

The Week in Washington

A RESUME OF GOVERNMENTAL HAPPENINGS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

Washington, Dec. 13.—With congress looking forward impatiently to the Christmas holidays and no real prospect of getting any important legislation out of the way before the regular session begins in January, the President's hurry-call to enact "must" legislation seems to have fallen on ears already deafened by an incessant din of speech-making.

Some serious efforts to get something done, but no real progress in the line of lifting government restrictions on business in order to break the present depression is the special session's record to date.

A New NRA?

Everybody is talking about the better feeling between the administration and business, but many are wondering how long it will last. There is a rumor going around that one group of administration advisers rather welcome the business recession, believing that it will lead to a demand from business for a revival of the NRA.

Some suspicious politicians in congress are wondering whether the President, in saying that he is for changing the corporation tax system whenever congress is ready for it, was not "passing the buck" to congress, so that the blame for any failure of business to respond to whatever it is that congress finally decides to do, will be placed on congress and not on the White House.

Jesse Jones, chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and regarded as about as level-headed as any man in Washington, is one of the pungent critics of the tax on undistributed corporate earnings. The government lends money to corporations through the RFC, he pointed out, but if the corporation makes enough of its profits to pay back the loan, it has to pay a tax for the privilege of clearing off its debt to the government.

Mr. Oliphant Steps Down

Quietly and "unofficially" the word has gone out from the treasury department that hereafter Mr. Herman Oliphant, legal adviser to the secretary of the treasury, will function only in a legal capacity. Mr. Oliphant is the gentleman who "sold" the President on Prof. Pigswell's scheme for taxing undistributed reserves of corporations. When a member of the senate finance committee remarked the other day that Mr. Oliphant had told the committee that corporations did not need profits, anyway, and that statement was published, the announcement speedily followed that Mr. Oliphant no longer had any official standing as an economic advisor.

Unemployment Census Flops
The "voluntary census" of the unemployed has been a considerable disappointment to its promoters, because so few of the unemployed filled in all of the answers on the lengthy questionnaire. Thus no real light has been thrown on the basic problem of unemployment. The government has rented two floors of a private garage, nearly an acre of floor space, to provide accommodations for the 1,000 men and women employed to tabulate the unemployment census returns.

The tremendous increase in the use of counting machines, tabulating devices, mechanical bookkeeping

(Continued on page eight)

BLOWING ROCK TO ENTERTAIN TODAY

Hospitality Committee and Others Interested to Be Guests of Neighbor City

Members of the Governor's Hospitality Committee, their friends and all others interested in the future welfare of this section and the state, are cordially invited by the people of Blowing Rock to be present at the Blowing Rock Cafe Thursday evening of this week at 7 o'clock, when they will enjoy a good dinner and participate in a general discussion of the state advertising program as affected by the governor's hospitality group.

Mr. C. S. Prevette of Blowing Rock, vice-chairman of the hospitality committee, who makes announcement of the gathering, states that he would particularly like to have the presence of those attending the organization on meeting in Boone recently, together with their friends, and all others who may be interested in the worthy movement. Needless to say, that in addition to the committee members, numbers of other Boone people will enjoy the hospitality of their Blowing Rock neighbors, and that the gathering will be of great advantage in furthering the advertising program of the state.

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

VOL. XLIX, NO. 23

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY DECEMBER 16, 1937

\$1.50 PER YEAR

BUILDING & LOAN IS DISTRIBUTING DIVIDEND CHECKS

Many Shareholders Throughout the County Will Have Their Payments in Time for Christmas Shopping; Organization Has Had Good Year

W. H. Gragg, secretary of the Watauga Building and Loan Association, is busily engaged in mailing out dividend checks to some two hundred holders of prepaid shares in the association, and as a result, about five thousand dollars in profits will be turned into the channels of local trade, while there is yet time to do holiday shopping. Practically all of those who will receive dividends, Mr. Gragg stated, are residents of Watauga county.

