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\$1.50 A YEAR

SKETCHES from Capital LIFE

by JIM

WASHINGTON, D. C.—House appropriations committee, charged with the expenditure of a measly \$30,000 set aside by congress to investigate Works Progress Administration, last week sent a score of agents into the field. What they intend to do with a task so great is still somewhat doubtful, but it becomes increasingly apparent that time and funds will not permit a thorough scrutiny of the world's number one spending agency. The alleged political coercion of project workers, the off-received "collection of monies from the indigent for campaign chests of favorite candidates" and "general cussedness" which a skeptical opposition believes to be lurking behind the scenes in every sewing room, on every construction project, will have to wait. For the nonce these eagle-eyed boys should content themselves with a hurried investigation of county and municipal subdivisions, each of which has in effect become a free agent of relief in its mad scramble to obtain public improvements at the expense of a harried Uncle Sam.

Unlimited people are generally agreed that relief is more than a gargantuan rathole. They see in it, as they rightly should, the charitable impulses of a great-hearted nation which refuses to stand amugly by as hunger and dire want pays visit to the millions of homes of millions of deserving men and women in a land of great plenty. And these fair-minded people—the most of them—are anxious that congress appropriate sufficient funds for the needs of those actually in distress. But they are inclined to an opinion that there are lots of mayors and boards of county commissioners the country over who are willing to expand relief rolls and distort statistics on poverty in order to obtain buildings and highways and streets and sewers and playgrounds . . . things which could not be provided by depleted local treasuries.

"Federal treasury raiders," as they are sometimes called, need a thorough investigation, so that congress may fairly determine the true wants and needs of this multitude of poverty-stricken Americans. Thirty thousand dollars is indeed a small appropriation for such a task, as things go today . . . but if expended along these lines it might bring forth a meager sample of the abuse which, through no fault of the central WPA administration, has attached itself to such a worth-while agency.

IN THE SPRING of the year even the fancy of official Washington lightly turns to thoughts of fishing. Weaver Myers of Lenoir, who as an attorney assists the joint committee on internal revenue taxation in shaping the nation's fiscal legislation, occasionally finds time to indulge in piscatorial pursuits—commonly known as "fishing." And in between times, he prepares for his forays to the tall and uncut by fashioning fly hooks from the vari-colored feathers of an ancient game rooster whose life was unwillingly given that this disciple of Walton might with greater certainty angle for those speckled fluvial denizens back in the hill country.

Myers knows law—so they'll all tell you—but he has an equal knowledge of the habits, the appetites and manifold idiosyncrasies of the finny tribe. With expert fingers he attaches the body of a "May fly" to a tiny barbed hook; hackle, tail and wings are added; a water-proofing compound is applied to the finished job . . . and you have the glorious but unpalatable "dessert" for a mountain trout's evening meal. He nonchalantly tosses the artificial insect into the filled bowl of a lavatory. It gracefully settles on the water . . . natural as life itself . . . and surely there's no fish in the Elk or Pigeon rivers wise enough to withstand the temptation of taking just a wee nibble at the tempting morsel.

Flies of every color and kind, rock-crawlers and kindred vermin of the creek bed, lie ready in the Myers bait-box for a fishing jaunt to the Big Wilson in Caldwell county next month. They will lend their artificial bodies to the expected capture (Continued on page eight)

SUPERIOR COURT TERM TO START HERE ON MONDAY

Judge Frank Armstrong to Preside; 65 Cases Appear on State Docket; Three Score Civil Actions; Suit Against Oil Company Draws Interest

The regular spring term of Watauga superior court will convene Monday morning, with Judge Frank Armstrong of Troy, presiding for his first time in this county. There are 65 cases on the state docket, which are mostly for misdemeanors, while 60 suits appear on the civil calendar. The term is called for two weeks, and Clerk of the Court Austin E. South states that if all the cases are cleared away, the full period of time will be utilized.

Of considerable interest in the suit brought by Fred Oxentine against the Shell Oil Corporation, in which the plaintiff seeks to recover \$60,000 as a result of an oil explosion which brought death to his wife and infant son. The contention is that gasoline was sold to the plaintiff rather than kerosene, thus bringing about the fatal explosion. The fire was being kindled with the fluid and the container exploded.

