

## TOBACCO SALES OPEN WEDNESDAY

### May Be Chairman



Wait H. Gragg, mayor of Boone, who is being prominently mentioned as the next state chairman of the State Republican executive committee.

### GRAGG IS TOUTED AS CHAIRMAN OF CAROLINA G. O. P.

Rumored that Shakeup in Leadership of the State G. O. P. May Bring Chairmanship to Boone Man; Newell and Jonas May Quit Posts

Watt H. Gragg, mayor of Boone, might be the next chairman of the Republican party in North Carolina, according to rumor which indicates that Charles A. Jonas and Jake F. Newell may relinquish their posts of leadership in the G. O. P. Mr. Gragg says he knows nothing of the situation other than the story appearing in the Union Republican last week. The article, which will be of general local interest, follows:

"Is the Republican party in North Carolina facing a shakeup in its leadership? Rumor comes out of the west that Jake Newell and Chas. A. Jonas are considering stepping out as state chairman and national committeeman, respectively, and letting the work of these two important posts fall upon other shoulders.

"It is only rumor. Neither of these men has made any announcement so far but the undercurrent appears flowing in that direction. For many years Newell and Jonas have been the war horses of Tar Heel Republic. (Continued on page eight)

### CHRISTMAS SEALS NOW BEING USED

Postmaster Says Health Stickers Already Appearing on Letters and Packages

Christmas Seals already are appearing on letters and packages in the local postoffice, according to Postmaster Wiley G. Hartzog.

"The first Christmas Seals to be seen in our office is another certain harbinger of the season for postal employees," Mr. Hartzog said. "Someone is always sure to sing out when he spots the first seal.

"Perhaps it's more than a coincidence, but it was a postal clerk who first conceived the idea of selling an extra stamp at Christmas time for anti-tuberculosis work. The story, as we know it, is this:

"Einar Holboell, a postal clerk in Denmark, was sorting Christmas letters in a Copenhagen postoffice one night in 1903. A naturally sympathetic soul, he always had been distressed by the thought of suffering during the holidays when so many were happy. He thought of the suffering that tuberculosis causes. Then the idea came to him. Why not sell an extra stamp, a decorative Christmas stamp, at this time of year and set aside that money for the care of tuberculosis children? From that inspiration came the Christmas Seal, adopted in this country four years later.

"You can see why postal employees consider themselves active messengers of health each year at Christmas time."

### Two New Services To Be Added To Local Burley Mart

State Agricultural Leader Cites Government Grading and Guarantee of 85 Per Cent of Parity Price for Crop

Two new services will be added to the Mountain Burley Tobacco market scheduled to open here December 3, according to W. P. Hedrick, of the state agricultural department, who has recently completed a tour of the several counties in this section giving tobacco grading demonstrations.

The first will be the establishment of government grading, with the grade of each pile of tobacco marked on the tag before the sale, and a daily sales report from all the burley markets showing prices paid for each grade the previous day.

The second is the establishment of a guarantee of 85 per cent of the parity price for the crop. This will be handled through the Farmers Federation and the Commodity Credit Corporation and is designed to place a price floor under the tobacco.

The crop in the 15 western North Carolina burley counties is off about two per cent in weight from last year, but the quality is much better, Mr. Hedrick said his survey showed.

The tobacco, which grew very fast during a rainy period about the middle of the summer, is what is known as "smoking" and is generally light in color and light in weight.

Mr. Hedrick expressed the belief that the Boone and Asheville markets in North Carolina would sell about 5,000,000 pounds out of the estimated 7,200,000 pounds which the crop reports show will be produced in North Carolina. This is two per cent less than the figure for last year.

The average yield in pounds per acre is placed at 1,000 pounds in the report, this being 50 pounds less than the average yield last year.

Madison county is the leading producer of burley tobacco in the group, Mr. Hedrick said, with Buncombe, Yancey and Haywood following in the order named. Other counties which grow burley are Alleghany, Ashe, Watauga, Avery, Cherokee, Henderson, McDowell, Burke and Transylvania.

