



# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT



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## TWO ARE JAILED FOR ATTEMPT AT ARMED ROBBERY

### Quick Work on the Part of Valle Crucis Merchant Foils Effort of Would-be Robbers; Other Robberies Sunday Night

Homer Smith and Leadford Baird were lodged in the county jail Monday night by Sheriff Watson and Deputy Wiley Day, after they had been foiled in an attempt to rob a Valle Crucis merchant at gun-point a short while earlier in the evening.

The unsuccessful holdup occurred at the store of Howard Mast as he and his son, Frank, were closing up the day's business, according to Deputy Day. The men, who were masked, threw a pistol on Frank and demanded his money. Howard, who was unobserved by the culprits, managed to get them covered with his gun and disarm them, holding the men until Sheriff Watson and his aides could arrive on the scene. The men are to be given a hearing before Magistrate Hahn this morning at 11 o'clock.

The holdup followed the robbery of the Mast store by only about 24 hours, when entrance was forced, a large number of cigarettes, cigars, 25 pounds of nuts and all the gasoline stamps taken. At about the same time the Vilas Service Station was entered, and a considerable amount of money taken from the cash register.

Sheriff's officers have been unable to uncover clues leading to the identity of the Sunday night burglars, and do not associate these crimes with the attempted robbery of Mr. Mast.

## Collector Dancy To Assist Tax Payers

The office of the collector of internal revenue announces that Deputy Collector Glenn Dancy will be at the postoffice in Boone on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week for the purpose of assisting farmers and those persons who are required to file a declaration of their estimated income on or before December 15, or those persons who by reason of having made an error in their September declaration and those who have become liable since that date.

The provisions of the new revenue act enacted by the congress of the United States require all persons to file a declaration of their estimated income for the calendar year 1943 on or before September 15, whose estimated gross income will exceed \$100 from sources other than salaries or wages subject to withholding tax, or whose salary exceeds \$2,700 if single or \$3,500 if married, and also those persons whose gross income from all sources exceed \$500 for the calendar year.

The act contains a special provision which enables persons engaged in farming to file their declaration of estimated income and pay the tax due thereon not later than December 15, 1943. Since the Victory tax is included in the current revenue act and provides an exemption of only \$624, it is assumed that a large number of farmers and persons engaged in cattle raising in Watauga County will be required to file.

## Owners of Property in Foreign Countries Must File Report

Citizens of Watauga County who own any property in foreign countries were notified by Postmaster John E. Brown, Jr., today that they must file reports of their foreign holdings with the Treasury Department early this month. The notice was given by means of a poster placed in the postoffice.

Postmaster Brown points out that it is necessary for the government to have as complete information as possible on the American stake abroad to assist the military authorities and the civilian government on the foreign fronts and to bring about sound solutions of the post-war problems. Report forms, known as TFR-500, may be obtained through commercial banks, or from the nearest Federal Reserve Bank, the postmaster states. Penalties are provided for those who willfully fail to file reports.

## Teachers of County To Meet Saturday

The teachers of the county will meet next Saturday at 2:30 o'clock at the auditorium of the Boone High School. A full attendance is requested.

## Wallace, Willkie Discuss 'World' at Forum



Vice President Henry A. Wallace congratulates Wendell L. Willkie (left) after the latter's speech before the 12th annual New York Herald-Tribune forum in New York. They spoke on related subjects. Willkie discussed "The Next Step Toward the World We Want." Wallace chose "The World We Want."

## BURLEY CEILING BOOST PREDICTED

### Substantial Increase Over Last Year Is Necessary, Say Burley Belt Congressmen

Washington, Nov. 30—A boost in burley ceilings over last year's overall average of 38 cents based on grades to compensate for increased production costs was confidently predicted today by burley belt congressmen after conferences with administrative officials.

Representative Flannagan, of Virginia, said a substantial increase was necessary in order to insure minimum production to meet needs.

Members participating in the conference today said the new ceiling would be announced within a few days, at least before the end of the week. The group said they asked for increases "commensurate with the increased cost of production," and estimated that the cost of production was up 25 per cent.

Farmers, particularly, will need adjustment of the ceiling because of the relatively poor quality of the new crop and its heavy texture which will not likely command premium prices, they said.

Flannagan said markets last year averaged 41.8 cents under the 28-cent average ceiling, and he expressed the hope that the new ceilings would fix the overall average ceiling this year based on grade "at least" at that figure, representing a 3.8 cent increase.

## Parkway District, Boy Scouts, to Hold Meeting

The second annual meeting of the Parkway District of Old Hickory Council, Boy Scouts of America, will be held at the community building in West Jefferson, at 7:30 p. m., on Monday, Dec. 6.