ROBT. SCOTT DIES OF HEART ATTACK

Brother of Commissioner of Agriculture Was Supervisor of Blister Rust Project Here

Robert Walter Scott, Jr., of Burlington, N. C., a brother to State Commissioner of Agriculture W. Kerr Scott, died at the Watauga Hospital Monday night from an illness with a heart attack. Mr. Scott had been in his usual good health until 4:30 Monday afternoon, when he suffered the fatal attack.

Mr. Scott was supervisor of the state and federal project for the control of blister rust on white pine timber in Watauga county, had made his home here since last February, and was held in high regard by his acquaintances in this area.

Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon at Hawfields church near Mebane.

Mr. Scott was a former superintendent of the Edgecombe test farm, and he operated one of the largest aparies in North Carolina at Bolton where he lived for the last 17 years.

Wm. Klutz Wins in Bank Essay Contest

William Klutz, student in the Blowing Rock high school, has been awarded the grand prize of ten dollars in the Northwestern Bank's essay contest recently closed. Young Klutz had previously won \$5 for having submitted the best essay from his school on saving money.

The prize-winning essay, with a number of others and the picture of some of the winners, appears on another page.

BLOWING ROCK P-T. A. WILL MEET TONIGHT

The regular monthly meeting of the Blowing Rock Parent-Teacher Association will be held Thursday night, April 20. The topic for consideration will be "The Place and Value of an Adequate Library in Our School Program," on which subject Mrs. Ingle, the school librarian, will talk. Mrs. Dorsey, the district chairman of the P-T. A., will be the guest speaker of the meeting.

SCHOOLMASTERS CLUB WILL HEAR KEPHART

On Friday, May 19, Dr. A. P. Kephart will address the Piedmont Schoolmasters Club at Camp Yonahlossee. Members of the club who attend the gathering will stay overnight at the camp.

FEDERAL JURORS

The following citizens of Watauga county have been drawn for jury service in federal court which will convene in Wilkesboro on May 15: R. D. Edmisten, Matney; Ron Davis, Todd; Collis Greene, Blowing Rock; D. J. Horton; Vilas; D. P. Mast, Sugar Grove; Roscoe J. Hartley, Blowing Rock; W. S. Miller, Todd; S. S. South, Meat Camp; W. J. Cook, Blowing Rock; R. F. D.; R. F. Tate, Boone; John Hagaman, Vilas; Henry Hagaman, Beech Creek.

SATURDAY LAST DAY TO REGISTER

Many Expected to Participate in City Election on May 2; Registrations Heavy

Saturday is the last day on which voters may register for the city election to be held on May 2, and all those who are now entitled to vote, and who have not previously participated in municipal balloting, will be required to register. Something more than 100 new voters have already registered and there is expected to be a considerable rush on the last day.

Interest in city politics seems rather intense at this time and a large vote is in prospect. It is likely that the record of two years ago, when more than 600 went to the polls, will be exceeded this time. The present line-up at the city hall is two Democrats and two Republicans and speculation is rife as to whether the normally Democratic municipality will again endorse a politically mixed administration. The outcome of the election depends largely upon whether or not a full vote is cast.

Watauga Hospital Ends First Year of Service

FACULTY SELECTED FOR SUMMER TERM

New Hospital is rendering an Outstandingly Useful Service to Appalachian College and to the Entire Section; Has Competent Personnel

With little or no pomp to mark the occasion, Boone and surrounding communities on Monday stood in proud review of the progress of the Watauga Hospital which is celebrating its first anniversary.

The hospital opened last April 17, with Miss Ora Suggs, Appalachian student from Gastonia, as the first patient, and has grown to serve on an average of 20 daily from the college and community. It has been called a new deal, especially for the surrounding counties of North Carolina and Tennessee, in rendering all types of surgical and medical treatment.