The total production of burley is expected to be 374,000,000 pounds, of which 74 per cent comes from Kentucky, he said. The average price for the entire burley belt last year was \$16.23. The average price on the Boone market was \$19.25.

The sales of flue-cured tobacco in the eastern part of the state averaged \$17.23 last year and this year the market just closing has averaged \$30.14, including a substantial increase in prices over last year.

Mr. Hedrick attributed this to strengthened domestic demand, a shorter crop and better quality.

### Work of Removing E. T. & W. N. C. Rails Has Been Completed

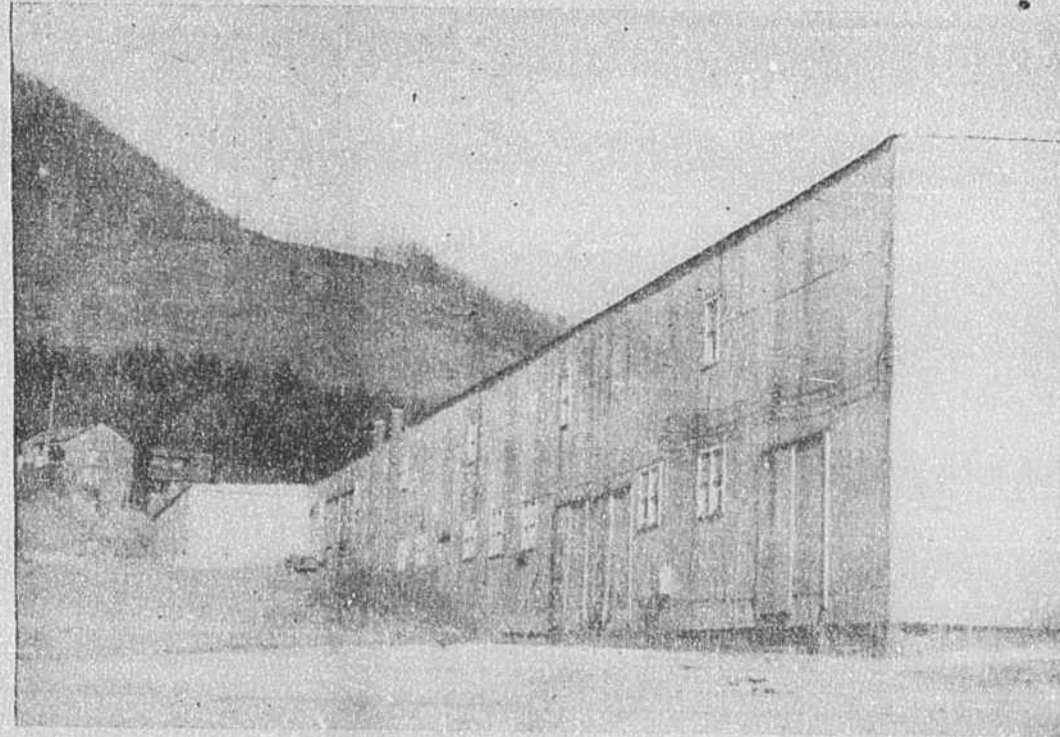
Elk Park, Nov. 22—The Midwest Steel Company of Charleston, W. Va., which has been engaged for six months in taking up the rails of the abandoned section of the Linville River railway between Boone and Cranberry, completed the work this week.

Jesse Click, who was in charge of the work, has been transferred to Florida where he will be in charge of a similar project.

### Tobacco Ball Is Being Arranged

Members of the Tuesday Night Club are making tentative plans for holding the annual tobacco ball, and while the details for the event haven't been worked out, The Democrat next week will make the announcement of the popular event. Arrangements are being made for an orchestra, and the usual gala event is expected.

### THE MOUNTAIN BURLEY TOBACCO WAREHOUSES



Shown above is a side view of the Mountain Burley Tobacco Warehouse number 1, with the entrance to number 2 seen in the distance. Sales are to start at these warehouses Wednesday. The physical properties of the local market are said to be among the most complete and best arranged in the entire burley belt.

