

Maybe there wasn't any politics in Senator Byrd's resolution for a Senate Committee to investigate the New Deal and find out how many of its agencies can be dispensed with...

At any rate, the New Deal is going to be investigated. The three men named by the President, Louis Brownlow, Charles E. Merriam and Luther H. Gullick, all have fine records of unselfish public service...

Floods and Forecasts The recent floods have played strongly into the hands of the advocates of public works. Look for a large number of projects for flood control, dams, reservoirs and dikes throughout the devastated regions.

It is easy to imagine how valuable it would have been to everybody if the recent severe winter and this spring's heavy rainfalls, or last summer's drought, could have been predicted months in advance.

While the Weather Bureau doesn't hold out any hope of being able to begin long-range weather forecasting for some years yet, nevertheless, it is issuing occasional bulletins and reports on the subject.

Lobby Investigation Nobody has yet figured out any political angle on the flood situation. It is seemingly about the only thing in Washington that has no political angle at this time.

Nobody knows exactly what the Committee has uncovered, since only one or two of the telegrams, which it has had copied, have been made public.

There is a good deal of guessing going on, and many members are receiving letters from back home expressing indignation, if not alarm, over this invasion of what some of the home boys have heretofore regarded as confidential communications.

Nobody is talking much in public about the dissension inside of the Ways and Means Committee over the proposed new tax bill. It is an open secret, however, that there are very sharp differences of opinion as to what ought to be done in the matter of taxing corporate reserves, differences which are far from being confined to party lines.

It looks now as if the House Committee would hold a perfunctory bill and leave the real job of examining the whole situation and drafting the final legislation up to the Senate Finance Committee.

Those WPA Charges With the approach of a Presidential campaign criticism of the Administration, then in power, naturally becomes more vigorous.

The alleged political activities of WPA administrators, brought into the limelight by the charges of Senator Holt, of West Virginia, is one of the attacks.

Senator Holt accused the WPA in his home state of all sorts of political skulduggery, a charge promptly denied by his colleague from West Virginia, Senator Matthew D. Neely, as well as by the WPA administrator Harry Hopkins.

Some Senators have been unkind enough to say that Senator Holt's peeve arose from the fact that while he was waiting for his 30th birthday to come, so he could be sworn in as a Senator, Mr. Neely had grabbed off whatever political patronage there was in West Virginia.

Anyway, Senator Holt's charges started something. There's a WPA investigation scheduled, and it will produce headlines, if nothing else.

There are internal dissensions in Administration circles over the whole relief problem. The workers employed opposed to the present Works Relief Plan, pointing out that it is more expensive than a straight dole and (Continued on page 8.)

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BLOSSOM TIME

Washington Aflame With Cherry Blossoms this Spring



WASHINGTON. Despite recent March snowstorms and destructive floods Washington greeted Easter visitors with one of the most beautiful gowns of Japanese cherry blossoms...

CONDUCTS LOCAL SURVEY OF BLIND

Number and Needs of the Sightless in This Section to be Determined.

The North Carolina State Commission for the Blind is conducting a survey of the blind in Watauga county in an effort to determine the number and needs of the blind and near-blind residing in the county.

The State Commission for the Blind is anxious to contact all persons regardless of age, who are totally blind or who cannot see well enough to read even with the aid of glasses.

Estimated upon a basis of statistics already compiled in other sections of the state, there are four thousand blind and near-blind persons in the state. It is also estimated that fully sixty-five per cent. of all blindness occurs in adult life and that seventy-five per cent. of blindness in North Carolina is unnecessary.

Next week, survey cards will be distributed through the city and county schools. These cards should be returned to W. H. Walker, Superintendent of Public Welfare in Watauga county. The public can assist with the survey by reporting all cases of blindness.

After the names and addresses of blind persons are reported, the Commission plans to administer treatment and to provide glasses. For persons who are hopelessly blind, the Commission has a program of education and rehabilitation.

Blind persons are taught in training centers maintained by the Commission in Durham, Asheville, Winston-Salem, Greensboro and Charlotte. They are taught at these places to make mattresses, mops, brooms, floral baskets, rugs, dresses and numerous other articles.

The State Commission for the Blind is now able to match county relief funds paid to needy blind persons with money released through the National Security Board.

W. H. Walker and Prof. Roy Dotson are co-operating with the Commission in its survey of the Blind in Watauga. J. Marshall Parham, Field Secretary for the Commission, initiated the survey in Watauga.

CHILD DROWNS

Kyle Wilson, son of Joe and Mrs. Wilson, was the 3-year-old boy who got drowned near Maymesud, Tenn., April 7. He fell from the foot-log and his mother who was just behind him ran down the stream one-fourth of a mile before she rescued him; a wound in the head is thought to have caused his death. His funeral was conducted from Evergreen Church below Trade, Tenn., by Rev. E. C. Hodges and R. C. Eggers, and interment was in a nearby cemetery. —Reported.

