WATAUGA COUNTY ONE OF NINE OUT OF DEBT TO STATE

County Has Paid All Funds Collectable Under Ad Valorem Tax Levy for Schools in 1931-32; Over \$700,000 Is Still Due

According to an announcement made last week by State Treasurer Charles M. Johnson, Watauga county is among the nine counties which have paid the state all of the funds due under the 15-cent ad valorem tax levied for the support and maintenance of schools in 1931-32.

Treasurer Johnson's figures were compiled for submission to the governor and council of state under a 1939 statute authorizing "settlement, adjustment or compromise" of sums

Seventy-two counties still owe approximately \$700,000 from a total levy for the two years of nearly \$9,000,000

Mr. Johnson has been adverse to make any recommendations although the 1939 statute contemplated a full settlement of the claims through compromise, because of "inability of some counties to pay." The rejuctance to make recommendations grows out of a study of the list, which shows that some of the poorest counties in the state have paid or overpaid what was due by them while some of the wealthiest counties are still in arrears.

The following nine counties have paid precisely what was due by them. Alleghany, Caldwell, Caswell, Cleveland, Granville, Guilford, Hertford, Watauga and Wilkes.

The following counties have overpaid in the amounts stoted: Cabarrus, \$1,024; Columbus, \$1,473; Currituck, \$44; Durham, \$2,366; Edge-combe, \$2,457; Gates, \$1,60; Graham, \$227; Madison, \$129; Mitchell, \$15; Northampton, \$01; Transylvamia, \$,60; Warren, \$4,454; and Wilson, \$0.1. Mr. Johnson has been adverse to

The act of the general assembly

The act of the general assembly made no reference to relief of these counties, but Treasurer Johnson will recommend that refunds be made to them in full at the time of any general settlement.

The remaining 78 countles over sums ranging from 16 cents due by Dare to \$71,086 due by Buncombe Counties which owe the state in excess of \$10,000 each are: Alexander, \$14,375; Beaufort, \$14,453, Buncombe, \$71,068; Burke, \$25,169, Craven, \$27,916; Cumberland, \$21,784; Forsyth, \$20,907; Gaston, \$24,390; Henderson, \$19,846; Iredell, \$13,866, Johnston, \$13,325; Lee, \$16,979; Lenoir, \$12,705; Mecklenburg, \$20,120; Pitt, \$24,057; Robeson, \$17,471; Rowan, \$33,967; Rutherford, \$14,251, and Sampson, \$11,681. Wake owes \$7,600.

The tax was levied by the 1931 general assembly as a compromise school term. The 1933 general assumed support of the six months achool term. The 1938 general assembly removed the tax and substituted a general sales tax.

The total levy was \$8,925,691, and the net amount now due, after deducting overpayments, is \$674,101.

BOOSTERS LEAVE

Mayor Grover C. Robbins of Blowing Rock on Tour; Gene Wike Represents Boone

wo busloads of western North Cdrolina mayors and other boosters, one of the vehicles from Asheville, the other from Charlotte, left Tuesday for a 2 200-mile good-will tour of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

Mayor Grover C. Robbins of Blowme Rock, is on the tour, together with Gene Wike, local newspaper writer, who substitutes for Mayor W. R. Lovill, who was unable to make the trip.

More than fifty people are included in the tour the property of the contract of the contra

More than fifty people are included in the tour, the primary purpose of which is to publicize the resort area of western North Carolina among the winter visitors to the state of Florida. A large amount of publicity matter is being carried on the two special buses and newspaper men on the trip will write press releases from time to time during the progress of the journey.

17 PERSONS KILLFD IN GEORGIA TORNADO

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 12.—Tornado damaged Albany shifted its ruins Sunday, revised its death list to 17, one white woman and 16 negroes and set about rebuilding devastated

Red Cross Field Director J. M. Cullens announced the revised death list. He said estimates in excess of 20 Saturday night resulted from duplication of reports. More than 500 persons were treated for injuries, he said.

Meanwhile patients.

Meanwhile national guardsmen with bayonets looked on as more than 500 workers started systematic check-up of damaged buildings in the downtown area and undertook the task of removing tons of twisted steel and crumbling masonry.

The Baptist church and interment was in the Gragg cemetery near Boone.

Surviving are six sons and three daughters: William, S. C., Noah, Gene, Dock and C. G. Watson, Mrs. Wesley Michael, all of Watsuga county; Mrs. Ern Phillips of Fleetwood, and Mrs. Jerry Greene of Lenoir.

"Dark Horse



Washington.-Representative J. W. Martin, Jr., of Massachusetts, minority leader in the house of Representatives, who is being considered the "dark horse" for the Hepublican nomination for Presi-dent by party leaders.