At this meeting officers for the ensuing year will be elected and reports for all operating committees will be heard. All Scoutmasters, submasters, den mothers and members of the district committee will be introduced. The principal address of the evening will be delivered by the Rev. J. C. Canipe, of Boone.

## Claud Brown Dies At Heaton Home

Claud Brown, member of a prominent Watauga County family, died at his home at Heaton, Avery County, Tuesday afternoon, according to information reaching Boone Tuesday night. Mr. Brown had been ill for about a month, it was stated.

Funeral details have not been arranged.

## Christmas Edition to Appear Next Week

Next week's issue of The Democrat will likely carry the major part of Christmas advertising for this season, and the publisher wishes to ask all the business men to co-operate with him in his efforts to get as much of the material in hand as early as possible during the present week.

Plenty of illustrations for such advertising are available without cost to the advertiser, and "copy" will likewise be supplied when desired.

The circulation of The Democrat is now at an all-time high figure, and its value as an advertising medium is thus greater than ever before. There has been no advance in local advertising rates.

## FIRST REPORTS ON SEAL SALE GIVEN

### Initial Response to Sale of Tuberculosis Seals is Encouraging, Says Mrs. Holshouser

Initial reports indicate that the campaign for the sale of Christmas Seals in the county has gained a good start, and Mrs. J. E. Holshouser, chairman of the effort, states that \$233.85 in sales have already been reported.

Mrs. Holshouser submits the following statement by committees of the first returns in the campaign:

Bethel ..... \$22.50

Boone ..... \$77.50

Valle Crucis ..... \$4.00

Blowing Rock ..... \$5.00

Cove Creek ..... \$5.35

Mrs. Holshouser states that this year the envelopes in Boone contained two sheets of stamps. This is due to the fact that the quota for the county had been doubled, and she expresses the hope that the people of the community will respond to this request for the purchase of an additional sheet of stamps.

## Two Men Die in Prison Camp Fire

The superintendent and a guard of a negro prison camp near here were burned to death in their beds in a guardhouse fire of undetermined origin about 7 o'clock Tuesday morning.

The bodies of the superintendent, George Barger, formerly of Blountville, and W. R. (Bill) Flora, of Kingsport, the guard, were recovered from the large flaming building about two hours after the explosion occurred. W. Y. Hill, undertaker, who went to the scene immediately, said:

Sheriff W. M. Dillon said he was unable to ascertain immediately the cause of the flash fire. Others reported the blaze as being caused by an explosion.

Barger, head guard at the camp, and Flora, also a guard, had been on duty the night before and had eaten breakfast and gone to bed in the small combined cook and bunk house which served as guard headquarters, the sheriff said.

Barger was believed to be getting up when the bunkhouse burst into flames, making an exit impossible, it is thought.

Attempts were made by the 35 prisoners in the camp to extinguish the fire, but they were halted by the rapidly spreading fire.

Barger was a former sheriff and magistrate of Sullivan county, and was widely known in political circles there. Flora, prominent politically, has held public office. He resided at 201 West Charlemont St., Kingsport.

The camp is located about four miles from town, near the North Carolina line and houses quarters of a road construction crew.

Barger is survived by his widow and two sons, one of whom resides in Kingsport. — Johnson County News.

## Pastors and Deacons To Gather on Monday

The Three Forks Pastors and Deacons conference will be held at the First Baptist Church in Boone on Monday, Dec. 6, at 2 p. m., and Rev. James C. Sherwood has issued the following program for the gathering:

Devotional, Rev. Tom Stanbury.

The Pastor Preaching Missions, Rev. G. A. Hamby.

A Missionary Church, Rev. Tipton Greene.

Exposition of Titus 2, Rev. J. C. Canipe.

## SHOPPING SEASON IN FULL SWING IN THIS CITY

### No Fanfare Accompanies the Beginning of Christmas Season as in Former Years; Large Stocks, But Early Buying Suggested

The Christmas shopping season is now in full swing in this locality, but it is not accompanied by the fanfare of former years. No special event marked the opening of the season, but all the merchandise has now been displayed in the various stores, and early shoppers are busily engaged in making their selections to avoid the last-minute rush, being at the same time mindful of scarcities which might develop between now and Christmas-time.

This is the second season that Christmas street lighting has been dispensed with, and Mr. Guy Hunt, president of the Merchants Association, joins with other retailers in the wish that a Christmas opening could have been put on "with all the trimmings" this year, but for obvious reasons it just couldn't be done. Mr. Hunt, however, says that while there is a lack of Christmas lights there is no scarcity of Christmas merchandise.

