

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Year 1888.



VOL. LVI, NO. 34 BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1944 \$1.50 A YEAR—5c A COPY

## ALL IN READINESS FOR START OF RED CROSS WAR DRIVE

Committees Named and Strenuous Efforts Will Be Made to Raise County Quota in Shortest Time Possible; A List of Organization Members

Mr. Clyde R. Greene, War Fund chairman of the American Red Cross, has completed his organization for the beginning of the campaign to aid in raising \$200,000,000 on March 1st, and it is expected that with hard work on the part of the solicitors Watauga County may be depended upon to raise her \$6,000 quota in the minimum of time.

Last year the local quota was \$3,500. Actually \$5,800 was raised, but due to the fact that the population of the county has continued to dwindle since that time, officials believe it will be necessary for those who remain, to increase their contributions this year, in order to guarantee the raising of the desired amount.

Following is a list of the members of the War Fund organization:

- TOWN OF BOONE**
- Waide E. Brown, chairman.
- College, D. B. Dougherty.
- Faculty Workers.
- Students.
- Chamber of Commerce, H. W. Wilcox.
- Merchants Association, Guy Hunt.
- Residential, Mrs. R. D. Hodges, Mrs. M. R. Maddux.
- Pipe Factory, Austin Miller.
- Hickory Hill, Mr. Holt.
- Highway Force, E. McCracken.
- Courthouse and County Building, Paul Coffey, Harry Hamilton.
- Town Officials, Gordon H. Winkler.
- Lions Club, C. A. Price.
- Postoffice and Carriers, Mrs. Nell Linney.
- Hagaman Clinic, Dr. W. M. Matheson.
- Boone Steam Laundry, H. Cragg.
- Boone Master Cleaners, R. B. Shull.
- American Legion, Lee Stout.
- Masonic Lodges.
- Junior Order Eastern Star.
- Woman's Club, Mrs. Warman.
- SCHOOLS**
- S. F. Horton, chairman.
- Appalachian High School, Cratis D. Williams, chairman.
- Boone Demonstration School, Mrs. Ella Besham, chairman.
- Howards Creek, Miss Maggie E. Klotz.
- Rutherford, B. H. Page.
- Rich Mountain, Mrs. Ola Moretz Greer.
- Baraboo, Miss Floe Stoemaker.
- Green Valley, Arlie E. Moretz.
- Winebarger, O. G. Winebarger.
- Riverside, Miss Maxine Bradley.
- Deep Gap, Mrs. Velma M. Cottrell.
- Castle, J. L. Bingham.
- Stony Fork, Mrs. Lola T. Moretz.
- Mount, Paxon, J. Bingham.
- Eik, Mrs. Reba W. Shoemaker.
- Lower Elk, Mrs. Inez Hodges Todd.
- Blowing Rock High and Elementary Schools, Mrs. Earl Payne Thomas, chairman.
- Cool Springs, Mrs. Belle G. Greene.
- Penley, Miss Nina L. Morgan.
- Baraboo, Reba Coffey.
- Good, Miss Alma Bingham.
- Vale Crates, Mrs. Maxie G. Edmiston.
- Grandfather, Mrs. Pearl Luttrell.
- Cool Springs, Doughton Greene.
- Cove Creek High School, Mrs. Virginia D. Snother, chairman.
- Cove Creek Elementary, Mrs. Gladys M. Bingham, chairman.
- Liberty Hill, Mrs. Mary D. Glenn.
- Kominger, Mrs. Doughton Greene.
- Presnell, Melvin L. Shephard.
- Kellyville, Mrs. Edna Thomas.
- Windy Gap, Henry Hagaman.
- Bethel, J. B. O'Neal, chairman.
- Mabel, Miss Mabel Norris.
- Boltertown, Miss Thelma Perry.
- Watauga Colored, Lewis W. Thompson, Jr.
- RURAL SECTIONS**
- The following are captains for their respective sections:
- D. C. Coffey, Lower Meat Camp.
- D. G. Wheeler, Upper Meat Camp.
- John Hagaman, Mabel.
- Mrs. Stanley A. Harris, Cove Creek.
- Howard Edmiston, Shawneehaw.
- W. W. Mead, Vale Crates.
- Red Glenn, Laurel Creek.
- W. S. Miller, Todd.
- Stewart Simmons, Eik.
- Dale Greene, Blowing Rock.
- Dale Varnoy, New River.
- Mrs. L. A. Henson, Brushy Fork.
- Sanford Creek, Reese.
- F. F. Green, Ethel.
- Robert Thomas, North Fork.
- W. D. Lookbill, Deep Gap.
- Mrs. C. P. Moore, Shulls Mills.
- Miss Myrtle Cooke, Blue Ridge.

## Theatre Offering Aids Local Polio Drive

Those attending the bond premiere of "Guadalcanal Diary" last Thursday evening at the Appalachian Theatre contributed \$56 to the infantile paralysis fund here, following an appeal made by Manager D. J. Norman, which was more than had been collected prior to that time.

