



LOCAL BANK HAD BIGGEST GROWTH DURING YEAR '43

Resources of Northwestern Bank System Shows Increase of More Than Five Million Dollars During Past Year; Officers Elected

Stockholders of the Northwestern Bank, which maintains its home office in North Wilkesboro, and branches in Boone, Blowing Rock and a number of other cities, in annual meeting in North Wilkesboro last week, heard reports of remarkable growth of the institution in 1943, when resources increased more than five million dollars.

Stockholders re-elected all members of the board of directors by acclamation. They in their meeting which followed the stockholders' meeting elected all officers of the bank for another year.

Congressman R. L. Doughton presided at the stockholders' meeting for President R. A. Doughton, who was ill with a cold. The president's report was delivered by Edwin Duncan, executive vice-president of the bank.

The net operating profit for 1943 was \$4.15 per \$10 par value share of stock. During the year a dividend of 12 per cent, or \$1.20 per share, was paid and after an ample reserve for state and federal income taxes were set aside, the sum of \$2.04 per share was added to the undivided profits account. The report said:

"During the year the capital account of the Northwestern Bank increased from \$594,000 to \$715,000, adding, in our opinion, a great deal of safety to the investment of the stockholders. During the year 1943 we opened an office at Black Mountain, and a teller's window at Old Fort. After the initial loss in the first month we operated this office for the balance of the year at a profit. The people of Black Mountain gave us a very cordial welcome.

The activities of the bank increased tremendously during the year. The resources rose from \$9,196,467.35 to \$14,357,955.13. During this, the second year of the war, the management of your bank has been faced with many difficulties and we expect no lighter burden in this new year."

All directors were re-elected as follows: R. A. Doughton, Sparta; N. E. Smith and Ralph Duncan, North Wilkesboro; R. L. Doughton, Laurel Springs; M. A. Higgins, Ennice; M. E. Reeves, Laurel Springs; W. D. Farthing, Boone; W. W. Mast, Valle Crucis; W. C. Berry, Bakersville; G. W. Greene, Bakersville; Harry Bailey, Penland; J. D. Brinkley, Valdese.

Following the stockholders' meeting the directors re-elected by acclamation for 1944 the officers who served during 1943. They are: R. A. Doughton, of Sparta, president; Edwin Duncan, of Sparta, executive vice-president; John McBee of Spruce Pine, vice-president; D. V. Deal, of North Wilkesboro, secretary.

Branches of the Northwestern Bank are located at Sparta, Jefferson, Boone, Bakersville, Burnsville, Black Mountain, Valdese, Spruce Pine and Taylorsville. Teller windows are operated at Blowing Rock and Old Fort.

Lions Club Accepts Eleven New Members

At the second meeting of the Lions Club this year at the Gateway Cafe Tuesday evening, 11 new members were accepted after a membership drive lasting for two weeks.

The main feature of the program was an excellent talk on "The Meaning of Lionism in Boone," by District Governor W. Amos Abrams.

Lion President Frank Payne welcomed the new members into the club in a brief message. Lion Wade Brown, captain of one of the membership teams, reviewed the history of the local club and recounted the achievements made in the work with blind children. The new members, who spoke briefly, were introduced by team captains Wade Brown and Cratis Williams.

The following new members were received: Clyde R. Greene, Dr. Ralph W. House, Prof. A. R. Smith, H. B. Teague, W. B. York, Joe Crawford, Prof. Edward Gunter, Charles Hartley, Prof. Lee Hodson, Prof. Elwood Roberts and Morris O'Sullivan.

W. T. Spalding, buyer for the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., was a guest.

At a meeting of the directors after the regular meeting, plans were discussed for a scrap paper drive, and a committee for organization and planning of the annual Lions Club entertainment program was appointed by the president.

At the first meeting in February the new members will be formally initiated into the club.

SPEAKERS AT TODAY'S WAR BOND RALLY



Principal speakers at the War Bond Rally at the Appalachian Theatre Thursday morning will be Dr. Amos Abrams, W. D. Farthing, chairman of the campaign, and W. H. Gragg. The rally will be the official opening of the Fourth War Loan here, and stores of the city will close during the one hour period from 8:30 to 9:30 o'clock.



COUNTY SCHOOLS SELL MANY BONDS

\$29,924.11 in Bonds and Stamps Sold in County School System as of December 13

County Superintendent S. F. Horton states that sales of War Bonds and Stamps in the schools of Watauga County as of Dec. 13, 1943, totaled \$29,924.11, and exhibit, a letter from the Treasury Department, an excerpt from which is given.