FLORA HOCKEDY DIES

Mrs. Flora E. Hockedy, aged 50, died at the Banner Elk Hospital last Friday. Burial and funeral service was in the Meat Camp section on Saturday with the Rev. Roscoe Trivet in charge. Surviving are the husband, David E. Hockedy and one son, James H., of Meat Camp.

BOONE BUSINESS HOUSES PRAISED

Deluge of Letters Result From Contest; Nineteen Responses Are Published.

The response to the letter writing contest just closed which was conducted through the columns of the Democrat by Mrs. Tesie Barlow, has been very gratifying to those concerned, and scores and scores of letters have been received. Following are those which have been selected as having won the prizes listed by the various business interests:

1. I prefer the GENERAL ELECTRIC REFRIGERATOR for many reasons, of which the economical factor is not the least. It is useful and convenient. Also its outward attractiveness adds much to the general appearance of my kitchen. In addition, knowing that my foods are free from spoiling is worth its price in satisfaction.—Mrs. Frank W. McCracken.

2. For years the people of Boone and Watauga county have been doing their shopping at SPAINHOUR'S, "the trading center in town." Why? Because it is one of the nicest department stores in Boone. The merchandise is always of the highest quality, the styles the newest and with the lowest prices possible. People like Spainhour's because of the efficient service. Every customer who buys at this store is served by kind and courteous clerks who do their best to please you. Your business is fully appreciated, and their aim is to serve the people.—Mrs. Lionel Ward, Boone.

3. I like to trade at the BOONE DRUG STORE because: 1. The goods are of the highest quality. Whether we buy toilet goods, candy, stationery, medical supplies or drinks from their scrupulously clean fountain, we are sure to get goods of unquestioned value. Their drugs are manufactured by companies of national reputation; the prescriptions are compounded by a skilled pharmacist of many years experience. 2. The prices are reasonable. We are always sure of getting our money's worth. The one cent sales are an opportunity for real bargains without having to sa— (Continued on page 8.)

Mrs. Jeff Anderson Funeral On Tuesday

Funeral services for Mrs. Donnie Mae Anderson were conducted from the Oak Grove Church near Boone Tuesday morning, Reverends W. C. Payne and W. D. Ashley being in charge of the rites and interment followed in the Hine cemetery nearby, with the Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home taking care of the arrangements.

Mrs. Anderson died last Sunday at her home at Vilas at the age of 45 years.

Surviving is the husband, Jeff C. Anderson, four brothers and four sisters: H. A., L. F., and Carl Hodges of Vilas, B. A. Hodges, Velle Crucis; Mesdames Nolia Anderson, Vilas; Sally McGinnis, Shulls Mills; Lunda Barlow and Addie Teague of Lenoir.

Mrs. Anderson was the former Miss Donnie Mae Hodges, a member of one of the pioneer families of this section and was reared here where she was held in high esteem by a large number of friends. She was a most admirable lady and will be particularly missed in her home and community.

BEARD SENTENCED TO DIE

Dwight Beard, Lenoir man has been sentenced to die in the electric chair in Texas as a result of a murder committed during a series of holdups staged in the Lone Star state after his escape from the North Carolina penitentiary where he was serving a life sentence for murder. Beard, through his counsel, has filed notice of appeal.

SUPERIOR COURT CONVENES MONDAY

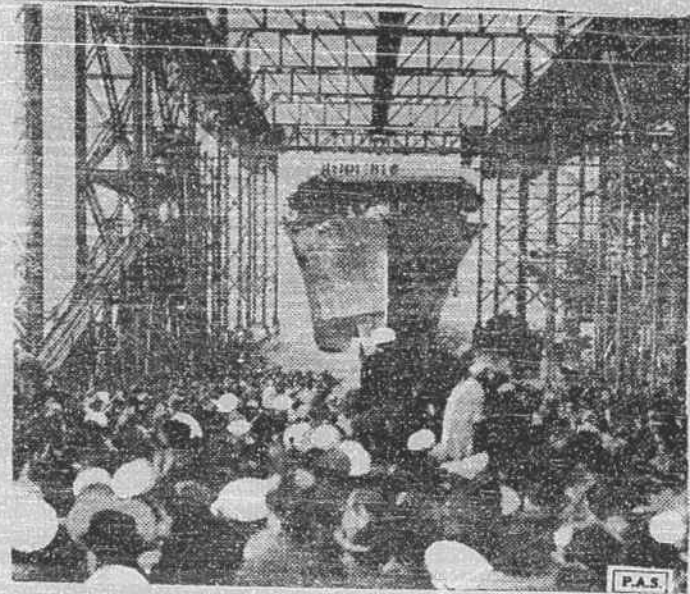
Judge Clement Will Preside at Two Weeks Civil and Criminal Term. Few Cases.

