

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

VOL. 52, NO. 4

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1945

\$1.50 A YEAR

The Week in Washington

A RESUME OF GOVERNMENTAL HAPPENINGS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

Washington, July 26.—It's still about an even bet among Washington observers whether congress will adjourn around the first of August or stay in session indefinitely, wrangling over neutrality legislation.

The action of the senate committee on foreign affairs, in voting, 12 to 11, to postpone consideration of neutrality legislation until next session, is not necessarily final. The hope for some compromise between the administration's desires and those of congress still persists.

It can be stated indisputably that the entire membership of both houses of congress and the entire executive branch of government, from the President down, are in absolute and complete agreement in one important point of national policy. They all want wholeheartedly to keep the United States out of war—any war. The disagreement is wholly on what particular means will best accomplish that purpose.

Shall the United States forbid the sale of arms and war supplies to any nation engaged in any international war? The present law requires the President to proclaim an embargo against all belligerent nations in case of war.

This plan of keeping America neutral has the support of practically all the Republicans and some of the anti-administration Democrats in both houses, thus bringing party politics into an international question and creating the belief that a good deal of the opposition to the administration's desire to have the neutrality law amended is based upon the desire to embarrass the President, rather than upon the real welfare of the nation.

The position of the administration was expressed in a long statement by Secretary Hull who stated flatly that the present neutrality act would tend to draw the United States into war rather than to keep the nation out.

He recommended that the law be amended, if congress continued to believe that a special neutrality law was required, so as to eliminate the present arms embargo. It is the right, in international law and precedent, he said, of any nation to buy or sell arms to any other nation, under any conditions, if they are able to buy and the sellers are able to deliver.

Mr. Hull's Proposals

Mr. Hull's proposals were: To prohibit American ships from entering combat areas; to restrict travel by American citizens in combat areas; to require that goods exported from the United States to belligerent countries shall be preceded by transfer of title to the foreign purchasers; to continue the existing legislation respecting loans and credits to warring nations; to regulate the solicitation and collection in this country of funds for belligerents, and to continue the licensing system under the munitions control board covering importation and exportation of war supplies.

The net effect of the administration proposals would be, it is agreed, to give England and France an advantage. They have the funds to buy war munitions in America, much of them in "earmarked" gold already on deposit in American banks. The dictatorships have no such financial resources. England and France have the ships necessary to carry American supplies across the ocean and could easily prevent their successful transportation to their enemies.

The argument against the administration program is that, such being the case, the Roosevelt-Hull plan would be un-neutral in reality, since it would favor one side against the other.

Last War Analyzed

Back of all the neutrality restrictions imposed by the present law is the belief held by many that it was the sales of munitions to the Allies before we got into the World War which dragged us into the war, to insure collection of what the allied powers owed American bankers.

That belief persists, in spite of the fact that in 1934 a senate committee headed by Senator Nye spent \$50,000 and many weeks of time trying to prove it was true, and succeeding only in proving that all of the loans made to European nations before we got into the big war, were secured by American securities deposited with the bankers, and other security, and that they would have been paid in full, whether the Allies won or lost, as they actually were.

That there will be actual fighting, marking the beginning of what may turn out to be the most disastrous war in human history, before the end of September, is definitely feared by

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BUSINESS GOOD AT LIVESTOCK MART

221 Head of Stock Brought to Local Market Last Wednesday; Gross Sale \$3,000

Eighty-three farmers brought 221 head of livestock to the local market last week, where 37 buyers took it at a good price, the gross sales for the day being \$3,000. The market was steady, except lambs were off 25 to 50 cents due to the falling market.

Farmers generally were well pleased with the prices and say that the market is proving itself to be a great asset to the county. Sales start each Wednesday at 2 o'clock and farmers are being urged to get their stock in early so the sales may start promptly.

Following are the market quotations for the last sale:

Choice calves, 8.75; good calves, 7.50 to 8.00; medium calves, 6.50 to 7.50; common calves 5.50 to 6.50; stock calves, 15.00 to 40.00; good steers, 6.75 to 7.25; medium steers, 6.00 to 6.75; common steers, 5.00 to 6.00; good heifers, 6.75 to 7.25; medium heifers 6.00 to 6.75; common heifers 5.00 to 6.00; best cows, 6.50; good cows, 5.50 to 6.00; medium cows, 4.50 to 5.50; canners, 3.50 to 4.50; milk cows as to kind and quality, 30.00 to 40.00; best lambs, 8.50.