"This office wishes to congratulate you, your principals, teachers, employees, students and other patrons of your schools for the outstanding and patriotic accomplishment. It is a pleasure to enclose the following awards:

Boone High School sold \$10,761.75. The award, one triple threat, three famous jeeps, two junior triple threats.

Boone Elementary, \$7,006.95; one triple threat, one junior triple threat.

Howard's Creek, \$15.00, three bayonets.

Rutherfordwood, \$150, two winter flying suits.

Bamboo, \$1,097.50, two junior triple threats.

Blowing Rock, \$1,744.40, one famous jeep, one junior triple threat.

Valle Crucis, \$992.55, one junior triple threat.

Cove Creek High, \$3,425.01, two famous jeeps, two junior triple threats.

Cove Creek Elementary, \$2,962.70, two famous jeeps, one junior triple threat.

Liberty Hill, \$100, one 8-inch armor piercing shell.

Bethel, \$1,328.25, one famous jeep.

Mabel, \$500, one junior triple threat.

School Principal Resigns; Other Co. School News

Mr. Edward C. Coker, principal of the Blowing Rock High School, resigned just before the holidays to accept work in Coker College in South Carolina, for the remainder of the year. Mrs. Sarah B. Gaither, teacher of the seventh grade in the Blowing Rock school, was elected to fill the vacancy. Mrs. Georgia W. Wilson has been named teacher for the seventh grade, and Mrs. Beatrice C. Winkler has been placed in the high school.

Miss Vida W. Teague has resigned her position in the Appalachian High School, and Mr. Arthur W. Hartung resigned in order to enter the service. Mrs. James Winkler has been secured to fill one of these vacancies.

The attendance throughout the county has greatly improved since the holidays. The epidemic of flu, measles and whooping cough seems to have improved.

Red Cross Officials Go to Winston-Salem

A group of officials of the Watauga Red Cross chapter were in Winston-Salem Tuesday attending a regional meeting, at which plans were made for the War Fund Drive which is to open March 1. Chairman Clyde R. Greene has already completed plans for the drive in Watauga County.

Those attending the meeting were Rev. E. F. Troutman, chairman; R. W. Watkins, vice-chairman; Mrs. F. E. Warman, executive secretary; Clyde R. Greene, chairman War Fund drive; Mrs. M. R. Maddux, associate chairman Red Cross War Fund drive.

Accident Prevention Course
A Red Cross accident prevention course will be conducted at Appalachian College beginning March 31. Anyone interested may take this course.

SEED POTATOES
The production of certified seed potatoes was up 42 per cent in 1943. This represents more than 6 per cent of all potatoes produced.

Heads Polio Drive



John E. Brown, Jr., postmaster at Boone, who is chairman of the drive to raise funds locally for the national infantile paralysis foundation.

NO PRESIDENT'S BALL THIS YEAR

Plans Being Laid for Raising Funds With Which to Combat Infantile Paralysis

John E. Brown, Jr., chairman of the local committee which usually has a President's Birthday Ball, with which to raise funds for the fight against infantile paralysis, states that this year the usual ball cannot be held, but that plans are going forward for basketball games, movie shows, etc., which will enable the county to raise its quota of \$290 for the fund.

Last year no ball was held, but through various efforts a creditable sum was raised. Mr. Brown solicits the full co-operation of the people in this worthy effort, and will announce the detailed plans for the campaign within a few days. Direct contributions to the fund are being sought, and those who will contribute are asked to do so at once.

Benefit Show at Theatre
Tickets go on sale immediately by several organizations to see "Government Girl," starring Olivia DeHavilland and Sonny Tufts showing at the Appalachian Theatre next Wednesday and Thursday.

The tickets are 20 cents for children and 50 cents for adults on both matinee and night performances. In this way you will be contributing to the March of Dimes effort and also enjoy one of the best of 1944's pictures.

Buy your tickets from Boy Scouts or Woman's Club or other organizations that might contact you.

War Workers Are Being Sought in Area

Mr. Raymond B. Davis, leading-man welder at the Norfolk Navy Yard, and S. M. Perviance, of the national advisory committee for aeronautics, Langley Field, Va., are spending the next three months in this area with the United States Employment Service, seeking workers to aid in the war program. Mr. Davis wants numbers of shipyard workers, while Mr. Perviance wants any kind of help, men or women, for almost any kind of work.

These gentlemen will be in Boone Tuesday and Friday of each week, and it is pointed out by them that men classified in 4-F and men who have been discharged from the armed services may do their bit by offering their services at this time. Good salaries are being paid, and working and living conditions are excellent, they say. Transportation, meals, etc., may be furnished those who are without funds.

