

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

VOL. LI, NO. 27

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA. THURSDAY, JAN. 12, 1939

\$1.50 A YEAR

LEGISLATURE IS LIKELY TO FOLLOW ALONG WITH HOEY

For the First Time in Recent Years Solons Likely to Do Bidding of Governor; Brief Resume of What Went on in Raleigh on Opening Days of the Legislature

By EMMETT ATKINS, Jr. (Special Correspondent)

Raleigh, Jan. 9.—For the first time in the memory of men hereabouts, a governor of the state of North Carolina has opened the second session of the legislature during his term of office with an assembly that promises faithfully to do his bidding. For there is no doubt in the minds of political observers on Capitol Hill that Governor Clyde R. Hoey will have the full co-operation of the 1939 session of the general assembly as no other governor for 20 years before him has had.

Amid an aura of political calm, the governor delivered last Thursday his biennial message to the assembled lawmakers, 170 strong, who had convened Wednesday noon, and by Thursday noon had brought some order to the confusion of getting the legislative locomotive under full steam. The governor's message fell on docile ears. The traditional mid-term opposition which has greeted former governors at the time of their second biennial message was lacking. The harmonious atmosphere augurs a smooth and probably speedy session for both houses.

The governor specified no "mandatory legislation" for the solons, but indicated in his message a desire for co-operation from both houses on the 19-point program he outlined for them. Universally admired and respected by the people, the governor will have no trouble in pushing through the major portion of his 1939 program, although some issues are slated for sharp debate.

The governor indulged in more spade-calling than governors usually do in their public utterances. For instance, the race issues as contained in facilities for professional education of negroes and the pay of negro teachers. Such issues are not usually discussed formally and publicly.

The consensus among legislators who heard the speech was that it was a "splendid, statesmanlike address, practical and succinct." Two points in the address, however, immediately touched off controversial opinion—election law reform and highway fund diversion. Inside observers predict rough sledding for these two measures, particularly election reform. A certain bloc of solons feel that the governor should have taken a much stronger position on absenteeism. The pernicious stench of election scandals hasn't abated materially.

The governor's reference to increased tuition for state institutions of higher learning brought expressions of apprehension from President Frank P. Graham, of the University, who heard the message. Presidents of the various state colleges and of the university feel that tuition should be kept at a minimum to offer a full measure of opportunity to poor boys. The approximate amount of the proposed increase won't be known until the budget message reading tonight. Look for a heated fight to develop on that issue if the proposed increase is at all considerable.

Speaker Ward

In an atmosphere charged with aimable tension, 35-year-old David L. (Libby) Ward of Craven county, won a dramatic race for speaker of the house Wednesday night by a 53-52 vote on the third ballot over Victor S. Bryant of Durham. An apparent deadlock in the caucus was broken on the second ballot when W. E. Fenner of Nash, withdrew in favor of Ward as the eastern choice.

The new speaker, seasoned by service in the last two regular and two special sessions, is a popular member of the house and an able leader. During the 1937 session of 77 days he was chairman of the No. 2 committee—appropriations—and guided the tremendous appropriations measure through the house in the record time of four minutes flat. He was a member of the state gasoline legislative committee in 1936, and during the last general election campaigned the state as secretary of the Democratic state executive committee. More than a hundred Craven county citizens poured into Raleigh Wednesday for the caucus to attest their loyalty to favorite son Libby.

Senator W. Erskine Smith of Stanley county, was named president pro tem of the senate without an opposing vote. Senator Smith, a lawyer and resident of Albemarle, is 42 years old, has served three previous terms (Continued on page eight)

New WPA Head



Washington.—Col. F. C. Harrington, formerly chief engineer for the WPA, photographed at his desk in Washington shortly after his appointment as WPA administrator to succeed Harry Hopkins, who has been named secretary of commerce.