A survey of the various stores of the city reveals that gift merchandise is surprisingly plentiful this year. The merchants, for the most part, did their buying before shortages became acute in the wholesale markets, and feel most fortunate in being able to offer comprehensive lines of holiday goods.

However, the public is being urged to shop early, as there will be little replenishing of stocks possible, due to war conditions. A cordial welcome is extended by the merchants to all the people of this area to make Boone their Christmas shopping headquarters again this year.

## MANY TO ATTEND TOY MATINEE

### Annual Event at Local Theatre Promises to Be Most Successful

The annual toy matinee to be held at the local theatre again this year promises to be one of the biggest and best ever held in Boone.

The enthusiasm being worked up at the local schools to attend and help the really needy children of the community and county is great to see. The idea of attending a "full" two-hour movie "free" of charge and the thought that they are helping some child enjoy Christmas is helpful in giving you that good old Christmas spirit, of which we have an abundance here in America.

The movie consists of cartoon, "The Night Before Christmas," Our Gang comedy, "Doin' Their Bit," and one of the better Tarzan pictures, "Tarzan's Secret Treasure."

No admission will be charged at the door. Just bring a discarded or broken toy and no matter what your age, you will be admitted to see the show.

Orchids, then to the local Scoutmaster, B. W. Stallings, for his help in having the Scouts at the school to escort the smaller children across streets and safely to the theatre. Thanks, too, go to the tireless efforts of our Statesville booker, Mrs. James Meachem, who made the program possible; and last but not least, we give a big bow to Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer pictures, for donating the entire program gratis, and who are always on the job in helping entertain you with the best in pictures.

An overflow crowd is expected (Continued on page eight)

## Crop and Feed Loans Available to Farmers

Emergency crop and feed loans are now available to the farmers of Watauga county, according to C. Gordon Taylor, field supervisor of FCA, and applications are now being received at his office in the courthouse.

Due to war conditions, the farmers are being urged by the manufacturers, says Mr. Taylor, to buy their fertilizer early this year, in order that delivery may be assured.

## Red Cross Office Moved to City Hall

The Red Cross office has been moved to the city hall. Office hours are from 1 p. m. to 5 p. m. To obtain Red Cross services at all other times, call phone 113-R or come to 425 Greene street.

## Burley Tobacco Sales to Start Next Wednesday

### Owns 21 Zeros



The ranking air ace in the Southwest Pacific is Capt. Richard Bong, who has downed 21 Jap Boms. He explains the meaning of his medals to his sister, Geraldine, in their home at Poplar, Wis.

## WAR FUND NOW NEARING GOAL

### Collections Are Within \$300 of County Quota, Says Mrs. Maddux

With returns from different sections of the county incomplete, the War Fund campaign is now within \$300 of the local quota of \$2,600, says Mrs. M. R. Maddux, county chairman of the drive.

Following is a partial list of the contributors to the fund, and others will be published as returns are received:

D. & P. Pipe Works  
E. A. Ellison, \$1; Coy Johnson, \$1; Ralph Proffitt, \$1; Robert Winebarger, \$1; Clyde Miller, \$1; George R. Cook, \$1; Clayton Greene, \$1; Dean Proffitt, \$1; Fred Proffitt, \$1; James F. Miller, \$1; Raymond Miller, \$1; Clint Miller, \$1; Robert Miller, \$1; Kermit Proffitt, \$1; C. C. Cook, \$1; Ray Cornett, \$1; Floyd Smith, \$1; Frank Bentley, \$1; Ward Miller, \$1; Ernest Moody, \$1; McClue Elrod, \$1; Gurney Norris, \$3; Lee South, \$1; W. L. Tester, \$1; L. H. VanDyke, \$1; C. C. VanDyke, \$1; Earl Calhoun, \$3; Homer Lane, \$1; Austin Miller, \$3; Gorman Garland, \$1; Bart Norris, \$1; Ted Cornett, \$1; L. D. Woodard, \$3; Sammie Ray, \$1; John H. Lookabill, \$1; George Cook, \$1; Oscar Miller, \$1; E. M. Cook, \$1; Elbert Bentley, \$1.

Boone  
Miss Elizabeth Bridge, \$5; V. C. Howell, \$1; Mrs. Amelia Greer, \$2; Mrs. Ruth McConnell, \$5; Miss Wilma Baird, \$1; J. C. Farthing, \$2; Miss Ora Lee Williams, \$2; Frank Payne, \$5; J. E. Holshouser, \$10; M. W. Beach, \$2; Mrs. H. S. Storie, \$1; Mrs. Len Storie, \$1; Mrs. A. C. Shoemaker, \$50; Mrs. Pearl Buchanan, \$50; Mrs. T. Len Cooke, \$1; Mrs. Vera Tunnell, \$1; Miss Mildred Tunnell, \$1; A. R. Smith, \$1; Wiley G. Hartzog, Jr., \$1; Mrs. C. O. Cook, \$2.50; Mrs. Swift, \$1; Grady Edmisten, \$50; Miss Ruby Davis, \$1.

