



# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT



An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Year 1888.

VOL. LVI. NO. 17.

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1943

\$1.50 A YEAR—5c A COPY

## INSTITUTE FOR DRIVERS BRINGS BIG ATTENDANCE

Many Attend Meeting Designed to Train Pre-Induction Drivers Of Area; Other News of the School System of Watauga County is Given.

In institute for the training of pre-induction drivers, was held on Thursday October 14th, in the auditorium of the Science building at the Appalachian State Teachers College. Present for this occasion was Mr. Ralph J. Andrews, assistant supervisor of high school education; Mr. Ronald Hocutt, chief of highway safety division; Major I. N. Carr, division chief for seven southern states of pre-induction training; Captain Nelms of Quartermaster General's department Superintendents, teachers and principals from Avery, Ashe and Watauga Counties were in attendance. A full days program was given over to the different phases and the importance of this work. The purpose of the institute was to train those in attendance in order that they might return to their schools and put in the course as a full time part of the High School Curriculum. Special emphasis was given to the mechanical training, essential for safe driving. The Highway Safety Division will cooperate with the various schools in putting on the necessary road tests if called upon for assistance. The Superintendent of Watauga county schools, strongly urges all high schools to follow out the suggestions made at the meeting and put this course into effect at once.

Mr. Andrews called attention also to the importance of continuing and enlarging the Victory Corps organization in the schools. He pointed out that this program lends material support to the war effort in that the pupils will have an opportunity to work as a unit in many activities directly related to aid in all volunteer work. Current campaigns, such as the recent Bond Drive, the present salvage drive and rationing off book no. 4 which will be a responsibility of the schools next week, will give the members of the Victory Corps something to work for. The Victory Corps can also render aid to the man power commission by working part time in stores, filling stations, offices dairies, and on the farms in order to relieve the manpower shortage in all industries. It is hoped that all the schools in this area not having an active Victory Corps will organize at once in order that the services mentioned above may be carried out in a systematic manner.

A teachers' meeting for the Watauga County Unit of the N. C. E. A. was held last Saturday afternoon. Miss Pearl Weaver of the State Department of Health was chief speaker for the meeting. Miss Weaver pointed out by means of charts and posters a very practical way just how a complete and well rounded health program can be carried out in every class room. The counties of Ashe, Alleghany and Watauga have requested the services of the health department in putting on a full-time program for next year. Miss Weaver thinks that this request will be granted. In the meantime if the teachers will follow the suggestions made, the groundwork will already be laid.

Superintendent S. F. Horton of the Watauga county schools attended a conference of Superintendents, principals and Teachers of the Northwestern District in Winston-Salem last Wednesday night. The purpose of the conference was to discuss our responsibility in helping secure the passage of the Federal aid bill to education now being considered by the Senate. A resolution was passed requesting our Senators and Congressmen to support this bill. The bill as now written gives thirteen million to the State of North Carolina with the distribution and use of this money entirely within the discretion of the State Board of Education. State control therefore, would not be affected as the money would be handled in much the same way as the State has handled federal funds for vocational education during the last several years. Suggestions were made at the opening that any friend of education be requested to write their Congressman and do whatever they can to enlist support of the bill.

Under a recent allotment for teachers the Blowing Rock High School secured another teacher. Mrs. A. E. Hamby, Jr., was elected to this position.

Mrs. Joy Greene resigned as teacher in the Rominger school because of the serious illness of her son. Mr. George Harmon was elected to fill this vacancy.

(Continued on page eight.)

## 'Angels of Mercy' in Italy



One of the first groups of Allied nurses to arrive on the mainland of Southern Italy is pictured leaving a Bristol Bombay air ambulance.

## LIONS CLUB HOLDS REGULAR MEETING

Forty-One Children Were Examined In Lion's Sight Clinic Held Here Thursday.

