

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, AUG. 31, 1939

\$1.50 A YEAR

## PEARL PRITCHARD GETS 9 YEARS ON MURDER CHARGE

Valmead Woman Submits To Manslaughter Charge in Slaying of Taylor Stevens of Boone in Caldwell Court Monday; Judge Bobbitt Passes Sentence

Pearl Pritchard, resident of Valmead, Caldwell county, was sentenced by Judge Bobbitt in Caldwell superior court Monday afternoon to a term of nine years in the state penitentiary, on a manslaughter charge, growing out of the fatal shooting of Taylor Norris Stevens of Boone at the home of the Pritchard woman on the third day of August.

The sentence followed the agreement of defense and state's attorneys to accept a manslaughter plea, and witnesses were examined only for the purpose of determining the extent of the sentence. The defendant did not take the stand, and there was no further explanation of why she fired the fatal shot, than her previous allegations that it was a result of a quarrel over some money belonging to her and which she alleges Stevens had at the time. The case consumed about three hours of the time of the court.

Solicitor Spurling was assisted in the prosecution by William R. Lovill of Boone, while the defense was represented by Pritchett & Strickland and James Farthing. Although there was some evidence of premeditation in connection with the shooting, the manslaughter plea was agreed upon by counsel after the jury had been chosen. Some spectators held to the belief that the jury might have returned a second degree verdict, should the case have been tried.

## Aged Couple Weds In Mountain City

Mountain City, Aug. 28—Two octogenarians were married here last Thursday by a magistrate who is 84 years old.

Mrs. Nancy A. Riddle of Blowing Rock, 81, became the bride of M. C. Johnson of Blowing Rock, 82. Magistrate T. A. Willis, 84, of Mountain City, performed the ceremony.

The wedding marked Mrs. Johnson's third marriage and Mr. Johnson's second. The couple is living at Mrs. Johnson's home in Blowing Rock.

The ceremony involved 247 years—the combined age of the couple and the officiating officer. It is believed to be the most unusual marriage ever performed in Tennessee.

## Graham Meeting Comes To Close

The two weeks' series of evangelistic meetings conducted in the Boone tabernacle by Rev. Dan Graham and party ended Sunday evening, the huge tabernacle being crowded to capacity for the closing service and some hundreds of people being unable to find seats. Interest was high throughout the meeting.

Rev. M. C. Miller of Mountain City, Tenn., who was conducting a revival here when the Graham meeting was arranged, co-operated throughout the two weeks and is continuing with his services daily. Mr. Miller is also a sermonizer of rare ability and power and large crowds are attending his services.

## STATE WILL OBSERVE THANKSGIVING NOV. 30

Raleigh, Aug. 28—North Carolinians will observe Thanksgiving this year on the same date they have had the holiday for 75 years—the last Thursday in November.

Governor Hoey announced today that after "mature consideration" he had decided it would be "unwise" to change the date, as President Roosevelt suggested, so that the day would fall one week earlier. Hence, the governor said, November 30 will be designated as the official Thanksgiving in this state.

## PUBLIC ASSISTANCE GOES TO 55,238 TAR HEELS

Raleigh, Aug. 28—A total of 55,238 North Carolinians received \$463,118.82 in public assistance payments this month, Nathan H. Yelton, director of the public assistance division, said today.

County, state and federal funds combined in paying an average of \$9.50 to each of 33,555 needy aged and \$5.91 for each of 21,064 dependent children.

## Aged Citizen



"Uncle Phillip" Greer, 96 years old and a resident of Mabel, who has been in rather poor health for the past several months. Large numbers of friends and relatives visit the aged and esteemed gentleman every Sunday, and these visits are eagerly looked forward to by Mr. Greer, whose kindly disposition and sterling qualities of good citizenship have endeared him to the people of the region.

## STORE BUILDINGS BEING ERECTED

New Business Block Being Constructed by Prof. Chappel Wilson; Ready by November

The foundations are poured for a new business block on the old Episcopal church property adjoining the Dixie stores, and Prof. Chappel Wilson, the owner of the property, expects to have the buildings ready for occupancy by the first of November.