Mr. J. Edgar Brown, chairman for the polio fund here, has decided to withhold his remittance for a brief period, to give others an opportunity to aid in this worthy effort. He will receive funds at the postoffice, or contributions may be left at The Democrat office, if more convenient.

## Heavy Snowfall in County This Week

A six or seven-inch snow fell in Boone and surrounding country Monday, and bus transportation through the city was hindered to some extent. Highway crews cleared the roadways as the snow fell, however.

The snow abated in the afternoon and lower temperatures Monday night made a glare of ice in the place of the melted snow. Warmer weather came Tuesday afternoon and clearing skies indicated mild weather in the offing.

## Over-All Bond Quota May Be Doubled In Watauga

Major



Pictured above is Major Olen C. Cook, of Blowing Rock, now completing his training as squadron commander with a heavy bombardment group of Liberator bombers stationed at the army base, McCook, Nebraska. Major Cook is 25 years old, a son of Mrs. Lona Cook of Blowing Rock. He is a graduate of Wake Forest College, and received his preliminary training at various air force stations before joining his present outfit, which is preparing for combat duty overseas.

## GREER WILL NOT BE CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR

Watauga County Man, Now Superintendent of Baptist Orphanage, Will Not Be Candidate for G. O. P. Nomination; Issues Prepared Statement

I, G. Greer, of Thomasville, Watauga County man and former professor in Appalachian State Teachers College, now superintendent of the Baptist Orphanage of North Carolina, will not be a candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor of North Carolina.

Mr. Greer, who had been prominently mentioned for the nomination in G. O. P. circles, issued the following statement:

"For some time I have been requested by letters and through personal interviews to become a candidate for governor. Many of these requests have come from citizens who ordinarily are not politically minded, but who are, regardless of political affiliation, interested in the welfare of the state.

"In arriving at a decision, it has been my purpose to eliminate all personal ambition and selfishness. These are days in which every citizen should render the best service possible to state and country. This I want to do. However, it is my deliberate judgment that I can be of more genuine service as a citizen not to become a candidate for governor.

"To me, the help I may render to dependent children makes a stronger appeal than the lure of public office.

"I shall stand ready to render any service that I may in winning this war, and in helping to preserve those ideals that will be needed to rebuild a war-torn world.

"I appreciate most keenly the expressions of confidence from my friends and hope that I may in some way render a service that will justify my decision."

## Indoor Carnival Coming Feb. 25th

The Watauga Post American Legion, has a contract with the Carolina Producing Company of Greensboro, to sponsor an indoor carnival, which will be on display in the tobacco warehouse, from Feb. 25 to March 5, inclusive.

This is the first time this carnival has ever been in this area and will be entirely new. Also this is probably the first time in the history of the town that there has been any entertainment of this kind in Watauga county during the winter season.

Officials of the local Legion Post appreciate very much the fact that the directors of the Mountain Burley Warehouses and the Farmers Hardware Co. made it possible to use the warehouses for this event.

\$221,000 in Bonds Sold, to Top County's Quota by Almost \$100,000; E Bond Quota Almost \$5,000 Short; Time Extended to End of Month on Series E, F and G

On Tuesday Watauga County had passed its over-all bond quota in the Fourth War Loan by almost \$100,000, with prospects that the quota of \$122,000 would be doubled, and the goal for E bonds would be reached, although sales to individuals had lagged almost five thousand dollars behind the amount sought.

Mr. W. D. Farthing states that \$222,459.50 in bonds of all types have been sold and remitted for, of which \$97,262.50 are of the "E" series, leaving \$4,738 of E bonds yet to be sold to reach the quota of \$102,000 for this type of bond. As of the 11th \$173,459.50 in local bond sales had cleared the Federal Reserve Bank, of which \$90,262.50 were in E bonds.

Mr. Farthing announces that sales of E, F and G bonds through the remainder of the month will be counted against the Fourth War Loan quota, and confidently predicts the doubling of the over-all quota, and the passing of the quota on E bonds.

The contests for the sale of E bonds in the schools of the county will continue until February 25, Mr. Farthing states, and principals are asked to report the winners on the morning of the 26th, the last day on which returns can be made, with expectations of Federal Reserve Bank clearance by the end of the month. He insists that citizens continue their purchases of bonds, particularly E series, during the remainder of the month.

## State Collector to Be Here March 2, 9

Mr. Joe Sink, Deputy Commissioner from the North Carolina Department of Revenue, will be in the office of the Clerk of Court in Boone on the 2nd and 9th days of March, for the purpose of aiding taxpayers in filing their State tax returns.

Any unmarried man or any woman, it is explained, having an income of \$1,000 or more during the year 1943, and any married man having an income of \$2,000 or more must file an income tax return.

