

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Year 1888
BOONE WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1938

VOL. XLIX, NO. 46

\$1.50 PER YEAR

WILL OBSERVE POPPY DAY 28TH

Money Raised Will Be Devoted to Support of Disabled World War Veterans

Poppy Day will be observed here on Saturday, May 28th, and the ladies of the American Legion Auxiliary will sell these bright war memorial flowers to raise funds to help support disabled veterans and their families.

What is Poppy Day?
Poppy Day is a day observed throughout the United States by wearing memorial poppies in honor of World War dead. It will be observed this year on May 28th, the Saturday before Memorial Day.

Why was the poppy chosen as the memorial flower?
The Memorial Poppy is a replica of the poppies which grew on the battlefields of France and Belgium during the World War.

Why was the poppy chosen as the memorial flower?
The poppy was chosen as the memorial flower for the World War dead because it grew where they fell, the one touch of beauty in the desolate battle areas.

Who makes the Memorial Poppy?
Memorial Poppies are made by disabled World War veterans working in government hospitals and in convalescent workrooms maintained by the American Legion Auxiliary.

Who distributes the Memorial Poppy?
Women of the American Legion Auxiliary, working as unpaid volunteers, distribute poppies throughout the United States.

What is done with the money contributed for the poppies?
Every penny is used to support the work of the American Legion and Auxiliary for the welfare of the disabled veterans, their families and the families of the dead.

Who wears the Memorial Poppy?
Every American who wishes to honor the war dead and aid the war's living victims.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY HERE 29TH

I. G. Greer and Singing Class From Orphanage Will Feature Program

I. G. Greer, superintendent of the Thomasville orphanage, and a singing class from that institution will feature the program at the county-wide Sunday School rally at the Baptist church here Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, and Attorney A. H. Casey of North Wilkesboro, and others will also speak.

The following speakers will appear at the 11 o'clock hour at the various churches of the county, and the two o'clock meeting will be attended by members of all the Sunday schools:

Antioch, Grace Honeycutt; Beaver Dam, Bert Farthing; Bethany, G. W. Rowe; Bethel, Charles Williams; Blowing Rock, Chas. E. Hagaman; Brushy Fork, A. J. Greene; Cool Springs, Ear. Colvard; Cove Creek, D. J. Whitener; Elk Knob, Clyde R. Greene; Forest Grove, J. W. Norris; Gap Creek, Mrs. Baxter Linney; Howards Creek, Cleve Gross; Laurel Springs, W. M. Thomas; Meat Camp, Mattie Lou Harmon; Middle Fork, D. E. Broome; Mt. Calvary, M. J. Williams; Mt. Gilead, Rev. Tipton Greene; Mt. Lebanon, I. G. Greer; Oak Grove, Roy Dotson; Poplar Grove, Rev. G. M. Watson; Proffitts Grove, Rev. Phillip Fletcher; Rich Mountain, Bedford Greene; Shulls Mills, Troy Danner; South Fork, A. Y. Howell; Three Forks, Virginia Weber; Timbered Ridge, N. M. Greene; Union, H. R. Eggers; Willowdale, Wade E. Brown; Willow Valley, James Farthing; Zion Hill, Morris Eggers; Stony Fork, N. L. Harrison.

WATAUGANS IN FRANCE

Messrs. Marvin Deal and Lynwood Blair of Cove Creek, of the U. S. navy, are now stationed in Ville Franche, France, as members of the crew of Admiral Lackey's flagship Omaha, which has been cruising in the waters of the Mediterranean. Lester Deal, a brother to Marvin, is in a CCC camp in the state of Oregon.

TO DECORATE GRAVES

All persons who have relatives buried at the Ray cemetery are requested to meet there on Decoration Day for the purpose of working and decorating the graves.

"Testing Time," the newest volume of fiction to have been written by David P. Allison, Boone author, is now on sale at the Walker Jewelry store.

Gets WPA Vote



Lawrence Edward Smith, WPA worker employed on a St. Louis park project, is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the seat in congress now held by Thos. C. Hennings, Jr. Smith has been promised the support of the 26,000 fellow WPA workers in the city and is confident of victory in the primaries.

