



WATAUGA DEMOCRAT



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WAR FUND DRIVE GAINS IMPETUS AT DINNER MEET

Subscriptions Are Now Within \$500 of Goal; All Sections of County Are Organized; End of Campaign December 1

The National War Fund campaign gained new impetus at a dinner given for the workers by Mr. and Mrs. George C. Greene at the Gateway Cafe last Thursday evening, at which time the different outlying districts of the county were organized and Mrs. M. R. Maddux, county chairman of the drive, submitted a report showing that the sum of \$2,100 had been raised, bringing Watauga County within \$500 of its quota of \$2,600.

Mrs. Maddux states that between now and December 1, the official date for the closing of the campaign, solicitors will canvass each section of the county, in an effort to gain an oversubscription of the quota.

Beginning next week, the names of the contributors will be published.

Farm Machinery Repair Shop to Open on Nov. 29

A class in farm machinery repair will start on Monday, Nov. 29, in the agricultural farm shop of the Cove Creek High School.

The class will be supervised by Ernest Hillard and taught by Chas. A. Hartley. Classes will be conducted on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of each week, beginning at 7 p. m. and closing at 10.

Many of the farmers will be interested in enrolling for the course. They will bring their own machinery and equipment to repair or construct and with the help of Mr. Hartley do their own work. With the help of Mr. Hartley and the fine machinery in the shop, a farmer can repair anything from a wagon to a hoe. There will be no cost for the course. Each farmer will pay for materials which he uses.

Berlin is Smashed In History's Record Aerial Bombing Trip

London, Nov. 24—Berlin, the heart of the German war effort, tonight lay sprawled, smashed, smoking and trembling after the greatest aerial blow ever struck in warfare—a 1,000-bomber RAF raid last night during which more than 2,300 long tons of high explosives and incendiaries were hurled down on the Nazi capital from its center to the suburbs.

The correspondent of a Stockholm newspaper said preliminary estimates of dead and injured totalled 10,000 and that the Nazis officially announced a "very large number" of casualties.

The allies did last night what the Germans once dreamed of doing to London, but on five times the scale the Germans ever attained.

The record raid on the Nazi capital, which German leaders once boasted never would feel the terror of allied bombs, was made despite bad weather, and the huge black night bombers of the RAF flying through thick clouds not only smashed the industrial suburbs but hit government buildings in the great city with their record weight of explosives. The previous record weight of just 2,300 long tons poured down on Hamburg last Aug. 23.

Reports tonight from Stockholm said a heavy pall of smoke hung over the stricken Nazi capital all day, and tonight parts of the city still were in flames with fire fighters and other air raid workers, already weary from coping with a heavy attack four nights before, still toiling desperately.

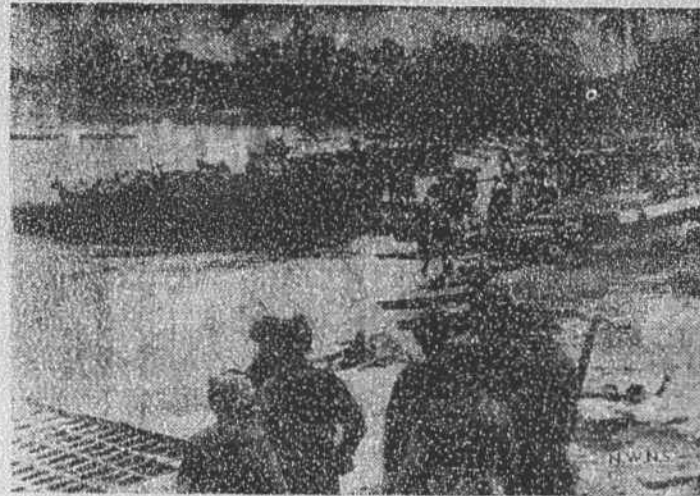
And tonight, as the terror-stricken population of Berlin attempted to check the devastation of last night's raid, continental radars suddenly closed down hinting that the world's fourth largest city again was being pounded by the allies.

