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SKETCHES from Capital LIFE



Washington, D. C., Feb. 1.—A "socially-minded" America looks with unusual interest toward security hearings which begin the first week of February before Chairman Doughton's Ways and Means committee. Plans far more fabulous than Townsendism, schemes more promising than the Allen brothers' famed "Ham and Eggs" pour into the committee's offices. But most intriguing of the batch is that voluminous petition, signed by hundreds of religiously inclined Ohioans, which reclines on the desk of Committee Clerk Milton Cooper.

Bound in sleek imitation leather, or, decorated with the Stars and Stripes, this attractive document bears a simple though inspiring title, "God's Chosen Plan," with a few explanatory lines from the unfathomable Revelations of Saint Paul. A glance through "God's Chosen Plan" revealed nothing of considerable importance in a revenue sort of way; no method, so to speak, which might milk sustaining dollars from tax-givers.

"Whence and from whom, may I enquire, come the monies for this worthwhile enterprise?" asked a tax-paying pensioner. A faint explanation, a convincing explanation, with these few words: "It's God's Chosen Plan, so God only knows where the dough's coming from."

Pension advocates, those who have held out golden promises to deserving oldsters for so long a time, apparently look toward these hearings with little of genuine pleasure. They would prefer, it would seem, to continue as martyrs to a "great humanitarian cause," and to lay blame for the undeniable suffering which now exists in the ample lap of congress.

Anyway Chairman Doughton and the Ways and Means committee are preparing for a long session with the pensioners. And it's an eight-to-ten bet that after the hearing has been concluded, there's going to be a lot of grumbling about the "fairness" of its conduct. After all, most folks favor adequate old age pensions, but, to repeat, "God only knows where the dough's coming from."

NO MORE SILENCE . . . Senator Bob Reynolds, whose first six years in the upper house were marked by almost complete silence, enters his "sophomore term" in full voice. The amiable Tar Heel solon, fit as the well-known fiddle, has spoken at least a half-dozen times on subjects ranging from America's interference in European affairs to the damaging influence of "corn liquor."

Ghosts of the junior senator's slightly damp 1932 campaign entered the hallowed chamber a few days ago as the Honorable Morris Sheppard of Texas concluded his annual address in defense of national prohibition. Bob rose to his feet, paid tribute to leaders of temperance living and dead, and then, with characteristic vigor, shouted these words which resounded from every hustling between Manteo and Murphy during his memorable race against Cam Morrison . . . "Whiskey . . . God's worst enemy, the Devil's best friend . . . if any man can show me a means by which this monster can effectively be controlled, I'm for it!" And for minutes afterwards the rafters echoed a typical Reynolds denunciation of America's late-lamented experiment with the Volstead act.

Bob's two-hour tirade against America becoming involved in the troubled European situation has earned him the somewhat objectionable title of "Tar Heel Fuehrer," plined on him by a capital wit; and a genuine thrashing from The Daily Worker, American organ of the Communist Internationale, which refers to the Carolinian as a "fery unreconstructed Hoover Democrat."

And now Senator Reynolds must make at least one more speech of uncertain length to shed that Fascist sobriquet, and the ugly influences of Russia's American Journal. But with Buncombe Robert

PENSION PLANS ARE BEING AIRED

Doughton's Ways and Means Committee Starts Hearings on Security Proposals

By JIM RIVERS
(Dixie News Service)

Washington, Feb. 1.—A complete airing of pension schemes, which will include California's "Ham and Eggs," the long-discussed Townsend plan and varied other recipes for security amongst the indigent old, begin today in the hearing room of the ways and means committee. Chairman Bob Doughton of North Carolina, presiding.

The Northwest's veteran congressman was opposed in the fall elections by a "pension Republican" who fetched to the ninth district Robert Townsend, son of the "plan's" founder and official of the nation's Townsend organization, who, emulating the late Hucy Long, pressed a motorized loud-speaker campaign throughout the nine Doughton counties.

Townsend's assaults on the ways and means chairman were based on the allegation that he, Doughton, as head of the powerful house committee, had "deliberately" refused to give the \$200-a-month pension proposal a complete hearing.

Chairman Doughton, one of the strongest proponents of existing security laws, carried each of his counties by an overwhelming majority in November. However, he has adopted the attitude that adherents to the many pension proposals, which have played such a tremendous part in recent campaigns, should have their "day in court."

It is predicted that these hearings will continue for at least 30 days, and will attract pension advocates from each of the 48 states.

