

# The Week in Washington

A RESUME OF GOVERNMENTAL HAPPENINGS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

VOL. XLVIII, NO. 31 BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1937 \$1.50 PER YEAR

Washington, Feb. 8.—Strikes and floods occupy first place in the minds of official Washington, upsetting or deranging plans and programs of legislative and administrative agencies.

The strike situation is giving the government more concern than is indicated by official utterances. How to remain entirely neutral in the three-cornered labor controversy between General Motors, the Lewis C. I. O. labor organization and the Federation of Labor is puzzling the administration.

The major issue is whether the federal government shall give open or tacit sanction to the principle of "sit-down" strikes, where workers take possession of an industry, refuse either to work or to leave the property, and prevent others from working.

The statement by the secretary of labor, Miss Perkins, that the legality of the sit-down strike has never been settled does not reflect the general view in administration circles. But everyone concerned hesitates to approve or order any action looking to the forcible removal of sit-down strikers from the General Motors plants.

**The Labor Deadlock**  
Washington has not forgotten the forcible eviction of the bonus marchers from the government buildings of which they had taken illegal possession, and of the disastrous political effect upon President Hoover which ensued.

This administration does not want to run the risk of arousing labor's antagonism. Yet as long as the management of General Motors refuses to negotiate for a settlement of the questions involved until the sit-down strikers evacuate the company's property, a serious deadlock exists which the government has no power to break.

That is why Secretary Perkins has asked congress to give her power to issue subpoenas and so command the attendance of all concerned at conferences on labor questions.

Some observers here are pointing to what they regard as a parallel between the General Motors sit-down strike and those which occurred in Italy in 1922. In Italy groups of workers, avowedly Communist, took possession of automobile and other factories and not only occupied them but undertook to operate them. A young Socialist newspaper man named Benito Mussolini offered a solution which the King of Italy accepted, a system of state socialism which he called Fascism.

**Flood Relief and Control**  
The disastrous floods have brought the subject of flood control sharply to the foreground. Congress acted speedily in appropriating \$190,000,000 which the President had asked for relief purposes. Much of this, it is anticipated, will be spent for the relief and rehabilitation of those who lost homes and property in the Ohio and Mississippi valleys. It is also the expectation that some of that appropriation will go toward starting flood control works in various parts of the country under the so-called "Jadwin Plan."

After the 1927 flood in the lower Mississippi, General Jadwin and the army engineer corps worked out a comprehensive plan reaching to the farthest headwaters of all the important rivers of the nation. By means of reservoirs, dams, dikes and dredging this plan, it is believed, could retard the flow of heavy rains or melting snow and so avert future floods.

The drawback has been the enormous cost. The Jadwin plan contemplated that individual states would bear the cost of the necessary works inside their boundaries. But states began to ask why they should spend money at the headwaters merely to keep some other state, farther down river, from being flooded.

The belief here is that flood control will be accepted now as a national problem transcending state interests, and that a beginning will be made toward carrying out the Jadwin plan as an exclusively federal undertaking.

**New NRA in Offing**  
Something of the nature of a new NRA is definitely in the making. Trades and industries are to be authorized to make agreements among themselves on what constitutes unfair competition or other improper trade practices; such agreements to cover minimum wages and maximum hours of work. As outlined, the proposed law would make violations of such voluntary agreements illegal and punishable by penalties imposed by federal courts.

On Capitol Hill there is talk of going much farther, and imposing excise taxes upon business concerns proportioned to the degree to which each conforms to accepted standards of hours and wages. Those who advocate this plan also propose that congress should set up its own definition of interstate commerce, thus preemptively blocking any attempt  
(Continued on page 8.)

## TO GIVE FARMERS INFORMATION ON SOIL PROGRAM

County Agent Announces List of Meetings to Be Held to Explain 1937 Soil Conservation Program; State College Specialists to Be Here

County Agent W. B. Collins announces that beginning next Wednesday a series of thirteen meetings are to be held in Watauga for the purpose of explaining to the farmers of this section the 1937 federal soil conservation program. At this time a number of leading farm authorities will be present. Following are the times and places at which the gatherings will be held:

- Cove Creek high school on Wednesday, Feb. 17, at 9:00 a. m.
- Bethel high school on Wednesday, Feb. 17, at 1:30 p. m.
- Deep Gap school on Thursday, Feb. 18, 9:00 a. m.
- Blowing Rock high school on Feb. 18, at 1:30 p. m.
- Green Valley school on Feb. 19, at 9:00 a. m.
- Triplet school on Friday, Feb. 19, at 1:30 p. m.
- Foscoe school on Saturday, Feb. 20, at 9:00 a. m.
- Valle Crucis school on Saturday, Feb. 20, at 1:30 p. m.
- Matney school on Tuesday, Feb. 22, at 9:00 a. m.
- Courthouse at Boone on Tuesday, Feb. 23, at 1:30 p. m.
- Mabel school on Wednesday, Feb. 24, at 9:00 a. m.
- Todd school on Saturday, Feb. 27, at 9:00 a. m.
- Bamboo school on Saturday, Feb. 27, at 1:30 p. m.