Verlee Elrod, \$50; Arthur Dougherty, \$46; Burl Phillips, \$1; Mrs. B. K. Osborne, \$1; Mrs. L. L. Smith, \$1; Mrs. Fred Warman, \$1; Mrs. Will Lovell, \$25; A. J. Edmisten, \$2; R. F. Greene, \$5; Mrs. Mae Miller, \$5; T. B. Moore, \$1; Mrs. Horace Burris, \$1; Miss June Lee Russell, \$1; Dr. and Mrs. E. T. Glenn, \$10; Wade E. Brown, \$5; Dr. J. B. Hagan, \$10; A. E. South, \$2; Paul A. Coffey, \$1; Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Smith, \$3.25; Theresa McNeill, \$1; Mildred L. Sedberry, \$5; E. D. Cook, \$5; Helen Underdown, \$2.

Dr. Robert R. King, \$5; Dr. H. B. Perry, \$5; C. A. Hayworth, \$5; J. T. (Continued on page eight)

### Much Weed is Now Being Received, and Higher Prices are Predicted by Coleman; Full Set of Buyers on Every Sale; 100,000 Pounds Expected for First Sale

The first sales of the current season at the Mountain Burley Tobacco Warehouses will be held Wednesday morning, December 3, and farmers of the tri-state burley area began Monday to unload their crops on the floors of the two large local houses. Indications are that when the sales start there will be well over 100,000 pounds of burley awaiting the auctioneer's chant.

Mr. R. C. Coleman, of Tabor City, operator of the warehouses here, states that the quality of the weed being delivered is much higher than usual, and that he expects the total sales to far exceed those of last year, when about two million pounds were sold. Consequently, considerably higher prices will undoubtedly be received by the growers.

Mr. Coleman and his associates have surveyed the burley belt thoroughly in the past two weeks, find the crop exceptionally good and believe that there will be more farmers seen on the floors of the local houses this season than ever before.

The local houses contain more than 70,000 feet of floor space, every convenience has been provided for the visiting farmers and sales are facilitated by the fact that buyers may move from one house to another without any interruption in sales.

Mr. Coleman, who is a farmer himself, is always interested in the grower receiving the high dollar and this year his well-known rule of a "first sale every day" will be carried out. As usual he employs a large staff of highly experienced men and a full lineup of buyers will be on every sale.

## Appalachian College Pre-Medical Course Is Given Approval

Appalachian State Teachers College has been placed on the approved list of the American Medical Association, standardizing credits in pre-medical training, it was announced by Dean J. D. Rankin as the fall term came to a close last week. The college also gives pre-dental and pre-law work.

After all losses to the armed forces to the draft, from graduation, to the WACS and WAVES, and students to high price industry, entering students have balanced off so that the registration figures for students active on the second quarter at the close of registration stand at 315, with more to be added this week.

## Meat Cutting and Curing Demonstration

E. V. Vestal will hold two meat cutting and curing demonstrations in the county on Friday, December 3, according to Miss S. Elizabeth Bridge, home demonstration agent.

At 2 p. m., there will be one demonstration at the home of Mrs. Nora Moretz on Big Hill. All people of that section of the county are invited to attend this demonstration. It is for both men and women.

At 7:30, Mr. Vestal will have another demonstration at the college dairy farm. This demonstration is held for the benefit of anyone in Boone or vicinity who may be interested in cutting and curing pork.

Mr. Vestal, who is a specialist in this type of work, comes to the county from State College, Raleigh, and it is hoped that many people in the county will take advantage of this opportunity to see the demonstration, which is of great importance at this time.

## New Bus Service Boone to Zionville

Through the efforts of the Chamber of Commerce, an improved bus service was started between Boone and Zionville as of November 30.

The new schedule leaves Boone at 5:05 p. m., arriving at Zionville at 5:37 p. m., immediately returning to Boone, arriving at 6:09 p. m., and leaving for West Jefferson and Sparta at 6:20 p. m.

This new service permits people living between Boone and Zionville to arrive in town at 9:45 a. m., and return on the afternoon schedule. The service is provided by the Greyhound Lines, and local plans are to later have connections at Zionville for Mountain City and Elizabethton.