SHOW CALVES ARE NOW BEING FED

Watauga 4-H Club Boys Again Going After Blue Ribbons in State's Stock Shows

Watauga county's 4-H Club boys are again expecting to be in the money next fall, when their fat calves wind up a series of showings at the North Carolina State fair, and County Agent Harry Hamilton says that the lads are showing even an increased enthusiasm over their peer-greed Herefords this year.

Fifteen calves are already on feed, says Mr. Hamilton, with the prospect that by show-time there will be about twenty finished calves to take the attention of the judges in the preliminary local showing. Only 12 calves were fed in the 4-H program last year.

Baker Edmisten, Sugar Grove youth, already has his calf of nine months up to 760 pounds and when September comes he expects the animal to tip the scales at around 1,300 pounds, and enter the heavyweight competitions.

Local calves are first shown at the Cove Creek fair in September, the best of them compete at the Asheville fat calf show, and the windup of the show season ends at the ringside of the state fair in Raleigh.

Much Interest In Tobacco Warehouse

Mr. S. C. Eggers, local realtor, who recently suggested the erection of a warehouse here for the sale of burley, tells the Democrat that the proposal is meeting with a wide response. Mr. Eggers is receiving letters almost daily from interested farmers and others and has been visited by growers from four other counties, who are heartily in favor of the proposal.

Mr. Eggers states that far more than the required one million pounds would be marketed in Boone the first year, and a movement is now in progress to contact tobacco companies in an effort to get buyers sent here. If this movement is successful, then plans for the actual construction of the warehouse will be considered.

BOONE AUTHOR GETS NATIONAL RECOGNITION

David P. Allison, Boone author, whose several volumes of fiction have been well received, is in receipt of a letter to the effect that he is being given honorary membership in the Eugene Field Society, a national organization of authors and journalists, which numbers among its membership some of the greatest writers of the age.

Mr. Allison's notification states that "the literary skill and craftsmanship of your published works entitles you to an honorary membership in the society."

Jim Rivers Again Writes For Paper

Jim Rivers, who in former years distinguished himself for his semi-humorous reflections on life in general as "the Sketch Man," returns to the Democrat today with a column entitled "Sketches from Capital Life" and also enlarges the columns of the newspaper with intimate news glimpses of the nation's capital.

Jim, who has been with the U. S. Bituminous Coal commission for some time, is one of the founders of the Dixie News Agency, which is furnishing a personalized Washington news service to weekly papers in the state. The sketch column will, as in former years, feature the so-called inconsequential—everyday chatter about everyday people and things—sometimes humorous, sometimes sad—but always different. The news dispatches will be localized wherever possible, and the newspaper promises its patrons in this new service the best feature it is possible for a weekly newspaper to secure from the capital city.

Readers will derive entertainment and concise information, not featured in the dailies, by following the Sketch Man's contributions—now a regular weekly feature of the Democrat.

FARM LOAN GROUP TO HOLD MEETING

Sugar Grove National Farm Loan Group Meets; Operations of Past Year to Be a Feature

A large attendance is expected at the annual meeting of the Sugar Grove National Farm Loan Association, which will be held in Boone on February 23, at 10 a. m. in the courthouse, according to O. H. Bracey, secretary-treasurer. Responses from members indicate that the meeting may be one of the largest in the history of the organization, he said.

In addition to the reports of officers, giving a complete picture of the operations of the association during the past year, there will be talks by representative farmers and others.

A representative of the Federal Land Bank of Columbia will be present at the meeting and will be prepared to answer any questions members may wish to ask regarding the bank.

Mr. Bracey said that every member of the association was urged to be present. The association serves Watauga and Avery counties, is capitalized at \$17,435,000, and has loans in force at this time totaling \$343,630.

Directors of the association are: A. G. Miller, James T. Gross, S. C. Eggers, Dr. H. B. Perry and R. M. Ward.

WPA CRAFTSMEN TO GATHER HERE

Supervisors From All Parts of State to Take Part in Crafts Training Conference

A crafts training conference, which is to be attended by WPA leaders and supervisors from all parts of the state, will begin at the old academy on the college campus next Monday and will continue for two weeks, according to an announcement coming from Mrs. Ronnie Sheffield, who heads the recreational division of the state Works Progress Administration.

Miss Genevieve Lawler, nationally recognized crafts specialist, of Washington, D. C., will be in charge of the conference and will be assisted by Miss Margaret Grant, also a competent craftsman, who is now in the county. Miss Sarah Wilkerson, state training consultant, is responsible.

