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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1939

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SKETCHES from Capital LIFE



WASHINGTON, D. C.—There were big doings in the sleepy little town of New York on March 4th, 1789. The dual body of the federal congress, scarcely an anemic shadow of its present corpulence, was assembling for its first session... a session which was to definitely launch the infant theory of democratic rule, just recently born in a world of tyranny.

It might have been "black measles" in the settlements, or injun trouble, or high water, or untravelable trails...



Jim Rivers

...anyhow, history books tell us that attendance at the initial session was limited to a score of members from nearby states and, to the chagrin of a Tar Heel, reveal that none of the said twenty came from North Carolina. So, a quorum not being present, this minority in knee breeches met and adjourned daily for the ensuing weeks until April 6th, when both houses were organized, Vice President John Adams ascending to the senate dais and Representative Frederick A. C. Muhlenburg of Pennsylvania, assuming the duties of speaker of the house.

LAST SATURDAY a joint session of the congress observed its one hundred and fiftieth anniversary. President Roosevelt delivered a fitting speech, brimful of "foreign policy" and tender promise, garnished with the usual Delano charm, bewhiskered Chief Justice Hughes, more solemn than the law itself, represented the judicial branch of government with a dignified address on the blessings of freedom... then there were other speeches, songs, music and such-like. Cabinet members and departmental dignitaries, wives and daughters of congressmen and senators, diplomats, gold-braided officers of army and navy, politicians, ordinary New Dealers, a few Republicans and an occasional taxpayer packed every nook and cranny of gallery and well. As women would say—"it was a mighty pretty party!"

THE SESQUICENTENNIAL of America's law-making branch creates a craving to "look in" on that first session; to call the roll of North Carolina's membership which, for some reason or other, didn't arrive until the spring of 1790; to find out how they lived, where they came from, how much money they had. By constitutional apportionment the state had five house members during the initial assembly, and there wasn't a lawyer in the bunch. Pay was scanty, the treasury was thin, and a conservative sort of congress hastily determined that six bucks a day, coupled with the glory of service, should be quite enough remuneration for its doughty members. There were no fancy offices, overstuffed chairs or tow-headed stenos, and the plumbing was on the outside. The duly-elected representatives of a newly-freed people gathered in the drapery-shops of old Manhattan for discussion of public matters and a two-bit tavern bed brought slumber when day was done.

But let's refresh memory a bit with brief biographies of those sturdy sons of Carolina who, bearing the Federalist banner, blazed the trail for the ambitious hundreds who since have followed to coveted congressional seats. There wasn't a "softie" in the lot—for tall and sinewy timber grew on those days. We'll start on the senate side with...

BENJAMIN HAWKINS of Warren county, a Princeton student at the beginning of the American Revolution, whose knowledge of French earned him an appointment as interpreter in the staff of General Washington. Hawkins was a delegate to the Continental congress and, following his service in the national assembly, he was appointed agent of all Indian tribes south of the Ohio River by the first President. Then there was another senator by the name of...

SAMUEL JOHNSTON, born in Dundee, but fetched to America to become a citizen of Chowan county when he was a lad of three. Lawyer he was, but not by right of college diploma, and moderator of the Revolutionary convention. Johnston's serv-

(Continued on page four)

Gets Promotion



Ralph G. Greene, clerk in the Boone postoffice, who has been appointed postoffice inspector. Mr. Greene will leave for Washington next Thursday, where he will begin a three-months training period before taking over his regular duties.

LAXON MAN DROWNS IN FLOOD WATERS

Laymond Watson Meets Death in Pee Dee River at Bennettsville Monday

Laymond Watson, aged 23, a resident of the Laxon community, who was employed near Bennettsville, S. C., was drowned in the Pee Dee River at that place Monday, when a motorboat taking foodstuff to cattle stranded by flood waters, capsized.

Watson was well equipped with a life preserver, but became exhausted and waves are believed to have forced water into his lungs. Other men with him in the boat were rescued.