The Boone Lions Club held its regular meeting in the dining room of the Gateway Cafe Tuesday evening, Lion E. C. Holshouser presided in the absence of President Frank Payne. Hobbies were discussed by the members of the club. Reports of committee chairmen revealed the extent of worth while activities engaged in by the club recently. Lion Burwell, chairman of the Blind Work Committee, reported that forty-one children were examined at the eye clinic held in Boone last Thursday. Of that number, twenty-one were fitted with glasses, and two were sent to a school for the blind. Children were transported to the clinic by members of the club.

Dr. Robert King announced that an orthopedic clinic will be held at his office Wednesday October 20th. Lion Gordon Winkler announced that the club's share of the proceeds from the recently sponsored picture show amounted to \$11.50, which will be spent in the worthwhile activities of the club in community service.

A program is being arranged by the members of the club who will go as guests to the North Wilkesboro Lions Club on November 5.

The Lenoir Lions Club will be guests of the Boone organization at its meeting November 2.

Guests for the evening were Dr. Ralph House, formerly a Lion in Jefferson City, Mo., who joined the faculty of Appalachian State Teachers College this year.

## Workers Badly Needed At Red Cross Rooms

It is reported that there is an increasing shortage of workers at the Red Cross rooms, and production leaders are asking that every one possible give at least a little time to this pressing patriotic work.

It is stated that a new shipment of navy yarn for sweaters has just arrived at the Red Cross headquarters. Your help is needed, and would be highly appreciated.

## BROTHERS IN SERVICE



Pictured above are two sons of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Dotson of Shulls Mills, N. C., who are in the army. At the left is Pvt. Warren M. Dotson who volunteered for the service November 19, 1942. He was first sent to Fort Bragg and from there to Fort Riley, Kans. Then he was sent to Camp Butler, N. C., and from there to the Hawaiian Islands. He is now in Australia, and would like to hear from his friends in Boone and Shulls Mills. His address is: Pvt. Warren M. Dotson, 14187922, Co. H, 34th Inf., APO 24, Care Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif. To the right is Corporal James F. Dotson, who won his promotion, after having been in the service since March 1941. He was first sent to Fort Bragg, N. C., and from there to Fort Belvoir, Va., then to Camp Beauregard, La. After training at Los Angeles, Calif., he is now located at Camp Swift, Texas. He says he would like very much to have letters from his friends in this section. His present address is Cpl. Jas. F. Dotson, 34052815, Co. B, 89th Engrs., Hq. Pcn. Bn. Camp Swift, Tex.

## BURLEY VOTERS TO GO TO POLLS NEXT SATURDAY

Number of Voting Places in Different Section of County Named, Where Votes May Be Cast On Quota System. Full Information Regarding the Issue.

The burley tobacco referendum is to be held on Saturday October 23, at the following places from 8:00 a. m. until 5:00 p. m.

Beaver Dam Township, Donly Haganan's Store, Clyde Perry's Store. Boone, Bald Mountain, Blue Ridge, Meat Camp, and Stony Fork townships, County Office building.

West Boone Township, Henson's Service Station.

Cove Creek and North Fork Townships, Sherwood's Store, Bert Mast's Store.

Laurel Creek township, V. D. Ward's Store.

Watauga and Shawneehaw Townships, Howard's Mast's store.

Following is further information regarding the balloting and the quota system involved.

Growers will vote on three questions: (1) Are you in favor of marketing quotas for three years? (2) Are you opposed to marketing quotas for three years, but favor the quota for one year? (3) Are you opposed to quotas?

A two-thirds majority of eligible voters is necessary to adopt quotas. An eligible voter is any owner, tenant or shareholder who shares in the 1943 burley tobacco crop. No farmer, whether an individual, partnership, corporation association or other legal entity will be entitled to vote more than one vote, even though such farmer may have been engaged in the production of burley tobacco in two or more communities, counties or states in 1943.

Provisions are also made for marketing ballots in private.

If quotas are approved by two-thirds or more voters acreage allotments for individual farms for 1944 will be 20 per cent larger than they were in 1943. It is recognized that many growers will not be able to grow their full tobacco allotments in 1944. Consequently, this adjustment in farm acreage allotments permits more flexibility in the tobacco control program by allowing those growers who can, to increase their plantings so as to attain the desirable tobacco production next year.

