



WATAUGA FAIR IS NOT TO BE HELD ON ACCOUNT WAR

Directors in Unanimous Agreement to Abandon Plans for This Year's Agricultural Exhibition in Interest of Nation's War Program

The board of directors of the Blue Ridge Fair Association met late last Wednesday afternoon and by unanimous consent abandoned plans for holding the annual Watauga county agricultural fair in Boone this autumn.

The action was taken, it was said by the officials, as an effort to aid in the war program of the nation, and is in line with recommendations of the federal transportation authority, in regard to public gatherings. A large number of Carolina counties have taken similar action, and Governor Broughton has recommended the temporary abandonment of the state fair to aid in relief of transportation emergency.

The local fair association had already set the fair dates for this year, the secretary was making rapid progress toward assembling the material for the premium list, and the officials regret that it is inadvisable at this time to proceed further. With the gasoline and tire situation growing more serious, it was the unanimous opinion that the fair should be called off as a patriotic move.

The action taken only affects this year's exhibition, and was not for the duration of the war.

Eight Months School Term To Be Continued

There has been some discussion as to whether or not, in the face of the war emergency, the schools would continue to operate for eight months, and Prof. W. L. Winkler has furnished The Democrat the following letter from Clyde A. Erwin, state superintendent of instruction, which clarifies the situation:

"There has been absolutely no discussion here in official circles of the possibility of operating the schools for less than eight months. It is my candid opinion that there will be no letup in our educational program. We have some difficulty about transportation but the schools will certainly be kept open as far as I can see now.

"It will be the duty of every school to make their transportation equipment last just as long as possible because under present conditions when this equipment is worn out there will be no possibility of replacement until the war is over. In other words, every county and every school will have to conserve the transportation equipment which they have to the utmost limits possible because no county will be able to secure additional buses. Upon every principal and every superintendent a serious responsibility to take care of this important item of equipment in order that there be no hindrance to the maintenance of our educational program from this point of view."

Refreshments To Be Served to Selectees

Fifty men, whose names were published last week, are to report for induction into the army next Friday morning, and the local Red Cross canteen corps has arranged to serve them refreshments in the home agent's office immediately after they report to the office of the selective service board.

Golf Committee Makes Red Cross Donation

Mrs. E. E. Garbee, president of the Watauga chapter, American Red Cross, thanks the committee of the Green Park-Norwood golf course, Blowing Rock, for a contribution of \$31.00, the proceeds of a golf tourney held the week-end of July 4.

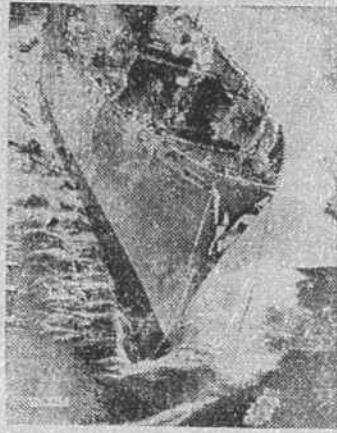
The much-appreciated contribution has already been sent to national headquarters for war production work.

U. S. CASUALTIES PLACED AT 44,143 SINCE WAR BEGAN

Washington, July 21.—The office of war information announced tonight that the United States armed forces have suffered 44,143 casualties—dead, wounded and missing—since the start of the war.

The total includes 4,801 dead, 3,218 wounded and 36,124 missing.

'Down to the Sea'



Slipping down the ways into the water sideways, the U. S. S. Doyen, new naval transport, is shown as she was launched at the yards of the Consolidated Steel Corporation at Long Beach, Calif. The vessel is said to be the largest naval ship ever constructed here.

SIX ARE TAKEN INTO U. S. NAVY

Naval Recruiting Station to Be Established in Boone Every Three Weeks

Mr. Charles C. Smart, chief machinists mate, and U. S. navy recruiter, conducted a recruiting office in the postoffice here Friday and Saturday and accepted six men for enlistment in the naval forces, as follows:

James Ray Fox, Boone.
McCoy Hodges, Vilas.
John Henry Harmon, Vilas.
Walter Lee Brewer, Boone.
Willie Fyrming Ferguson (colored), Boone.

Dell Anderson (colored), Boone. A sub-station for the examination of prospective naval recruits will be established at the Boone postoffice every three weeks, on Friday and Saturday. The next naval recruiter will come to Boone on August 7 and 8.