AGED CITIZEN IS VICTIM ROBBERS

P. R. Shull Is Beaten and Robbed of Fifty Dollars; Two Are Held in Jail

P. R. (Tip) Shull, well-known resident of Laurel Creek township, was brutally beaten about the head and robbed of \$50 in the kitchen of his home Saturday night, and Frank Ward and Marvin Warren are being held in the county jail as his assailants. They will be given a preliminary hearing Monday.

Mr. Shull, it is related by the sheriff, who made the arrests, was seated on the porch of his home at dusk, when two men, whom he believed to be Ward and Warren, walked along a driveway leading to the rear of his home. He thought little of the incident, it is stated, but soon afterward went into the kitchen to close a window, on account of a thunderstorm. Just as he entered the room he was seized by the collar, a pistol pressed against his side, and he was commanded to be quiet. Mr. Shull grabbed the pistol and almost succeeded in wresting it from the hands of his adversary, when the second man came in and he was felled with a blow from the butt of the gun. The money was taken from his person.

Sheriff's officers secured the services of a fingerprint expert from Lenoir and found the fingerprints of Ward on the window pane where entrance to the building was made. Tracks outside the house appeared to have been made by the shoes the accused were wearing. The prisoners denied knowledge of the affair.

Marked Terrapin Still Inhabits Horton Farm

A small dry-land terrapin, bearing the inscription, "D. J. H., June 5, 1911," on its shell, was found Friday on the farm of Mr. Frank Horton at Vilas, less than a quarter mile from the point where Don J. Horton, a brother, made the marks of identification on the crustacean twenty-two years ago.

This is the third time the small turtle has been found since it was marked, and during the long period of time, has traveled around within a radius of less than a quarter of a mile.

Demonstration Club Market to Open Here

The Watauga County Home Demonstration Market will be open in the building next door to Daniel Boone Shoe Shop Saturday, May 28, at 9 a. m. Country produce, canned and baked goods will be offered for sale.

BOONE GIRL TO FINISH AT MARS HILL COLLEGE

Mars Hill, May 22—Martina Moore of Boone, is among the 150 students of Mars Hill College to be graduated in the final commencement exercises to be held Friday morning, May 27. This is the largest graduating class in the college's history.

Besides other honors, Miss Moore is a former president of the French honor club, officer of the Clio Literary Society, and a honor student for the two years she has been at Mars Hill.

W. N. RAGAN DIES AT JOPLIN, MO.

Former Resident of Watauga Succumbs to Sudden Illness; Funeral Details

William Newton Ragan, a native Wataugan, but for many years a resident of Golden City, Mo., died at Joplin, Mo., May 13, from an illness of only a few hours. Mr. Ragan was in Joplin transacting business at the stockyards when he became ill, and went to a hotel room for a rest. He expired within a few hours from what is believed to have been a heart attack. He was 72 years old.

Funeral services were conducted from the Presbyterian church at Golden City May 16, Rev. D. E. Jones having charge of the rites, and interment was in the I. O. O. F. cemetery there. A large crowd gathered to pay their respects and there was an impressive floral offering.

Mr. Ragan was a son of John and Sarah Ragan and was born near Boone April 6, 1866. He was married to Miss Maggie Greene, daughter of L. A. and the late Mrs. Greene August 26, 1891. To them were born four children: Mrs. Docie McCoy of Eagleville, Mo.; Clarence Ragan, Robinson, Kansas; Lucy, who died in infancy, and Eston Ragan of Tulsa, Okla. The wife and mother died February 6, 1904. Six brothers and one sister also survive.

Mr. Ragan was converted in early manhood and united with the Baptist church, living a true Christian life. He was married in 1903 to Miss Rozella Fair. He and his family had lived in Missouri since 1900. He retired from active farming in 1921, but continued to live on the farm. He derived much pleasure from helping others and doing things for the betterment of his community.