If quotas are not approved by two-thirds or more voters, no farm acreage allotments will be established for 1944 and burley tobacco may be produced without restrictions as to the number of growers or the acreage grown.

If two-thirds of the voters approve quotas, then quotas will be effective on all burley grown in the United States during the quota period (three years or one year as the case may be) and prices will be supported at 90 per cent of parity. If quotas are disapproved by more than one-third of the voters, no loans or other price support will be available and no restrictions will be imposed on the amount of burley tobacco which may be marketed by any producer regardless of the number of acres planted to the farm.

The local triple-A committee will be in charge of the balloting in each county. The committee will designate voting places and name local farmers in each voting community to serve as election officers. Eligible voters will be listed by the county AAA office from its own records. However, any person may cast a vote, whether or not he is on the list of eligible voters. Ballots of unregistered voters will be challenged but they will be counted if it is determined that the voter is eligible to vote.

## Two Prisoners Make Escape From Gang

Two prisoners escaped from a state prison gang in the county early Saturday morning, it has been learned. The men were working on the highway, and used the protection of the smoke from a warming fire as the screen for their escape.

They got into the woods and on Tuesday the state prison camp officials had failed in their efforts to locate them.

The men wanted are: Clayton Cole from Watauga county, serving a term of 3 to 5 years for breaking and entering; and Romie Marsh, sent up from Surry County for 8 to 12 years for house breaking and larceny.

The recent feeder calf sale at Clyde in Haywood county, which brought out almost 500 head of steer and heifer calves, was probably the best ever held in the state, according to extension specialists.

## Losing Weight



Benito Mussolini, left, and Marshal Hermann Goering appear to be losing weight in more ways than one, judging by this picture taken recently in Berlin and radioed to London from neutral Switzerland.

## KNITTING MILL WORK GOES ON

Small Plant to Be Made Ready, In Advance Completion of Large Mill.

Considerable work has already been done in the Critcher building near the Democrat office looking to the installation of a hosiery plant for the Baker-Commack Co., of Burlington, which will serve to train workers until the big new building can be completed.

Carpenters have been preparing the bases for the machines and electricians for the New River Light & Power Company have been making their lines ready to carry the increased load of the plant.

While officials of the company have given out no definite statement it is expected that the small plant will be in operation soon.

## Nazis Rush Men Into Big Russian Battle

The Germans were reported Tuesday to be running reinforcements from their Crimean manpower reservoir today in a desperate attempt to hold the South Ukraine stronghold of Melitopol in the face of Russian offensives from the east and north aimed at cracking that gateway to the Crimea and engulfing the hundreds of thousands of Nazi troops in the great peninsula.

Some of the bitterest fighting of the war was raging inside of Melitopol itself, the Russians said. Red army shock spearheads, battling with bayonets and grenades in a blinding dust storm, inched their way through a formidable maze of blockhouses and street defenses, the Soviets said, clearing away several districts of last ditch defenses, hurled back one strong German counter attack south of the city and captured large quantities of materials.

## Yanks Seize 5 Italian Towns in Heavy Drive

The battle of the Volturno River has ended in victory for the fifth army with the American and British troops crossing the river at all points it was announced Tuesday.

American troops captured five villages on the eastern sector of the fifth army line in a sweeping advance of from three to five miles. Simultaneously British troops between Capua and the sea swept over the difficult river barrier at all points on bridges built by American engineers.

At the same time Gen. Sir Montgomery's eighth army continued to push back the Germans and captured the towns of Santa Stefano and Montecellone in their drive from the Adriatic coast.

The Fifth army put them astride the Titero river where enemy resistance slackened.

The North African air force maintained its supremacy hammering at the Germans from one end of the line to the other, but the biggest air news of the day was made by American bomber fleets which blasted the railroad yard at Skoplje in Yugoslavia on the only railroad running from Belgrade to Athens.