The Watauga Building and Loan was organized in 1921, and the first dividend checks, totaling a few hundred dollars, were mailed in December of that year. Since that time the association has shown a phenomenal growth, and throughout the dark days of the depression, not one time did the association fail to earn its usual rate of interest for its shareholders, and the dividends on prepaid shares have always been promptly paid.

The year about to close has been a most successful one. There are more than \$25,000 of installment shares in force than a year ago, and the earnings have been quite satisfactory to all concerned. A new series of installment stock is to open January 1, and belief is that there will be a record demand for participation in the profits and other advantages to be found in building and loan saving. A year ago more than one thousand shares were disposed of.

WEATHER HALTS HOLIDAY TRADE

Record Number of Christmas Shoppers Expected to Throng City Over Week-end

The rough weather of the past few days has caused a lot of people in this section to delay their holiday shopping. Monday the ground was covered with a thick layer of sleet, and the icy surface prevented any considerable amount of travel, but now with warmer weather and the melting of the ice the holiday crowds are beginning to arrive. Merchants predict that the end of this week will likely bring with it the heaviest shopping since the depression.

The shopping season started off with the largest crowd thus far known in town on a similar occasion, and but for the inclement weather, it is thought, there would have been little interruption in Christmas trade.

Shopkeepers are again urging the people to do their buying now. Despite heavy buying, stocks will be depleted in some instances and late shoppers will take a chance of meeting disappointment in completing their gift lists.

B. Roby Brown Rites Are Conducted Friday

Funeral services for B. Roby Brown, aged 77 years, who died at his home on Route 2 last Wednesday, were conducted from the late residence Friday at 11 o'clock by Reverends E. C. Hodges and W. C. Payne, and interment was in the family cemetery, in the presence of a wide gathering of sorrowing friends and relatives.

Mr. Brown had been in failing health for the past several years, but the fatal illness appeared serious for only a few days. Surviving are five sons: Claude Brown, Heaton; Ronda Brown, Butte, Mont.; Orin Brown, G. G. Brown and Roscoe Brown, Boone.

Mr. Brown was a son of the late Richard Brown and was reared and spent his life in the community in which he died. He was an upright and honorable citizen and contributed of his time, means and influence to those things which he believed would be to the upbuilding of his community and county. For more than half a century he was a devout and faithful member of the Baptist church, and was active in the religious life of his neighborhood.

BOONE DONS HOLIDAY ATTIRE



A portion of the shopping district of Boone after Christmas lights had been turned on, officially opening the holiday shopping season. The photograph, which comes to The Democrat through the courtesy of Paul Weston, local photographer, was snapped late at night after a crowd of some thousands of people had thronged the streets, bringing the children to see Santa Claus, and making tours of the stores, which are displaying the most comprehensive line of gift items ever shown in any of the small cities of this region.

LITTLE HELP FOR EMPTY STOCKINGS

The response to a request by The Democrat last week that there be contributions for the Fireman's Community Chest Fund, has been quite disheartening. Little interest has been shown in the effort which is annually made by the fire department to bring Christmas cheer to the little ones, whose stockings would otherwise hang empty by a cold hearstone. Only one contribution other than those previously reported has been made. The Democrat would urge all those who believe in the inherent right of little children to enjoy Christmas, to make their donations to Pat McGuire, chief of the fire department, at once. Those who may find it more convenient may leave their contributions at The Democrat office. Contributions up to date are as follows:

New River Light & Power Company	\$50.00
Watauga Democrat	10.00
Miss Jennie Todd	1.00

FINAL RESULTS RED CROSS DRIVE

Two Hundred and Fifty-five Memberships Are Reported for Watauga Chapter

Final returns from the Red Cross Roll Call campaign which came to a close Thanksgiving indicate that the Watauga chapter, of which Mrs. James H. Council is chairman, had received \$255 in memberships and contributions during the period of the canvass.