Two store building sizes, 25x70 and 17x70, respectively, are included in the program, and Mr. Wilson does not give out any information as to who the occupants of the new buildings will be other than to say they are for rent. They are to be of brick construction, one story in height, with full basement, and modern arrangements. These two buildings together with the Dixie store building, also owned by Mr. Wilson, will be heated from a central heating plant. Mr. Walter Greene, local building contractor, is in charge of the work. The brick walls are to be constructed by Mr. W. B. Hodges.

## Blowing Rock Visited By Church Group

Blowing Rock, Aug. 25—Two hundred and seventy-six students, representing 31 states and the Lutheran Association of America, moved their convention from Lenoir-Rhyne college, Hickory, to Blowing Rock Thursday afternoon for a picnic and scenic tour in the mountains.

They were at the Rock Thursday night following a motor trip from Hickory to Marion, and then to Grandfather mountain. After dinner at the Rock, the party returned to Hickory to complete a program scheduled to continue through Saturday.

Dr. P. O. Monroe, president of Lenoir-Rhyne, who directed the tour, said the convention is sponsored by the board of education of the United Lutheran church of America. The association, with headquarters in Washington, D. C., follows its students to various colleges and universities with specially-appointed pastors to guide their work.

The delegation was greeted at the Rock by Mayor G. C. Robbins, after which they listened to special music by the Spencer Collins orchestra.

## W. J. SWINK DIES

William Joshua Swink, 85, leading citizen of China Grove and prominent textile manufacturer, died Wednesday morning at 1:30 o'clock at the Rowan Memorial hospital in Salisbury.

Funeral services were held at 10 o'clock Thursday at his home in China Grove followed by burial in Concord.

Mr. Swink is survived by his wife, the former Anna Swift Hearne, who has been in Blowing Rock for several months, and the following children: Hearne Swink, secretary of the Cannon Mills company, who lives near Salisbury; Mrs. William H. Hardin, Jr., of Salisbury; Caleb Swink of China Grove; and Mrs. William E. Fitch of Washington, D. C.

## FALL TERM STARTS AT APPALACHIAN NEXT WEDNESDAY

Freshmen Start Registration on 30th; Upperclassmen September 5; Large Enrollment Expected; Many Improvements About Campus Noted

The regular fall term of Appalachian State Teachers College gets under way today (Wednesday) when members of the freshman class begins to register, while returning upperclassmen will register Tuesday, September 5th, and meet classes on the following day.

Information is that the dormitories for women have been filled for some time and that applications are still being filed. The new dormitory for men will be ready for occupancy in about a month and will furnish accommodations for about 130. It is thought likely that the enrollment for the fall and winter months will surpass that of last year, when 956 registered.

## Faculty Additions

A number of professors have been added to the faculty for the fall and winter months. Dr. Robt. Buester, A.B., M.A., Ph.D., from the University of Indiana, has been added to the science department and the following additions are noted in the high school department: E. F. McCulloch, A.B., M.A., University of Georgia, social science; Ann Leitner, A.B., Cober College, M.A., University of Illinois, French; Susan Mullins, M.A., A.B., University of Kentucky, commercial work; Phillip Cartwright, A.B., M.S., Indiana State Teachers College, health and coaching.

In the elementary demonstration school the following faculty additions have been made: Miss Isabel Hayes, A.B., M.A., University of Georgia. (Continued on page five.)

## Cove Creek High School Begins Term

The Cove Creek high and elementary schools opened Wednesday morning, with a large enrollment, according to Sam F. Horton, principal.

The members of the high school faculty are S. F. Horton, principal, Mrs. S. F. Horton, Roy Ellison, Wheeler Farthing, Miss Constance Shinn, Mrs. Philip Fletcher, Miss Jennie Love, Miss Vanda Whicker, Mrs. Robt. Greer, Paul Bingham, Miss Annabel Bingham and Ernest Hilliard. Mrs. Greer is teacher of home economics, Miss Annabel Bingham is commercial teacher, Paul Bingham is the boys' coach, Miss Whicker the girls' coach, and Mr. Hilliard is teacher of agriculture.