An unlimited number of applications between the ages of 17 and 49 are being accepted. There are vacancies for both white and colored.

Oxford Singing Class To Appear at Deep Gap

The Oxford Orphanage singing class will appear at the Deep Gap school Friday evening, August 7, at 7:30 o'clock, in a musical program, under the sponsorship of Ashler Masonic Lodge.

The 14 children in the company are accompanied by the assistant manager, S. F. Paul, and the director and matron, Miss DeRotha Hughes. The proceeds from a small admission charge will go to the benefit of the Oxford Orphanage.

Dr. Len Hagaman To Enter U. S. Army

Dr. Len D. Hagaman, former Boone physician and for the past year director of the Caldwell-Burke health department, has been granted a leave of absence in order that he may stand examination preparatory to entering the U. S. army as a first lieutenant in the medical corps. Dr. Hagaman explained that he thought his services would be of greater value to the army at this time, and asked that a leave of absence be granted him.

Deep Gap Family Loses Home in Fire

Mr. and Mrs. Linville Greene of Deep Gap, lost their home last Wednesday in a fire which, it was believed, started from burning soot in a chimney.

The seven-room house was completely razed, together with furniture, clothing, etc., there being scarcely anything salvaged. There was no insurance.

MRS. GEORGE FRITTS DIES

Mrs. George Fritts, 37 years old, a resident of the Mabel community, died at the home Sunday morning, July 5, after a few hours illness.

Funeral services were conducted from the home of Oscar Moretz at Mabel by Rev. Dallas Hodges and Millard Rominger on July 6, and burial was in the Moretz cemetery there. Mrs. Fritts was an industrious woman, a good and generous neighbor. She is survived by the husband, four sons and four daughters.

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT IS REINSTATED HERE

Action Abolishing Work of District Health Department is Rescinded; Many Offer Protest to Board of County Commissioners

At a meeting of the board of county commissioners held Wednesday evening, many citizens offered unanimous objection to the action of the board taken on July 6, in abolishing the participation of Watauga county in the operation of the district health department.

A number of taxpayers offered their objections to the discontinuance of the public health program, and cited reports of the department, indicating the work that is being done in the prevention and cure of diseases in the area. Following the public hearing the commissioners went into executive session, their former action rescinded, and the health program was reinstated for the coming year.

Following is the official notification to Director Robert R. King, as transmitted by Miss Helen Underdown, clerk to the board of commissioners:

"The board of county commissioners has asked that you be notified as follows, relative to the action taken in regard to the Watauga health department.

"That the order regarding the health office made in the meeting held at the courthouse on July 6, 1942, be, and is hereby rescinded, and that the health program is reinstated."

BUS CHANGES AID BLOWING ROCK

Five Buses Now Operate Each Way Daily Between Boone and Blowing Rock

Information from the Queen City Coach Company is to the effect that effective last Monday, a new and improved bus service is available to the people of Blowing Rock and Boone.

Five buses are being operated daily between these points, enabling visitors to Blowing Rock to transact business in Boone at any time during the day, and return by bus, thus conserving their dwindling supply of tires and gasoline.

Buses leave Boone for Blowing Rock at 9:00 a. m., 10:15 a. m., 1:00 p. m., 6:25 p. m. and 8:30 p. m.

Leave Blowing Rock for Boone at 9:40 a. m., 12:00 p. m., 6:00 p. m., 7:50 p. m., and 10:00 p. m.

The trip requires 20 minutes and the one-way fare is 20 cents; 35 cents being the charge for a round-trip ticket.

Republicans Attend Wilkes County Meeting

A number of Watauga county Republicans were in North Wilkesboro Monday, attending a five-county Republican conference, presided over by State Chairman Sid DeLapp, who stated that the organization has plans under way for an active campaign this fall, which will carry the party's appeal directly to the people of the state. Party leaders were present from Watauga, Wilkes, Alexander and Caldwell.

The state chairman called on the Republicans for full support in the war against the Axis. Leaders from each of the counties expressed confidence that the Republicans would make large gains in the fall election and that their counties would return to the Republican column.

Community Cannery Is Open This Week

The community cannery at Vilas is open for canning every day this week, except Saturday, it has been announced.

It is stated that plenty of No. 2 and 3 cans are available for home canning.

