

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

VOL. LI. NO. 26

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA THURSDAY, JAN. 5, 1939

\$1.50 A YEAR

BUILDING & LOAN HAS SUCCESSFUL YEAR IN COUNTY

Thirty-sixth Series of Installment Stock Opened January 1; Secretary Gragg Predicts Sale of Shares; Reports Activities of Institution for 1938

The Watauga Building and Loan Association, the county's oldest corporation, came to the close of 1938 with a year's record of service to the home-builders of the area, perhaps unsurpassed during its eighteen years of existence, and Secretary W. H. Gragg looks to the new year with a spirit of optimism and confidence, predicting the sale of no less than 500 shares of installment stock in the current series.

During 1938, it is revealed, the association paid out to shareholders more than nine thousand dollars in dividends and maturities, and loaned \$83,000 on town and county property, valued at more than one hundred thousand dollars. This constituted about forty loans, most of which were small, and many of which were negotiated for the purpose of repairing, remodeling and repainting homes and business places. About a score of families are occupying their own homes as a result of loans made by the association during the past twelve months.

The Watauga Building and Loan Association, which was incorporated in 1921, has helped in the building of hundreds of homes in Boone and

loss to investors. Mr. Gragg, together with the other officials and directors of the association, take justifiable pride in this record, and predict for the association a broadened sphere of usefulness during the years to come.

POSTAL RECEIPTS IN GAIN FOR YEAR

Last Quarter of 1938 Shows Increase Over Same Period in Year 1937

Postal receipts at the Boone office in 1938, show a substantial gain over those of the year 1937, according to figures made available Wednesday by Postmaster W. G. Hartzog, who states that stamp sales for 1938 amounted to \$15,818.85, as compared to \$14,941.66 for 1937, a gain of \$877.19, or 5.8 per centum.

The last three months of the year indicated an increase of \$575.32 over the same period of the preceding year.

Approximately 40,000 one and one-half cent stamps were sold to the public for the mailing of Christmas cards, while a gain was also noted in the movement of parcel post from the local office.

Lions Club Meeting Is Held On Tuesday

A meeting of the Boone Lions Club was held at the Appalachian cafeteria Tuesday evening and was featured by a lecture by Miss Constance Shoun, of the Cove Creek high school faculty, who last year returned from a visit to eleven European countries. Dr. Robert R. King delivered the invocation, dinner was served, and Miss Shoun exhibited moving pictures of the different points of interest and of historical significance she visited. Miss Shoun referred to the personal feelings of Europe toward this country and toward American visitors and referred to conversations with Germans who live in America.

Speaking of Italy, Miss Shoun referred to a remarkable improvement in the condition of the country under the leadership of Dictator Mussolini. The inability of the Italians to cooperate and act in unison, makes a one-man government imperative, in the opinion of the speaker.

Bill Baird, county youth, added to the program with his whistling and his accurate imitation of the songs of birds and the calls of wild creatures.

WINS PRIZE

Mr. Edgar Cooke was the winner of a \$24.50 lounge chair in a holiday contest conducted by the Boone Furniture store.

Confederate Dead



Mr. Lemuel Greene, who died at his home at Amantha last week at the age of 93. Only one Confederate veteran now remains in the county.

JACKSON DINNER HERE SATURDAY

Tickets Now On Sale For Annual Democratic Banquet to Be Held at Local Hotel

Democrats of Watauga county, in

Jackson Day dinner, tickets for which are now on sale in different sections of the county.

Details of the banquet session have not been definitely arranged, but a speaker of considerable note is expected to be present, and it is expected that a capacity group will take all available space around the banquet table.

Mr. Roger McGuire, who has been designated chairman of the committee on arrangements, has named the following as a committee on ticket sales, and each member of the committee will be supplied with cards of admission:

Miss Jewell Hagaman, Louise Kirkman Mesdames Bill Casey, James Council, Coy Billings, James Horton, Will Payne, John Combs, R. A. Olsen, Misses Wilma Baird, Gladys Taylor, Walter Welch, Howard Steelman, Tommy Thompson, Bill Lentz, Miss Helen Underdown, Tom Jackson, Miss Ruby Wilson, Roy Wilson, Orville Hagaman, Mrs. Clara Simson, Troy Norris, O. G. Winebarger.

