

## The Week in Washington

A RESUME OF GOVERNMENTAL HAPPENINGS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

Washington, Sept. 2.—With Congress out of the way as the focus of public attention, for the time being, Washington is relaxing by paying more attention to the doings and personalities of men and women whose functions are not primarily political.

Somebody raised the question around the table at the National Press Club, as to who is the hardest working member of the President's cabinet. After a very brief discussion there was unanimous agreement that that honor goes to Harold W. Ickes, secretary of the interior.

Certainly no other cabinet member has so many jobs. He gets appointed to committees and commissions because he has proved himself such a tireless worker and a first-rate executive. He gets things done.

**Duties of Mr. Ickes**  
The work of the secretary of the interior covers a fairly wide range of interests, which most of Mr. Ickes' predecessors have found enough to attend to. But in addition to the duties involved in administering the public land office, the reclamation service, the bureau of Indian affairs, the patent office, and a few other branches of the interior department, Mr. Ickes is the head of the public works administration. In (Continued on page eight)

## Auction Land Sale Draws Wide Interest

S. C. Eggers, local realtor, says that the sale Saturday of the Hamby subdivision has aroused more interest in the public mind than any such event he has promoted in his entire career, and that a record-breaking aggregation of bidders is expected to be on hand.

The property, which is being sold to settle the estate of the late P. L. Hamby is located two miles east of Boone on the North Wilkesboro highway, and has been divided into 41 choice residential lots and 23 baby farms. The property, which is just off the highway, is profusely studded with large spreading oaks, and offers the home-builder some of the most beautiful sites thus far offered in this locality. A concrete reservoir has been so situated that each lot or tract may be supplied with a sufficient gravity supply of pure spring water, which has been approved by H. S. Webster, sanitary inspector with the local health department.

Chas. Swain of Greensboro, will be the auctioneer, there will be concerts by a brass band, and there will be liberal prizes given. The sale will start promptly at 10 a. m. Saturday.

## Brown to Address Ashe Co. Democrats

Wade E. Brown, Boone attorney, will be the principal speaker before a county-wide meeting of the Young Democrats of Ashe county, which will be held at the courthouse in Jefferson Friday evening at 8 o'clock.

Mr. G. B. Gambill, county chairman of the organization, stated that new county officers will be elected and that a slate of delegates would be chosen to attend the state convention in Winston-Salem September 10-11.

## Officer Is Injured In Effecting Arrest

Monroe Greene, constable of Stony Fork township, received cuts about the left hand and arm Monday evening, allegedly inflicted by Dean Yates, whom the officer is drunkenness. Yates, it is averred, submitted to arrest, but brought the knife into play as he and the officer walked away.

Yates was tried by Justice of the Peace Eugene Russell and in default of a \$1,000 bond was committed to jail, and will be tried at the September term of superior court.

## Blowing Rock School Building to Be Begun

A ten-room addition to the Blowing Rock high school building is to get under way shortly, it is announced by T. D. Heffner, area WPA engineer of North Wilkesboro, who states that work on the construction will be pushed to completion before cold weather.

The addition, which will be of brick construction, is to be built by WPA and the county school board at a cost of about \$27,000, and will give that town a splendid type of building, adequate to the needs of the school.

New York.—More than \$4,000,000 to combat infantile paralysis has been raised during the past four years by the President's Birthday balls, under the direction of Col. H. L. Doherty, national chairman of the philanthropy.

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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## BERN HODGES ENDS OWN LIFE

Bern Hodges, one of the most outstanding young men of the Adams neighborhood, was found fatally shot on a porch at his home Wednesday morning about eleven o'clock, and while there was no message to indicate the cause of the suicide, it is believed that poor health was responsible. Mr. Hodges' physical condition had been greatly impaired since his service in the World War.

Mr. Hodges, it is said, had made a trip to Boone to visit a physician and on his return greeted his mother, and went into the house. Later he called to his mother, and in a matter of seconds a gunshot was heard. Mr. Hodges had stepped onto a porch and fired a bullet from a .22 calibre rifle into his head behind the ear. Death resulted in about 30 minutes, without the injured man having regained consciousness.

As The Democrat goes to press, funeral details had not been arranged.

Immediate survivors are the widow and a year-old baby.