The regular spring term of Watauga Superior Court will convene Tuesday, with Judge J. H. Clement of Winston-Salem presiding, and there are only ten cases docketed for trial, involving delinquencies of a criminal nature. Of these four are charged with felonies: one bigamy case appears, two are to be arraigned for breaking and entering, and one is indicted for assault with intent to rape.

The state cases are expected to be cleared away within perhaps a couple of days or less, and the court will occupy itself for the remainder of the term with the civil calendar, which contains 53 cases, about the usual number to appear on this docket.

OCEAN HOME FOR AIRCRAFT CARRIER

Mrs. Roosevelt Comes to Newport News to Sponsor Launching of Huge Airplane Carrier, the Yorktown.



NEWPORT NEWS, Va. Impressive ceremonies featured the launching of the new U. S. Navy aircraft carrier, Yorktown, as it was launched here this week. The First Lady, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, came from Washington by air to sponsor the launching of the huge carrier. Photo shows the Yorktown leaving the cradled ways.

WADE BROWN ASKS SENATORIAL TOGA

Boone Lawyer is First in Watauga to Announce Himself For Public Office.

Wade E. Brown, member of the local bar, today announces his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for State Senator from this district subject to the action of the voters in the June 6 primary, and thus is the first citizen of the county on either side of the political fence to offer himself for public office this year.

Mr. Brown has practiced law in Boone since graduation from Wake Forest College in 1931 and during his professional career has been active in church and civic affairs. He also has been an enthusiastic democratic party worker. He is a native of Watauga county, having been born and reared at Blowing Rock.

In commenting on his candidacy Wednesday morning, Mr. Brown had this to say: "My desire is to truly represent the wishes and best interests of the people as a whole, and if elected pledge myself to work tirelessly, to the best of my knowledge and ability to give the people the kind of representation they have a right to expect."

Farmers Should Apply For Seed Loans Soon

Farmers who are desirous of securing federal seed loans are urged by Mr. S. C. Eggers to make their applications for same as promptly as possible. Mr. Eggers states that these requests can still be acted upon but stresses the desirability of prompt action in order that the time limit may not expire before all the farmers have been served. He says that the time is growing short for making the applications.

KNOX LEADS BORAH

Colonel Frank Knox, Chicago publisher swung into an easy lead over William E. Borah as the first returns from the Illinois presidential preference primary were tabulated. Early figures indicated for Knox 19,021, for Borah 12,281.

NEW DATES GIVEN FOR TAX LISTING

Supervisor is Anxious To Save Costs to Taxpayers and Urges Co-operation.

Mr. E. G. Greer, county tax supervisor has made arrangements to be in Boone for the purpose of assisting taxpayers in making their listings of personal and real property on Friday and Saturday of this week—April 17-18, and states that the new dates are given with the idea of giving taxpayers every opportunity to comply with the law and save additional costs.

Mr. Greer states that listings are coming in relatively slow, and would appreciate a prompt response of the people of this section on the new dates. Legal requirements in this connection, he states, are very rigid, and he is very anxious to avoid incurring the penalties of the law against those who fail to list within the specified time.

MODERN CHURCH PLANT PLANNED

Baptists of City to Make Haste in Completion of \$25,000 Auditorium.

The completion of the Baptist Church plant in this city, involving the expenditure of twenty-five thousand dollars, was definitely placed on the local building program for the summer, when members of the local congregation met in business session Sunday evening.

The new auditorium which will become an integral part of the Sunday School building, constructed at the rear of the old church building a few years ago, will be sixty by eighty feet, and will have a seating capacity of eleven hundred. Like the first unit of the church it will be built of straw-colored brick and the plant will be one of the most thoroughly modern to be found anywhere in this part of the state. Tentative plans call for rushing the structure to completion during the present season. Whether or not the building will be let to contract or constructed on a day-labor basis has not been determined.

Work of tearing away the old building is expected to start this (Thursday) morning and the ground will be made ready for the new footings within a very short time. Mr. W. F. Miller is to be in charge of clearing away the structure.

New Filling Station On Critcher Corner

Workmen are busy clearing away the remainder of the timbers which comprised the Critcher Hotel, and there is information that the owner of the downtown property is to construct a ten thousand dollar retail oil station on the corner, the completed property to be leased by one of the principal oil companies. Mr. R. T. Greer, the purchaser of the valuable frontage could not be reached for detailed information as this is written, but understanding is that the work on the new plant is to be speedily completed.

JOHN BANNER DIES

Banner Elk, April 13.—Funeral services for Mr. John Banner, aged 66, were conducted Saturday afternoon by the Rev. M. J. Murray in the Banner Elk Presbyterian Church. Mr. Banner, who died Friday morning after a short illness, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Banner who were among the first families to settle Banner Elk.