Nutritionist Will Be Here This Week

Miss Sallie Brooks, assistant extension nutritionist, will be in the county Wednesday and Thursday, May 25-26, for demonstrations in pie-making. The meeting on the 25th will be in the home economics department of the Cove Creek high school and the one on the following day will be at the Boone high school home economics department, which is located in the basement of the Lovell Home dormitory. The meetings will start promptly at 2 o'clock, and ladies of the county are asked to attend the place nearest them.

Esso News to Give Publicity to State

"Esso Road News," organ of the Standard Oil Co., which is distributed to the traveling public throughout the nation, is to devote one page of the July number to North Carolina, dealing more specifically with information of interest to tourists, and Mr. H. W. Wilcox, local bus terminal manager, has been asked to supply some material on this section.

Mr. Wilcox is asking that the publication use some pictures of this region, and he asks that anyone having good pictures, which might be used, to leave them with him or with Rob Rivers at The Democrat office.

ATTENDS CONVENTION OF SPORTS WRITERS

Mr. Eugene Wike, publicity director at Appalachian College, has returned from Silver Springs, Florida, where he was in attendance last week at the convention of the Southern Sports Writers' association.

The event is an annual one and this year came as a part of the program of the Governor's Hospitality committee.

Mr. Wike was honored by delivering the principal address at the banquet session of the convention, and drew an interesting comparison between the resorts of the mountains and Florida.

DATE OF TONSIL CLINIC AT THE ROCK CHANGED

A tonsil clinic will be held at Blowing Rock on May 31 and June 1, instead of May 24 and 25, as was previously announced by Dr. M. C. Warfield.

HUGE TREES FELLED

Mr. Don J. Horton recently cut a poplar tree on his farm, which scaled 7,000 feet of lumber. The huge tree was seven feet in diameter, of great height, and the annual rings on the sawn logs indicated the tree was 350 years old. Another poplar was felled which was six and a half feet in diameter and which contained 5,000 feet of lumber.

Let Us Have Peace



Here, in the Suresne cemetery, near Paris, a Gold Star mother weeps beside the grave of her boy twenty years after he left home to make the world safe for democracy.

DAN GRAHAM MEETING HAS BEEN POSTPONED

The interdenominational tent meeting which was to have been started here Sunday by Rev. Dan Graham, Blountville, Tenn., evangelist, has been postponed for a few days, according to information given The Democrat Tuesday afternoon.

As workmen were erecting the large tent, the high wind tore the canvas to such an extent that it was necessary to order a complete new section, which will require several days for delivery. Definite announcement will be made soon as to the actual start of the services. Meantime, all the citizens of the county who are interested in the meeting, are asked to gather at the courthouse Thursday of this week at 2 o'clock.

SUMMER TERM PROSPECTS GOOD

Appalachian College Will Draw Hundreds From Many States; Opens June 7

The summer term of Appalachian College, which opens June 7th, is destined to be the most widely attended session in the history of the institution, officials believe. Already it is said that reservations for more than 250 have been made at the dormitories, and a large number of students have indicated their desire to find quarters in private homes of the town. It is quite likely that near one thousand will inhabit the local campus during the first summer term.

Preliminary information is to the effect that students this year will come from more different states than at any previous session.

MEETING CLOSED

Rev. R. C. Eggers and Rev. D. M. Edmisten recently closed a series of revival services at the Poplar Grove Baptist church. Large crowds attended the services and there were 21 additions to the church by baptism.

TO PAINT HOTEL

Wilson Brothers & Vannoy have been awarded the contract for painting the Green Park hotel, popular Blowing Rock hostelry. The structure is the largest frame building in the county, it is said.

Memories of Early Days in Boone Related in Letter of Tennessean

Memories of old times about Boone and Watauga county fill seven pages of closely written script from John Floyd, Nashville attorney and realtor, to his cousin, Mrs. L. M. Lowe, proprietor of the Caro-Jean inn in Boone. In sending her these personal memories of a Watauga county youth, Mr. Floyd suggests she enter them in the What Do You Remember contest on her behalf and she has done so.

These letters of Mr. Floyd's are printed now both because of their real interest and because they are an excellent example of the type of material it is hoped to receive in the contest. A number of other entries have been received locally and judges for the contest will be announced shortly.