PRESIDENT TO DEDICATE PARK

Chief Executive to Visit Asheville September 14 or 15; Will Visit Sick Secretary

Washington, July 25.—President Roosevelt will visit North Carolina in September. This was the announcement made here yesterday and also at Hyde Park where the President has been spending the week-end. It was stated that Mr. Roosevelt would go to Asheville probably September 14 or 15 and visit Marvin McIntyre, one of his secretaries who has been ill there for some time. After spending a day with "Mack" as the President refers to the former newspaperman, Mr. Roosevelt will go to Newfound Gap on the North Carolina-Tennessee line and deliver the main address at the dedication of the Smoky Mountains National park which will then be turned over to the government for supervision and continued improvement.

The President will proceed by automobile to Knoxville, Tenn., where he will take a train for the San Francisco world's fair where he will speak. After the San Francisco speech, he will visit his daughter in Seattle.

Orphanage Singing Class Will Appear

The Oxford Orphanage singing class will appear in concert at the Cove Creek high school auditorium Thursday evening, August 1, at 7:30, under the sponsorship of Snow Lodge No. 363, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

The singing class, whose appearances are always looked forward to in this section, has a new personnel this year and one of the most attractive programs of music, songs, drills, dances and folk songs in the history of the popular organization, and the complete co-operation of the people is asked. Enjoy the children, while they help their home.

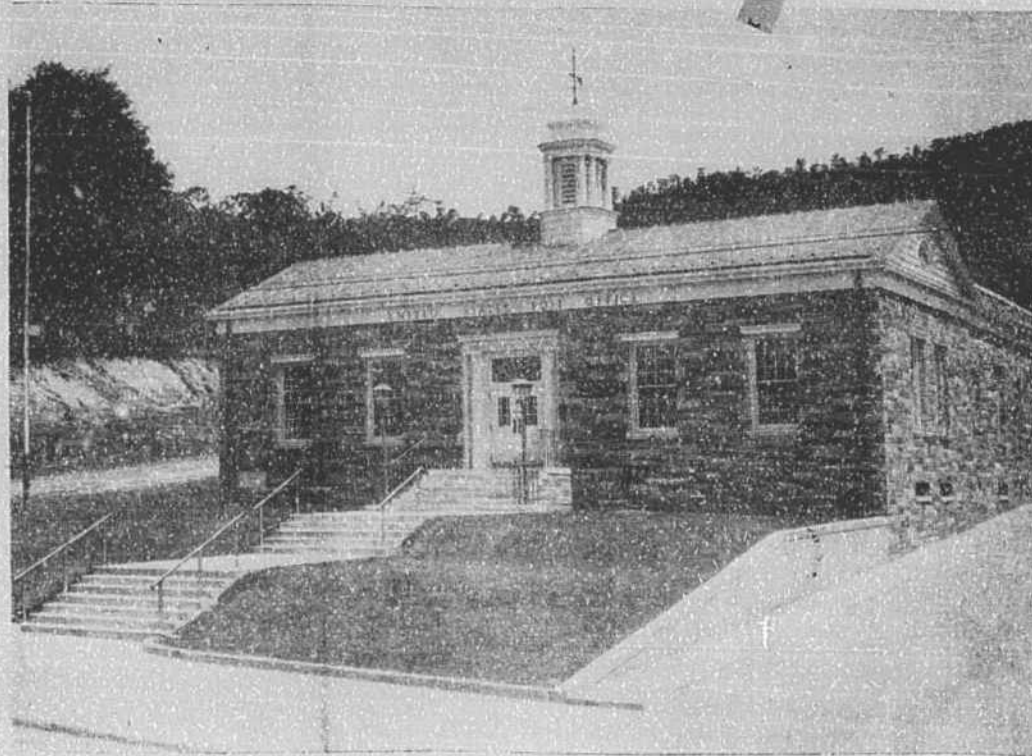
Library Week To Start On Monday

Next week will be observed throughout the county as Library Week when a special effort is to be made throughout the churches and elsewhere to interest the people in the support of the county library. Miss Jewel Hagaman, the librarian, joins with the special library committee in asking the people to co-operate during this period by either donating volumes to the library or by making cash donations. A generous response to the appeal would be highly appreciated.

Disease Free Dairy Herds Are Reported

The New River Dairy at Boone has discovered that its herds are absolutely free of any traces of tuberculosis or Bang's disease, from tests recently made by state inspectors. Brown's Dairy at Blowing Rock was also free of either ailment. Curiously enough, these are the only two dairy herds in the state where no traces were found of these diseases.