Several new members have been added to the visiting faculty staff for this summer. They will include Dr. Robert Busted from Indiana; Margaret Mayer from Columbia; Dr. Robert Eaves of George Washington University; Dr. W. S. Sharp, president of Pfeiffer Junior College; Dr. Russell E. Smith, Ohio State; C. K. Wright, superintendent of Laurens County Schools; Rosa Veal, of Muncie, Indiana; C. M. Abernethy, superintendent of Caldwell County Schools; Marguerite Smith, librarian of Hanes High School, Winston-Salem; Dr. E. V. Hollis, College of the City of New York; J. O. Bowman, superintendent of Anson County Schools.

New courses are being offered in the music field as part of the new curriculum for those who desire to major in music. Courses not offered before are being given in Library Science for teachers who wish to receive librarian's certificates.

SOURCE OF NITROGEN IN FERTILIZER VITAL

Prof. C. B. Williams, head of the State College agronomy department, says the proportion of organic nitrogen in fertilizer mixtures is one of the most important factors in economical crop production.

The highest fertilizers are those which obtain from 20 to 35 per cent of their nitrogen from such high standard organics as cottonseed meal, fish scrap, soybean meal and tankage, Prof. Williams asserted.

As a result of field research work conducted in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia over a period of 15 to 30 years, the State College experiment station recommends that fertilizer mixture contain the following percentage of organic nitrogen: For tobacco 33 1-3 per cent; corn and small grains, from 20 to 25 per cent; and sweet and Irish potatoes, 25 to 33 1-3 per cent.

UNCHANGED

Demand conditions, under which tobacco growers will market their 1939 crop are expected to hold relatively stable as compared with demand factors during the current season, predicts the U. S. bureau of agricultural economics.

CORN

Only about 9 per cent of the American corn crop, usually running from 2 1/2 to 3 billion bushels, is used in the industrial field. One-half enters the food market and one-fourth goes back to the farm in the form of feed.

NEW YORK FAIR GROUP VISITORS

City Welcomes Hospitality Committee Friday; Travel Under Direction of T. E. Pickard

Eight North Carolinians, who will serve as a hospitality committee at the state's exhibit at the New York World's Fair, stopped at the Daniel Boone Hotel for a few minutes Friday afternoon, where they were greeted by Mayor W. H. Gragg, Dr. E. B. Dougherty and a number of other leading citizens of the town, who supplied them with information and descriptive folders covering this area of the state.

The group was under the direction of T. E. Pickard, chairman of the governor's hospitality committee, and came to Boone from Banner Elk, where they had lunch at Lees-McRae College, proceeding from here to Lenoir.

The committee is covering every section of the state in order that they may supply every conceivable kind of information required during their stay in New York.

Cherry Blossom Queen



Washington, D. C.—Senator Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky, crowned Miss Peggy Townsend Queen of the annual Cherry Blossom festival on the polo grounds in Potomac Park. Photo shows Senator Barkley kissing the queen after the coronation ceremonies.

STOCK MARKET IS BEING PROMOTED FOR THIS COUNTY

Local Livestock to Be Sold in Boone This Summer; Organization Now Being Formed to Establish Mart at Perkinsville; Wide Demand for Watauga Stock

One of the newest developments for Boone and Watauga county is a livestock market, which is soon to be established at Perkinsville, and which will likely be ready for the June lamb sales. The land and lumber is already provided and work will begin at once, it is said.

A large number of the leading farmers of the county have already subscribed for stock in the venture, and some of the business men of the town are also participating. All other farmers who are interested in the movement are asked to get in touch with Mr. S. C. Eggers at once.

The organization of the local market was precipitated by the demand of buyers of Watauga county sheep, cattle and hogs, who have often complained in recent years over the fact that they had to go to Virginia and Tennessee markets to get the products of this county. Some of these buyers have been so insistent that they have offered to invest money in a local market for their own convenience in securing mountain grown livestock.

When the market is opened, sales will be held regularly each week. The organization is strictly a co-operative one, and all the farmers of the county are asked to participate.

C. M. BLACKBURN IS CLAIMED BY DEATH

Well Known Citizen of Todd Section Succumbs to Long Illness; Funeral Sunday

Calvin Monroe Blackburn, aged 71, well-known citizen who resided near Todd, died Friday after a long period of failing health.