President's Ball a Successful Affair

The birthday balls held at Boone and Blowing Rock last Friday and Saturday nights, respectively, for the benefit of sufferers from infantile paralysis, were decidedly successful, according to Chairman Pat McGuire.

Mr. McGuire is unable to give a complete fiscal report, due to the fact that many who sold tickets have not made their returns, but says that something more than \$250, gross, was received from the events, which amount was only exceeded once since the balls were first started. A complete statement, with the net returns, will be published when available.

GEORGE FARTHING NEW FARM AGENT

Teacher, Cove Creek School is Now Assistant to County Agent Hamilton

George G. Farthing of Valle Crucis, member of the faculty at Cove Creek high school, Monday entered upon his duties as assistant county farm agent, his appointment having come through the state agricultural extension service.

Mr. Farthing, who is a son of Mr. and Mrs. William Farthing, was reared in Watauga county, and so far as is recalled, is the first man from this immediate section to enter county agent work. He graduated from Berea College in 1932 with a B. S. degree in agriculture; has been teacher of vocational agriculture for the past five years at Cove Creek high school, and during the past four years has rendered outstanding service as secretary of the Cove Creek fair, which is one of the most comprehensive agricultural fairs of the state.

County Agent H. M. Hamilton, Jr. feels extremely fortunate in having Mr. Farthing associated with him in the county agent work and says: "Mr. Farthing is thoroughly familiar with the problems facing the local farmers, and his splendid knowledge along agricultural lines make him the logical man for the opening in my office. The farmers of the county, and myself, are highly pleased with his appointment."

Northwestern is 10th Largest State Bank

The Northwestern Bank, which has home offices in North Wilkesboro, and branches in Boone, Blowing Rock, Jefferson, Sparta, Burnsville and Bakerville, ranks tenth among state banks in North Carolina in total resources, according to information from the office of Attorney Hood, state commissioner of banks. The Northwestern advanced from fourteenth to tenth during the past year, Mr. Hood said. Wachovia Bank and Trust Company is the largest state bank.

POULTRY SHORT COURSE MONDAY

Extension Specialist to Discuss Timely Topics Before Gathering of Farmers

Mr. H. M. Hamilton, Jr., county agent, expects a large attendance at the poultry short course to be held in Boone next Monday and gives the newspaper the following statement: "Are you making as much money on your poultry flock as you would like to make? Do you have any chicken diseases that you have not been able to cure?"

"If you are interested in trying to make more money on your chickens and do away with poultry diseases, then come to the poultry short course that will be held at the courthouse in Boone on Monday, February 6. The program will start at 9:30 a. m."

"Mr. F. C. Parrish, extension poultry specialist at State College, Raleigh, is holding this poultry meeting for five counties, namely, Avery, Ashe, Alleghany, Wilkes and Watauga."

"I think the farmers and their wives will find this a very helpful and interesting meeting."

"I believe the poultry business in the county can be improved; so please try to attend this meeting and hear all the poultry problems discussed."

Wataugans Attend Sunday School Meet

Mr. S. C. Eggers, Sunday school director for the Three Forks Baptist Association, heads a delegation of ten or twelve Watauga churchmen who will leave Boone Thursday morning for the two days' session of the state-wide Sunday school convention, being held at the First Baptist church in Winston-Salem.

The convention will feature discourses by some of the most distinguished southern ministers, and it is expected that the attendance at the session will be in excess of one thousand.

TOWNSEND CLUB TO MEET

There will be a Townsend Club meeting at the Pastime Bowling Alley Friday night, February 3rd, at 7 o'clock. All members are invited to be present for transaction of important business, says Mr. N. C. Miller, the Secretary of the club.

Greer Legislation Outlaws Sale Of Wine, Beer And Other Potent Beverages

"Scarlet" Is Picked



Hollywood, Calif.—After months of rumors, the cast for the movie, "Gone With the Wind" has finally been chosen. (Left to right) Vivien Leigh (Scarlet O'Hara), Leslie Howard (Ashley Wilkes), and Olivia de Havilland (Melanie), have been signed to play in the picture. Clark Gable will play the role of Rhett Butler.