NEW POSTOFFICE IS NOW OCCUPIED



Boone's new \$75,000 federal building, which is being occupied today. As the Democrat was going to press, Postmaster W. G. Hartzog stated that the employees of the postoffice would transfer the records, etc. to the new structure across the street this (Wednesday) evening. Since all the furnishings to be used in the new building are new, no equipment is to be taken from the old site. (Photo by Weston)

90 WPA WORKERS DISMISSED HERE

New Law Retires Many Public Works Employees; 610 Discharged in This District

Ninety persons, working under the WPA program in Watauga county, have been discharged under the provisions of the new law making discharge automatic when a worker has been in continuous employment of WPA for 18 months. C. M. Crutchfield, area engineer, North Wilkesboro, announced Monday. The total dismissals for Mr. Crutchfield's district are about 610.

Wilkes county leads in the number of these automatic dismissals with 210 men and 21 women leaving the payrolls of the emergency organization, representing about 20 per cent of the male workers in Wilkes.

While figures on women workers were not immediately available, Mr. Crutchfield gave the following approximate totals of men discharged from WPA in the other counties of the area: Alexander, 27; Alleghany, 3; Ashe, 191; Avery, 39; Caldwell, 85; Iredell, 51.

The automatic discharge law affects all workers on WPA who are certified and includes skilled and unskilled labor and a number of time-keepers and project foremen.

Traveler-Lecturer to Appear At College

Dr. James M. Carpenter, traveler and lecturer, will be presented at the college auditorium Saturday evening, July 29th, at 8 o'clock, in a program of illustrated lectures on English and Scottish ballads.

For five years an instructor at Harvard, Dr. Carpenter received the Ph.D. degree in 1929 and went to Britain as a Sheldon fellow. Remaining for six years as a traveling fellow from Harvard, he made a collection of British folk-lore that will be outstanding for all time. Returning to America, he has spent his time lecturing and preparing for the press two publications that will appear soon. Dr. Carpenter holds a part-time teaching fellowship at Duke University.

The public is invited to attend the program.

MAXWELL WILL RUN FOR GOVERNOR IN 1940

Hendersonville, July 22.—A. J. Maxwell, state commissioner of revenue, said here Thursday afternoon that he definitely expects to be a candidate for the 1940 Democratic gubernatorial nomination.

"I have no doubt that I will be in the running next year," the North Carolina official said when interviewed following an address before the Hendersonville Kiwanis club.

LINEMAN INJURED AS POLE TOPPLES

Clayton Moretz, employee of the New River Light and Power Co., was seriously injured Tuesday afternoon, when a power pole on which he was working, fell to the ground. Mr. Moretz suffered a fractured thigh, and after an examination at the Watauga Hospital was taken to Charlotte for treatment by Dr. Miller, bone specialist.

The crew with which Mr. Moretz was working, was replacing an old pole with a new one, and as the last wire was removed, the pole toppled, catching the lineman as it struck the ground.

FSA Extends Farm Tenant Program to Fifty New Counties

Every county in North Carolina will receive loans to help farm tenants become owners under the Bankhead-Jones farm tenant act, according to information received here by FSA county supervisor, Paul J. Chappell, from the state director of the Farm Security administration, V. E. Swift.

Blanketing the entire state, 50 new counties were designated by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace upon the advice of the state advisory committee.

"The FSA has helped 389 tenants in North Carolina to become land-owners during the past two years," Mr. Chappell said. "Congress, in its battle to keep the American farmer on his farm, appropriated \$40,000,000 recently to be used under the provisions of the Bankhead-Jones farm tenant act to help stop the alarming trend from farm ownership to tenancy."

These loans are made for a 40-year period at three per cent interest. However, the act provides that after five years payment in full can be made at any time. Under a variable payment plan farmers may make larger payments in good years with smaller payments due in years of partial crop failure or low prices.

Mr. Chappell said repayment of these loans all over the United States is remarkable with borrowers repaying 135 per cent of maturities. Further information about how to apply for these loans will be given by the county supervisor whose office is located in the Wade E. Brown building.

A three-farmer advisory committee will assist the supervisor, examine the applications, appraise farms applicants wish to buy and recommend tenants for successful farm ownership. Borrowers will have the help and guidance of the Farm Security administration in building or repairing their homes and in making plans to do better farming.

Although land purchase loans are limited, Mr. Chappell said the regular rehabilitation loans for items such as feed, seed, fertilizer, livestock and farm equipment are available to eligible farmers unable to secure adequate credit elsewhere.

Misses Laura and Leona Query of Charlotte, are spending two weeks at the home of Mrs. Belle Winkler.

DR. HUTCHESON TO SPEAK HERE AUG. 1

Authority on Crops and General Farming to Address Farmers in College Auditorium

Dr. T. B. Hutcheson, well-known authority on crops and general farming from V. P. I., Blacksburg, Va., will speak to the farmers of Watauga county on Tuesday, August 1, at 2:30 p. m. County Agent Harry Hamilton announced this week. The meeting will be held in the auditorium of the administration building at Appalachian College.

