while Archie Qualls continues as secretary to the chamber. A board of directors was named, consisting of Bernard Stallings, Tracy Council, J. E. Holshouser, and D. L. Wilcox.

The chamber expressed itself as being particularly interested in the movement started some time ago for the erection of a federal building here to house the postoffice, the scenic parkway came in for discussion, and a committee was named to look into the possibilities for the establishment of a standard golf course in this immediate locality. Other items of public concern came up for brief discussion.

FALLING STONE CRUSHES NEGRO

Convict Fatally Injured as Rock Is Loosed at Rock Quarry On New River.

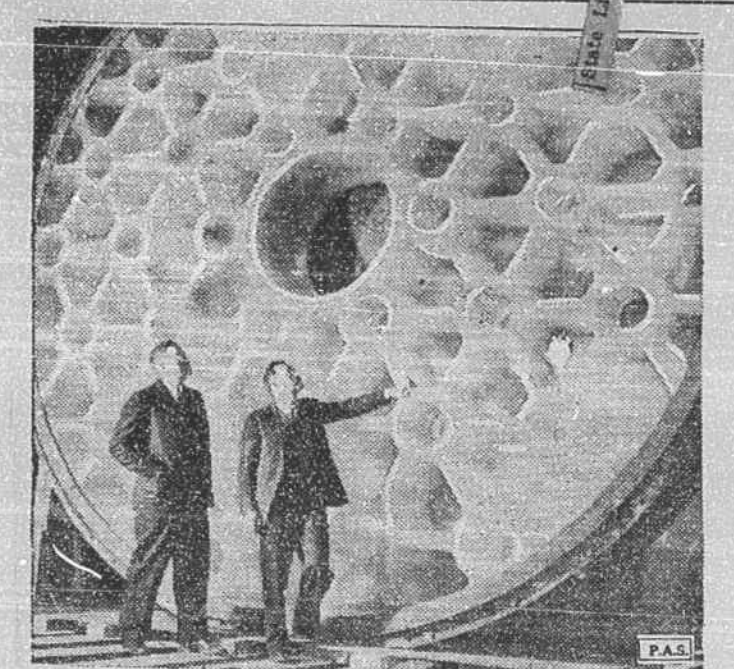
Jordan Miller, Winston-Salem negro, sentenced to the roads for a term of from four to seven years for grand larceny was crushed to death Friday at a rock quarry on New River near Boone, where a crew of convicts were engaged in taking out road-surfacing material. The accident was unavoidable it was said, and there had been no indication of loose stone above the rock pit in which the negro worked. The huge boulder crashed down without warning, crushing the negro's body, death being instantaneous.

The body was interred at the cemetery near the county home Sunday. Three convict-preachers took part in the services.

Miller was 36 years old, and although he had escaped from prison once, was described by Superintendent Brown as a pretty good sort of prisoner. Fellow convicts mourned Miller's passing, particularly from the reason that he was a baseball player and star pitcher on the prison team.

GIANT LENSE READY FOR SHIPMENT

Astronomers Hope to Reveal Much of Interest With Gigantic New 200-inch Glass Eye for Telescope



CORNING, N. Y. Above is a back view of the world's largest glass telescope disk, measuring 200-inches in diameter which is now ready for shipment by special slow-speed train to California. It is encased in layers of felt and rubber. Astronomers at the California Institute of Technology hope this giant telescope "eye" will reveal new secrets of the heavens.

956 COLLEGIANS NOW ON CAMPUS

Spring Term Begins at Appalachian With 15 States Represented in Student Body.

Nine-hundred and fifty-six students were registered at Appalachian at the beginning of the spring term last week, according to information coming from the office of Prof. J. M. Downum, the registrar. Mr. Downum states that 65 counties in North Carolina and 38 counties in fifteen other states are also represented among the student teachers.

Watauga has the largest number of students it is revealed, 145, followed by Ashe with 42, Lincoln county has 39, Iredell 32, Gaston 34, Cleveland 35 and Catawba 34.

The other states represented on the campus of the local college are: Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

The Registrar further points out that there are 256 students enrolled from west of the Blue Ridge and 640 from Piedmont and eastern Carolina. As is usual the number of female students is far in excess of the male enrollment. There are 633 women students and 323 men.

The College year ends May 1.

OFFICES CHANGE LOCATION

The offices of the Sugar Grove National Farm Loan Association have been moved from the Watauga County Bank building to the Sebastian building, formerly occupied by the Emergency Relief Administration. Mr. C. D. Moore, local secretary says that in addition to the regular farm loans, he is able to now negotiate crop loans through the Winston-Salem Production Credit Association.

CONVENTION CALL ISSUED BY G. O. P.

Republicans to Gather in Convention March 21; Patton To Be Speaker.

Hon. Frank Patton of Morganton, former United States Attorney, will deliver the address when the Republicans of Watauga county gather in convention on Saturday, March 21 at 2 o'clock. Mr. Patton is known as one of the leading Republicans of the state and is recognized as an able and forceful speaker.

The official call for the convention issued by County Chairman Russell D. Hodges, and which appears in the Democrat today, states that the convention is called for the purpose of naming a county chairman, members of the executive committee delegates to state and congressional conventions and for the transaction of such other business as may be deemed proper. At the same time the precinct chairmen have been asked to call a meeting in their respective precincts on Friday, March 20, at 2 o'clock for the purpose of electing their precinct officials and delegates to the county convention.

BAD WEATHER IS CAUSE FOR HUGE HIGHWAY OUTLAY

State Moves to Remedy Damages to System, Estimated at Over Three Million.