H. R. Niswonger, horticultural specialist at State College, will make talks on growing cabbage, potatoes, fruits and truck crops at Cove Creek, Bethel, Deep Gap and Blowing Rock meetings.

L. I. Case, specialist in animal husbandry, State College, will talk on beef cattle and sheep production at the Cove Creek and Bethel meetings.

H. W. Taylor, swine specialist, will give a picture show and make a talk on swine production at the meeting at the courthouse in Boone.

Any farmers especially interested in the above subjects, should attend the meeting where the specialist will speak.

At all these meetings the home demonstration agent will discuss home demonstration work in the county.

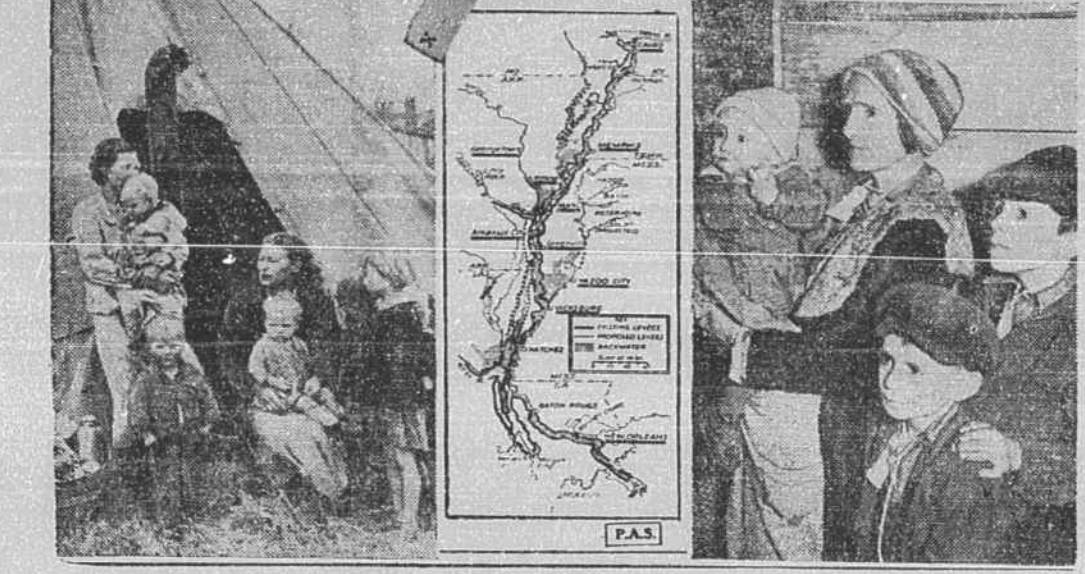
The assistant county agent will discuss 4-H club work and improving live-stock in the county.

The county agent will explain the 1937 soil conservation program, and how the farmers can best take advantage of this program.

A general discussion of farm problems will follow the talks which will be made at these meetings.

The farmers and farm women of the county should attend the meeting closest their homes and acquaint themselves with the extension program of the county, so they may be able to take full advantage of any services available to them.

## Women and Children Always First Flood Problem



Memphis. In the great Mississippi valley, as in the Ohio valley earlier, the first problem of the disastrous winter flood was in getting women and children to safety and finding shelter and food for them. As the angry waters poured into the Mississippi valley refugees by the thousands were brought in here from the lowlands. Map and photos above show where flood hit hardest and refugee mothers and children in concentration camps. Note tags of identification tied around children's necks in photo on right.

## DAY OF PRAYER IS TO BE OBSERVED

Union Service at Lutheran Church is in Participation of World Wide Event

The people of this community and county are invited to join in a fellowship of prayer the world around on the World Day of Prayer, Friday of this week, February 12, at 7:00 p. m., at the Grace Lutheran church. All the churches of Boone are taking part in this fellowship of prayer, and there should be a large attendance. A cordial invitation is extended.

"Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God," is the program to be presented, and was written by Miss Mabel Shaw, of Northern Rhodesia, Africa.

This is the eighth year that the Boone churches have engaged in this fellowship service on the World Day of Prayer. It is hoped that there will be a large representation from each of the churches.