The dinner is being held under the auspices of the county state and national organizations.

Enters His 51st Renewal to Paper

Mr. J. M. Shull, 80 years old, Valle Crucis citizen, dropped in last Saturday to renew his subscription to the Watauga Democrat. Nothing strange about that—but the circumstance edges on "spot news" when it develops that this is the fifty-first time Mr. Shull has made his way to the office of the county newspaper to keep his subscription in current condition.

Mr. Shull was married and started housekeeping in August, 1888, one month after the establishment of the Watauga Democrat, and on his first visit to Boone after his marriage ceremony, dropped by and became a subscriber to the paper, and for more than half a century the journal has been a welcome visitor to the Shull fireside. For forty-four years Mr. Shull gave his subscription to the late Robert C. Rivers, but since his death in 1933, the present publisher has looked forward to the regular visits of this good citizen and close friend of the newspaper family.

There are others who have read The Democrat for fifty years, but in the absence of complete early-day records, the publisher would like to hear from all those whose names have never been stricken from the subscription records of the newspaper. There are quite a few of these old stand-bys, which the publisher holds in mighty high regard, and he wants a list of their names. Thank you.

LEMUEL GREENE, CIVIL WAR VET, TAKEN BY DEATH

Ninety-Three-Year-Old Citizen's Death Leaves Only One Confederate Veteran in County; Funeral Conducted Thursday at Forest Grove

Lemuel Greene, one of Watauga's two remaining followers of Lee and Jackson, died at his home at Amantha Wednesday of last week at the age of 93 years. Mr. Greene had been in failing health for several weeks and his death was not unexpected. His demise thins Watauga's fading gray line of the Confederacy down to one veteran, Mr. J. E. Luther of Deep Gap, who, despite his 95 years of age, remains hale and hearty.

Funeral services for Mr. Greene were conducted from the Forest Grove Baptist church in Beaver Dam township Thursday, with Rev. J. W. Parker and Rev. Ed Farthing taking part in the rites and interment was in the nearby cemetery.

The survivors include three sons and one daughter; J. R. Greene, Gresham, Oregon; W. P. Greene, Sherwood, G. H. Greene, Gresham, Oregon; and Mrs. J. L. Snider of Chariton, Iowa. A number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren also survive.

Mr. Greene was born in Watauga county October 16, 1845, and when the Civil War broke out he was immediately assigned to the home front, a short time later being trans-

ferred to the end of the conflict. He remained with the cavalry until 1865 when General Lee surrendered. He served in many engagements of the war and endured untold hardships following the flag of the embattled southland. He returned in June following the surrender to his widowed mother and two small brothers, and at once took his place as one of the stalwart reclaimers of a devastated country. He was married in April, 1866, to Miss Anna Dotson, who has been dead many years, and they resided in Darby, Iowa for a long period of time, Mr. Greene returning to this county several years ago.

The deceased was a fine citizen and churchman. Early in life he joined the Beaver Dam Baptist church, later moving his membership to Iowa, where he remained a member until his death.

Walter West Killed In Auto Accident

Walter Miller West, 25, a student of Appalachian college from the Mockville community, died Tuesday of last week at a hospital in Elkin of injuries suffered in an automobile accident near Brooks Cross Roads on December 26.

West, a student employee of the Appalachian college dairy, was on his way back to Boone to resume his work at the time the accident occurred. He was driving alone and his car skidded on the snow-covered road, ran into a culvert and overturned, landing on its top. West suffered a fractured skull.

A son of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. West of the Mockville section, West had spent the holidays at his home with his parents. He was interred in the cemetery in his community.

As a student here, West had a wide circle of friends in Boone and the college campus. He was a brother of Miss Jesse Lee West, student at the college during the past fall and winter terms.

West's vacancy at the dairy is being filled by Earl Blackburn, former employee of the New River Dairy.