## STATE SEED LAW TO BE EXPLAINED

Representatives of Department of Agriculture Will Meet With Farmers on 11th

Farmers of Watauga county have been invited to meet at the courthouse in Boone September 11 to hear representatives of the N. C. department of agriculture and the N. C. Crop Improvement association explain the benefits of the new state seed law.

"The Value of Using Seed of Known Origin" will be the theme of the meeting and plans are to show a motion picture illustrating the necessity of using pure seed. "Similar meetings will be held in 39 counties between now and September 11, and growers interested in better farming practices will find these meetings of vital importance." County Agent W. B. Collins states.

Speakers on the program to be held at Boone will be J. W. Woodside and T. A. Holcomb, both of the State department of agriculture.

In addition to explaining the new law and brief talks on the prevention of seed dumping in North Carolina, the services offered the farmers by the department of agriculture's seed laboratory free of charge will be outlined.

Under the present law, any farmer may send seed to the department at Raleigh and obtain correct information as to purity and germination without cost.

"The program for the department of agriculture calls for the elimination of impure seed in North Carolina, insofar as possible and the individual complaints of the seed purchasers and seed growers will be aired at the meeting and the co-operation of all farmers will be asked, looking toward the betterment of agriculture in North Carolina," D. S. Coltrane, assistant to Commissioner of Agriculture W. Kerr Scott, said.

## HARTZOG REUNION

There will be a reunion of the Hartzog family at the home of Mr. Charlie Hartzog at Obids, Ashe county, on Sunday, September 5th. All connections of the family are invited to attend and enjoy the day.

## ASSOCIATION TO GO TO OAK GROVE

Baptist Body Names New Officers; Church Near Boone to Entertain Next Year

At the ninety-eighth annual session of the Three Forks Baptist Association held at Howard's Creek church last Tuesday and Wednesday, it was decided that the next gathering would be at the Oak Grove church, one mile west of Boone, on Tuesday and Wednesday after the fourth Sunday in August, 1938.

The gathering last week was attended by a large throng of people throughout its sessions and there was intense interest in the meeting.

Following is the slate of new officers elected: Rev. R. C. Eggers, moderator; C. R. Greene, clerk and treasurer; A. J. Greene, historian; G. P. Hagaman, chairman executive committee; N. M. Greene, chairman promotion committee; S. C. Eggers, Sunday School director; A. D. Wilson, hospital director; Rev. Philip Fletcher, BTU director; R. D. Hodges, orphanage director.

## EFFORT MADE TO EXTEND SEASON AT BLOWING ROCK

Mayview Will Remain Open Until October 15 so Tourists May Be Entertained During Colorful Autumn; Entertainment of State Tour

In an effort to prolong the tourist season at Blowing Rock, so that visitors may enjoy the glories of the autumn foliage in the mountains, the management of Mayview Manor, agreed the last of the week to remain open until October 15. Reports coming from the popular mountain-top hotel indicate that there are a record number of tourists anxious to remain in Blowing Rock during September at least. Information is that the Blowing Rock hotel and probably other hotels will remain open during September and the first part of October.

"Old North State Tour"

Another reason for the extension of the hotel season is for the entertainment of the "Old North State Tour" of the directors from travel bureaus and automobile clubs of the nation. This tour will be made through the state October 10-20. Various places on the route will entertain them, and they have been invited to spend the night of Wednesday, October 13, as guests of the town of Blowing Rock. The town, with the business houses and hotels and inns, is co-operating with Mayview Manor.

Entertaining the tour membership will, according to Chamber of Commerce officials, give Blowing Rock and the surrounding country an opportunity to get before a group that has the greatest influence in directing travel of any group in the nation.

O. W. Stone, secretary of the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce, said, "It behooves not only Blowing Rock but all of western North Carolina to combine resources and entertain these people in a big and different way. It will take close co-operation and hard work, but if everybody will do his part, and if every interest that will derive benefit will contribute its part, the burden will be light on all, and no estimate can be placed on the future value of a favorable impression."

## COUNTY SINGING IS ON FIRST SUNDAY OCTOBER

The regular county singing will be held at the courthouse in Boone on the first Sunday in October, according to a joint announcement made Monday by N. L. Harrison, president, and Z. T. Greene, secretary of the singing association. This will be the choir singing by all the churches and all churches are asked to be represented on the program.

The solo, duet and quartette singing which was held here last Sunday was well attended and an enjoyable occasion.

