

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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\$1.50 A YEAR

## RIVERS OFFICIALLY ENTERS RACE FOR CONGRESS



In small change and dollar bills received as donations to his campaign fund, Jim Rivers posts filing fee for ninth district congressional race with Elections Chairman Lucas.—Winston Journal Photo

Jim Rivers, a son of the late Robert C. Rivers, who for almost fifty years published the Democrat, Saturday paid his filing fee to the state board of elections and became a candidate for congress in the ninth district. His action will bring about the first party contest over the seat occupied for thirty years by Representative R. L. Doughton. Rivers gave to the press a brief statement which indicates that he will make his first bid for office as "an unopposed, unopposed candidate." It follows: "In filing my intentions as a candidate I have not overlooked the fact that fourteen leaders of the party in which I have held lifelong membership recently called on the incumbent representative

and delivered to him an instrument in writing which they alleged was a mandate of the people that he again seek the seat which he has occupied for nearly thirty years. A sketchy survey of the district indicates that there are some two hundred and sixty-odd thousand folks in these nine counties who were not consulted by the aforementioned group, many of whom would prefer, this year, a candidate by contest rather than petition. If nominated and elected to the office, I shall strive to earn my pay." Representative Doughton had first announced that he would retire from congress at the end of the present term but later decided to run because, he said, of the requests that he do so.

## COMMERCE GROUP IN ANNUAL MEET

Officers to Be Elected at Annual Gathering Next Tuesday Evening

The annual meeting of the Watauga Chamber of Commerce will be held Tuesday evening, March 26, at 7:15 in the basement of the Baptist church, when lunch will be served by the cradle roll department of the church.

The election of officers for the ensuing year will be one of the principal items of business, and a report of the year's activities will be tendered by the secretary.

The Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce is expected to have a number of their members present and Mayor G. C. Robbins will give a report of the mayors' tour of Florida. Gene Wike of Boone, who also made the trip, will speak.

The Greyhound lines recently went on the radio with "This Amazing America," an educational program describing points in this country. At the same time they have made a talking picture of some of these places, including a romantic plot. This picture will be at the meeting through the courtesy of the Greyhound lines, and those not wishing to have lunch with the commerce group are welcome to come in later for the showing of the picture.

## TRAILWAYS USES LOCAL PUBLICITY

Chamber of Commerce Feature Appearing in Current Issue of National Magazine

Information coming to the Boone Chamber of Commerce from Mr. J. H. Quattlebaum, traffic manager for the Queen City Coach Co., indicates that the National Trailways magazine is featuring in its current issue a story prepared by the local commerce body, describing the many attractions Boone and Blowing Rock offer to summer tourists. The publication will be off the press March 20 and a number of copies will be available for local distribution. The magazine has a guaranteed circulation of 100,000 throughout the United States and Canada, and the people of this locality feel most fortunate in securing this valuable publicity right at the opportune time. At the same time a similar feature is to be published in the Highway Traveler, the combined circulation of the two magazines being over 600,000.

## WATAUGA ALLOCATED FUNDS

Last Friday the state WPA announced allocation of the sum of \$37,023 for road projects in Watauga county.

## Seeks State Office



Watt H. Gragg of Boone, who on Saturday filed with the state board of elections his candidacy for the Republican nomination for state treasurer.

## G.O.P. CONVENTION CALLED FOR 13TH

Delegates to Be Elected to State and Congressional Conventions at Local Meeting

T. E. Bingham, chairman of the Republican executive committee for Watauga county, has issued a call for the members of his party to meet at the courthouse in Boone on Saturday, April 13, at 1 o'clock, for the purpose of electing delegates to the congressional conventions and transacting such other business as may come before the convention.

The chairman of the various township committees are asked by Mr. Bingham to hold primaries on Friday, April 12, at 2 o'clock, for the purpose of naming delegates to the county convention.

## Emergency Crop and Feed Loans Available

Farmers who wish to apply for an emergency crop and feed loan should do so at once as it is time for farmers who are unable to finance their farming this year to make arrangements at once, says J. E. Joines, field supervisor.

Those wishing to borrow from this organization are asked to see Miss Juanita Glenn at the emergency crop and feed loan office in Boone and make application.