GREER GETS MANY ASSIGNMENTS

Watauga's Representative Named on Some of Most Important Legislative Committees

Representative Roby T. Greer, who is serving his fourth term in the general assembly, was signally honored in the Monday evening session of the house, having been named on some of the most important committees.

Mr. Greer is a member of the following committees: Appropriations, education, elections, agriculture, counties, cities and towns, game, senatorial districts, roads and public welfare.

Mr. Greer previously served two terms in the house of representatives and one in the state senate.

C. Millard Shore Taken by Death

C. Millard Shore, 65 years old, resident of Boone R. F. D., died Thursday morning from an illness of several months. His condition became critical two weeks before his death. Funeral services were conducted Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Middle Fork Baptist church by Rev. Frank Knight and Rev. W. C. Payne, and interment was in the family cemetery.

The widow survives, together with four sons and two daughters: Paul Howard, Glenn and Ray Shore of Watauga county; Mrs. W. W. Austin, Shulls Mills, and Mrs. Harrison Edmisten of Caldwell county.

Mr. Shore was born in Yadkin county, but the family moved to Watauga county when he was a lad, since which time he has resided here, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was a member of the Cool Springs Baptist church and was a good and upright citizen.

Seeks Information Of Brent Families

Mrs. R. L. Stuart of Beaumont, Texas, has written Mayor Gragg asking for information regarding a family by the name of Brent which used to live in this region, and anyone knowing of any of the families mentioned would do Mrs. Stuart a favor by informing her or the mayor. An excerpt from Mrs. Stuart's letter is self-explanatory:

"My great-grandfather, James Brent, and his wife, Sarah Simmons Brent, lived in the Watauga valley, or that section known as Watauga, from the time of their marriage in 1805 to 1836, when they came to Texas. They were related to the Cadler and Buxton families of the same section. They had two daughters who married William Hendricks and Benjamin Butterworth, and continued living there. One daughter married Alfred Price and lived in Kentucky."

Mrs. Stuart is anxious to have any information as to the location of some of the descendants of these people, or to locate anyone by the names mentioned who might know.

LEGION MEETING

A large number of World War veterans gathered at the American Legion meeting Friday evening, and an interesting session was enjoyed. The matter of ceiling the Legion hut was the principal item of business discussed.

PARKWAY RIGHTS OF WAY TO COST STATE HUGE SUM

\$450,000 Provided for Biennium; \$150,000 Used During Last Fiscal Year; Appalachian College Gets \$136,995 Recommended; Used \$86,000 Last Year

Raleigh, Jan. 9.—The state highway and public works commission estimates that rights-of-way for the Blue Ridge Parkway in western North Carolina will cost the state \$450,000 during the next two years.

The budget appropriation bill for the 1939-41 biennium, introduced in both houses of the general assembly tonight carries an appropriation of \$225,000 for each year in the biennium beginning July 1.

During the fiscal year ended last June 30, the state spent \$150,000 on acquisition of rights-of-way for the scenic parkway, and the commission estimates its expenditures for the 12-month period ending next June 30 will be the same amount. On this basis, the highway commission contemplates an expenditure of \$450,000 for the next two years as compared with \$300,000 for the current biennium. While the advisory budget commission reduced many estimates of the highway commission, it left this item unchanged.

The following shows the amounts appropriated for the 1939-41 biennium and compares them with expenditures (less receipts) for the 1937-39 biennium and the amounts requested by the governing boards of three western North Carolina institutions: Appalachian State Teachers College, Boone; Expenditures 1937-39, \$86,989; estimated 1938-39, \$93,423; requested 1939-40, \$126,434; recommended 1940-41, \$150,000; requested 1941-42, \$150,000.

Western North Carolina sanatorium at Black Mountain; Expenditures 1937-39, \$86,982; estimated 1938-39, \$88,000; requested 1939-41, \$181,251; recommended 1940-41, \$133,775; requested 1940-41, \$181,251; recommended 1941-41, \$153,775.