## SAM BROOKSHIRE STABBED BY NEGRO

Local Man is Recovering From Injuries Inflicted by Negro in West Virginia

Sam Brookshire, son of Mr. and Mrs. June Brookshire of Boone, and for some time night shipper for Wilson & Co., Northfork, W. Va., received severe injuries about the arm and leg, when he was stabbed more than a week ago by Rastus Harris, colored, of Northfork.

Brookshire, it is said, was standing in front of the Northfork hotel when Harris approached and inquired as to the whereabouts of a friend of his. The negro apparently disbelieved Brookshire's answer, became enraged and drew a knife on him. Brookshire in an attempt to disarm the negro, was stabbed a number of times in the leg and arm.

Harris was taken to jail and is being held there until the grand jury meets. Brookshire received treatment for his injuries, and is now at the home of his parents, yet unable to resume his work.

## AUTO LICENSE INSPECTOR TO BE HERE ON FRIDAYS

State Highway Patrolman Carlyle Ingle tells The Democrat that, beginning this week, an automobile license inspector from the state department, will be at the courthouse in Boone each Friday from 8:30 a. m. to 12 noon, for the purpose of issuing operators' licenses, duplicate licenses, etc., and to render any such aid to motorists as possible in connection with their license problems.

## Guard Grave Where Will Is Buried



Philadelphia, Pa.—Policeman Hugh Gallagher guarding grave of Henrietta E. Garrett in Laurel Hill Cemetery here, where vandals threaten to use dynamite to explode grave in order to get at a will buried with her. Mrs. Garrett died in 1930, leaving a fortune of 20 million dollars and about five hundred heirs.

## YOUNG DEMOCRAT DOUGHTON SPEAKS MEETING MONDAY TO ADULT TUTORS

Officers Will Be Elected and Delegates Named to State Convention on 18th

Members of the Young Democratic Club of Watauga county are asked by President Wade E. Brown, to gather at the courthouse next Monday night, so that a new slate of officers may be elected, and that delegates may be named to attend the state convention in Winston-Salem September 10-11.

Mr. Brown states that the speaker for the occasion has not been chosen, but that a leader in the Democracy will occupy the platform. It is urged that the young Democrats from every section of the county be in attendance, and all others, as for that matter, who are concerned over the welfare of the party.

## BIG TRADE EVENT TO BE PROMOTED

Merchants Association Sponsors Carnival of Bargains; Details Next Week

At a meeting of the Merchants Association to be held Thursday evening at 7:30, the final details for Boone's biggest merchandising event will be promulgated, complete details of which will appear in The Democrat next week. All members are urged to be present as the big bargain carnival is arranged.

Committee members who are working out the preliminaries to the city-wide sales event, insist on the full co-operation of all the members of the association in the publicizing of Boone as the logical trading center of the entire northwest. While slashed prices are expected to prevail, the merchants organization expects the biggest benefits to come with the drawing of large crowds of people to town who have hitherto shopped only occasionally here. Watch for full details.

It is also stated that Thursday's meeting will feature a discussion of the light and power rates in the city as compared to those prevailing in other towns of similar size throughout the state.

Secretary Wade E. Brown will present a report of the district convention which he attended in Hickory last week.

The association is making an especial effort to trace down all bad checks held by members and their authors, and it is stated that the credit files of the organization are almost complete.

## WPA Field Workers Are to Be Reduced

According to an announcement made last week by George W. Coan Jr., state WPA administrator, the personnel of the field administrative forces of the new WPA plan of operation, which takes effect the first of the month, replacing the five districts with 12 areas.

Field personnel will be reduced about 30, Coan said, and salary reductions will be affected in "most cases."

E. W. Cole of Salisbury will be in charge of the area office at Winston-Salem, T. D. Heffner at North Wilkesboro, while Miss Euzeli Smart will have charge of women's projects in areas seven and eight with headquarters at Winston-Salem.

## COUNTY SCHOOLS ARE NOW OPENING; SOME BEGIN 13TH

More Than Four Thousand Are to Be Enrolled in County When All Schools Have Opened; Only 74 Colored Students; the Dates of Openings

Some forty-five hundred Watauga county youngsters are laying aside their swim suits, fishing poles and other paraphernalia peculiar to vacation-time, and beginning their reluctant trek to the institutions of learning, where the youngsters will tussle with the three Rs and the oldsters will ponder the vexing problems of the high school curricula.