County Library In Marked Growth

The county library which has been operated in the old Democrat building for the past several months, continues to grow, says, Miss Jewell Hagaman, librarian, who now has an increased number of volumes for the selection of visitors to the library.

Many town and county people are calling at the library, Miss Hagaman says, and are glad of the opportunity of securing the books provided. Visitors are always welcome.

For most efficient operation, automobile motors should be tuned up at least after every 5,000 miles of driving.

Vice President Returns to Washington



Washington, D. C.—Vice President and Mrs. John N. Garner arrive in Washington for the opening of congress. They are here shown in their car as they left the Union station shortly after their arrival here.

"What!—No Quints?" Queries Mayor In Starting Stork Derby

"Why go to Canada to see quintuplets, when they might be seen right here in Watauga county?" asks Mayor W. H. Gragg in announcing for the New Year a five thousand dollar "contest for quintts," at the end of which it will be determined if Papa and Mama Dionne have anything on mothers and fathers of the hill country of North Carolina.

The mayor states that the contest will be open to all women of

30-day divorce law, legal gambling and a race track combined, and thinks that it is the simplest way known to attract the multitudes. "What we need is more citizens and more visitors," quoth the mayor, "and the quintuplet route is the simplest and least expensive method yet devised for getting the desired results." When it was suggested that mathematically, the chances of quintts were practically nil, the enthusiasm of the jovial mayor was undampened.

same time prior to December 31, 1939, and have medical proof thereof. The "five grand" will be delivered to the successful contestant at Mr. Gragg's office in Boone, provided, however, that said quintts shall have survived for a period of thirty days.

Mr. Gragg says one group of quintuplets would bring more people to Watauga county than a

ble at my office, and early participation is suggested. However, all entries should be in my hands by April 1, after which time prospects of winning the money will be extremely slim.

"I urge all the folks in the county to participate in this forward-looking movement," said the mayor as he chuckled and ambled off down the street.

A. C. FLOYD DIES IN NASHVILLE

Former Resident of Boone; Editor, Judge, Business Man, Dies at Home of Brother

A. C. Floyd, 81, who was a resident of Boone for a number of years during his boyhood and youth, and who was an editor, lawyer and business man of Nashville, Tenn., died at the home of his brother, John A. Floyd, in that city on Christmas day.

Funeral services were conducted from the late residence Tuesday, December 27th, Dr. Prentice A. Pugh officiating, and interment was in the family plot at Columbia.

In addition to his brother, Mr. Floyd leaves a sister, Mrs. Leander Norris, Bentonville, Ark.

Mr. Floyd was born in Granville county, N. C., in 1857, the son of the Rev. John W. and Margaret Campbell Floyd. After receiving a law degree at the University of North Carolina in 1883, Mr. Floyd began practice at Columbia, Tenn., where in 1894 he married Miss Florence Irvine.

From Columbia, Mr. Floyd went to Knoxville to edit a daily newspaper and later edited a newspaper in Chattanooga. He moved to Memphis about 1900 to become editor of The News, which was established at that time. After several years he was appointed judge of the city court, and then was elected for one term. His last years were spent in the real estate business.

Mr. Floyd took an active interest in civic activities and politics, although he never sought office himself after his judgeship. United States Senator K. D. McKellar and E. H. Crump of Memphis were among the listed pallbearers.

Mr. Floyd went to Nashville about six months ago and made his home with his brother. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

LOSES MONEY TO ROBBER

Riley L. Greer of Deep Gap, was robbed of \$167 from the person at his home Tuesday evening, according to Mr. E. A. Russell, justice of the peace. Mr. Russell issued a warrant for one man who was known to have been in company with Greer, but no trace of the missing money could be found.

80 MILES OF REA LINES COMPLETED; FINISH IN MARCH

Poles Being Delivered on Line to Lenoir; All Lines in County to Be Staked by End of Week; Partial Energization of Lines Expected Next Month

Melvin F. Burgess, Inc., contractor for the construction of the REA lines in Watauga county has completed 80 miles of the contract, and expects, with favorable weather conditions, to have the entire 176 miles ready for the current by the first of March. At the same time Harry DeWar, project engineer, states that all of the transmission lines are to be staked out ready for the construction crews by the end of the current week, and that some of the lines will be energized during the month of February.