Time: Friday, February 12.  
Place: Lutheran church.  
Hour: 7:30 p. m.  
First Friday in Lent.

At 8:15 a. m. Friday there will be morning devotion hour broadcast over NBC. All are asked to listen in, and join in prayer in the early morning hour on the World Day of Prayer.

## Boone Transfer Co. Sells Out Franchise

A deal whereby the Smith Transfer company of Lenoir, became the owner of the franchisees and equipment hitherto the property of the Boone Transfer company, has been consummated, but the new owners will not likely take over the business for some days yet.

Spencer Miller, owner of the local concern, states that the trade involved franchises on 450 miles of road, including the lines from Boone to Bristol, Johnson City, Mountain City, Winston-Salem, West Jefferson and other points, and also all the rolling stock being used by his concern.

Mr. Miller has been in the transfer business for about six years and has been successful. He is relinquishing the business on account of poor health, and for the time being expects to enjoy a much-needed period of rest.

## MASONIC LECTURER IS HERE DURING THE WEEK

Mr. J. F. Marquette, assistant lecturer of the Masonic Grand Lodge of the state of North Carolina, is in Boone all this week giving lectures to the Masons at the old Masonic hall quarters. The lectures are given each evening at 7:00 o'clock, and all Masons are urged to avail themselves of the opportunity of participating in the benefits.

Mr. Marquette is appearing under the auspices of Snow Lodge, but owing to the bad condition of the roads at the lodge building near Sugar Grove, the engagements were arranged for Boone.

## CONSTRUCTION IN 1936 PLACED AT \$5,600,000,000

New York, Feb. 9.—Estimating the year's volume at \$5,600,000,000, "Engineering News Record" asserted today construction activity in 1936 "exceeded all advance predictions by a substantial margin."

## ACCOMPLISHED STUDENT



Neil Hartley, son of Mrs. Pearl Hartley of Boone and Wilkesboro, who won second place for extemporaneous speaking in the forensic tournament which closed at Appalachian last Saturday. Mr. Hartley is an exceedingly popular student and last week was elected the most talented student in the election held by the senior class.  
(Story on page eight)

## WRESTLERS MEET TENN. SATURDAY

Appalachian Team Headed for Championship of the South; Full House Expected

The Appalachian State wrestling team, headed for the championship of the south by a winning streak which has carried over two years, and almost for five years, will stage its feature meet of the season here Saturday when Coach Robert W. "Red" Watkins' mat artists entertain the University of Tennessee wrestlers in a return match at the college gym. Appalachian defeated the Vols in Knoxville last Saturday night by a 28-0 count.

With the A. A. U. tournament to be staged here the first week in March, much interest will be centered on this meet. If Appalachian can defeat the Tennesseans even more decisively than in the first meet, then several of the Mountaineer wrestlers will assume the role as favorites or co-favorites in the tournament.

Milton Gaskill, freshman sensation in the 118-pound division, failed to pin his man in the Tennessee meet.  
(Continued on Page Eight)

## Rainy Weather Stops Beautification Work

The beautification program instituted by the town, which includes the setting of rows of trees and evergreens along the main street, was suspended Tuesday on account of the rainy weather, but those engaged in the work are hopeful that the project may be resumed at an early date.

Something like one hundred plants have already been set out, with painstaking care, the roots imbedded in rich soil hauled from vacant lots, and it is believed there will be a high rate of survival. Meantime little damage has been reported to the trees, and Mayor Gragg states that it is his purpose to invoke the penalties of the law to a letter against any whom would wilfully damage the trees.

## EARL GREER HURT IN BLOODY MELEE

Boone Youth Severely Injured in Altercation at Tourist Camp Near the City

Earl Greer, of Boone, was seriously injured as a result of an affray occurring at the Red Oak Tourist camp near Rutherford late Saturday evening, in which a number of persons, patrons of the establishment, are said to have participated, and in which intoxicating beverages are said to have figured.

Young Mr. Greer is said to have been struck over the head with a bottle, two serious gashes were made across his face with a knife, and some of his teeth are said to have been knocked out. His condition is serious but it is believed he should show a reasonably early recovery.

Little is known of the affray, pending a preliminary hearing which was to have been held Wednesday before E. N. Hahn, Esq., and which was continued due to Mr. Greer's condition. Frank Purlear, Glenn Regan and Lee Edmisten were arrested in connection with the affair, and later Greer was also served with a summons on a charge of assault.