Following is a list of those memberships which had not been previously reported:

Meat Camp—Mrs. Olen G. Winebarger, Mrs. Ola B. Winebarger, Mrs. Ernest Moretz.

Valle Crucis—Misses Julia Guerry, Adelaide Smith, Virginia Bouldin; Mesdames Mont Glover, W. H. Wagner; contributions 65c.

Boone—Alan Lathan, Miss Marguerite Miller.

Deep Gap—D. C. Thompson, Lucy Green Luther.

PLAY TO BE GIVEN AT BETHEL DECEMBER 18

The Bethel high school students are working hard on the comedy, "Toby Helps Out," which will be given on Saturday evening, December 18, beginning at 7:45 o'clock.

The cast includes Betty O'Neal, Elizabeth Kincaid, Mildred Perry, Mabel Farthing, Johnnie O'Neal, Dallas Bunton, Joe Farthing, Lloyd Dishman and Berl Greer.

The comedy is extremely funny and all who attend should come with the expectation of laughing themselves to their full satisfaction. The director and cast are looking to having a large crowd.

PAGEANT-PLAY AT BAPTIST CHURCH SUNDAY EVENING

"War Versus Peace" Will Be Presented in Four Scenes by Pastors and Members of All Churches of the Town; Written by Rev. J. C. Canipe

A pageant-play of the nations, depicting the war spirit now prevailing in the world, will be given at the Baptist church Sunday night at 7:30 o'clock. The title of the play is "War Versus Peace." There will be four scenes. The first scene will portray a Chinese refugee camp in the care of missionaries showing war at its worst. The second scene will be in Tokyo, Japan, in military headquarters with Japanese, German and Italian war lords talking it over. The third scene will be a reproduction of the recent Brussels peace conference with leading nations taking part. The final scene will be on Christmas eve night during the World War when the boys of all nations come out of the trenches to fraternize and sing Christmas carols together.

Then the grand finale with a manager scene and the leading nations repudiating war and pledging to try peace-making the Christ way.

This pageant-play will be given by pastors and members of all churches in the town. It is a town-wide affair and all the public is invited to see and hear it. A free will offering will be taken for the needy of the community.

The play was written by Rev. J. C. Canipe. It will be directed by Mr. Clark of the Baptist church, Mrs. Harmon of the Methodist church, Mrs. Warman of the Advent Christian church, and Miss Jeffcoat of the Lutheran church. Mr. Dale Keller will have charge of the lighting.

FIRST WRESTLING MATCH ON FRIDAY

1937 Mat Schedule Gets Under Way as Appalachian Meets Winston-Salem "Y"

Coach Watkins' Appalachian matmen will officially open their 1937 wrestling schedule Friday night when the local grapplers will meet the Winston-Salem Y. M. C. A., which promises to be one of the toughest matches of the season. The Winston "Y" team, which is featured by Frank Moore, former Appalachian wrestling captain, defeated Davidson last week.

Coach Watkins believes that this season's schedule is the toughest one Appalachian has thus far faced, but has abiding faith in the ability of his aggregation to hold its own with the worst of them.

NEXT EDITION OF DEMOCRAT TUESDAY

The Democrat expects to mail the next issue of the paper on Tuesday, rather than on Wednesday, so that there may be a little more time for the force to enjoy the holidays. Advertisers are asked to bear this in mind, and their co-operation with the publisher will be appreciated. Those having items for the news columns should also remember the early publication, and patrons of the job printing department should make their wants known during the present week.

BURL STORIE IS FOOTBALL LEADER

Boone Boy Reported as "Going Places" on Wake Forest Grid Squad; First Season

Burl Storie, Boone boy, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Shuford Storie, appears to be another mountain boy who is going to make good in the field of sports. Young Storie, who has been a student at Wake Forest this fall, played a leading part in the Baby Deacons' successful snap for championship honors in the Big Five Freshman circuit.