### WAR ON RODENTS NOW IN PROGRESS

Mayor Says That If People Continue Unresponsive Eradication Campaign to End

Messrs. Killough, Braswell and Helms of the Orkin Exterminating Company, Charlotte, are now in the city waging war on wharf rats about the city dump, creek banks and other public spots, and treating homes and business houses in cases where the people are willing to co-operate by paying the small fee of \$1.50.

Mayor Gragg states, however, that since the announcement was made of the rat campaign, only about a dozen people have signified their willingness to co-operate by having their homes and other buildings treated for the rodents, and long experience of the exterminating company has shown that no campaign can be thoroughly successful without full co-operation of the people.

Mr. Gragg further says that the city is doing its full share toward alleviating the wharf rat menace, and that if the people are not interested, the campaign will close when the contract made with the company is fulfilled. He insists that all those who desire to get rid of the pests in their homes or business houses, call the city hall THIS WEEK and make known their wishes. Otherwise the campaign cannot be carried forward. It is of the utmost importance that the people give this matter IMMEDIATE attention. The cost is \$1.50 per building, with free termite inspection at the same time.

### MINUTES OFF THE PRESS

Mr. Clyde R. Greene, clerk of the Three Forks Baptist Association has just received the printed minutes of the last session of the Association, and would like for the different churches of the county to get their copies at the Farmers Hardware, in order that the association may be saved the costs of mailing out the pamphlets.

### Thanksgiving Dinner Provided For Troops Maneuvering In This Locality

About 50 soldiers, comprising a unit of the 38th engineers, Fort Jackson, S. C., who are participating in war games in this area, were guests of the citizens of the city for a sumptuous Thanksgiving dinner served at the Gateway Cafe.

A number of local citizens, including American Legion officials, and the mayor of the town visited the soldiers during the hour, and made brief addresses welcoming the troops to the area. Both officers and men described themselves as being immensely pleased with the rare hospitality of the people of Boone, and enjoyed the holiday feast to the utmost.

### Grand Christmas Opening to Be Featured In Connection With Start of Burley Sales; Parade and Santa Claus to Be Features

#### Local Boys Aid in Seizure Nazi Ship

Marvin and Lester Deal, sons of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Deal of Sherwood, are members of the crew of the battleship Omaha, which a few days ago captured the German ship Oldenwald in the South Atlantic.

Marvin is gunner's mate, first class on the Omaha, while Lester is torpedo man, third class. The many friends of the popular local youths will await with interest their next trip home, and first-hand information concerning the valiant exploit of they and other members of the Omaha.

### RED CROSS DRIVE MOST SUCCESSFUL

Reports Keep Coming in Carrying Long List of Red Cross Memberships

The annual Red Cross Roll Call campaign, which is being conducted under the capable leadership of Mrs. W. M. Matheson, roll call chairman, is proving most successful and leaders in the organization are well pleased with the initial reports received.

Following is a list of the memberships and gifts thus far reported to Mrs. Matheson:

Miss Clementine Lindau, Miss Sophie Lindau, Mrs. E. H. Rowe, Smithy's Store, Nettie Lee Shop, Mrs. P. O. Brewer, W. G. Halliburton, Miss Carolyn Blair, Garnett H. (Continued on page five)

### Celebration of Opening of Burley Market and Christmas Opening to Occur Simultaneously as Holiday Lights Are Turned On in Shopping District

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Boone Merchants Association held Monday afternoon it was decided that the official opening of the Christmas shopping season and the celebration marking the start of sales on the floors of the two local tobacco warehouses would occur simultaneously Wednesday afternoon, starting at 4:00 o'clock.

According to tentative plans the event will be featured by a parade with the local high school band, and will wind up at city hall, where the last of the Appreciation Day programs is to be held. Three gifts of \$25, \$15, and \$5 are to be made at that time in addition to numerous gifts of merchandise. All tobacco farmers who are in town at that time will be given an opportunity of sharing in the distribution of gifts.