Funeral services were conducted from the home Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Blackburn, who was born in Watauga, was one of the best citizens of the county. He joined the South Fork Baptist church in 1895 and was a faithful member until ill health forced his retirement. He was a kind and loving father, a dutiful husband and a friend and neighbor to all.

He was married in 1892 to Miss Jennie Clawson, and to them were born 13 children. The widow and seven sons and daughters survive: Hamp Blackburn, Newton Blackburn, Todd; Don Blackburn, West Jefferson; Mrs. Ols. Brown, Mrs. Belle Brown, Boone; Mrs. Annie Cook, Todd; and Joe Blackburn, Mountain City, Tenn. One sister, Mrs. Florence Goodman of Todd, also survives together with two brothers, Jake Blackburn, Hardin, Mont., and Wiley Blackburn, Fleetwood, N. C., together with many relatives and friends throughout this area.

Flower girls: Edna Mae Brown, Lucy Brown, Faye Brown, Jennie Cook, Anne Mae Cook, Mrs. Glenn McGuire, Ruth Blackburn, Juanita Brown, Helen Brown, Betty Ruth Blackburn, Lorene Blackburn, Mary Jo Blackburn, Mrs. O. N. Wagner, Ruth McGuire and Bunie Hodges.

Boone Folks to Attend Centennial at Duke

A number of Boone people will go to Durham Friday where they will attend the centennial program at Duke University, which is to continue through the remainder of the week. In all more than 1,000 people are to participate in the varied programs and processions. Every major college, university and society in the United States will be represented by delegates and many will attend from foreign institutions.

Dr. Amos Abrams and Prof. J. M. Downum are the delegates from Appalachian College. Others from the city who will attend are Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Matheson.

GRANT OF AID

North Carolina farmers talking about grants-of-aid these days mean that they are buying ground limestone needed for their soils and that payments for the lime will be deducted from the subsidies paid for soil improvement practices earned under the AAA program this year. Yancey county farmers ordered their first solid car of lime under this plan a few days ago, the farm agent reports.

TREASURE HUNT BEGAN SATURDAY

City's Retailers Start Unique Sales Event; More Than 50 Prizes to Be Given

Boone's second annual Treasure Hunt got under way last Saturday, at which time visitors to the shops of the city were given trade tickets with their purchases, on the basis of which more than 50 valuable prizes will be given away at the end of the event on May 17. The prizes being offered are valued at more than \$150.

Last year the Treasure Hunt brought hundreds of shoppers to the city and now, with an expanded prize list and with a more concerted effort on the part of the merchants, it is expected this event will be far more successful than the previous effort.

The Treasure Hunt is being sponsored by the Boone Merchants Association and the prizes offered, as well as full information in regard to the unique merchandising event, appear in the various show windows.

Commencement at High School Saturday

Commencement exercises for Appalachian high school are to be held in the college auditorium Saturday evening, Rev. Paul Townsend of the Boone Methodist church, being the guest speaker.

Four well-known seniors will deliver addresses, taking the place of the usual valedictorian and salutatorian. Jessie Timmons will appear in a vocal solo while Jackie Hardin will render a piano number.

The awards will be presented by Principal E. S. Christenbury, while Mr. Howard Walker, county superintendent, will award the diplomas. Class day exercises will be held at 9 o'clock Friday morning in the auditorium of the elementary school.

NO PAY INCREASE FOR ELECTION OFFICIALS IN WATAUGA COUNTY

Election judges and registrars in the forthcoming municipal primaries will not benefit by pay raises voted by the recent general assembly, Attorney General Harry McMullan ruled Friday.

The act provides that judges shall get \$4 instead of \$3 a day and registrars shall get \$5 instead of \$3 a day. The act exempts Ashe, Alleghany and Watauga counties.

The ruling included interpretations of all the election laws enacted at the recent legislative session; the marker law is applicable to municipal elections, though the new statewide registration act is not; the absentee ballot cannot be used in municipal primary or general election; and acts relating to marking mixed tickets and advancing the day of statewide primaries are not applicable.