NO DEFERMENT POSSIBLE AFTER INDUCTION ORDERS

Mrs. W. R. Lovill, secretary to the selective service board, states that it is impossible to defer draftees, after the orders to report for induction have been issued, and regrets that requests along this line have had to be refused.

However, selectees are usually allowed to return home for a brief period following induction to take care of business matters, etc.

AEF in New Caledonia on Venison Diet



The American forces on the French South Pacific isle of New Caledonia augment their regular rations with venison, which they kill themselves. Deer are so plentiful here as to be almost a nuisance. This party of hunters has just bagged and dressed a 225-pound deer, and are about to return to camp with the "bacon" in their jeep car.

RECORD NUMBER AT BLOWING ROCK

Past Week-end Sets Record for Visitors to Resort; Most All Hotels Filled

Blowing Rock, July 21.—One of the largest week-end crowds ever to assemble in Blowing Rock during the month of July was on the mountaintop from July 16 to 20.

Practically all the hotels and rooming houses were filled to capacity, and many prospective guests had to be turned away. Green Park hotel had every room filled Saturday night. At Mayview Manor there were nearly 300 guests for the week-end. The Green Park-Norwood golf course was thronged with players. The turnstile at the Rock recorded people in great numbers.

For the first time ever in July it was necessary to provide additional seating facilities to care for the large throngs at the morning worship services of the Blowing Rock churches.

All social events, such as the square dance in the high school gymnasium, the Saturday evening dance at Mayview Manor, the bridge teas and bingo parties at Green Park hotel and the Country Club, drew large attendance.

In spite of the fact that the weather has been a bit warm even for Blowing Rock, there was evident satisfaction and relief written on the faces of all visitors because of their escape from the exceedingly hot weather which has wrapped the country in its folds for the past week.

Many Large Bass Are Caught by Local Anglers

Bass fishing is reported as being exceptionally good this year and a number of large catches have been reported. However, Dr. Richardson of the Boone Drug Company, retains the championship honors, having landed a 19½-inch bass from the waters of New River, which weighed three and a quarter pounds.

B. W. Stallings checks in with a 17-inch bass, tipping the scales at 2¼ pounds, while Lee Stout exhibits a fish the same length and weighing two pounds, two and one-quarter ounces. Dr. J. T. C. Wright landed a 16-inch bass.

These fish are only some of the larger ones reported to the Parkway Company, which at the close of the season will give prizes for the largest and heaviest bass, caught by either of the 15 anglers entered in the big fish contest of the local concern.

U. S. SUBMARINE SINKS 3 JAPANESE DESTROYERS

Washington, July 21.—U. S. submarines, attacking relentlessly through the fog and rain of the North Pacific, have sunk three more Japanese destroyers in the vicinity of Kiska in the Aleutian islands, the navy announced tonight.

The latest successes—raising to 18 the number of Jap ships sunk or damaged by U. S. forces in the Aleutians—were made public in a communique which emphasized that army and navy bombers are continuing to hammer away at the enemy whenever the weather permits.

WOOL POOL SELLS OVER 17 TONS HERE

Fleece Nets Farmers 52 Cents Per Pound; Chatham Mfg. Co. Is Buyer

Four hundred farmers and merchants sold 35,178 pounds of wool through the Watauga wool pool on Thursday and Friday of last week.

The clear wool netted the sheepmen 52 cents per pound or a total of \$18,165.91 for the entire pool. This was the most wool ever pooled in Watauga county and was an increase of 8,000 pounds over last year's pool.

The Chatham Manufacturing Co. of Elkin, bought the wool and took it up at different points throughout the county.

The wool and lamb pool has enabled the sheepmen of this county to receive more profit from their sheep and as a result of better marketing, the sheep population has been on the increase in this county for the last few years.

Fishing and Hunting Group to Meet Friday

The Watauga Fishing and Hunting Club held a well-attended meeting last Friday evening, and a large number of new members were added to the list. The name of the organization was changed to the Watauga County Wildlife Club, and annual dues were fixed at \$2.00. Those interested in the conservation and propagation of wildlife in this county may apply for membership at the office of the secretary, Paul A. Coffey, at the Parkway Company.

President Lee H. Stout has called another meeting of the club to be held at the Parkway Company Friday evening of this week at 8:00 o'clock. All members and others interested in the organization and its purposes are urged to attend.