Teachers in the elementary department are: T. J. Moody, principal, Mrs. Ruth Mast, Mrs. Mae Payne, Mrs. Susie Henson, Miss Blanche Stokes, Miss Anna Mae Sherwood, Mrs. Dora Mast, Miss Ophelia Bingham and Mrs. Gladys Bingham. Mrs. Maude Spainhour is teacher of music.

Other county schools opening on Wednesday are: Howards Creek, Miller, Rich Mountain, Bamboo, Green Valley, Winebarger, Riverview, Castle, Mount Paron, Elk, Lower Elk, Cool Springs, Penley, Bradshaw, Cook, Valle Crucis, Foscoe, Grandfather, Valley Mountain, Cool Springs, Liberty Hill, Rominger, Presnell, Keberville, Wingy Gap, Bethel, Mabel, Silverstone and Pottertown.

Those to open today (Thursday) are: Appalachian high school, Appalachian elementary, Rutherford, Deep Gap and Stony Fork.

Blowing Rock school will open Monday, September 18.

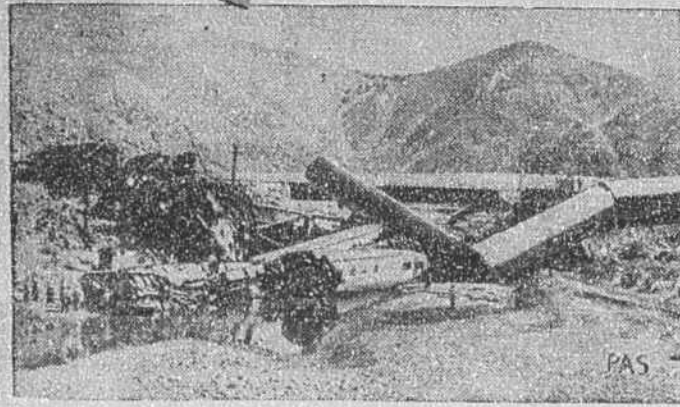
## Parkway Company Is City's Newest Firm

The Parkway Company, Boone's newest mercantile establishment, has completed its organization plans and is to open an electrical and hardware store in the old postoffice building about the 10th of September.

Wade H. McGhee is president of the new firm; Kenneth Linney, vice-president, and J. A. Mullins, secretary and treasurer. The Parkway Company has bought out the stocks of the Mullins Electrical Appliance Company and to this line will add a complete line of hardware, it is stated. The large building to the rear, which has been used as a bowling alley, is to supply warehouse space for the new enterprise.

Contractor Walter C. Greene has a crew of men busily engaged in making the necessary alterations in the building, erecting shelving, counters, etc., preparatory to its occupancy. Further announcement as to the opening of the new store will be made later.

## 20 Die, 114 Hurt in Nevada Train Disaster



Reno, Nevada.—View of the wrecked cars of the crack streamlined train which left the rails in the Humboldt River canyon, killing 20 passengers and injuring 114. The disaster was the first to a modern transcontinental train.

## Boy Preacher



East St. Louis, Mo.—Nine-year-old Fred Cross, Jr., above, delivered a 19-day series of sermons here. Son of the Rev. and Mrs. Fred R. Cross of Kansas City, Kan., he began preaching about a year ago.

## MARTIN YATES IS LEADING FARMER

Best Demonstration Farmer in County Chosen at Conclusion of Annual Farm Tour

Martin Yates of Matney, was adjudged the best demonstration farmer in Watauga county at the close of the annual farm tour Tuesday, and Bun Hodges of Vilas, was selected as the second best by the one hundred farmers who comprised the tour.

The farms were judged on the following criteria: home beautification, improvements on farm buildings other than home, livestock and poultry improvement, crop rotation system, including crop improvement through the use of lime, phosphate, commercial fertilizer, clover and barnyard manure; pasture improvement through the use of lime and phosphate, farm fencing.

In the election of the best demonstration farmer, all those attending both days of the tour were eligible to vote and they voted for the man who they believed had made the greatest progress along the lines mentioned, giving due consideration to his farm and the means available for its operation.