BUILDING & LOAN NAMES DIRECTORS Farm Loan Group to

Stockholders Gather in Annual Meeting and Hear Report of Favorable Year

The stockholders of the Watauga Building and Loan Association met in the offices of the institution Saturday afternoon, heard a report of the activities of the organization for the past year and named a new board of directors. The meeting was largely attended, the large majority of the stock being represented either in person or by proxy.

The entire board of directors was re-elected as follows: W. D. Farth-ing, W. H. Gragg, L. A. Greene, A. W. Smith, G. P. Hagaman, C. M. Critcher, Grady Farthing, R. L. Bingham, W. L. Holshouser and Rob Rivers.

An executive committee was named composed of Grady Farthing. R. L. Bingham and C. M. Critcher. L. A. Greene was re-elected president: Grady Farthing, vice-president, and W. H. Gragg, secretary, while Mrs. Carrie Bingham continues as assistant secretary.

Hoffman Announces For Governor On

John R. Hoffman, Burlington attorney, tossed his hat into the already crowded ring last. Wednesday for the nomination for governor of North Carolina on the Republican ticket.

of North Carolina on the Republican ticket.

In a lengthy statement of his conception of the duties of state and federal government, the new candidate goes on record as favoring "increased salaries to school teachers; the construction of all-weather rural roads, so that those who live in the country may be as accessible to the outside world as those who live in the city; the immediate repeal of all laws now regimenting people, arraying one class of labor against another, retarding our industrial progress."

A prohibitionist, Hoffman's "latform includes the immediate closing of all A.B.C. stores in North Carolina, "because I consider the liquor traffic the greatest enemy to the

traffic the greatest enemy to the

man race. Favoring repeal of all social se curity taxes, unemployment insur-ance, old age assistance tax, the Burlington lawyer proposes a three per cent tax on all transactions and a levy of one per cent on the true value of raw materials and manu-factured products, "so that the bur-den of our generation's duty to so-ciety be borne now, by all, for all, without discrimination or regimen-tation"

Hoffman is a native of Guilford county, and was educated at Whit-sett Institute and the University of

North Carolina.

He has been practicing law in Burlington for the past 33 years.

Touching the farm problem, Hoffman explains:

"I favor a maximum of production of farm products except tobac-

"I favor a maximum of produc-tion of farm products, except tobac-co, which under existing conditions must be curtailed for a period of two years or more until a more in-telligent system of farming can be set up . . . We must return to indi-vidual farming," he declares.

Aged Citizen of Laxon Succumbs

MERCHANTS WILL **GATHER FRIDAY**

Annual Ladies' Night and Employees' Banquet Will Be Held at Baptist Church

The Boone Merchants Association's annual employees' banquet and ladies' night event will be held in the basement of the Baptist church Fri day evening, starting promptly at 7:30 o'clock, it was announced Tues-

About one hundred members of the association, including their wives and employees, are expected to gath-er for the banquet, following which

er for the banquet, following which a short program, stunts, contests, etc., will be enjoyed.

Through the courtesy of Spencer Miller, manager of Miller's Rink, the group will leave the banquet table to enjoy a skating party. Mr. Miller suggests that since likely many of his guests will be unaccustomed to skating, that they provide themselves with pillows before going to the rink. There will be plenty of an for all at both the banquet and the skating party and no business matters will be discussed at either gathering.

Hold Annual Meeting

Members of the Sugar Grove National Farm Loan Association will hold their annual meeting on Tuesday, February 20, at the courthouse in Boone, it is announced by A. G. Miller, president.

At this meeting, Mr. Miller said complete and detailed reports will be submitted on the association's operations for the past year along with a complete financial statement of the organization. Two directors will be cleeted.

The Sugar Grove National Farm Loan Association is one of the major co-operative institutions of the county, through which farmers obtain long-term loans from the Federal Land Bank of Columbia. This association serves Watauga and Avery counties.

Mr. Miller said a very interesting

r Governor On The meeting will begin at 10 o'clock and it is urged every member be present at that hour.

The following Watauga county people were in attendance at the Lincoln day dinner held at the King Cotton hotel in Greensboro Monday: Clyde R. Greene, Russell D. Hodges, John W. Hodges, W. H. Gragg, Paul A. Coffey, Baxter M. Linney, S. C. Eggers, Russell Gragg, W. M. Hodges, Ivy Wilson, Albert Wilson, Charles G. Lewis, Owen Little, M. C. Holler, Walter Carroll, C. W. Williams, Greer Hodges, Perry Greene, Joe Williams and T. E. Bingham.