CAFES AND HOTELS ARE GIVEN RATINGS

Health Official Gives Assignments to Food Handling Establishments

As required by law, Mr. H. S. Webster, inspector for the local health department, announces below the most recent grades of the food handling establishments now operating in Watauga county:

Grade A	
Daniel Boone Hotel	92
Caro-Jean Inn	95
Boone Trail Cafe	91
Gulf Lunch	91
Kidd Brewer's Cafe	94.5
Appalachian Cafeteria	90
Parkway Cafe	95
The Bark	94

Grade B	
Appalachian Soda Shop	86
T. & L. Cafe	82.5
Carolina Cafe	82.5
Grand View Lunch	82.5
Cove Creek Cafe	80
Green Lantern	82

The Carolina Coffee Shop, Blowing Rock, was instructed to discontinue selling food due to the low score of 50.5% which is below the minimum score permitted under the law.

Mr. Webster points out that these ratings reflect the winter time grades, which are ordinarily slightly higher than those following summer-time inspection, when flies are prevalent. He expresses great pleasure, however, in being able to release these improved ratings, and states that there has been a fine spirit of co-operation on the part of cafe and hotel operators in making their places comply with legal requirements.

Burgess Signs REA Contracts

Melvin P. Burgess, Inc., and the Caldwell Mutual Corporation have signed the contracts for the construction of the REA lines in Ashe and Alleghany counties, and the papers are now in Washington for the signature of National REA Administrator John J. Carmandy. Final execution of the contract will be completed in the next few days.

The contracts cover the construction of 285 miles of electric transmission lines in the two neighboring counties at a cost of \$264,000.

OFFICERS NAMED FOR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The 27 charter members of the newly formed Presbyterian church met in the young peoples' department of the Baptist church Sunday afternoon, heard a sermon by Rev. Thos. Johnson, president of Kings College, Bristol, Tenn., and elected officers for the church.

Dr. Robert R. King, J. E. Holshouser and I. S. Miller were chosen elders; while M. B. Craven, E. S. Christenbury and E. Ford King were elected deacons.

Local Solon Casts Bone Dry Measure Into Legislative Hopper Monday Evening; Passage of Measure Returning County to Original Aridity Confidently Expected; Text of the Bill Offered

Watauga county is to be returned to its traditional prohibition status, under the terms of a bill introduced in the house of representatives Monday evening by Representative Roby T. Greer, which would outlaw the sale of beer and wine in this county after April 30, and which it is predicted, will have smooth sailing through the legislative storms, and be incorporated in the law of the land within the next few days.

The Watauga county solon ran on a bone dry platform in the fall elections, promising the return of Watauga county to Volsteadism if he were elected, and his first act is "to keep faith with the people" by ending the five-year visit of beer and light wines to his county. The bill is drawn so as to take effect at the termination of the annual state and county fairs, and for the violation of the "repealer" a monetary penalty of \$50 may be extracted or the violator may be imprisoned 30 days.

The complete text of the Greer bill follows: "A bill to be entitled an act to prohibit the sale of beer or other alcoholic beverages within Watauga county."

"The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

"Section 1. That it shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to sell or offer for sale or dispense any wine, beer or other beverage authorized to be sold under the Beverage Control Act of one thousand nine hundred and thirty nine within Watauga county.

"Sec. 2. That any person violating the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction fined not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00), or imprisoned not more than thirty (30) days.

"Sec. 3. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

"Sec. 4. That this act shall be in full force and effect from and after April thirtieth, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine."

Emergency Crop Loans Are Available Here

Applications for emergency crop and feed loans for 1939 are now being received at Boone Seed Loan office by J. E. Jones, field supervisor of the emergency crop and feed loan section of the farm credit administration.

The loans will be made, as in the past, only to farmers whose cash requirements are small and who cannot obtain credit from any other source. The money loaned will be limited to the farmer's immediate and actual cash needs for growing his 1939 crops or for the purchase of feed for livestock.

Farmers who can obtain the funds they need from an individual, production credit association, bank or other concern are not eligible for crop and feed loans from the emergency crop and feed loan section of the farm credit administration. The loans will not be made to standard rehabilitation clients whose current needs are provided for by the farm security administration, formerly known as the resettlement administration.

As in the past, farmers who obtain emergency crop and feed loans will give as security a first lien on its crop financed, or a first lien on the livestock to be fed if the money borrowed is to be used to produce or purchase feed for livestock.

When loans are made to tenants, the landlords, or those having an interest in the crop financed or the livestock to be fed, are required to waive their claims in favor of a lien to the governor of the farm credit administration until the loan is repaid.

VISIT FLORIDA CITIES

Mr. and Mrs. John Conway and son, John Spencer, spent last week in Florida, visiting Jacksonville, Ocala, Silver Springs, St. Augustine and other points of scenic and historical interest.