LOAD LIMITS ON ROADS LEADING INTO BOONE

Division Engineers Go Over Plans for Huge Spring Construction Program and Tremendous Repair Project.

W. Vance Baise, chief engineer for the State Highway and Public Works Commission states that the former estimate of three million dollars damage to the highway system during the winter freezing, has proven to be conservative. The statement from Mr. Baise came after he had conferred with district engineers relative to the damage in each section of the state.

Hard-surfaced highways leading into Boone from all directions are limited to light loads, the first time in the history of the system, and the huge trailer trucks can't operate until repairs are made to the broken surface.

The division engineers, who assembled in Raleigh Monday discussed the wide repair program made necessary by this damage, and also went over plans for the spring construction program in which about six million dollars will be spent.

Mr. Baise said he would likely start this week visiting the various districts to discuss road problems with the key men in the highway setup. More equipment will be placed over the state for the repair program, it was said.

Highway and Public Works Commission is spending more money currently than it is receiving, Chairman Waynick reported, and except for the fact that revenues are exceeding estimates, there would be practically no money in the highway fund on June 30, 1937. The money for road improvement will come from the surplus being rolled up by increasing revenues, it was pointed out.

BOONE MAN DIES FROM PNEUMONIA

William Sherrill Rites are Held Tuesday afternoon, at Advent Church.

William Sherrill, 28 years old, member of one of the community's prominent families, died in a Lenoir hospital Monday after an illness of a few days duration with pneumonia. Funeral services were conducted from the Advent Christian Church Tuesday afternoon, the pastor, Dr. W. D. Ashley taking part in the rites. Interment followed in the Hime cemetery one mile west of the city.

Surviving is the widow, the parents, three brothers and four sisters: Allen Sherrill, Somerville, N. J.; Eber and Orrin Sherrill, Boone; Mrs. J. C. Hayes, Sheppards, Va.; Mrs. Annie Vannoy, Boone; Mrs. Edna Fenick, Boone; and Miss Stella Sherrill, of Boone.

Mr. Sherrill was the son of Mr. and Mrs. John F. Sherrill and was born and reared in Watauga county. He had been engaged for several years in the woodworking business with his father, but lately had been employed as a cabinet maker at the college shops. He was a useful man, honorable and upright, and leaves a host of staunch friends in this community.

Lenoir Negro Gets Penalty of Death

Dave Witherspoon, young colored resident of Yadkin river section was found guilty Friday night in Caldwell superior court of criminally assaulting a 24-year-old Lenoir white woman.

The verdict carried with it the death penalty, which was pronounced by Judge Warlick Monday morning. Witherspoon is to be put to death in the gas chamber at state prison on May 15, between the hours of ten a. m. and three p. m.

Glenn Knight, of Whitnel was found guilty of assaulting with intent to rape a 12-year-old girl of his neighborhood and was sentenced to 12 to 15 years at state prison. Judge Warlick stated that had rape actually been accomplished the defendant would have been put to death.

ATTENDS MEDICAL MEET

Dr. Ronda H. Hardin of Grace Hospital, Banner Elk, is attending the meeting of the American College of Physicians in Detroit. At the annual convocation of the college on the evening of March 4th, the College will add F. A. C. P. to his name.

RULES GIVEN IN ESSAY CONTEST

Building & Loan Seeks Letters From High School Students; \$100 Prize Is Goal.

The Kessler Memorial Essay contest, sponsored annually by the North Carolina Building and Loan League, is now open to the high school students of Watauga county, according to W. H. Gragg, local building and loan official and chairman of the essay committee in this section.

All students in the high school are eligible, Mr. Gragg states, and 500 words should be submitted from some subject derived from thrift, home ownership, saving, or some other topic of similar scope as exemplified in the building and loan plan of finance.

The essays are to be in the hands of Mr. Gragg no later than March 23, and three impartial judges will determine the winner for this county, who in turn will be taken to Lenoir April 1 to compete with the winners from seven counties of the district. The district winner will be taken to Rocky Mount to the state convention in May and enter competition in the statewide contest for a prize of \$100.

Mr. Gragg is anxious for a large number of students in this county to enter the competition and will gladly give such further information as may be requested.

COVE CREEK FIRST IN WATAUGA-AVERY RACE

Another interesting basketball year for Cove Creek closed last week with Cove Creek wearing the crown for the Avery-Watauga District of the Appalachian Association. The Cove Creek quint ended their march by defeating the powerful Boone quint February 26, 28-31.

The girls ended the season champions of the Avery-Watauga district with no defeats.

Cove Creek boys and girls will enter the Appalachian tourney March 4. They will play Wednesday night. Their opponents are not yet known.

Cove Creek boys will start their spring baseball practice about the middle of March.

Police Officer Is Target of Jokester

Patrolman Ollis, of the city police force Wednesday morning received a small package from the postoffice which upon investigation proved to be a vial of red and highly odorous whiskey. A penciled note accompanied the bottle which was enclosed in a match box, with the information: "This is just a sample. If you want to buy some see me." A rude face with the mouth cocked northwestward and a row of question marks served as the signature. A postscript warned against drinking all the liquor, lest the chief get drunk.

Mr. Ollis, in laughing over the incident, warns the anonymous donor that he is thoroughly capable of taking a joke, but the G-Men can't—and it's still against the law to send liquor through the mails.

In Macon county, farmers have cooperated to order 23,853 pounds of lespedeza seed to be used in soil improvement work.