Mrs. Elsa Moody Dies in Cleveland

Funeral services for Mrs. Elsa Moody, 37, who died Saturday in Cleveland, Ohio, were held at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon from Henson's Chapel Methodist Church on Cove Creek, and the body was interred there.

Mrs. Moody is survived by her husband, Grady Moody, of Cleveland and Sugar Grove.

Marines Win First Round on Bougainville



United States marines battled their way through another part of Japan's defenses by forming a six-mile-long beachhead on Bougainville. This photo shows a part of the landing party. Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr., commander of the South Pacific forces, called the landing one of the most difficult of the Solomons campaign.

AAA COMMITTEE TO BE NAMED LOCALLY

9,000 Community Committeemen to Be Named in State; Local Meetings Announced

Meeting in a series of community sessions, North Carolina farmers soon will elect more than 9,000 community committeemen and alternates who will represent them in operating the War Food program and the Agricultural Conservation program of the AAA in 1944, it was announced this week by G. T. Scott, chairman of the State AAA committee.

All community elections will be held between November 29 and December 4, Scott said, and county conventions for the purpose of electing a county AAA committee will be held following final community elections in each county.

"Since beginning the national farm program ten years ago, the AAA has been operated on the principle that farmers themselves run the program," he said. "Each year farmers from every community in the State elect three of their neighbors as AAA committeemen to handle their farm program business. They also elect a delegate to represent the community in selecting a committee of three farmers from the county to serve as the county AAA committee for the following year."

The dates for the meetings in Watauga County are as follows:

- Monday, November 29
 - Bald Mountain township, at Walter Cook's store, from 9 a. m. to 10:30 a. m.
 - Meat Camp township, at Green Valley school, from 11 a. m. to 12:30 p. m.
 - Meat Camp township, at Winebarger school, from 1 p. m. to 2:30 p. m.
 - Stony Fork township, at Deep Gap school, from 3:30 to 5 p. m.
 - Tuesday, November 30
 - Blowing Rock township, at Lentz's store, from 9 a. m. to 10:30 a. m.
 - Blue Ridge township, at Bamboo school, from 11 a. m. to 12:30 p. m.
 - Elk township, at Simmons' store, from 1:30 p. m. to 3 p. m.
 - Boone township No. 2 at county office building, from 3 p. m. to 4:30 p. m.
 - Boone township No. 3 at Green
- (Continued on page eight.)

F.F.A. Livestock Judging Contest

The annual Parkway F.F.A. Federation livestock judging contest was held recently at the Cove Creek High School. The Cove Creek chapter was in charge. Chapter judging teams entering the contest were Sparta, Newland, Cove Creek, Cranberry, Daniel Boone, Jefferson and Piney Creek.

The classes judged by the boys were breeding beef cattle, farm draft horses, fat hogs, dairy cows and poultry. County Agent H. M. Hamilton made official placing for the contest.

The Cove Creek team, composed of Truman Billings and Carl Campbell, placed first with 775 points, and the Newland team placed second with 760 points. Todd Lacka, of Newland, was the high scoring boy of the contest with 425 points out of 500 possible points.

The Cove Creek chapter will receive a nice present for team winning first place and Todd Lacka, the highest scoring individual, will receive a pin for his score.

LARGE CORN YIELD
Mr. Robert L. Norris, of Bald Mountain township, reports that from two acres planted to corn this year, he made a yield of 160 bushels to the acre.

BURLEY HOUSES TO OPEN MONDAY

Auction Sales of Tobacco to Start December 2; Prospects Are Bright

The Mountain Burley Tobacco Warehouses will be open for the receipt of tobacco next Monday morning, and auction sales of the leaf will begin on December 8.

Mr. R. C. Coleman, of Tabor City, operator of the local warehouses, has been in town for several days, and he and other members of the local force have toured the burley area in three states, getting ready for the opening of what he believes will be the most successful season in the history of the local market.