RAILWAY EXPRESS SERVICE STARTS IN BOONE FEBRUARY 7

Important Improvement in Transportation Service in This Area is Announced at Chamber of Commerce Meeting; Bigger Tobacco Bases Are Sought

After several years' effort on the part of officials of the Boone Chamber of Commerce and members of special committees, a Railway Express Agency has finally been secured for Boone and the office will open here on February 7, it was revealed at the dinner meeting of the Chamber of Commerce Tuesday evening.

It is noted that very few places without rail facilities have been fortunate enough to secure this new service, which will place Boone in the tariffs of all Railway Express agencies in the world.

Mr. E. C. Berry, general manager of the Railway Express Agency, states: "Railway Express Agency is anxious to extend its services into all communities of our nation. We feel that you at Boone merit this splendid nationwide express service such as we are rendering, providing service as we do on all rail and communication air lines, many miles of steamship lines over the world, and the commercial air lines that are serving beyond our own United States. We shall be delighted in bringing Boone in connection with the entire outside world with our far-reaching express service."

The tariffs have been published, it is stated, and the rates to Boone will be about the same as to Lenoir. This service will be handled from Boone to Lenoir via the Smith Transfer Co., and was established largely through the fine co-operation of Mr. Carter Smith, owner of the Smith Transfer. Local express will be handled from all principal towns at Hickory and Charlotte via fast Railway Express trucks, as well as making connections with the train at Lenoir from intermediate points.

Mr. H. W. Wilcox, bus terminal manager, has agreed to act as agent for Railway Express service, and his warehouse facilities which now house the Smith Transfer Co., I. J. N. Trucking Co., and ET & WNC Transportation Co., will be used.

Seek Larger Tobacco Bases
The matter of securing larger acreage allotments to those growing tobacco in this section, came up for discussion before the Chamber. Previous investigation, made by Dr. B. B. Dougherty, revealed that Congressman R. L. Doughton is now working with other members of the congress toward the end sought. A committee composed of Dr. Dougherty, chairman; Clyde R. Greene, W. H. Gragg, R. C. Coleman, W. R. Lovell, Grady Farthing and R. A. Olsen was named by Mr. Wilcox to work for larger allotments, and to promote the production of better grades of tobacco in the county.

An inspiring message was brought by Dr. W. Amos Abrams, who was the speaker of the evening.

Mr. R. C. Coleman and buyers of the Mountain Burley Warehouses, were guests of the Chamber of Commerce, and gave reports on the tobacco market and discussed plans for the future operation of the local warehouses.

The name of the Hohenzollern family, which ruled Germany until 1918, was taken from a hill called Zollern near Stuttgart.

Fourth War Loan Campaign To Get Under Way Here As Organization Is Perfected; Bond Rally Thursday

BURLEY SALES ARE WELL ABOVE TWO MILLION AND HALF

All Former Records Broken at Local Burley Houses as Season Nears End; \$1,913,000 Value of Weed; Average Ahead of Burley Belt

The Mountain Burley Warehouses will close their current selling season Thursday, and figures compiled Wednesday morning indicate that including Tuesday sales, 2,548,888 pounds of weed have been auctioned for a total of \$1,184,276.46, or an average throughout the season of \$46.46 per hundred pounds. This average, states Mr. Coleman, is well ahead of the average for the entire burley belt.

Wednesday's and Thursday's sales, the closing days of the market, are expected to bring the season grand total to 2,575,000, as against the former banner year of the market in 1942-43 when 1,913,000 pounds were sold. During the three years Mr. Coleman has managed the local houses sales have increased about one and a half million pounds.

When the final sales are conducted a detailed and final accounting of the season's business will be published.

LOCAL MEN GO TO INDUCTION CENTER

A List of Those Composing Current Quota Under Selective Service Legislation

The following Watauga County men recently reported to an induction center of the U. S. Army, under the terms of the Selective Service Act:

- Nathan Roger Colvard
- Earl Stewart Blackburn
- Robert Castor Horton
- Don Garland Ragan
- Bynum Carlton
- Archie Baxter Proffitt
- Guy R. Carlton
- William Turner Storie
- Walter Lewis Loudermelt
- Owen Craig Wilson
- Arden James Wilcox
- Clarence William Hodges
- Arthur Ernest Hamby, Jr.
- Earl June Bodenhammer
- Carl Reed
- Fred Vaughn Hartley
- Elmer William Wood
- Laine Henson
- Charley Hale Church
- Carl Aster Taylor
- Victor Tester
- Salmon Chase Tate
- Archie William Greene
- Paul Clarence Fletcher
- Lonnie Alvin Greene
- Charles Bradley Greene
- John Dennis Greene
- David Barnard Dougherty
- John Edgar Brown
- Charlie Henry McGuire
- Henry Earl Colvard
- Walter Ray Shore
- Russell Smith Greene
- George Coffey
- Jack Taylor Winkler
- Newland Harvey Greene
- Ernest Elmo Hodges
- John Riley Greene
- Archie Shull
- Charles Mack Townsend
- Ralph Bartlett Norris
- J. P. Palmer
- James Elmer Stewart
- George Edward Phillips
- Conley Clay Isaacs
- Donley Ray Isaacs
- Billy Lee Greene
- Boyd Homer Moretz
- Howard Luther Greene
- Bert James Wilson
- Leroy Kirkpatrick