The dinner was one of the most widely attended thus far held in the state, say the local leaders, who were much impressed by the speech of Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio which was described as being most logical and entertaining.

munity attends.

The youths on their overtime prepared many infant garments and gave a shower for Mrs. Fretz. a woman of the community, enabling her to be prepared for the arrival of Mr. Stork. of Mr. Stork.

SHERIFF FAILS TO FIND GOD IN CHEROKEE COUNTY

Murphy.-An official search Cherokee county for God resulted in the sheriff's attesting he could not

he found.

An eccentric woman's will left part of her estate to God. In an endeavor to settle the estate, a suit was filed in court and God was named a party.

On the summons the sheriff made

On the summons the sheriff made the response:
"After due and diligent search, God cannot be found in Cherokee county."

VANC MEMORIAL CHURCH



Artist's drawing of James I. Vance Memorial Presbyterian church, which will be built on Howard street, Boone this spring. The structure will cost approximately \$25.000.

HORTON GIVES OUT | CARD PARTY AID CAMPAIGN PLEDGE TO MARCH DIMES

Lieutenant Governor Stands for Many Expected to Gather at Economy in Government, Educational Improvement

through which farmers obtain long-term loans from the Federal Land Bank of Columbia. This association serves Watauga and Avery counties.

Mr. Miller said a very interesting program has been arranged for the annual meeting and that it is hoped every member will attend. Visitors the utmost devotion "to advance our who are interested in long-teror larm loans are also invited.

The board of directors consists of A. G. Miller, president, Deep Gap, Dr. H. B. Perry, vice president, Boone; R. M. Ward, Sugar Grove; H. Neal Blair, Boone, and S. C. Eggers, Wilkins P. Horton, candidate for the board of directors consists of A. G. Miller, president, Deep Gap, Dr. H. B. Perry, vice president, Boone; R. M. Ward, Sugar Grove; H. Neal Blair, Boone, and S. C. Eggers, Wilkesboro, is secretary-treasurer of the association.

Many Wataugans At

Lincoln Day Dinner

Lincoln Day Dinner

Lincoln Day Dinner

Jittsboro, Feb. 11.—In his platform, which he made public at his home here today, Lieutenant Gover, one Wilkins P. Horton, candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina, pledges the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina, pledges the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina, pledges the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina, pledges the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina, pledges the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina, pledges the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina, pledges the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina, pledges the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina, pledges the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina, pledges the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina, pledges the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina, pledges the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina, pledges the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina, pledges the Democratic nomination for governor of North Carolina, pledges the Democratic nominatio

copies Serious consideration should be given to, and positive action taken on, the question of freducing taxes now imposed upon those least able to pay them, when it can be done, consistent with our present program of public service."

Emphasizing public education as highly vital, Mr. Horton holds that "an underpaid teaching profession is poor economy," and that "a continued increase in the salary schedule tof teachers) should be maintained as rapidly as our resources will permit." He voices belief "in the principles of a retirement system for sethool teachers of North Carolina as which will be equitable to and consistent with the teachers and the salary schedule of teachers of North Carolina much mit." He voices belief "in the principles of a retirement system for sethool teachers of North Carolina which will be equitable to and consistent with the teachers and the salary schedule of the convention leader from Wheeler Martin, president of the league, who resudes in Williamston.

An adequate system of public highways is advocated by the present leutenant governor, and Mr. Gragg expects the attendance at the convention to reach 300 this year.

Farmers Should Get

Phosphate At Once

ACTIVITIES OF THE

NYA GIRLS AT MABEL

The group of 15 NYA girls assigned to the NYA Mabel lunch room are outle active with many other activities other than preparing and serving hot lunches to over 200 school children. One of these activities is feeding table scraps to the NYA pig which became a fat porker. Accommodating youths of the community butchered the porker, NYA girls canned the pork, making sausage and mince meat, etc., to be used in the lunch room.

They have an organized club which Miss Elizabeth Bridge, the home demonstration agent, in structs, teaching many valuable subjects pertaining to both their lunch room and homes. The club meets in the lunch room and has grown until almost the entire community attends.

The youths on their overtime prepared many infant garments and gave a shower for Mrs. Fretz, a

EMERGENCY CROP AND FEED LOANS AVAILABLE

The Emergency Corporation Feed Loans are now available to farmers of this county, according to J. E. Joines, field representative. Those who are interested should call at Mr. Joines' office in the courthouse as early as possible so that their apas early as possible so that then application can be forwarded to the regional office, and give time for their checks to be mailed back in time to plant their crops.