A number of Watauga farmers heard Dr. Hutcheson speak at the Cullowhee farm meeting last year and they were all more than pleased with what he had to say on the subject of farming.

"This is our first attempt to hold a big county-wide farm meeting," said Mr. Hamilton, "and we hope that every farmer in Watauga county will attend this meeting and learn more about better farming practices."

Road To Tater Hill Is Near Completion

The two-mile stretch of highway connecting Tater Hill with the highway known as the Howard's Creek road, is practically graded, according to Mr. S. C. Eggers, who states that with favorable weather the new link will be open for travel within the next few days, bringing the famous scenic peak within a few minutes of Boone.

Mr. Eggers says that following the completion of the road work will proceed with the development of the mountain top. A lake is to be constructed, golf course laid out and other improvements made for the benefit of summer colonies.

Negro Is Killed In Electric Storm

John Speers, 19, colored waiter at Mayview Manor, Blowing Rock, was instantly killed Thursday afternoon by lightning as he was walking from the Manor toward the servants quarters. During the same storm lightning split a bedpost in a room in the servants building.

The body of Speers was taken to Charlotte for interment.

Wataugans Attend 4-H Short Course

A number of Watauga 4-H Club boys and girls are in attendance at the 4-H short course being given at State College, Raleigh, this week, among them being: Margaret Perry, Mildred Perry and Reid Harmon of the Bethel club; Council Henson and Paul Brown of the Cove Creek club. Assistant County Agent George Farthing accompanied them.

Mrs. V. J. Honeycutt and V. J., Jr., have joined Mr. Honeycutt in Richmond, Va.

CLIFFORD CHURCH HELD ON CHARGE OF SHOOTING WIFE

Slain Woman, Former Wataugan, Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Miller; Church Attempts Getaway Following Suicide Story to Officers

Clifford Church, former Wilkes county resident, who has been operating a service station at Warrensville, Ashe county, was lodged in the county jail at Jefferson Monday morning on a first degree murder charge, growing out of the fatal shooting of his wife, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Miller of Watauga county.

The shooting took place in the Church home about 11 o'clock Sunday night, Sheriff Ed Miller of Ashe county, stated. When officers, in company with Dr. B. E. Reeves, county coroner, arrived at the scene of the fatal shooting, they found the woman lying on a bed with a bullet hole through her right eye. Dr. Reeves said that death was instantaneous, the bullet having passed through the brain.

Sheriff Miller said Church had been drinking and declared that his wife had committed suicide. However, the gun could not be found, and upon further questioning, Church ran out of the house and was finally caught on a nearby bridge by Roy Ashley, mayor of Warrensville. Church was taken to the county jail, where difficulty was experienced in his incarceration.

Neighbors said the couple had been quarreling recently.

In searching for the gun officers found 72 gallons of bloodstained whiskey packed away in a rear room. Monday morning, a pistol believed to have been the one used in the alleged murder was found underneath Church's home.

Funeral services for Mrs. Church were held Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock in Elk township, Watauga county, where the deceased was born and reared. She is survived by the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Miller and by two small children. She was 33 years old.

Blue Ridge Parkway Now Open For Travel

The Blue Ridge parkway is now open for travel all the way from the Virginia line to Deep Gap, a distance of approximately 60 miles. Although surfacing has not been completed in some few sections, the road will be kept open for travel from now on and in places where the work is under way one side of the road will be open for travel, park service officials announce.

Some work remains to be done between Glendale Springs and Laurel Springs and from Laurel Springs eastward to Bluff Park, but will be completed by the middle of August. However, parkway travelers may drive over the entire distance from Deep Gap to Virginia now without detours or much inconvenience.

HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES ARE AVAILABLE

Combination hunting and fishing licenses, state wide, are now available at the usual sales points in the county, states District Game Protector H. Grady Farthing, who points out that by purchasing the combination license, sportsmen affect a saving of \$110 over the amount they would pay if the permits were bought separately. The licenses sell for \$3.00 and are good for hunting this fall and winter and for fishing to August 1, 1940.

Mr. Farthing says that work of restocking the streams is steadily going forward and that about a quarter million trout have been released in waters of Watauga county this year. Due to frequent heavy rains, comparatively few trout have been taken this year, he says. The bass season is now open, and there are prospects of successful angling. The season will remain open until April 15th.

SMALL SON OF MR. AND MRS. BYERS SUCCUMBS

John Wade Byers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Blaine Byers, died last Saturday at the age of two years and six months. He is survived by the parents, one sister, Betty Jo Byers; the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Byers and Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Fletcher.

Funeral services were conducted by the pastor, Rev. G. A. Hamby from the Oak Grove Baptist church near Boone at 11 o'clock Sunday morning and interment was in Meat Camp cemetery.