Transferred to Another Local Board
Joe Bryant Wheeler
Martin Jennings
Josh Lillard Block
John Benjamin James
Carlton Heath Trotter
Charles Spurgeon Waiser
Benjamin Wheeler Farthing

Transferred to Local Board
Elmer Lee Bumgardner
Harold Codington Quincy.

Burley Applications Must Be Filed by 1st

All local farmers who do not have a burley tobacco allotment and wish to secure one, are required to make their applications at the AAA office in the county building prior to February 1.

BUY WAR BONDS

Those Appointed to Fill Key Positions in War Bond Campaign Named; Theatre Party This Morning to Be Grand Opening of Local War Fund Effort

At a meeting of the War Savings Staff of Watauga County, held last Friday evening, a permanent organization was set up for the raising of the local quota of \$122,000 in bond sales for the Fourth War Loan campaign, and arrangements have been made for a big bond rally to be held at the Appalachian Theatre Thursday morning from 8:30 to 9:30, at which time the campaign will really get off to a good start in this locality.

Members of the Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce, Merchants Association and other local business houses, together with their employees, will gather at the theatre Thursday morning at 8:30 for one hour, and the theatre program will be featured by addresses by Chairman W. D. Farthing, Dr. Amos Abrams and W. H. Gragg. Plans will be made for the sale of bonds at this time through local business channels.

Manager D. J. Norman has secured a film, "The Price of Rendova," which will be screened in connection with the bond rally. This picture gives some idea of the cost in men and materials involved in this Pacific accomplishment.

Mr. Norman has also arranged to have a bond premiere of "Guadalcanal Diary" on February 10, at 9 p. m., at which time the purchase of a bond will entitle anyone to a free ticket to the theatre. It is hoped that every seat in the theatre may be filled with those who have bought bonds in the current campaign. Mr. Norman is to be congratulated upon securing this outstanding war film at this time. At first the booking agency turned down his request, since the film was booked in advance for four months. However, after great difficulty, Mr. Norman secured the local booking, which will provide one of the high spots in the local Fourth War Loan effort.

The Organization
The organization is composed of W. D. Farthing, general chairman; Mrs. B. W. Stallings, woman's division, and Alfred T. Adams was recently appointed to the state organization as assistant chairman. Mr. W. H. Neal of Winston-Salem, area manager and vice-president of the Wachovia Bank & Trust Co., was present at the meeting and made a talk to the members of the local organization.

The initial campaign organization was perfected, Mr. Farthing tells The Democrat, and Clyde R. Greene has been placed in charge of advertising and newspaper publicity. Mr. Farthing insists that business houses be as liberal as possible in using the sponsored advertisements.

Dr. D. J. Whitener is the educational director, and will contact each high school in the county. A prize will be given the student selling the greatest number of E series bonds, with a grand prize of a \$25 bond to the student selling the most E bonds in any school in the county.

A committee composed of W. H. Gragg, Clyde R. Greene, D. J. Norman, Dr. Amos Abrams and Dr. D. J. Whitener, was appointed to work with the Merchants Association, Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club and other organizations, to arrange for the sale of bonds through the various business establishments of the town. Mr. Farthing states that Mr. Norman will have full charge of the theatre advertising during the campaign.

County Being Organized
Mrs. Sarah G. Wagner and Mrs. W. W. Mast, of Valle Crucis, have been asked to direct the campaign in Watauga, Shawneehaw and Laurel Creek townships.
Mrs. Mary S. Harris, of Sherwood, will head the campaign in Cove Creek, while Mrs. M. R. Maddux, of Boone, will assist the chairman of (CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR)

Pays to Advertise

W. M. Thomas, of Mabel, has found that an inexpensive way to get in the county newspaper is the surest way for a farmer to dispose of surplus livestock. Recently, Mr. Thomas advertised two cows, the paper came from the press Wednesday afternoon, and that night his telephone brought the first sale. Both of the cows were disposed of on Thursday before Mr. Thomas had received his own copy of the Democrat through the mails. "Democrat really bring seller and buyer together quickly, and with a trifling cost," said Mr. Thomas, in relating his experience.