The tobacco this year is said to be of high quality, and more than two million pounds is expected to be sold during the season.

Dr. Whitener is Lauded For Work On War Records

Dr. Christopher Crittenden, co-ordinator of war records office of civilian defense, writes to D. J. Whitener, collector for Watauga County: "The Office of Civilian Defense and the State Department of Archives and History are highly gratified over the work you are doing. Records of our state's part in the war are being collected in large numbers. Before the task is completed, it is believed that we will have one of the largest and most valuable collections of its kind to be found in the United States."

The collection and preservation of the war records for Watauga County is a task which should enlist the enthusiastic support of every citizen. In many counties where there is no fireproof building for storage purposes, the records are being sent to Raleigh for safe keeping. Fortunately Watauga County has the fireproof library at the college, and all records will be kept at home where they will be open and available to the people.

Collector Whitener states that newspaper accounts of our boys should be clipped and sent to him, but the name and the date of the newspaper should be written on the clipping. Accounts of bond sales, Red Cross drives, OPA activities, United Service Fund campaigns, and all other activities and work connected in any way with winning the war are included in the scope of the collection.

Plans are being made to preserve the service record of each soldier. With the aid of the American Legion and other groups and individuals, the service records should be collected without delay. Elsewhere in this newspaper will appear a form for Watauga County Service Record, World War II. Fill it out, clip it, and send to D. J. Whitener, Boone, N. C.

Dr. Ralph A. Herring Heads State Baptists

Winston-Salem, Nov. 18—Dr. R. A. Herring, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Winston-Salem, was elected president of the North Carolina State Baptist convention here today.

Other officers named at the final session of the annual meeting were: Rev. Perry Crouch, Fayetteville, first vice-president; Dr. Claude Gaddy, Raleigh, second vice-president, and J. W. Kincheloe, Rocky Mount, third vice-president.

Dr. Herring succeeds Mr. I. G. Greer, of Thomasville, as head of the Baptist State convention.

COMMERCE BODY HOLDS MEETING TUESDAY NIGHT

Interesting Program is Arranged for Dinner Session; Standard Oil Representative and Others Appear on Program

About 30 members of the Chamber of Commerce gathered for an important dinner meeting at the Gateway Cafe Tuesday evening, at which time a number of guests were heard, and many matters of civic interest discussed.

Mr. J. E. Baker, president of the Baker-Cormack Hosiery Mills, spoke and told of the plans of his company, which is now operating a small plant here, pending the completion of the new building. Mr. Baker stated that it is the purpose of his firm to co-operate in all matters looking to the betterment of the community, and that Boone was chosen as the logical place to locate a plant in line with his program of decentralization of his industries.

Mr. G. F. Ball, of the Standard Oil Company, showed an interesting and instructive picture, showing the methods used by Esso reporters in gathering news.

Mr. Clyde R. Greene presented interesting figures on agriculture and other activities in Watauga County, and the matter of selling license tags in Boone came up for discussion. The following committee was appointed to investigate the possibility of getting these tags: H. Grady Farthing, chairman; Harry Hamilton and Clyde R. Greene.

The advertising of this section in co-operation with the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce was discussed, and given favorable consideration. The matter was referred to the board of directors for further consideration. The matter of advertising the tobacco market was brought up, and it was decided that the Chamber of Commerce would assist to a limited extent in this activity.

Mr. H. W. Wilcox, president of the commerce body, stated that progress is being made in regard to establishment of express service here. Mayor Gordon H. Winkler spoke on the possibilities of post-war air freight service.

Success of Pacific Venture Assured

Pearl Harbor, T. H., Nov. 23.—Success of the first American offensive of the war in the Central Pacific is assured, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced triumphantly today.

Already the 27th division has captured Makin atoll. The capture of Tarawa, where the marines have consolidated their positions, is certain. Amphibian forces cracked the beach defenses of both places last Saturday.

The situation on Abemama atoll, 80 miles south of Tarawa, was reported well in hand. The marines landing there was announced only yesterday.