Western Carolina Teachers College at Cullowhee; Expenditures 1937-39, \$75,199; estimated 1938-39, \$69,908; requested, 1939-40, 92,000; recommended 1940-41, \$78,985; requested 1940-41, \$87,009; recommended, 1940-41, \$65,400.

SPURLING SPEAKS AT JACKSON EVENT

Solicitor Lauds Record of Democratic Party in State and in the Nation

Hon. L. S. Spurling, sixteenth district solicitor, was the principal speaker Saturday evening, when leading Democrats of Watauga county gathered at the Daniel Boone hotel for the annual Jackson Day dinner.

Mr. Spurling, who was recently sworn in for his fourth term as state's attorney, briefly reviewed the record of the Democratic party in the state, cited the superb highways, the educational progress and the various state institutions as fruits of unbroken Democratic government. The Lenoir official likewise lauded the progressive leadership furnished by the administration of President Roosevelt.

Attorney W. R. Lovill acted as toastmaster, and various diners made brief remarks. Dr. W. A. Deaton spoke entertainingly and numerous humorous references enlivened his able defense of the Democracy.

LOAL STORE ENLARGED

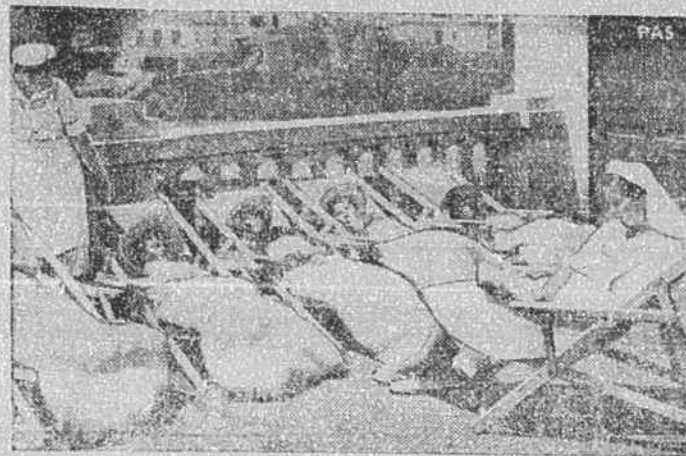
Bare's Fair store, local dry goods establishment, has been enlarged, the removal of a partition wall giving almost twice the original floor space. Bare's store at West Jefferson has been converted into a shoe store, and the dry goods stock there has been moved to Boone, doubling the stock of merchandise. Manager Hunt states that he has more values than ever and is in much better position to give high class service with his enlarged quarters.

ATTEND RITES SUNDAY FOR MR. J. E. WALKER

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Gragg, Vernon Robbins, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Broader and Mr. Hummie Adams went to Columbus Saturday where they attended the funeral for Mr. J. E. Walker, 75, who died from an illness with a heart ailment Friday.

Among the survivors of Mr. Walker, who was a well-known Polk county farmer, is Mrs. Melvin F. Burgess of Boone.

CHILDREN IN THE SUNLIGHT



Corona, Spain—Thousands of babies and young children in Spain were found to be ill and undernourished when Loyalists retreated from the territory. General Franco's first step was establishment of hospitals for their care, marking inauguration of a wide social service program which included model housing and standard pay to prisoners for their labors. Here is a small group of tubercular children in the newly opened Corona hospital.

QUINT CONTEST DRAWS INTEREST

Mayor Gragg Has Many Inquiries as to Five Thousand Multiple-Birth Award

Mayor Gragg, who last week announced that he would give five thousand dollars to any Wataugan giving birth to five babies at the same time during the year 1939, is being deluged with letters and telegrams regarding the novel proposition. From eastern states, from the west coast, and from over the country, inquiries are pouring in.

The story, emanating from the local newspaper office, found its way over the Associated Press wires and a report from Los Angeles indicates considerable talk has developed in the region of the movie lots, where the mayor and the proposed quint expect to shine some day.

