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SKETCHES from Capital LIFE



Washington, D. C.—Folks generally, and particularly those who form the mid-section of the body politic, seem inclined to look on the "paltry" \$725,000,000 just appropriated to continue federal relief through June 30, as "small potatoes." Yet, for the refreshment of memory, it might be noted that this reduced amount would have financed government, "lock, stock and barrel," during a full 12-month period of the first Roosevelt's regime.

Legislation designed to afford a more abundant life to under-privileged Americans has expanded the nation's fiscal imagination something awful. But it seems only a short time since citizens of our secluded community condemned Rockefeller each evening at lamp-lighting time as a conscienceless millionaire—the only one we'd heard of—and the word "billionaire" hadn't much more than been accepted as a human possibility.



THE NEGATIVE VOTE of Senator Bob Reynolds on the administration bill to restore the \$150,000,000 stricken by house appropriations committee from the original relief reauthorization is made more understandable

(and without restraint) by the President and some fifty thousand WPA families, the unpredictable junior North Carolina solon is faced with the somewhat embarrassing duty of explaining a vote which spelled defeat for Roosevelt and victory for the less liberal Garner group in the first actual test of senate strength. But it must be admitted that it's news—the "man-bites-dog" variety—when "one-hundred-percent New Dealer" Reynolds lies up with his "unreconstructed" colleague, Josiah W. Bailey, on the matter of reduced public spending.

THE EFFORTS of Chairman Ed Smith and his senate agriculture committee to design legislation for the disposal of the record 14,900,000-bale cotton surplus, recalls to mind the refreshing yarn of an old-timer, who still looks with reverence on those yester-years in Washington—years when strong and frequent juleps accompanied the impassioned arguments of some down-south congressmen.

The lower house was considering one of the numerous bills for relief of King Cotton dumped into the legislative hopper by a Dixie representative when a South Carolina planter, freshly elected to the body, made his appearance from the cloak-room. A giant fellow he was, and noticeably influenced by "corn-squeezings," he roared: "Will the gentleman yield?" The speaker nodded assent, and the Palmetto statesman, comfortably propped between two rows of seats, delivered himself of an oratorical gem which sounded something like this: "Mr. Speaker... I'm endeavoring to discover a logical reason why a poor southern farmer should, after mature and prayerful consideration, drive a dejected mule down the ragged rows of starvation when he can drink a squar of the soul-soothing bourbon and pilot a coach-and-four down the smooth, broad road to Glory."

But, reverting from levity to present-day fact, this staggering surplus of the fleecy staple seems to be standing grimly in the path of any immediate stabilization of cotton prices.

THE PRACTICED HAND of ex-Governor Max Gardner, North Carolina's brilliant political craftsman, was, according to capitol gossip, brought effectively into use by President Roosevelt during the uncertain days that preceded Secretary Hopkins' safe confirmation passage through the senate commerce committee, headed by the former WPA chief's outspoken critic, Senator Josiah Bailey.

Along with Lindsay Warren, undisputedly clever first district congressman (another close to the senator's heart) and Jesse Jones of the RFC, Governor Max is given credit for having smoothed the sometimes belligerent Bailey, erasing to minor (Continued on page eight)

CRAFTS SCHOOL IS BEING HELD

Many Attend Crafts Conference at Local Recreation Center; Miss Lawler Leader

Forty-five WPA leaders, 14 county supervisors, and six area consultants are among those in attendance at the WPA crafts training conference which got under way at the local recreational center last week, and which will continue through next Saturday.

The conference, "which is designed to give a creative approach to recreation," includes studies in the use of native materials in pottery, marionettes and novelties of various kinds.

Miss C. Junevieve Lawler of the national office of the WPA recreational division, Washington, D. C., is serving with Miss Sarah Wilkerson, state training consultant, Raleigh, and Miss Ronnie Sheffield, state director of recreation, Raleigh, as conference leaders. Miss Dorothy Cline, recreational consultant for the United States housing authority, Washington, figured in the opening session, and has been present during various phases of the school which requires her attention.

Among those attending the conference are: Misses Mary Washer, Catherine Donlon, Sara Wilkerson, state office, Raleigh; Miss Genevieve Lawler, Washington; Mrs. Vivian Chatneuff and Mrs. Myrtle Llewellyn, Winston-Salem; Misses Ruth Pickens, Statesville; Blanche Wood Price, Roanoke Rapids, Mrs. Cathleen Warren, Lenoir; Miss Helen Brown Allen, Hamlet; Mrs. Tommie J. Bolton, Concord; Mrs. Arch W. Hamlin, Miss Dorothy Wells, Asheville; Mrs. Merle Ramsey, Marshall; Mrs. Helen Dillar, Sylva; Miss Bertha Jean Hampton, Brevard; Miss Mildred Elkins, Boone; Louise Dickinson, Wilson; Mrs. Marjorie Fletcher, Durham; and Ben Hook, Raleigh.