An excellent bomber field within striking distance of strong Japanese bases in the Marshall islands to the north will become available with the capture of Tarawa. Fighting on Tarawa was believed to be confined to Betio island, which has air base facilities. The enemy was strongly entrenched on Betio, at the southwestern tail of Tarawa atoll. The island is a sand waste less than two miles long and about a thousand yards wide.

Scouts To Enjoy Banquet On Monday

The Boy Scouts of Boone will enjoy a venison banquet at the Scout Hut next Monday evening at 7:00, according to an announcement made by Mr. B. W. Stallings, Scoutmaster.

The following have been invited to attend: Buck Robbins, W. B. York, Bill Greer, Grady Moretz, Bill Aldridge, Pete Storie, Buddy Moretz, Jack Whitener, George King, Junior Cook, Fred Council, Donald Warner, Fred Miller, Billie Busted, Donald McCracken, Gene Blackburn.

Each Scout is requested to furnish his own plate and fork.

ANOTHER LOCAL HUNTSMAN BAGS DEER IN MITCHELL AREA

Bill Rush, of The Democrat staff, bagged a 109-pound buck in the Mount Mitchell Co-operative Wildlife Management Area last Saturday, bringing to four the number of deer taken by local men during the annual hunts there.

WAR Veteran



Mr. William H. Blackburn, Watauga's last veteran of the Grand Army of the Republic, whose death occurred at his home at Laxon on November 15. Mr. Blackburn was born August 31, 1846, and was enrolled as a private in the Union Army under Capt. John C. Garland in Co. F, N. C. Infantry, July 17, 1864. He was discharged on August 8, 1865, at Knoxville, Tenn.

XMAS SEAL SALES OFF TO GOOD START

Watauga County Chairman Says Initial Response is Highly Encouraging

The first day's returns of the Christmas Seal sale of the Watauga Tuberculosis Association were "highly encouraging," according to officials of the association. Christmas Seals were received in the mail by most citizens on Monday. Tuesday's mail brought a number of contributions.

"These prompt responses to our appeal show that the post office authorities did an excellent job of handling the seal mail and that the people in Watauga County recognize the association's work as vital to the health and welfare of the community," Mrs. J. E. Holshouser, county chairman of the campaign, said today.

Mrs. Holshouser, who has long been active in the association, opened the first letter on Tuesday. It was from a prominent local lady who raised her contribution from \$2 to \$5, writing, "In spite of the many worthy appeals this year, it seems to me that the Christmas Seal need is greater than ever before because of the threatened wartime rise in the disease. I remember what happened during the last war. Even though we were in that war for only a relatively short time, tuberculosis increased."

"And I understand that tuberculosis is now on a dreadful rampage in certain European and Asiatic countries. I think the fact that, although tuberculosis has increased in the United States in certain areas, there has been no general increase throughout the entire country is a great verdict on the value of the tuberculosis associations."

Mrs. Holshouser said that first contributor was correct in summing up the wartime problems of tuberculosis here and abroad. "While the death rate increased during 1943 in 13 states, it continued to drop in the other 35, including North Carolina," she said. "Consequently, the death rate for the country as a whole for 1943 is expected to be the lowest on record."

HITLER'S BERLIN HOME IS SET AFIRE BY RAF

The nerve center of Hitler's government in the Wilhelmstrasse received a paralyzing blow Tuesday night in the greatest deluge of explosive and incendiary bombs the RAF yet has dropped on Berlin, travelers from the stricken Nazi capital to Stockholm said.

Hitler's home adjoining the reich's chancellery was set afire and that of Foreign Minister Joachim Von Ribbentrop was destroyed. A Reuters dispatch said Hitler's home was destroyed. The home of Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels, fronting on the Hermann Goring Strasse and just behind the United States embassy, was gutted and burning.

The foreign office between Hitler's home and the president's palace was ablaze and the British embassy building near Unter Den Linden at the end of the Wilhelmstrasse was destroyed.