Storie, husky 195-pounder, is being counted on heavily by Coach Walker to fill up a berth left vacant by the graduation of Captain Boots Mumford and Wheeler Dale, first and second centers for the varsity this year. Although he was out a great part of the time during the past season with a leg injury, he was in enough to show that he could deliver the goods and now with his hurt completely well, it will be a tough day for anyone seeking the No. 1 pivot post for Wake Forest during the next three years.

Storie has been at Wake Forest but a few months, but has become one of the most popular boys on the campus and is ranking high scholastically.

FAMED WRITER A VISITOR

Corey Ford, nationally known magazine writer, and two companions, Alastair MacBain and Gerald Allred of New Hampshire, spent Monday night in Boone, after having enjoying a grouse hunt at the Banner Elk game preserve. The distinguished visitors left Tuesday morning in company with H. Grady Farthing, department of conservation official, for a trip into the hunting areas of eastern Carolina.

W. F. MILLER UNIMPROVED

Mr. W. Frank Miller remains seriously ill at his home here, and Wednesday morning it was learned that there was but little improvement in his condition. Mr. Miller suffered a slight paralytic stroke last week, but has rallied from it to an appreciable extent. The many friends of the leading citizen are apprehensive over his condition.

LOCAL GRID STAR MAY BE FEATURED IN RADIO DRAMA

Earl Henson, Credited With Saving North State Championship for Appalachian College, had a Dream Which Came True; May Be Dramatized Over Radio

A dream of Earl Henson, which in coming true brought the North State Conference championship to the Appalachian State Mountaineers football aggregation, has brought the local grid star nation-wide attention and has slated him for an appearance on a radio broadcast of the Columbia Broadcasting system.

Young Henson, football enthusiast, who had made good with Coach Brewer's grid squad throughout the season, had his heart set on winning the Appalachian-Catawba football encounter, the last game of the season, upon the outcome of which rested the conference title. In a dream he carried the pigskin 90 yards to uphold the undefeated record of his squad, and beneath the floodlights in Hickory, that is just exactly what happened.

Sports pages throughout the country featured the story and the J. Walter Thompson company, Chicago, handling the broadcast for Zenith radios, has invited Henson to Chicago to discuss his proposed appearance on a nation-wide Columbia broadcast, when the grid performance is to be dramatized. The program upon which Henson is to be featured is broadcast under the title, "Mental Phenomena"—and there's where the dream comes in.

Henson expects to journey to Chicago during the holidays and take up the matter as suggested, and Ripley of "Believe it or Not" fame has stated that he may use the sandman incident in one of his cartoon releases later on.

FIDELIS CLASS MEETING

The Fidelis Class of the First Baptist Church will hold its Christmas meeting Thursday evening, December 16th, at 7:30 at the home of Mrs. Ed Hodges, with Mrs. Grubbs acting as assistant hostess. Each member of the class is urged to be present.

"HERE COMES CHARLIE"

A three-act comedy will be given at the Mabel school auditorium Saturday night at 7 o'clock by the people of the community. Proceeds will be used on a much-needed library for the school. The public is cordially invited. Admission 15 and 25 cents.

ANNUAL BIRTHDAY BALL ANNOUNCED

Mayor Gragg to Appoint Committee as Usual to Arrange For President's Ball

Mayor W. H. Gragg has received official notification of his appointment as chairman of the President's Birthday Ball, which is to be held January 30, and will, within the next few days appoint active committees who will go forward with the preparations for the annual event.

The ball, which is given each year on President Roosevelt's birthday, is for the purpose of securing funds with which to carry on the nationwide fight against infantile paralysis, and last year's event in Boone was the most successful thus far held, almost \$200 being realized from the sale of tickets.

The personnel of the committees responsible for the staging of the ball this year will be announced shortly.

STORES TO BE OPEN AT NIGHT NEXT WEEK

The stores of the city will remain open at night during the coming week in order that late Christmas shoppers, who find it inconvenient to come to town during the day, may drive in after supper. Extra salespeople will be employed and the trade can be taken care of with the minimum of delay.