"Many applications have already been made," says Mr. Gragg, and I still have a few entry blanks left. All you have to do is to become the parents of five babies at one time prior to midnight December 31, 1939. Thirty days later, if the quint survive, the five thousand will be ready for the successful contestant. Reaction to the publicity last week convinces me more than ever that quintuplets is our crying need in this section—they will bring untold thousands here—and that's what we want."

Dell Richardson is Held in Wyoming

Dell Richardson, former resident of this vicinity is being held for local officers in Sundance, Wyo., by Sheriff W. H. Blackman, according to a telegram received Tuesday by E. A. Russell of the local identification bureau, who reported that Richardson had signed an extradition waiver.

Richardson was to have appeared at the spring term 1938, Watauga superior court, on charges of larceny and violation of the prohibition laws, and was under bond in the sum of \$500 in each count. Efforts of the bondsmen resulted in his apprehension.

Much Interest Shown In Bible Study Course

Rev. J. C. Canipe is teaching a Bible course at the First Baptist church, which began last Monday night at 7 o'clock. The course will continue for two months, meeting each Monday and Friday nights. The Old Testament is being taught on Mondays and the New Testament on Fridays.

There were about 60 present to begin last Monday night, including ten ministers. Sunday school teachers, preachers, Bible students and Bible lovers are invited to join the course Friday night. There is no cost to those who wish to attend.

ATTEND FUNERAL

Mr. Owen Wilson, Miss Louise Storie, Mr. Doyle Hollifield and Ray Lee Greene were among those from this community who attended the funeral of Mr. Cephus Little, which was held near Hickory Thursday. Mr. Little, who was 88 years old, had taught school for 53 years and was a leader in his neighborhood. He was the father of Mrs. N. B. Smithey.

STATE SENATE HONORS AUSTIN

Senator From This District is Named on Some of Most Important Committees

William B. Austin, Jefferson attorney, who represents Watauga, Ashe and Alleghany counties in the current session of the state senate, was signally honored in the matter of committee memberships, when the solons organized and got down to business.

Mr. Austin, who is serving his first term in the senate, has had previous experience in the legislative assembly, and is one of the most popular public figures in Northwest Carolina. Following are the fourteen senate committees of which he has been named a member:

Appropriations, claims, corporations, counties, cities and towns, education, election laws, institutions for the deaf, committee on journals, judiciary No. 2, libraries, mining, public roads, senatorial districts, trustees of the university.

New Lodge Officers Are Installed Friday

Newly-elected officers were installed by Snow Lodge No. 363, Friday evening. Dr. J. T. C. Wright, acted as installation officer, while Roy A. Harman, district deputy grand master, and master of Cranberry Lodge No. 595, was the installation marshal. The following new officers were installed:

George G. Farthing, worshipful master; E. E. Garbee, senior warden; Lee Stout, junior warden; T. M. Greer, treasurer; R. E. Kelley, secretary; Clyde R. Greene, senior deacon; Perry Farthing, junior deacon; Andy Greer, senior steward; Dallas Shoemaker, junior steward; Omar Baird, tiler; R. D. Hodges, marshal.

SPURLING IS SWORN IN AS DISTRICT SOLICITOR

L. S. Spurling of Lenoir, was sworn in as solicitor of the sixteenth judicial district by Fred H. Hoover, clerk of the superior court of Caldwell county, Thursday, and began his fourth consecutive term in his home county of Cleveland Monday. Mr. Spurling was first elected in 1926 and has served continuously since that time. He has won a wide reputation as an able and fair prosecuting attorney and was unopposed in either the Democratic primary or the general election. He has been prominently mentioned as a candidate for congress when Congressman R. L. Doughton retires. Mr. Spurling serves the district composed of Watauga, Caldwell, Burke, Catawba, Lincoln and Cleveland counties.