## FOUR SENTENCED ON DOPE CHARGES

Mountain Citizens Given Terms for Violation of Federal Narcotic Laws

Federal Judge George C. Taylor in Greenville, Tenn., district court on Monday imposed sentences ranging from 15 months to five years on seven Mountain City citizens, who pleaded guilty to government charges of violating federal narcotics laws.

Sentences of three of the defendants, however, were suspended and the trio placed on probation, those receiving the probationary sentences being: Dr. James Butler, five years; Carl H. Wilson, druggist, two years; W. Justin Smythe, druggist, two years.

Four others received 15-month sentences. They are: Dr. Paul Madron, dentist; C. C. Duncilly, retired attorney; Wade Smythe, banker, all of Mountain City, and Dr. Harry Shelton Smythe, Bristol physician.

The four receiving 15-month sentences were taken into custody by a deputy marshal and placed in Greene county jail, pending removal to federal institutions designated by the attorney general.

## W. J. Wagner Dies At Princeton, W. Va.

W. J. Wagner of the Foscoe community, Watauga county, died at the home of his son, Herbert Wagner, Princeton, W. Va., Wednesday morning at 2 o'clock, following a lingering illness.

Funeral services will be held from the Foscoe Christian church on Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock and burial will take place in the nearby cemetery. Rev. Roy Gentry, pastor of the congregation, will be assisted in the rites by other local ministers.

Survivors include the widow, Mrs. Myra Aldridge Wagner, daughter of the late James Aldridge; a son, Herbert, and a daughter, Mrs. Charles Cole, both of Princeton, W. Va. Two brothers, Joseph of Huntington, W. Va., and George, Elizabethton, Tenn., also survive.

Mr. Wagner was born in Pairsburg, Va., a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Wagner. In early childhood he came to Watauga county, where he made his home until his death. Possessed of a neighborly disposition, he gathered about him a host of friends who will hear of his demise with sorrow.

## Election Boards Named Saturday

Election boards for the state's 100 counties were named at a meeting of the state board of elections last Saturday. The members for Watauga county are: Grady Greer and J. C. McConnell, Democrats, and Russell D. Hodges, Republican.

## HOLTZCLAW HELD ON MURDER COUNT STATE ARKANSAS

Former Wataugan Charged With Killing Arkansas Youth Following Disagreement Over Gasoline; Writes to Friends Here Soliciting Financial Aid

The Democrat on Monday received from Sheriff C. W. Hickman of Warren, Ark., verification of the report that Bynum Holtzclaw, native of Watauga county, is being held in jail there on charges of murder, growing out of the fatal shooting of Elmo Kelley, 17, of that place.

Holtzclaw had written friends here some days ago, asking them to secure financial aid to take care of his defense, and had sent a clipping from a newspaper, which he states, sets forth "their side of the story, not mine." The clipping, which is published herewith, was obviously written before he was apprehended.

"Warren, March 7.—Elmo Kelley, 17, was shot and killed almost instantly, and I. E. Beasley, Jr., 25, was wounded slightly tonight when they attempted to collect for gasoline sold to a motorist who had driven hurriedly out of the station after having his fuel tank filled. The shooting occurred about one and a quarter miles west of the filling station operated by Beasley, on South Main street. The killer, whom Beasley described as a 'rough looking fellow,' about 33, drove rapidly out the old Camden highway. Sheriff C. W. Hickman formed a posse almost immediately and set out in pursuit.

"Beasley said the man was driving a 1940 model Chevrolet sedan which bore state license 14-764. Officers learned that the license was issued for a different make of car, whose owner lives in El Dorado.

"Struggle Ends in Killing. Beasley and young Kelley set out in pursuit when the bandit drove out of Beasley's station without paying for his gasoline. They forced the man to the shoulder of the highway and he stopped his car.

"Beasley said that he then walked up to the man, followed by Kelley, and demanded payment. He said that the man already had opened one of the car doors.

"Well, what are you going to do about it?" the highwayman asked Beasley, at the same time exhibiting an automatic and a revolver.

"Beasley assured him that he was not going to do anything if you want to shoot it out."

"The bandit told Beasley that he would not shoot provided he would return to town and bring back \$3, leaving young Kelley with him. Beasley declined the proposition, he said.