He is survived by his wife, formerly Miss Minnie Barrett of Idaho, and eight children: Louis Banner, of Georgia; Gaylord Banner of Brevard; Sam Banner of Banner Elk; Albert Banner of Norris, Tenn.; Mrs. Nina Banner Love of Banner Elk; Miss Jennie Banner of Banner Elk; Mrs. William Harper of Americus, Ga.; Miss Pauline Banner of Banner Elk.

Hardware Stocks Combined

The Watauga Hardware Company, retail establishment operated in Boone for the past two years and which was recently purchased by the Farmers Hardware & Supply Co., has been closed and the stocks were combined at the Farmers Hardware building the last of the week.

IVES PERTINENT FACTS ON CONDUCT OF LOCAL SCHOOLS

Superintendent Walker Answers Questioners in Regard to Educational Setup.

STATE ANNUALLY SETS ASIDE \$106,000 LOCALLY

An Outline of the Expenditure of the School Funds; The Teachers and Their Qualifications; Educational Survey in Prospect.

There have been a number of requests for certain information regarding the schools of Watauga county, therefore, the following data is given by the county superintendent.

According to the yearly operation budget of the County Superintendent the state of North Carolina will appropriate for Watauga county schools during the school year of 1935-36 \$106,704.06. The school enrollment of Watauga county for this year is 4,656, therefore, the state appropriation per child enrolled is \$22.91. The sales tax collected in Watauga county for year 1934-35 was \$15,800.00. Estimating the population of Watauga county to be 15,000, the average sales tax per capita per year would be \$1.00.

This allotment of State funds \$106,704.06 is to be spent as follows:

- General control: \$3,201.59 which includes salaries of superintendent and clerical assistant, office expense, travel expense of Board of Education and cost of auditing books.
2. Instructional service: \$91,020.40 which includes teachers salaries, \$90,710.40 and instructional supplies \$310.00.
3. Operation of plants: \$3,088.60 which includes janitor's wages, cost of wood and coal, water and light, and janitor's supplies.
4. Transportation of pupils: \$6,504.26 includes wages of drivers cost of gas, oil and grease, and repairs.
5. Replacement of two busses: \$1855.21.
6. Supplies and repairs for libraries \$134.00.

There are 49 schools in the county 47 white schools and 2 colored. One school has 19 state teachers, another 15, one 11, one 6, one 5, one 4, five 3 while there are nineteen schools with 1 teacher each. There are 132 state teachers in the county in addition to two full time agriculture and two full time home economics teachers. 26 of these teachers are high school teachers while 110 are elementary teachers, three of the elementary teachers being colored. Of these 132 state teachers the highest principal's salary is \$198.00, the highest teacher's salary \$103.00 and (Continued on page 8.)

COMMENCEMENT AT COVE CREEK APR. 19

Dr. Stanbury to Preach Baccalaureate. Honor Roll and Perfect Attendance.

The annual commencement for the Cove Creek high school will start on Sunday night at 8 o'clock, April 19 when Dr. W. A. Stanbury, pastor of West Market Street Methodist Church in Greensboro, will preach the baccalaureate sermon. On Wednesday night, April 22 the children of the elementary school will present an operetta; on Friday night, April 24 the Senior class will receive their diplomas and render the class program; on Saturday morning the seventh grade diplomas will be awarded, attendance certificates presented and a declamation contest will be held by the representatives of the seventh grade from each school in this district. The final program will be Saturday night at 8 o'clock, April 25 when the Senior class will present a play, "Gay Senorita." Further announcements will be made next week.

Honor Roll

First grade: Mary Ann Bingham, Nannie Helen Greene, Margie Bradley, Betty Joe Miller, Lillian Edmisten, Willis Farthing, Lee Greene, Fuller Horton, Zela Gragg, W. T. Payne Jr., James Tester; perfect attendance: Mary Ann Bingham, Margie Bradley, Lillian Edmisten, Betty Joe Miller, Willis Farthing, Lee Greene, Fuller Horton, Bobby Sherwood, W. T. Payne Jr., Zela Gragg, Esther McGuire, Olin Eggers, Herbert Bingham.

Third grade: Billy Billings, Jimmy Billings, Freeman Billings, Hoyt Edmisten, Robert Hodges; perfect attendance: Billy Billings, Jimmy Billings, Freeman Billings, Robert Hodges, Burt Swift.

Fourth grade: Ruby Hicks, Wilma Morris, Paul Brown; perfect attendance: Gene Henson, Dick Henson, Ruby Hicks, Jewel Perry.

Fifth grade—perfect attendance: Robert Bingham, Billy Greene, Billy Henson, Council Henson, Ray Harmon, Jack Harmon, J. V. Miller, Arjis Shull, Cap Ward, Geraldine Bingham. (Continued on Page Four)