(Continued on page five.)

## John King Winner Soap Box Derby

John T. King was the winner of the five dollar prize in the annual soap box derby sponsored by B. W. Stallings on the North Water street course last Thursday evening, at which time more than five hundred people gathered for the competitions, and there were thrills and spills galore for the spectators.

Young King was followed closely by Spencer Qualls of Blowing Rock, who easily had the most modern type of racer on the track. Young Qualls was featured in the major accident of the afternoon and barely escaped a broken ankle, when the improvised vehicle went out of control. Other minor cuts and bruises resulted from the accident.

Richard Bingham came in for the third prize, while Harold Watson won fourth award and Ray Marsh fifth.

There were ten entries in the derby and spectators agree that the race far eclipsed any previous effort. Mr. Stallings promises next year to enter the contest in Charlotte with his winning vehicle, which places the Boone boys in line for national competition.

## BURLEY MARKET FOR WATAUGA IS ALMOST ASSURED

Chamber of Commerce Hears Encouraging Report by Warehouse Committee Members; Congressman Doughton Discusses Youth Problem at Dinner Meeting

A burley tobacco warehouse for Watauga county, to be opened in time for this season's sales, appeared almost certain following a report made to the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce Tuesday evening, by Mayor W. R. Lovill and S. C. Eggers, members of a special committee which has been working day and night in an effort to convince the tobacco manufacturers of the wisdom of furnishing buyers for the proposed market.

Mr. Lovill divulged the information that one of the principal manufacturers had already definitely stated that a set of buyers would come to Boone; final negotiations are in progress with the other two major manufacturers, with definite prospects of having similar promises from them within the next few days. At the same time two independent manufacturers have indicated their intention of co-operating with the proposed market, Mr. Lovill said. It is thought quite likely that within the next two weeks work may be started toward the actual erection of a warehouse, with the intention of having it ready for the December burley sales.

## Doughton Speaks

Congressman Robert L. Doughton, who has been of great assistance to the local Chamber of Commerce in the matter of contacting tobacco manufacturers, was the honored guest of the evening, and was introduced by Mayor Lovill. Mr. Doughton used as his subject the Youth Problem, and described this as the nation's No. 1 problem. Despite the vast sums of money being spent for the education of the youth of the land, Mr. Doughton referred to the fact that jails and penitentiaries of the country are yearly becoming more crowded with youthful law violators. He lent strong endorsement to vocational education, to the process of teaching the youth some sort of occupation, and cited subsequent hard work as the best means of curbing youthful delinquencies.

H. W. Wilcox, president of the Boone Chamber of Commerce, presided over the meeting and about 60 members of the organization and of the local merchants association were present for the dinner, which was served in the basement of the Boone Baptist church.

Smith Hagaman, superintendent of the Baptist Hospital, spoke briefly, as did Judge Justin Miller, of the U. S. District court of appeals.

## Miller-Hendershot Meeting Is Resumed

The meetings that were suspended for the visit of the Graham party, have been resumed in the Boone tabernacle by Evangelists Miller and Hendershot. The public is invited to hear Mr. Hendershot sing and Mr. Miller discuss such great Bible themes as:

"The Holy Spirit", "The New Birth", "The Word of God", "The Divine Plan of the Ages", "The Two Ways", and "Salvation By Grace," and other similar subjects that should be of interest to every Christian. Mr. Miller also will answer questions each evening on vital matters pertaining to religious life and teaching.

You are urged to come and bring your questions and make these meetings mean the most possible to all, while they continue. The preaching hour is 7:45 p. m.

## Auction Sale of Land Next Friday

On Friday, September 1, at 1:30 p. m., two business lots on Depot street and one on Howard street are to be offered at public auction by Mr. W. O. Robertson, local realtor, who states that much interest is being shown in the announcement of the offerings.

On the same day at 2:30 p. m., 20 acres, the property of N. N. Colvard, located three miles west of Boone on highway 421, will be offered, together with four acres on the same highway adjoining T. L. Mast's store and being the property of Ralph Hayes.

Mr. Robertson says indications are that there will be an active demand for all of the property being offered.