Lambs Bring Good Price on Local Mart

Farmers received 12 to 13½ cents per pound for lambs, depending on quality, at the Watauga Livestock Market last week, it is said by L. H. Hollar, manager. Cattle also brought a splendid price, he said.

Mr. Hollar urges farmers to patronize the local market, and states that there are always plenty of buyers and that the prices have been running uniformly high.

GAS BUFFER ZONE IS SET UP BY O. P. A.

Washington, July 20.—A 25 per cent cut in gasoline deliveries to filling stations in 162 counties bordering the rationed eastern seaboard area was ordered by the war production board today, effective Wednesday, when the new coupon rationing system will begin.

The purpose, WPB explained, was to establish a "buffer zone" so that motorists living in the rationed area but near the border could not drive across it and fill their tanks. With their supplies limited, filling stations will have to restrict their sales.

TWIN CALVES

Mr. Ed Henson of Sherwood, who has fourteen cows, reports that the unusual has happened in that two sets of twins have been born, to make fourteen calves with the herd.

BOND, STAMP SALE FOR HEROES DAY TOTALS \$2,726.75

Celebration is Largely Attended; Band Concert, Patriotic Addresses and Historical Presentations Feature Local Gathering

The celebration held in Boone last Friday honoring the nation's heroes, and launching an accelerated campaign for the sale of war bonds and stamps, resulted in the disposal of \$2,726.75 worth of the securities, a checkup of local sales revealed. The various business places of the city joined wholeheartedly in the initial effort to coax additional funds into the war coffers of the nation.

Mayor W. H. Gragg was master of ceremonies at the celebration which was held on the postoffice lawn, and Dr. Amos Abrams of Appalachian College, delivered a rousing and inspiring patriotic address, calling upon the people to become aroused from their complacent attitude, and enthusiastically and unitedly join in the fight against the totalitarian nations.

A large crowd gathered for the exercises including many veterans of the World war, Spanish war, and an occasional member of the present army. Clyde R. Greene traced the history of Watauga's participation in past and present wars and the information he compiled along this line is reproduced here, as a contribution to the history of this region:

We have gathered here this afternoon to honor the war heroes of Watauga county. We have many heroes of peace no less renowned than those of war; but we are now engaged in the world's first all-out war; so therefore, it is fitting that this afternoon be dedicated to the honor of only the war heroes of past and present.

In the war that gave our nation its independence Watauga had a part, although the county itself was not formed until 1849. At that time very few people lived in what is now Watauga county. A careful study of available records reveal the names of several of our early settlers who had served in the Revolutionary war. We give you the following and there certainly are others whose names we do not have:

Col. Nathan Horton. He was buried at old Three Forks church. He helped to guard the famous British spy, Major Andre, who negotiated with the American traitor, Benedict Arnold.

John Greene (called John Moccasin to distinguish him from others of the same name). He later moved to what is now Mitchell county.

William Miller loved on Meat Camp and was one of the charter members of Three Forks church.

James Todd, died in 1814.

Benjamin Bingham, who was at Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown.

John Younce. He was a blacksmith and shod horses in Washington's army.

Benjamin Blackburn settled on New River.

John Holtzclaw, who settled at Valle Crucis.

Benjamin Greer, who rescued Col. Ben Cleveland from Capt. Riddle on what is now Riddles Knob. Greer is referred to in Draper's History of the Battle of King's Mountain as being one of Cleveland's heroes and is said to have killed Col. Ferguson, the British commander in that memorable battle which is now referred to as the turning point in the American Revolution.

Edward Moody, who is buried on Watauga River.

Wm. Braswell, who was buried in what is now Avery county.

.....Jones, who is buried in the same cemetery with Benjamin Blackburn on New River.

Wm. Davis, who was born in France and came to America with Lafayette.

George, Absalom and Wm. Smith were three brothers who served in the army in Virginia and later moved to this section.

Wm. Gragg, who settled in John's River in Caldwell county and probably later lived in this county.

War of 1812

We have found the name of only one soldier from Watauga county in the war of 1812—Moses Yarber, who served in McNeill's company and was buried on Watauga River in the same cemetery with Edw. Moody.

In the Mexican War

In the Mexican war of 1848, Col. Joe Todd was an officer. Others who were soldiers: George Wright, Benj. Pritchard and Nehemiah Oaks. There were certainly others, but we (Continued on page four)