The correspondent of the Stockholm newspaper Aftonbladet quoted Berlin residents as saying "Berlin can never recover from this blow."

ANNUAL XMAS PARTY TO BE HELD DEC. 26

Democrat, Lions Club and Other Organizations Co-operate With Appalachian Theatre in Bringing Christmas Cheer to Needy Children

Through the co-operation of the Watauga Democrat, Lions Club, Woman's Club and all other civic organizations who wish to bring Christmas cheer to many needy children of this community, the annual Christmas party will be held at the Appalachian Theatre this year on Sunday, December 26.

Through the co-operation of the high schools and the grammar schools and through the kindness of Principals Wey and Howell, the "free" matinee will be held at the theatre on Thursday, Dec. 2, at 10 o'clock a. m.

The principals have offered to give the pupils two hours off in the morning of this day to attend the "free" matinee, the only admission being a broken toy or discarded one that can be repaired and repainted by the local fire department and Boy Scouts.

The toys will be distributed to the needy children at the party on Sunday, Dec. 26, to be held at the theatre where an interesting program of Christmas music is to be rendered by the choirs of the local churches.

Last year, according to Manager D. J. Norman, the party was a success through the efforts of the local folks who solicited money throughout the town to buy additional fruit baskets and toys for the children, but due to the late start, they were not able to go into the county home or to reach all of the colored children of the community.

Hopes run high this year that we can have the biggest and best party ever held at the theatre and have sufficient toys and fruits for all.

The Watauga Democrat will have an "Empty Stocking Fund" this year and if you will send your contributions to The Democrat for this fund your name and amount will be published each week.

Let's go, Boone! Let's be sure there isn't one little wet eye on Christmas morning due to the fact that "Santa" forgot to stop by, or that "daddy" is overseas and "mummy" just wasn't able to buy toys this Christmas. You will help, won't you?

Annual Financial Campaign For Boy Scouts Begins Dec. 2

The annual financial campaign for the Boy Scouts will be held in Watauga County on December 2, 3 and 4. This campaign will be conducted by a committee composed of Lee Stout, of Boone; Howard Holshouser, of Blowing Rock, and Paul Bingham, of Cove Creek.

Watauga County is in the Old Hickory Council along with Stokes, Forsyth, Surry, Yadkin, Wilkes, Alleghany and Ashe. The money raised in this campaign goes into the budget for the council and is used to promote Scouting in the entire council. Our quota for this county has been set at \$500.

The organization for this campaign has been completely set up for Boone and the canvass will be made by six teams composed of a captain and four members as follows:

- Team No. 1: Lee Stout, captain; T. M. Greer, Wm. Cook, J. V. Caudill, Sr., and A. R. Smith.
 - Team No. 2: Robert Busted, captain; Herbert Wey, John Howell, Dr. J. T. C. Wright and Chas. Hartley.
 - Team No. 3: Frank Payne, captain; Alfred Adams, L. T. Tatum, G. H. Winkler and W. H. Gragg.
 - Team No. 4: Rev. J. C. Canipe, captain; D. L. Wilcox, Made Brown, H. W. Wilcox and G. D. Barnett.
 - Team No. 5: J. E. Holshouser, captain; Guy Hunt, Edgar Brown, Ralph Greer and W. R. Winkler.
 - Team No. 6: Dr. R. R. King, captain; Paul Coffey, H. M. Hamilton, Grady Farthing and James Council.
- CLYDE R. GREENE,
Parkway District Chairman.

Mrs. Frank Wyke Dies in Vancouver, Wash.

News has reached Boone of the death in Vancouver, Wash., of Mrs. Jean Wyke, 28, wife of Fred Wyke, of Boone. Mrs. Wyke's death occurred shortly after the arrival of the family in Washington, where Mr. Wyke had been engaged for some time in defense work.

The body is expected to arrive in Boone Wednesday, but funeral details have not been arranged. In addition to the husband, four small sons survive.