There is a receiving agent in each

There is a receiving agent in each county seat who will take your application.

Traveling at 50 miles an hour, a locomotive puffs four times for every revolution of its wheels, or 300 times a minute.

County Office Building Tuesday for Entertainment

Phosphate At Once

A number of farmers have phos phate approved for them on both the agricultural conservation pro-gram and the demonstration farm

gram and the demonstration farring program, and yet they have not taken it out of storage, say the county agents.

This is the time of year to apply phosphate in order to get the best results, therefore, all farmers who have received notices that their phosphate is approved to the proposed to the prop ys Mr. phosphate is a proved are urged to North get it as soon as possible.

COMMUNITY CHORAL CLUB

The Music and Art division of the Woman's Club has organized Community Choral Club, with Mr. Gordon Nash as director. An invitation has been issued to the church choirs and all other groups and individuals interested to join the organization.

The first meeting of the choral club will be held Monday, February 19, at 7:30 p. m., in the college music hall.

The purpose of this organization The purpose of this organization is to promote a definite interest in community singing and fellowship. All who are interested are urged to attend the first meeting.

VALENTINE PARTY

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist church is sponsoring a Valentine party this (Wednesday) evening from 7 to 9 o'clock at the church. Admission is 10c and 15c. You are invited to attend.

The Danish government handles the foreign affairs of Iceland.

PRESBYTERIANS TO ERECT FINE CHURCH IN CITY

Tentative Plans Call for the Expenditure of \$25,000 on Church Plant; Rev. Rhea Expects Handsome Structure to Be Occupied by Mid-summer

Plans have been approved by the congregation for construction of the James I. Vance Memorial Presbyterian church, an edifice which will cost approximately \$25,000, work is expected to begin before April first.

Rev. John Rhea, first minister of the newly-organized congregation, states that the modern brick struc-ture will be erected on a lot situat-ed near the entrance to Boone cemetery on Howard street. He expects it to be completed and ready for occupancy by mid-summer.

D. R. Beeson, Johnson City, Tenn, architect and member of the Holston Presbytcry's Home Mission committee, drew plans for the new church. The interior and exterior will follow the early American style of architecture. Drawings indicate that the auditorium with balcony and choir loft seats 350 persons.

The basement is divided into as

The basement is divided into as-sembly and departmental rooms for the Sunday school, and a kitchen will be modernly equipped to care for dinner meetings of the congre-

The local building committee is composed of E. Ford King, chairment, E. Ford King, Jr., Dr. Robert King, D. R. Beeson, Leslie Lyons, L. W. Timmens, J. E. Holshouser, I. S. Miller and Rev. John Rhea. Contributions thus far have been received from a wide section.

W. H. Belk, prominent Charlotte merchant and Presbyterian layman, has donated brick for the building, and members of the First Presbyterian church of Nashville, Tenn., of which Dr. Vance was pastor for more than thirty wars, are expected to contribute liberally to the memorial.

Dr. Vance whose death preserved.

memorial.

Dr. Vance, whose death occurred at Blowing Rock last November, at Blowing Rock last November, was born and reared in the Holston Presbytery, and during his long life had come to be recognized as the leading preacher of that denomination. For more than forty years he had maintained a summer residence at Blowing Rock, and since child-hood had paid annual visit to the mountain section.

His annual Flat Ton Mountain

His annual Flat Top Mountain services for Watauga's rural citizency drew wide attention for a quarter of a century, and offered inspiration for the memorial church here. Mrs. Vance and daughter, Miss Margaret, are now making their year-round home at Blowing Flock.

Spent for Improvement of Public Schools Here

A county-wide NYA project, which will involve the expenditure of about \$7,000, and which will continue for a period of about three months, has been started in the county, with Mr. Orville Hagaman acting as foreman

The project recalls for the repairing and repainting of the public chools of the county. Fifty boys are being employed and are work-ing in two shifts.

Parents and Teachers To Play Basket Ball

The parents and teachers of the two Boone schools will play basket ball on Thursday night, February 15, at 7.30, in the high school gymnasium. There will be a double-header, the first game played by the ladies in the two groups and the second played by the men. This will be the second game of this kind and it is hoped that a large crowd will be out to see the contests.

At the last game the faculty to

At the last game the faculty ladies won by a score of 6-5, while
the town men turned the tables and
won over the faculty men by a
large score.

Mrs. Wiley Smith is in charge of
the town teams, while Miss Billie
rlappoldt and Mr. Herbert Wey are
in charge of the teachers.

Admission to the games will be
10c to everyone.

In the last 15 years, tourist camps in the United States have increased by 1,000 per cent.