While the exercises at city hall are in progress, Santa Claus himself is scheduled to arrive by bus, loaded down with goodies for the hundreds of children who annually gather in Boone on this gladsome occasion. With the arrival of Saint (Continued on page eight)

### Youths Sought For NYA Defense Work

Youths between the ages of 17½ and 25 are being sought to enter N. Y. A. defense training centers, and learn trades which will equip them to enter paying positions in defense industries, and later on in private life. There are now in the defense program jobs waiting for 8,000 of these youths when they receive their training in mechanical or electrical trades.

All youths interested in taking this training are asked to call on Mrs. Clara Simpson, NYA interviewer, at her office in the courthouse.

### Elon-Appalachian Game to Be Broadcast

The Elon-Appalachian football game, which winds up the Mountaineer schedule for the season, will be broadcast through the facilities of the local radio station Thursday afternoon, beginning at 2 o'clock, it was announced this morning.

### BANNER YEAR FOR LOCAL MARKET IS SEEN BY COLEMAN

Tobacco Crop Generally Good Throughout Area, Reports Indicate, Following Thorough Survey of Territory by Warehousemen

#### Boone's Average High Last Season

Local Market is Said to Have Led Burley Belt in 1940 Average Price of \$19.25; First Deliveries of Tobacco Monday; Warehouses Operated by Competent Staff

Preparations are practically completed for the opening of sales at the Mountain Burley Tobacco Warehouses here next Wednesday morning and Roscoe Coleman, lessee of the houses, Grady Farthing, president of the warehouse corporation, and other officials are freely predicting that this will be the banner year for the Boone market, with indications that two and a half million pounds of the weed will be sold here.

The tobacco crop, it is agreed, is good throughout this area, despite an unusually dry season, and during the past few weeks, Mr. Coleman and his assistants have gone into practically every tobacco farming area in the burley sections of North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia, calling on farmers personally, and explaining to them the advantages of selling their weed at the market, whose average price last year, \$19.25, is quoted as being the highest in the burley belt.

An extensive advertising campaign has been carried out and radio station WJHL, Johnson City, beginning this afternoon, will carry a special tobacco market broadcast at 6:30 p. m. each week day of the season.

Mr. Coleman states that he sincerely believes that two and a half million pounds of tobacco will be sold on the local market before the end of the season.

The warehouse center is rapidly taking on life, and there is an expectant and cheerful outlook for the opening day price averages. Some of the warehouse employees are already reporting for duty and warehousemen are hurrying to and fro with the expectation of heavy sales during the opening week. Farmers, who had been delayed in grading their weed, due to the continued dry weather, got a break with the damp- (Continued on page eight)

### DR. TUGMAN DIES AT W. JEFFERSON

Well-Known Physician Fatally Injured When Struck By Automobile on Street

Dr. B. W. Tugman, aged 59, native Watauga countian, but for many years a practicing physician in West Jefferson, died there Saturday from injuries received on Wednesday when struck by an automobile as he attempted to cross a street in that town. A skull fracture is given as the cause of the popular physician's death.

Funeral services were conducted from the West Jefferson Methodist church Monday at 2 o'clock and interment was in the cemetery at that place.

Surviving Dr. Tugman are the widow and one daughter, Miss Ruth Tugman, head of the Ashe county welfare department.

### Seal Sale Elicits Immediate Response

Patrons of the Boone postoffice on Monday morning began to receive sheets of Christmas tuberculosis seals, and according to those in charge of the campaign to raise money with which to fight tuberculosis, seven residents of the town responded immediately, placing their dollar into the return envelope provided at the time of receipt and dropping it back into the letter box.

The first seven remittances to be received came from: W. G. Hartzog, R. C. Greene, Mrs. F. A. Linney, Rob Rivers, E. N. Hahn, Dr. G. K. Moose, Daniel Boone Hotel.