Urges Expansion Social Security

By JIM RIVERS (Dixie News Service)

Washington, Feb. 15—Arthur J. Altmeyer, chairman of the social security board, appeared before the house ways and means committee last week and urged expansion of the security act whereby 6,000,000 additional persons might receive old-age benefits.

Opening hearings on the first drastic revision of the social security program sought since it became a law, Altmeyer stated that its soundness has been proved and urged congress to retain all its basic principles.

"The social security board believes that it is administratively feasible to bring into the system large numbers of persons not yet covered—including employees of non-profit organizations, employees of national banks, seamen, domestic workers and agricultural laborers," he declared.

Near Two Million To Be Spent in Feb.

By JIM RIVERS (Dixie News Service)

Washington, Feb. 15—According to an estimate made by national WPA officials Saturday, \$1,911,000 will be expended on North Carolina works projects during the month of February, and 49,000 persons will be employed, a cut of approximately 4,000 under the December quota.

The \$725,000,000 relief appropriation bill bore amendments to keep WPA out of politics, and earmarking \$15,000,000 for direct relief if and where needed.

Senator Reynolds, staunch administration supporter during his first six-year term, joined the conservative bloc which defeated an amendment restoring the \$150,000,000 slashed from the WPA bill by the house appropriations committee.

Crop Loans Made Available by PCA

Mrs. Ruby P. Ellis' office of the National Farm Loan Association in Boone, is now receiving applications for loans through the Winston-Salem Production Credit Association, according to announcement made by L. E. Francis, secretary-treasurer.

All farmers who need money for production of crops, for the purchase of additional cattle and sheep, and for general agricultural purposes are invited to place their applications with Mrs. Ellis now or in the immediate future.

Loans are made on strictly business basis and are to be repaid at such time as the crops and livestock are marketed. Only 5% interest is charged on the outstanding balance from the day the loan is closed until the day the loan is repaid.

Likes the Funnies



"It's a scream," says "Jimmy," St. Louis zoo chimpanzee of the comic strip he has just pursued. Jimmy himself has created may a laugh with antics of his own.

FARM PROGRAM IS EXPLAINED

County Agent Gives Salient Facts Regarding New Agricultural Conservation Act

County Agent Harry M. Hamilton, Jr., releases the following pertinent facts relative to the 1939 agricultural conservation program.

The 1939 agricultural conservation program is practically the same as the 1938 program.

The main practices that the Watauga farmers should be carrying out on their farms at this time of the year are: Sowing grass and clover seed, applying lime and superphosphate.

The program must be applied to the land and the farmer must be eligible for payment in this year's program.

Any farmer in the county who owns land can earn payments for carrying out the above practices.

Just as soon as the individual payments are established for each farm, a series of meetings will be held in all sections of the county to explain just how much each farm can earn.

Sugar Grove Farm Group to Gather

Arrangements are complete for the annual meeting of the members of the Sugar Grove National Farm Loan Association, which will be held on February 21st, at 10 a. m., in the courthouse here, according to O. H. Bracey, secretary-treasurer, who says the attendance promises to be the largest in the history of the association.

A program of special interest has been arranged for the meeting, Mr. Bracey said. Reports will be made by the officers of the association on the past year's operations and there will be talks by several interested in the progress of agriculture in Watauga county.

Mr. Bracey said the election of a director for a three-year term will be one of the items on the business program. Each member of the association is entitled to one vote in this election and on all other business matters.

The Sugar Grove National Farm Loan Association secures long-term loans on first mortgage for the farmers of Watauga and Avery counties through the Federal Land Bank of Columbia. At the present time it has in force 211 loans totaling \$347,850. These loans are made to farmers for purchasing land for farming purposes; purchasing equipment for the successful operation of the farm; construction of buildings and improving farm land; paying debts of the borrowers which were incurred for agricultural purposes and for other general farming purposes.

DIRECTORS WATAUGA INDUSTRIES GATHER

A meeting of the board of directors of Watauga Industries was held Monday evening, February 30, at Watauga Handicrafts center. A financial report was made, and considerable business transacted.

The handicrafts shop, with its wood carving, baskets, fine linens, etc., is becoming known as a gift shop of real quality and distinction. Citizens and visitors to Boone are cordially invited to visit the center.

STARTS HATCHERY

Mr. R. L. West has established a modern hatchery at his place on route 2, and besides offering for sale baby chicks of different kinds, is making a specialty of doing custom hatching. Hatching eggs are also offered in an advertisement appearing today.