I will write to you some reminiscences of Boone during the years I lived there. I think I have a very pretty clear recollection of what Boone was in those days. My father moved his family from Shulls Mills to Boone in the spring of 1874—I think it was in March. I think Mr. Wm. Shull, Luma's father, drove the farm wagon that carried our household goods and my mother and younger children. I think the older children walked over the Pine Hill road that passed the homes of Capt. Wm. Hodges and the Rev. Larkin Hodges. The wagon went by what was called the Whiteoak Flat road, which I think ran up the Laurel Creek valley. The hills were steep and Mr. Shull had a balky mare in his team. She was a fine looking animal named "Luce." So we were delayed on the journey, but reached Boone before dark.

(Continued on page four)

THROGS ATTEND FIRST DISPATCH OF MAIL BY AIR

857 Pieces of Mail Flown From County Last Thursday in Presence of 300 Onlookers; Mayor and Others Make Brief Remarks to Gathering

More than 300 persons gathered at Pond Bottom farm near Boone last Thursday at 11:40 to witness the arrival of the first air mail ship in this area, to hear brief addresses by leading citizens and to watch the dispatch of 857 pieces of mail.

The occasion was in observance of National Air Mail Week, and Pilot John W. Terrell of Lenoir, was greeted by Mayor W. H. Gragg. Superintendent W. H. Walker briefly reviewed the advancement of the state and section in transportation facilities, and Uncle Newt Banner, 95-year-old veteran of the Civil war, was recognized as perhaps the oldest mail carrier in the United States. Uncle Newt made the same trip 74 years ago in three days. Terrill flew over it in 50 minutes.

Postmaster Hartzog believes that no other town and county of equal size observed air mail week in such a fine way. The volume of mail from this county may best be appreciated by giving the amounts gathered at other points. At North Wilkesboro there were 131 letters; Lenoir, 156; Winston-Salem, 1,791; while all of Buncombe county contributed 3,123 pieces.

Hartzog Thanks People
Mr. Hartzog, who is duly appreciative of the co-operation given the postoffice department in this connection, gave the following statement to the press:

"I desire to thank the people of Watauga county for their fine co-operation in the observance of National Air Mail Week—the postmasters, committee members and clubs throughout the county. Especial praise is due Sugar Grove, Valle Crucis, Deep Gap, Shulls Mills, Lenoir and Zionville for the large number of letters mailed. I feel that the record established in this county will do much toward the eventual establishment of a regular mail service for this area."

Work Progresses On Many New Buildings

THEATRE MAY BE OPEN BY THE END OF JUNE

A large crew of workmen is now engaged in the rapid construction of the new home of the Pastime Theatre, which is destined to be one of the finest show houses in this section of the state. Approximately half of the brick have been laid, and it is the purpose of the management to have the building ready for occupancy by the end of June.

DIXIE STORE TO HAVE NEW BUILDING

Prof. Chappel Wilson is rushing to completion the new store building alongside Caro-Jean inn, which will be ready for occupancy by the Dixie store within the next few days. The building is of one story brick construction and designed especially for the needs of the grocery establishment. Shelving is being put in and other finishing touches added, so that the stocks may be moved with the minimum loss of time.

No announcement has been made as to who will occupy the portion of the Hahn building which the Dixie store is now using, but it is understood that a lease has been signed.

NEW GROCERY STORE WILL BE OPENED SOON

Mr. J. E. Clay has finished the construction of his store building near the courthouse, and announcement will be made soon of the opening therein of a complete line of groceries and feeds. The structure is well built and handsomely finished.

WORK PROGRESSES ON WADE BROWN BUILDING

Attorney Wade E. Brown is making rapid progress in the construction of his law offices and apartment building almost opposite The Democrat office. The concrete walls for the basement have been cured, and actual laying of brick will begin by the first of the week. The first floor of the building will be used for offices while a modern apartment will occupy the second floor.

ATTENDS CONFERENCE

Rev. E. D. But of Valle Crucis, is attending a conference of the Episcopal church at Tryon.