Mr. Watson was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Fimmore Watson of Laxon, and had been employed in South Carolina by Mr. Arlie Brown for some time. Surviving are the parents, one brother, Loy Watson, Laxon, and a half-brother, W. E. Clawson, of Laxon. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday at 2 o'clock from the Laurel Springs Baptist church and interment was in the cemetery there.

Doughton, Harrison Ask For Tax Easement

By JIM RIVERS
(Dixie News Service)

Washington, March 8.—Wrestling the lead from the administration in a concerted effort to restore business confidence, Chairman Robert L. Doughton of the house ways and means committee, and Chairman Pat Harrison of the senate finance committee, Friday called on the treasury for tax-easing recommendations.

A letter from Harrison and Doughton followed the Mississippi senator's declaration Thursday for "radical" cuts in expenditures, removal of tax deterrents to business and abandonment of another \$5,000,000,000 increase in the legal debt limit.

The two senate and house committee chairmen pledged their co-operation toward helping business, through removal of burdensome tax law provisions. They voiced belief that both their committees were in sympathy with the President's recently-announced views concerning business and government co-operation.

Representative Doughton, confined in Naval Hospital for two weeks with a bronchial trouble, left Monday for St. Petersburg, Fla., where he will spend several days resting.

DEATH CLAIMS BIBLE TEACHER AT LEES-McRAE

Banner Elk, March 4.—Miss Margaret Engle, 46, professor of Bible and religious education at Lees-McRae College, died Friday morning at 4 o'clock at Grace Hospital here.

She had been critically ill for a week following an operation.

Miss Engle was widely known in the Southern Presbyterian church as a teacher and worker among the young people. She came here in 1936 from Pannant College, Philadelphia.

The funeral was held at Banner Elk Presbyterian church this morning at 10 o'clock. Rev. M. J. Murray conducted the services. Members of the Christian Association Council acted as pallbearers. The body was sent to Shepherdstown, W. Va., for burial.

OFFICE BUILDING TO BE DEDICATED THURSDAY NIGHT

WPA Leaders, Town and County Officials to Be Guests at Banquet Celebrating Occupancy of Elegant County Office Building; \$35,000 Structure Erected Jointly by County and WPA

Representatives of the Works Progress Administration, city and county officials, together with other leading citizens of the county, will be feted at a banquet at the recently-completed county office building Thursday evening, in connection with a dedicatory program, celebrating the erection of the handsome \$35,000 structure.

The banquet will take place at 7 o'clock in the evening, at which time George W. Coan, Jr., state WPA administrator, has been asked to deliver the principal address. C. M. Crutchfield, area engineer for the WPA, will also appear on the program, and Eller McNeil, chairman of the board of county commissioners, will accept the building on the part of the county. J. B. Horton, chairman of the board of education, will also make remarks of acceptance, while Dr. B. B. Dougherty, president of Appalachian College, will be invited to speak. Mayor W. H. Gragg has been asked to talk on the subject, "What WPA Has Meant to Our City."

Most of the offices in the new building will be occupied by the end of the week. The structure will house the offices of the board of education, the county agent, welfare department, health department, WPA office, while the basement floor is being used as a garage and repair shop for the county-owned vehicles.

Commodious Structure
The county office building is a commodious structure, containing 15 large offices and an assembly room which will comfortably seat about 150 people. It was erected through the co-operation of the board of county commissioners, the WPA and the NYA, the latter organization having played an important part in the fabrication of the building by cutting all the rough lumber, framing, etc., used.

The building which is valued at \$35,000, is modern in every detail, steam heated and fitted with adequate plumbing. The heating plant is also to furnish heat for the first floor of the courthouse. Constructed of native stone, the structure is one of the most imposing to be found in the city.

The assembly room will be used for county agents meetings, various group meetings, sessions of the welfare board, teachers meetings and for any other city or county gathering. Seating, however, has not yet been installed.