Engineering crews have almost finished the staking of the main transmission line from Lenoir and poles are being delivered by the contractor. Next week Mr. DeWar starts surveying possible short extensions of lines, which would bring electric service to many families not now included on the regular routings. Mr. DeWar asks that those living within reasonable distance of REA lines, contact him at his office in the Watauga Democrat building, and give him information upon which he can base consideration of proposed extensions.

The plans and specifications for REA lines in Ashe and Alleghany counties are to be completed by the

county Tuesday and Wednesday checking the engineering, construction and general progress of the project in Watauga.

TO ASK REPEAL WINE, BEER LAW

Roby T. Greer Leaves for Raleigh With Purpose to Return Prohibition to County

Representative Roby T. Greer, as he left for Raleigh Tuesday for the opening sessions of the general assembly, told The Democrat that one of his first aims in the legislature will be to introduce a measure to exclude wine and beer from Watauga county as a legal commodity. Mr. Greer referred to his campaign pledge to return Watauga county to its former prohibition status, and said he would most certainly "keep faith with the people."

Representative Greer believes that the absentee ballot agitation will occupy a prominent place on the legislative program, while proposed changes in the state-wide local option liquor law may step in for considerable attention. Mr. Greer does not believe that the solons will remain in Raleigh for much longer than the prescribed 60 days.

WARD NAMED SPEAKER

Raleigh, Jan. 3.—Coming from behind in a dramatic finish D. L. (Libby) Ward of Craven, nosed out Victor S. Bryant of Durham, on the third ballot tonight to win the Democratic nomination for speaker of the 1939 house of representatives. The final vote was, Ward 54; Bryant 52. Ward was nominated at a caucus of house Democrats after William E. Fenner of Nash, who ran last on the first two ballots, withdrew in his favor.

Over on the other side without an opposing vote, Democratic state senators nominated W. Erskine Smith of Stanly county, as their president pro tem of the 1939 general assembly, which opened at noon Wednesday.

Robbers Take Cash From Gulf Cafe

Sixty-eight dollars in cash and cigarettes was taken from the Gulf Cafe in Boone Monday evening, and officers thus far have been unable to find any tangible clues leading to the identity of the thief or thieves.

Entrance was made to the cafe by cutting a door screen and by using a key. The place was closed at 12 o'clock, and it is believed the robbery occurred shortly after that time.

PRESIDENT'S BALL AGAIN ANNOUNCED

Pat McGuire Again Heads Local Committee for Benefit Dance to Be Held 30th

The President's ball will be held again in Boone this year on the occasion of the birthday of the chief executive, January 30, and Pat McGuire, local chairman, is making preliminary plans for the event, which has been so popular in the past.

Tentative plans call for the holding of the ball Monday evening, the 30th, however, it is explained, the committee might decide on staging the dance Saturday evening instead, according to the wishes of the people.

Proceeds from the ball, as usual, go to the national foundation for the prevention and cure of infantile paralysis, and to the treatment of crippled children in Watauga county. This year 50 per cent of the net proceeds will remain in the county.

"Dance that others may walk" is a fitting slogan for the ball, and Mr. McGuire expects the usual large group to gather on the ballroom floor. More complete details of the dance program will be announced when completed.

Chest Clinic Now Being Conducted

A clinic for the purpose of determining whether or not tuberculosis exists among the students at Appalachian College is being conducted on the campus this week by Dr. R. T. Jenkins of State Sanatorium.

The clinic began Tuesday and will continue through Friday, examinations being limited to members of the student body at the college. A county-wide clinic was held here in December.

City Pays Interest On Bonds January 1

The town of Boone paid out \$3,500 interest to bondholders January 1st, which, according to G. K. Moose, city clerk, places the bonded debt of the municipality in current condition. Local bondholders may have their coupons cashed at the local bank.