TOBACCO BASES ARE STILL EXTANT

County Agent Points Out That Farmers Staying in Quota Get Soil Conservation Payments

"When the marketing quotas for tobacco were voted out on December 17, that did not mean that the tobacco bases on the agricultural conservation program was dropped," says County Agent H. M. Hamilton, Jr., who continues: "The old tobacco growers still have tobacco bases established on their farms. These farmers can earn a payment on the agricultural conservation program for growing up to their tobacco base, but if they exceed their base they will be penalized on their soil conservation payments. It will pay every farmer to stay within his tobacco base and take advantage of the payments on the soil conservation program."

"Farmers who have had previous experience in growing tobacco and do not have bases established on their farms, should apply for a base at the county agent's office before February 25, if interested in growing tobacco this year, and receiving soil conservation payments."

Little Symphony Appears in Recital

Under the direction of Mr. Gordon Nash, the Little Symphony Orchestra of Appalachian College, presented a program of light classical music to a large audience in the college auditorium last Saturday night.

This concert is the first to be presented to the students and people of the town this year; however, a short program was given over station WBT in Charlotte in January.

The program consisted of classical and semi-classical selections, and included: "The Bohemian Girl," Michaelis; "The Swan," Franz Liszt; "Hungarian Dance No. 6," Johannes Brahms; "Valse Triste," Jean Sibelius; "The Voice of Spring," Johann Strauss; "Funiculi Funicula," Johann Strauss; "Valse from the Sleeping Beauty Ballet and Suite," Tchaikowsky.

As encores the orchestra rendered three numbers: "Pique Dame Overture," Franz Von Suppe; "Viennese Melody," Refrain, and "Country Gardens," adapted by J. S. Zamechnic.

The orchestra is composed of 28 members, including high school students, high school faculty and college students. The stringed section includes Vista Lawson, Helen Bandy, Marshal Brady and Miss Purdom, first violin; Anna Lena Copper, Charlotte Parker, Clara Porter, Jancie and Jessie Little, Annette Beach and Lucille Miller, second violin; Mary Doris Wright, cello.

Harvey Taylor, Agnes Preston, J. B. Hagaman, Charlie Walters and George Boyce, trumpets; A. Y. Howell and John T. King, French horns; Greer Hodges, trombone; Laura Ruth Hagaman, Carolyn Miller, Josephine Miller and George Davis, wood-winds; Sara Baines and John Elam, bass.

Warren Mitchell is piano accompanist to the orchestra, and John Crisp and Anne Jones play the drums.

At present plans are under way for another tour somewhat similar to the one carried on last year by the orchestra. It will include most of the junior colleges in the state and some senior colleges.

V. D. GUIRE APPOINTED TO APPALACHIAN BOARD

Raleigh, Feb. 11—Governor Hoey announced today two appointments to fill vacancies created by deaths.

V. D. Guire of Lenoir, was named to the board of trustees of the Appalachian State Teachers college for a term to expire May 1, 1941, to succeed W. C. Newland. V. J. Ashbaugh of Durham, was placed on the state commission for the blind for a term expiring May 21, 1942, succeeding S. H. Marshall of Leaksville.

AUTO STOLEN

Mr. Claude Watson of Stony Fork township, had a 1937 model two-door Ford sedan stolen from his premises Wednesday night of last week. A dealers' license No. 7506 was affixed to the vehicle.

NO NAME—NO NEWS

The Democrat almost weekly discards items of news which are mailed in without the name of the contributor. While the name is not published, the publisher must insist on knowing who gives information for publication in these columns, for he cannot assume responsibility for the authenticity of these anonymous contributions. Let us have the news items from your community, but your name also. No name... no news!

Former Kaiser at 80



Doorn, The Netherlands—The most recent photographic portrait study of the former Kaiser of Germany, Wilhelm II, who lives in exile here. He celebrated his 80th birthday recently.

COUNTY TEACHERS MEET SATURDAY

"Citizenship" to be Topic of Discussion as Teachers of Watauga Gather in Boone

School teachers of Watauga county are asked to gather at the Demonstration school building in Boone Saturday evening at 7 o'clock, by Prof. E. S. Christenbury, county chairman of the North Carolina Education association, who states that a vote on the state officers of the organization will be one of the items of business.

The subject for discussion will be "Citizenship." The speaker will discuss with the high school group "The Teacher as a Citizen," after which Mr. Hanrick, history teacher of Boone high school, will lead in a general discussion of how to develop better citizenship practices in high school. Those who will take part in the discussion will be Mrs. S. F. Horton, Mr. Paul Bingham, Mr. Christenbury, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Harmon, Mrs. Fletcher and Miss Rudisill.

All teachers are asked to be present and take part in the discussion.

TWO YOUTHS KILLED IN AUTO-TRAIN COLLISION

Banner Elk, Feb. 12—Paul C. Davis, 21, of East Bend, a member of the freshman class of Lees-McRae College here, was instantly killed and Hal Scott, employed as a truck driver by the college, was fatally injured when the truck in which they were riding, was struck by a freight train at a grade crossing near Laurens, S. C., Thursday afternoon.