U. N. C. PROFESSOR HEARD AT BANNER ELK

Banner Elk, Jan. 12.—Dr. Harold D. Myer, professor of sociology at the University of North Carolina, lectured at Lees-McRae College Monday evening on "The Economic Situation in the South."

Dr. Myer, a native of the south, is a widely known and recognized authority on the Southern states. His address was a feature of the Lees-McRae forum, which every year brings to Banner Elk a number of outstanding speakers.

A student forum in preparation for Dr. Myer's lecture was conducted Monday at the chapel hour by Dean Leo K. Pritchett, professor of economics at Lees-McRae.

REA PLANS FOR ASHE, ALLEGHANY NEAR COMPLETION

Routing of Rural Electric Lines in Neighboring Counties to Proceed at Once; Contract to Be Let Soon; Lines Practically All Staked in Watauga

Mr. Harry DeWar, project engineer for the Caldwell Mutual Corporation, states that plans and specifications will be complete by the end of the week for the REA systems in Ashe and Alleghany counties, and that following routine approval of the plans in Washington, contracts for the actual building of the lines will be let. Meantime, preliminary work is being done toward the location of the lines' routes in these counties.

Practically all the lines have been staked in Watauga county, and this week the engineering crews are cleaning up "ends and ends" of the work, preparatory to turning the remainder of the job over to the contractor, and staking in Ashe and Alleghany will start within a few days.

Poles are being set on the main transmission line from Lenoir and next week the single phase lines in Caldwell will be changed to three-phase.

Mr. DeWar takes occasion to thank the people of Watauga county for almost a hundred per cent co-operation in the matter of rights-of-way, and states that he was thus enabled to construct straight lines in most instances with resultant savings to the corporation.

On Tuesday evening a meeting of the wiring contractors, Melvin F. Burgess, the contractor, the project engineer, and Mr. Messick, general supervisor, was held in the office of the corporation here, for the purpose of creating a closer spirit of co-operation between the different groups responsible for the completion of the REA project. It developed that more than 300 homes had already been wired for current, and that most of the REA patrons had at least laid the groundwork for a wiring system which would take care of all future needs. It is said that by the time the lines are energized during the month of March, all householders who want the service will have their wiring installations complete. The service is expected to start with 700 patrons.

WEEKLY LETTER FROM RALEIGH

The Democrat, in an effort to give its readers a more complete news coverage, especially those who do not subscribe to daily newspapers, has arranged with Mr. Emmett Atkins to supply each week, a concise letter, giving the activities of the state legislature for the week previous, and the first dispatch is printed today, by carefully following up this feature, readers of The Democrat may, with little reading time, keep fully abreast the legislative picture.

COUNTY NURSE VISITS BETHEL HIGH SCHOOL

Sugar Grove, Jan. 10—Edna B. McClure, health nurse for Watauga county, visited Bethel high school Monday and gave a physical examination to the children in grades one, three and five. She tested for underweight, vision and those who are susceptible to diphtheria.

She found three children who had positive reaction to the test, which indicates that, if the children come in contact with the disease, they are liable to contract it.

Miss McClure further states that children should be vaccinated at six months old and that they are naturally immune up to this age; that it takes from two to three months to build up immunity from the disease and it is, therefore, wise to be vaccinated before the child has a chance to take the disease.

"One inoculation," she says, "is usually good for life, and that by taking the Schecick test, one can determine whether or not the child is properly protected from the disease."

TO ASSIST TAXPAYERS

A deputy collector of internal revenue will be at the Boone Drug store in Boone February 21, for the purpose of assisting local income taxpayers with filing their returns.

SALES OF STATE TAGS PASS 400,000 MARK

Raleigh, Jan. 9.—Sales of 1939 automobile license tags have passed the 400,000 mark, the motor vehicle division reported today. Through Saturday, sales totaled 402,709, compared with 384,053 on the same day last year.