## New Office Hours At Ration Board

The War Price and Ration Board at Boone, N. C., has established new office hours. Under the new plan the office will be open to the public from 9 a. m. to 3 p. m. Monday Through Friday and 9 a. m. to 12:30 P. M. on Saturdays.

## LOCAL HEREFORD GRAND CHAMPION AT ELKIN SHOW

Baby Beef Grown by Tommy Vannoy Grand Champion in Last Week Showing; Second Champion Tommy Has Raised; Other News of the Show.

Watauga County 4-H members and farmers exhibited three baby beefs and eight fleeces of wool in the Elkin Fat Stock and Wool Show on Thursday October 15, and Tommy Vannoy, 4-H club member of the Bamboo section of the county had the honor of seeing the judge tap his steer for Grand Championship of the beef show.

This is the second time that Tommy has shown a grand champion calf. His steer that he fed last year won the grand championship at the Western Carolina Fat Stock Show at Asheville, and both of Tommy's champions were bred and raised on his home farm. This year's grand champion baby beef weighed 820 pounds and sold at auction for 40 cents per pound. The calf was bought by Mr. Poindexter, Mayor of Elkin, Mr. Avery Neaves, vice-president of the Chatham Manufacturing Co., Elkin, N. C.; and Mr. T. F. Cooley, manager of the Klondike Farm, Elkin, N. C.

The next highest ranking calf was shown by Fred Council of Boone. Fred's calf stood third in the show, weighed 785 pounds and sold at auction for 24 cents a pound. Mr. Barnard Dougherty purchased this calf for the New River Light & Power Co., of Boone.

The other Watauga calf was shown by Charles Vannoy of the Bamboo section. Charles' calf placed 9th, weighed 575 pounds and sold at auction for 20 cents a pound. This calf was purchased by Mr. Frank M. Payne, of the Security Life & Trust Co., Boone, N. C.

These three steers also won first in the county group and first in the class for home raised steers. Chas Vannoy won the showmanship contest to give the Watauga group a perfect score.

In the wool department the Watauga farmers did equally as well as the 4-Hs did in the cattle show. W. H. Mast of the Cove Creek community of this county, had the honor of seeing his fleece selected as the grand champion fleece and Henry Taylor of Valle Crucis, saw his purebred ram fleece take the first place in its class. Ralph Wilson, Vilas, also took second place with his purebred ram fleece in this class. The Watauga farmers who exhibited the wool also won the county group prize for the best county exhibit of wool. The grand champion fleece weighed 8 pounds and sold at auction for \$1.25 per pound. This fleece also won \$13 in prize money.

## Jap Advance Repulsed Says Gen. Stilwell

Chunking, Oct. 19.—One prong of the Jap drive into southeastern China has been thrust eastward across the Salween river which for eighteen months has held the enemy in check, a communique from headquarters of Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell indicated today.

The communique recorded an attack by fighter bombers of the fourteenth U. S. airforce, supporting the Chinese ground forces, on Japanese troop concentrations and supply dumps at Lukka, in Yunnan, on the east bank of the Salween wall north of the point where the old Burma road crosses that barrier.

It was the first indication that the Japanese had established a bridgehead. The Chinese have not acknowledged the loss of Lukku or any Japanese crossing of the river.

The American air attack made Sunday, inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy. Gen. Stilwell's communique said. It also reported three Japanese air attacks on three undefended auxiliary air fields in Eastern China.

## Serving On Home Front With the Red Cross.

- Mrs. Lela Hardin
- Mrs. Paul Coffey
- Mrs. Antonakos
- Mrs. Hartung
- Mrs. Herman Eggers
- Mrs. S. H. Perry
- Mrs. E. T. Glenn
- Mrs. W. M. Grubbs
- Mrs. D. J. Whitener
- Mrs. W. H. Burwell
- Mrs. Estes
- Mrs. Owen Wilson
- Mrs. Milton Greer
- Mrs. Miller
- Miss Dorothy Schneider

BUY WAR SAVINGS BONDS