Last year there were 775 enrolled in the four high schools and 3,785 in the elementary grades. Of this latter number only 74 were colored children. While no material increase is noted from year to year, it is believed this year's enrollment will somewhat better the former figures. It is believed that under the compulsory education laws, Watauga county has an attendance of something like 98 per cent of all school-age children.

Five buses have been added, making a total of 25 which are to operate in the county this year, the system and the roads over which the vehicles pass being described as one of the best in the state.

**First Openings**  
The following schools opened on Thursday, August 26:

Bethel, Mabel, Pottertown, Silverstone, Cove Creek, Rominger, Pransell, Kellerville, Windy Gap, Liberty Hill, Valle Crucis, Foscoe, Grandfather, Valley Mountain, Cool Springs (in Shawneehaw), Cool Springs (Blowing Rock township), Penley, Braishaw and Cook.

**Thursday Morning, Sept. 2**  
Boone, Boone colored, Oak Grove, Howard's Creek, Rutherford, Mt. Paron, Elk and Lower Elk.

**Monday Morning, Sept. 13**  
Blowing Rock school, to open with Todd school are Green Valley, River-view and Winebarger.

## Boone Schools To Open On Thursday

The 1937-38 session of the Boone High school and Demonstration school will begin Thursday morning, September 2 at 8:30, and the faculty is anxious that all the students be present on the opening day, so that none may be handicapped by getting off to a late start.

The faculty for the year for the high school is as follows: E. S. Christenbury, principal; Mrs. J. E. Rivers, English; Miss Lucile Miller, English; Miss Dorothy Miller, French; Kelley Miles, science; Frank Hamrick, history; Mrs. E. S. Christenbury, commercial work; Mrs. Wade Brown, home economics; Fay Martin, boys' athletic director; Gordon Nash, Mathematics and band master; R. G. Shipley, agriculture; Alice Sherrill, librarian.

The Demonstration school faculty: John T. Howell, principal; Miss Eula Todd; J. E. Rivers, Jr., Mrs. John T. Howell, Wm. Cole, Miss Clyde Goodman, Miss Ella Austin, Miss Nell Trivett, Miss Carolyn Weaver, Mrs. R. L. Clay, Miss Ruth Robinson, Miss Myrtle Brandon, Miss Mary Reed Moore, Miss Helen Fleming.

## MANY FRESHMEN NOW ON CAMPUS

Registration at Appalachian is Slightly Delayed by School for WPA Instructors

More than two hundred freshmen have been enrolled for the fall and winter term at Appalachian College, it was revealed Wednesday, with the registration of upper classmen to get under way Thursday. Enrollment of students has been slightly delayed due to the WPA school which closed yesterday and which was allowed to use facilities of the college for the courses offered.

It is stated that the number of freshmen already registered is slightly lower than formerly but that the deficiency will be more than made up by an increased number of students transferred from junior colleges.

All available dormitory space on the campus is filled and townspeople who have spare rooms have been able to let them to students who could not find accommodations at the college. Indications are that when registration is complete there will be in the neighborhood of one thousand students.

## ROBERT CRITCHER SUCCUMBS SUNDAY

Well-Known Mabel Young Man is Victim of Sudden Illness; Funeral Monday

Robert Lee Critcher, aged 31 years, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Critcher of Mabel, died at Banner Elk hospital Sunday from a sudden illness which developed the day previous. From such information as The Democrat could gather, young Mr. Critcher had been doing work about the farm, became ill and was taken to the hospital, where it was determined that his condition was critical. An ulcerated condition of the stomach was said to have been the principal factor in his death.

Funeral services were conducted from the Mount Vernon Baptist church Monday afternoon and interment was in the family cemetery, near the childhood home of the deceased.

Surviving are the widow and three children: Marjorie, Lawford and Larry. The parents also survive, together with two brothers and three sisters: Ralph, of Raleigh; Monroe, of Kingsport, Tenn.; Mrs. Nellie Coffey, Blowing Rock; Mrs. Bill Fletcher, Mabel, and Mrs. Nina Campbell, Akron, Ohio.

Mr. Critcher was a hard-working, industrious and likable young man and leaves a wide circle of friends in this section.

Raleigh, Aug. 30.—Dr. R. S. Cheek, blind commission secretary, said today that between 900 and 1,000 checks averaging about \$16 each are being mailed out as August payments under the aid to the blind social security program.