FIDDLERS' CONVENTION BE HELD HERE MARCH 18

The local chapter of Young Tar Heel Farmers is sponsoring an old-time fiddlers' contest, to be given at the courthouse on Saturday night, March 18th.

About \$50 in cash and merchandise will be awarded the winners in the various contests. The events scheduled are violin solos, string band, guitar solos, banjo solos, harmonica solos, cowboy songs, mountain ballads, vocal quartet, vocal duet or trio, vocal solos, tap or jig dancing, animal imitation and hog calling.

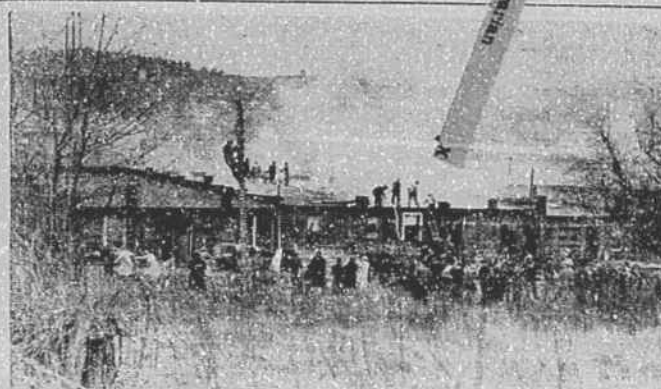
REV. CLAUDE MOSER TO SPEAK FRIDAY NIGHT AT METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Claude Moser, former pastor of Boone Methodist church, and now presiding elder of the Gastonia district of the Western North Carolina Conference, will speak Friday night at the Youth Crusade rally to be held at the Methodist church here. This is a rally of the young people of the Methodist churches of Watauga and Ashe counties. The service begins at 7:30 o'clock. Everybody is cordially invited.

VOCAL PROGRAM

The colored jubilee quartette will appear at the courthouse Friday, March 10, at 7:30 p. m., in a program of spirituals and other songs. The white people of the community are cordially invited to enjoy the program which has been prepared and which promises to bring real entertainment. The proceeds from the sale of tickets will be used for the furtherance of the work of the M. E. church for the colored in Boone.

When Fire Threatened Business House



View from the rear of the McGuire building, taken last week, when firemen battled a fire in the roof structure for an hour before bringing the blaze under control, which threatened the destruction of the block.



BUSINESS AS USUAL—Although fire was raging in the topmost portion of the McGuire building, employees of McGuire's Beauty Salon carried on business as usual. Mrs. Pat McGuire is seen putting the finishing touches on a permanent wave, after the equipment had been moved to the street to escape the flame.

GROUND IS BROKEN FOR NEW THEATRE

Blowing Rock is to Have One of Most Modern Playhouses in This Area; Work Began Monday

Messrs. G. C. Robbins and H. P. Holshouser, owners and operators of the Carolina Theatre at Blowing Rock for the past ten years, Monday began work on the erection of a modern theatre building to supplant the one now being used, and which has become inadequate for the crowds visiting the popular playhouse during the summer months.

The building, which is located in the heart of the resort village, and which was previously used as a store by Mr. C. S. Frette, has been purchased and the side walls will be utilized in the new structure. An engineer from the National Theatre Supply Co. has been engaged to furnish the plans for the building, which is to be ready for occupancy by June 1.

The new building will have 445 seats, will house the very latest type of sound and projection equipment and will be one of the most beautiful showhouses in this section of the state. Steam heat is being installed for the benefit of the lowlanders who find the cool breezes of the mountain top a little too cool even in mid-summer. The new structure will include space for one mercantile establishment on the street level.

POSTOFFICE WORK IS PROGRESSING

More Clement Weather of This Week Allows Contractor on Building to Make Showing

Mr. H. Stanton Brown, supervisor of construction on Boone's new post-office building, is making splendid progress on the structure with the abatement of the rain this week, and with continued favorable weather expects to have the building ready before mid-summer. Mr. Skidmore, who started the job, recently resigned to accept a position in Greensboro and was succeeded by Mr. Brown.