"Well, come around here and I'll give you a spare tire for the gasoline," the desperado told Beasley. They walked to the rear of the car and the robber pretended to unlock the trunk. At that moment, Beasley said, he seized the bandit, hoping to disarm him. However, the man

(Continued on page eight.)

## John Wesley Shell Succumbs Sunday

John Wesley Shell died at his home in Beaver Dam township last Sunday at the age of 80 years.

Funeral services were conducted at Bethel church Monday at 2 o'clock with Rev. W. D. Ashley, the pastor, in charge, and interment was in the cemetery there.

John Wesley Shell was born August 11, 1860. He professed Christianity and joined the church at an early age. On July 29, 1888, he was married to Emma Combs and to this union was born nine children: Mrs. S. G. Lowrance, Sugar Grove; Mrs. F. C. Hagaman, Vilas; John W. Shell, Jr., New York City; Charles G. Shell, New Bedford, Mass.; William Carl Shell, Norfolk, Va.; Mrs. B. M. Grogan, Sherwood; Mrs. V. B. Mast, Sugar Grove; Albert Donald Shell, Sugar Grove; Earl W. Shell, Cincinnati, Ohio. All of the sons and daughters survive, together with the widow, 29 grandchildren and five great grandchildren; a sister, Mrs. J. M. Cook, Sugar Grove, and a brother, J. C. Shell, Banner Elk.

Mr. Shell was a splendid man, a good upright citizen and a kind neighbor. He will be missed in his community.

## Sportsmen Organize Club Last Thursday

A number of sportsmen of the town and county met last Thursday evening for the purpose of organizing a sportsmen's club.

The principal effort of the organization will be to urge the department of conservation to furnish quail to take the place of the birds frozen and starved during the winter. Some other birds will likely be bought for distribution in the county.

The organization is strictly for the protection of the game birds in this area, and volunteer enforcement of the game laws will be asked.

There will be another meeting of the organization Friday evening at 7:30 at the Junior Order hall.

## Plans Going Forward For Visit Of James A. Farley

General Chairman



Postmaster Wiley G. Hartzog, who has been named general chairman for the dedication of the Boone postoffice on April 10, when Postmaster General James A. Farley will speak.

## COLEMAN BUYS BURLEY LEASE

Tabor City Man Purchases Interest of Hardy Brothers in Local Tobacco Mart

Mr. R. C. Coleman of Tabor City, N. C., was in town last week and announced that he had purchased the lease on the Mountain Burley Warehouse here from Hardy Brothers, operators of the market during the opening season.

Mr. Coleman, who will be associated with the Jones Brothers of Mount Airy, in the further development of this city as a tobacco market, is highly pleased with the business done here last season, and states that he will most likely build a second warehouse by the opening of the market next fall.

Hardy Brothers in announcing the sale of their lease, state that their decision to take over other interests in South Carolina made it impossible for them to continue in business here. They are very fond of Boone and her people and regret the change of affairs which resulted in their severing business relations here.

## SCIENCE HALL IS DEDICATED HERE

Fine New Building at Appalachian College is Dedicated Wednesday; Many on Program

Dedication of the \$150,000 science building here Wednesday marked the highlight of Appalachian State Teachers College building program.

Following the opening ceremony of congregational singing by the college A Cappella choir, Hon. R. A. Doughton, former lieutenant-governor and for 50 years recognized as a legislative leader in North Carolina, reviewed the legislative history of the college.

W. R. Lovill, mayor of Boone, and Dr. J. D. Rankin, dean of Appalachian, featured in addresses relative to writing and reading of the college charter, while the college band appeared intermittently to lend air to the occasion.

Expressions of need for a science building by Prof. A. R. Smith, and presentation of the building by Dr. Zed Burns, college architect, and acceptance of the building for the trustees by Judge T. C. Bowie of West Jefferson, opened the new building for public service.

The new science building approved this week, contains three stories especially designed to accommodate physics, biology and chemistry. It was erected of brick and cinder block in modified Georgian style at an approximate cost of \$150,000. It contains 11 laboratories, five class rooms, one large lecture room, two service rooms and six offices equipped with a total working space of 274,000 cubic feet available to the students.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL MEETING

The State Baptist Sunday School convention for superintendents, teachers and officers will be held at Lexington, N. C., next Monday and Tuesday. Anyone interested in attending please notify S. C. Eggers, county associational director.