Following the accident, Scott, who had been employed by the college for four years, was rushed to a Laurens hospital where he died early Thursday night. He suffered internal injuries, a broken pelvic bone, a broken collar bone, and a fracture of the leg.

Investigators said they believed fog and rain hampered the vision of Scott, who was driving the truck, and he apparently did not see the oncoming freight train as the truck approached the crossing until it was too late to avoid the accident.

Scott, it was stated here, was en route to Florida on a business trip. Davis went along on his own initiative, it was said.

Funeral services for young Scott were held Saturday afternoon at 2:30 at the Balm Baptist church, one mile from Banner Elk. Rites for Davis were held at 11 o'clock Sunday morning in East Bend. Representatives of the college faculty and student body attended both services.

ATTEND TRADE MEETING

Messrs. R. D. Hodges and Clyde R. Greene of the Farmers Hardware and Supply Company were in High Point Monday evening, where they attended a statewide meeting of the paint dealers for the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company. More than 60 dealerships were represented at the gathering.

PROFITABLE CORN

Allen Jarvis, 12-year-old 4-H Club boy of Surry county, made a net profit of \$45.51 on his first club project last year when he produced \$2 bushels of corn and \$25 worth of roughage on one acre of land and then won \$3 on an exhibit of the corn at the Mount Airy fair.

SPREADING

Increasing international commerce and auto and airplane travel are introducing new tree diseases which imperil American wildlife as well as the trees themselves.

MANY TO ATTEND DRY BILL HEARING IN RALEIGH TUES.

Finance Group of Legislature Will Receive Large Delegation From Watauga in Support of Representative Greer's Anti-Beer Proposal

An imposing delegation of Watauga county citizens, including ministers, laymen, business men and others interested in banning the legal sale of wine and beer in Watauga county, will journey to Raleigh next Tuesday, February 21, to offer testimony in defense of Representative Roby T. Greer's bone-dry bill, when hearings are opened by the house finance committee on the measure.

The hearings will start at 2 o'clock, according to word coming to the Democrat by telephone from the local solon, who is insisting that as large a delegation as possible from this county assist him in his efforts to bring back prohibition to Watauga county. Mr. Greer states that he wants this notice to be taken as a personal invitation to every person in the county, of every creed and political belief, to come to Raleigh and support his contention that the "folks back home" really want to rid their section of alcoholic beverages. He believes that the larger the delegation, the more influence it will have on the legislature, which so far has appeared more or less averse to banning the sale of wine and beer, largely on the grounds that such action results in the dwindling of the state's revenues.

The Greer bill, which was introduced some time ago, was referred from a previous session to the current group for action, because of the revenue which would be affected by its passage.

Representative Greer, together with most local observers, believes the bill has a fair chance of passage, notwithstanding that the senate finance committee was almost unanimously against the passage of such a measure for Avery and Madison counties, in a hearing held Monday.

Dry leaders will take to Raleigh petitions from about every section of the county, asking for passage of the Greer bill.

CITIZENS OF BLOWING ROCK AGAINST BEER

A petition from Blowing Rock, Watauga resort town, carries the names of about 200 citizens, who are in strong support of the Greer dry proposal.

The Democrat, in a former issue, did not intend to convey the impression that Blowing Rock was against the bill. The story in question stated: "A strong delegation from Blowing Rock is expected to oppose aridity..." and it was not stated that this reported group would represent the majority of opinion of the town. The masses of the people of Blowing Rock are as dry as elsewhere in the county, but there is a feeling among many that passage of the bill would react against the town as a tourist spot.

Any misunderstanding that might have resulted from the former statement in this regard is regretted by this newspaper.

Fourteen Wataugas At Lincoln Dinner

Fourteen Watauga county republicans went to Greensboro Saturday, where they attended the Lincoln day dinner, and heard Congressman Dewey Short of Missouri, eloquently assail the New Deal policies of the Roosevelt administration.

Those attending were: Clyde R. Greene, John W. Hodges, Chas. G. Lewis, W. H. Gragg, Kenneth Linney, Baxter Linney, Grant Greene, Ivy Wilson, Owen Little, S. C. Eggers, W. C. Greer, Max Greer, I. L. Smith and A. G. Miller.

LOCAL BOY GAINS PROMOTION IN CAPITAL

Mr. Horton Gragg, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Gragg of Boone, who for the past two years has been employed at the Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, has been promoted to the position of cashier and room clerk in the main hotel office, having recently served in the same capacity in the hotel annex. The promotion brings with it a considerable increase in salary.

Young Mr. Gragg is now next in line for designation as assistant manager of the exclusive capital city hostelry.