The Lyons brothers, widely known for their ability in stone masonry, have made quite a start in building the native stone walls, a good portion of the steel framework is in place, and barring extreme weather conditions, the building will now take form rapidly.

40 PER CENT

Statisticians of the U. S. department of agriculture estimates that farmers received only 40 cents of every dollar paid across the counter in 1938 for farm projects.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. George Triplett on March 6th, at the Watauga Hospital, a daughter, Barbara Jane.

SEVEN INJURED AS CRASH ENDS CHASE OF POLICE OFFICER

Wreck Near Mabel Sunday Evening of Near Fatal Consequences; Car Seeking to Evade Officers Ingle and Ollis Smashes Into One En Route to Hospital

Seven persons were injured, some of them seriously, near Mabel Sunday evening, when a car driven by Paul Shoun of Mountain City, at a terrific rate of speed and hotly chased by State Patrolman Carlyle Ingle of Lenoir, and Policeman S. D. Ollis of Boone, crashed head-on into a vehicle occupied by William Eller and family of Creston, who were en route to Banner Elk hospital with Mrs. Clyde Eller, who was ill.

Paul Shoun, Mrs. Shoun and Bill Smith, occupants of the car wanted by the police officers, each suffered a broken leg, besides cuts and bruises, while Tom Eller suffered serious injuries to the head; William Eller received a crushed hip and cuts about the head; Kelly Eller was severely cut and bruised as was Mrs. Clyde Eller, who was being carried to the hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Shoun and Smith were taken to the Watauga Hospital, while members of the Eller family were received at Banner Elk Hospital. Attending physicians have not as yet decided as to how serious the injuries are.

The chase, which ended so disastrously, started in Boone early in the evening, when Officers Ingle and Ollis noted the Shoun car making unusual speed through the business section of the town. They followed and while the police siren was called into play, the car being pursued only a few blocks from the town, in an effort to shoot down the trees of the Shoun car, placed several revolver bullets in the rear of the vehicle, but neither passenger was injured by the fire. After the crash, the officers found no evidence of whiskey about the car, the chase having occurred as a result of breaking the speed limit in the city.

JOHN R. McNAIRY CLAIMED BY DEATH

Lenoir and Boone Business Man Victim of Sudden Illness; Funeral Held Tuesday

John R. McNairy, aged 66, prominent Lenoir business man and one of the owners of the Boone Drug store, died from a sudden heart attack Monday in the office of the McNairy Drug store. He had been in ill health for some time, and the fatal attack came as he sat by his desk in the store which he owned and operated.

Funeral services were conducted from the Zion Reformed church in Lenoir Tuesday afternoon by Dr. Walter W. Rowe, and burial was in Belleview cemetery, Lenoir. Business houses of the city were closed for the rites.

The widow survives, together with one brother and five sisters: Dr. W. H. McNairy, Miss Jennie McNairy, Mrs. A. A. Blackwelder, Dr. Caroline McNairy, Mrs. C. D. Rabb, all of Lenoir, and Mrs. Robert Leonard of Lexington.

Mr. McNairy, who was a native of Guilford county, had been in Lenoir for 32 years, where for the greater part of the time he had been engaged in the drug business. He was an extensive real estate holder in Lenoir.

In 1920 Mr. McNairy and Dr. G. K. Moore opened the Boone Drug Company store here, in which the deceased retained his interest.

STATESVILLE SUICIDE WAS WELL-KNOWN HERE

Dallas H. Pitts, 65, who was found dead at his home at Harmony, near Statesville, last Tuesday, was well-known in Boone and the county, where he worked for the Mutual Life Insurance Co. The body was suspended from a rope in the garage and ill health was given as the cause for the suicide.

The body was taken to Concord for interment.

MORTGAGES

Farm Credit Administration estimates that 35 per cent of all farms in the United States carried mortgages in 1938, the debt amounting to \$7,082,000,000.