Sportsmen in Alaska and the United States expend \$10,000,000 annually for hunting licenses and bird stamps.

Number of Committees Appointed to Prepare for Red Letter Day in Boone; Program to Be Formulated Within Few Days; the Committee Members

At a meeting of leading citizens of the town held at the city hall Monday evening, detailed plans for the dedication of the Boone postoffice were made. Various committees were named to work out the different phases of the dedicatory rally on April 10th, when Postmaster General James A. Farley will deliver the principal address, and when a throng of many thousands is expected to gather from Watauga and adjoining counties.

Postmaster Wiley G. Hartzog has been made general chairman for the event, and Dr. B. B. Dougherty will preside as master of ceremonies. Representative Robert L. Doughton will introduce Postmaster General Farley to the gathering.

Mr. Farley comes to Boone from Asheville and the dedicatory program will be held here at 10 o'clock. Visitors will join in a luncheon given Mr. Farley at a local hotel, and he will proceed to Statesville, where he will dedicate the postoffice and speak to the young Democrats of the ninth district in the evening. A detailed program of the day will be available next week.

The Committees. A number of committees were appointed to arrange for the large gathering, and nothing will be left undone to make the occasion an outstanding one. Following are the committees, the first person named being the chairman in each instance: Executive committee: W. G. Hartzog, A. E. South, R. W. McGuire, A. E. Hodges, Wade E. Brown, John (Continued on Page Eight)

## DIOCESE TO MEET AT VALLE CRUCIS

Convention of Episcopal Church at Valle Crucis in April; Bishop to Preside

The convention of the Dioceses of Western North Carolina of the Protestant Episcopal church, will be held this year in Holy Cross church, Valle Crucis, April 25th and 26th. The convention will be the guests of Holy Cross church, the Rev. E. Dargan Butt, priest-in-charge, and the Valle Crucis School, Mrs. Emily T. Hopkins, principal.

This convention is the legislative body of the diocese, and is composed of the clergy of the diocese and lay delegates elected by the various parish and mission churches within the diocese. It is presided over by the bishop of the diocese, the Right Reverend Robert E. Gribbin, D. D., of Asheville. The diocese is composed of the following counties: Alleghany, Ashe, Wilkes, Watauga, Alexander, Caldwell, Avery, Mitchell, Yancey, Catawba, Burke, Lincoln, Gaston, Cleveland, Rutherford, Polk, McDowell, Henderson, Buncombe, Madison, Haywood, Transylvania, Jackson, Swain, Graham, Macon, Clay and Cherokee.

It is expected that there will assemble about one hundred representative men and women from all over Western North Carolina. Sessions will be held each morning and evening, and a service is planned for the evening of the 25th, the speakers to be announced later, to which the general public is invited.

This will be the first time that the convention has been held in Watauga county.

## Mrs. T. R. Grayson Passes Saturday

Mrs. T. Ross Grayson, 48, of Trade, Tenn., died in Grace hospital, Banner Elk, Saturday morning at 2 o'clock following an illness of more than a year. The immediate cause of her demise was pneumonia, which developed Friday afternoon.

Funeral services were held from the home at Trade Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, and burial followed in the Grayson family cemetery. Rev. Mr. Ledford, pastor of Mountain City M. E. church, was in charge of the rites, which were attended by a host of sorrowing friends, including many Boone people.

Survivors include the husband, who is a son of the late Frank Grayson; a son, Thomas, and a daughter, Miss Louise Grayson, both of Trade. The following brothers and sisters are also listed among the immediate survivors: James Todd of Marion, Va.; William B. Todd, Lenoir, N. C.; Joseph Todd of Neva; Roger Todd of Pocatello, Idaho; Mrs. Sam Ray, Marion, Va., and Mrs. R. T. Greer of Lenoir.

Mrs. Grayson was the former Miss Grace Todd, a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Chas. P. Todd, of the Todd community of Watauga county. She attended the old Appalachian Training School here, where she became a part of community life and surrounded herself with a wide group of close friends.