## Baptist Ministers To Gather Monday

The Baptist ministers of the county will gather at the Baptist church in Boone on Monday, February 15, at 9:30 a. m., and an interesting and helpful program has been arranged for the occasion as follows:

- 9:30 to 9:45—Devotional, Rev. Vilas Minton.
  - 9:45 to 10:15—"What can be done to make our Baptismal services more impressive?" Rev. W. D. Ashley.
  - 10:15 to 10:45—"How can we as ministers create a greater public sentiment against the sin of strong drink?" Rev. Robert Shore.
  - 10:45 to 11:15—"What can be done to improve our Christian fellowship, and keep off the extremes?" Rev. Dwight Edmisten.
  - 11:15—Bible Study, Rev. J. C. Canipe.
- All brother ministers, please come, and deacons also.

## Seed Loans Again Will Be Available

Mr. D. M. Hale is in Columbia, S. C. today attending a conference of field representatives of the federal seed loan organization, at which time he will receive instructions and information regarding the new seed loan proposals. Blanks on which farmers will make application for these loans will be available in a few days, it is said, and loans for seed, fertilizer, etc., are to be made in amounts varying from \$15 to \$400.

## BOONE BOY FAVORED IN GOLDEN GLOVE TOURNAMENT

Len Wilson, outstanding Boone leather pusher and a member of Coach Brewer's Appalachian fighting machine, is favored to emerge victorious from the Golden Glove tournament which is to begin in Charlotte February 23, and continue throughout the week. Nine local fighters are entered in the tournament, in which no less than 300 pugilists will participate, and unusual local interest attaches to the sports event.

## DRYS WAGE FINAL FIGHT ON COUNTY WET BILL TODAY

Delegation of Local Men Again Go to Raleigh to Intercede in Behalf of State Prohibition; Wet Legislation Passed by House Last Week

A number of local dry leaders will journey to Raleigh today to appear before a senate judiciary committee, along with several hundred others, to make a last-ditch fight against the passage in the upper house of the so-called county option liquor bill, which was rushed through the house last week by a vote of 57 to 43, after the Hutchins state-wide referendum bill was killed by a margin of two votes, and nulled down for the session by the legislative clincher.

State dry leaders believe there is still a chance to forestall the enactment of the law, while Wednesday wet leaders in the assembly, following a count of noses, predicted its certain passage. The wets said pledged support in the upper body, indicated success for their measure by a majority of not less than three votes.

Independent opinion seems to be that the wets have the whip hand in the struggle, and if this is true, North Carolina will be thrown into the wet column for the first time since 1908, although the sale of hard liquor is now permitted in 18 counties, under legislation enacted during the closing days of the 1935 session.

**Something of the Bill**  
Under the measure as passed by the house each county would be authorized to decide for itself, through elections, whether the sale of liquor should be permitted. Counties voting wet would operate liquor stores and retain the profits, but the state would levy a gross sales tax of 7 per cent.

Elections would be called either by the board of county commissioners or on receipt of a petition signed by 15 per cent of the registered voters in the county.

There would be a state board of alcohol control, appointed by the governor and consisting of a chairman and two other members, which would supervise purchases of liquor, and prices charged at the various county stores, and determine the number of stores and their location.

The county bodies would be selected jointly by the commissioners, the county board of health and the board of education and would consist of three members. The salaries would be fixed by the boards mentioned.

It would be legal to take less than one gallon of liquor from a wet county into a dry county, provided it was not taken for the purpose of sale. Any amount of liquor could be shipped through a dry county to a wet county.

## RED CROSS FUND KEEPS GROWING

More Than Fifty Dollars Have Been Contributed Since Last Report Was Made

Ninety-five dollars and seventeen cents have been contributed to the Red Cross flood relief fund by the people of Watauga county since the last issue of The Democrat came from the press, bringing the total local sum sent to the devastated areas to \$567.81. Mr. Russell D. Hodges, chairman of the emergency committee, is still receiving some contributions and those who have not already helped in the movement are again asked to contribute.

Following are the names of those who have thus far been unreported:

W. A. Proffit	\$ 2.00
Forest Grove Sunday School	11.15
Forest Grove Community	27.18
Poplar Grove Church	3.00
Brushy Fork Church	9.00
Oak Grove School	1.00
Dr. W. M. Matheson	1.00
Mrs. W. M. Matheson	1.00
Mrs. Frank Critcher	1.00
Miss Melta McCrary	1.00
Henson's Chapel S. S.	10.10
Valle Crucis School and Community collected by Ann Muse	15.24
Lee Swift	1.00
R. F. Billings	1.00
Mrs. Minnie Watson	1.00
Gap Creek Baptist Ch.	6.00
South Fork Baptist Ch.	3.50
Previously reported	\$472.54
Total	\$567.81

(Note: Since the above was put in type, Mrs. James H. Council reports receipts from the Proffit Grove Sunday School of \$2.85 and from the Boone Methodist Church of \$8.00.)