Any person owning on December 31, 1943, intangible personal property, such as money on hand, accounts receivable, notes, bonds, mortgages, or other evidences of debt, or shares of stock of corporations (not wholly in this State), must file an intangible tax return.

## Activities of Health Department in Watauga County During Year 1943

Communicable disease control is fairly easy with certain diseases, but with others it is quite difficult. However, any control measure of success is of necessity based on the quality of reporting done by those on whom this responsibility falls. That is, physicians, teachers, parents and others with knowledge of conditions. Only too often reporting is neglected entirely, or done in a very unsatisfactory manner. The disease reported most frequently during 1943 was measles, 58 cases being brought to the attention of the health department. Whooping cough was next with a total of 34, and scarlet fever followed with 14. We also had 7 cases of diphtheria called to our attention which is entirely too many when we realize that this is a preventable disease.

Visits and investigations for the purpose of service were made to most of these cases. We had no typhoid fever reported during the year and no smallpox, though a recent table drawn up showing the states grouped according to their laws regarding vaccination for smallpox, shows that those having compulsory vaccination, of which North Carolina is not one, have the lowest percentage of cases over a period of years, and those having no laws at all show the highest percentage of cases. Watauga County is doing well in this respect, having had 1,206 individuals vaccinated for smallpox during the year which is second highest shown by our records for any type of vaccination. Typhoid fever immunization came first with 1,864 and diphtheria third with 227.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR)

BUY WAR BONDS

## TO PROVIDE AID FOR INCOME TAX PAYERS LOCALLY

Collectors From Revenue Department to Be Here Three Days Next Week to Assist Taxpayers in Filing; All Must File With Income of \$624

Messrs. Glenn Dancy and Robert Trainer, deputy collectors from the office of the Collector of Internal Revenue in Greensboro, will be at the Boone postoffice February 17th, 18th and 19th, for the purpose of aiding local taxpayers in filing their Federal returns.

Mr. Dancy urges all those who will need help in preparing their forms to meet the collectors on one of the dates mentioned. Due to the unprecedented number who are to file this year, and the complicated forms involved, it will be impossible, it appears, to give everyone aid. Where possible taxpayers should fill in such of the blanks as they can, and have figures readily available for the collector.

It is pointed out that all those who had an income in 1943 of as much as \$624 (\$52 a month) are required to file, whether or not there is a tax liability. Those who filed estimates last September, will also be required to file detailed forms by March 15. Farmers who were given to December 15th to file estimates, must likewise file their detailed returns by the March 15 deadline.

You Will Need

When you call on your deputy collector for aid you will need:

- Form W-2 furnished you by your employer, showing wages received and taxes withheld.
- Form 1125 sent you by the Collector of Internal Revenue with the blank forms for 1943 showing tax reported and amount paid for 1942.
- If you filed a declaration of estimate to tax during 1943, a copy of such declaration, Form 1040-ES or the taxpayer's work sheet used in preparing it.
- All members of the armed forces and any other taxpayers who do not have item 2 above should have with them a copy of the 1942 tax return and a record of the exact amount of tax paid thereon.
- An accurate record of all other income besides wages received in 1943.

Please do not cause loss of time to yourself and the revenue employees by asking for help unless you have the above essentials.

If you can fill out the tax blank yourself, by all means do so.

If you can even partially prepare it, do so and ask only for the help actually needed.

It is physically impossible to assist all taxpayers, so please help the revenue department to give assistance to those who need it most.

Your co-operation will be sincerely appreciated.

## FLAKE BOWLES IS KILLED IN ACTION

Former Assistant County Agent Dies in Fortress Over Germany; Had Been Reported Missing

Lieut. Flake Bowles, native of Hiddenite, N. C., but for a year and a half assistant Watauga County farm agent, was killed in action December 20, while navigating a Flying Fortress over Germany, it was revealed last Wednesday in a message from the War Department to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Bowles, of Hiddenite. Lieut. Bowles had been reported missing some time ago, but friends here had held out hope that he was yet alive.

Lieut. Bowles went into the service November 13, 1942, and was trained as an air navigator at Monroe, La., and at an army air field in South Dakota. He was a graduate of State College in the class of '41, and is the first member of the extension service to have lost his life in the present conflict.

Mr. Bowles was named assistant farm agent in Watauga County in June, 1941, and remained here until called to the colors. He was intensely interested in his work here, and was popular with the farmers of the county.

## Lions Club Meets

Boone Lions Club met at the Gateway Cafe Tuesday evening with Lion Frank Payne presiding.

The program for the evening consisted of initiation exercises for 12 new members recently accepted into the club. Lion W. Amos Abrams, chairman of Lion Education committee, led the program. The examination of new members was conducted by Lee H. Stout, T. Milton Greer, Dr. G. K. Moore, Dr. Robert C. Busted, D. J. Norman and J. E. Holshouser.

Membership cards and buttons were presented to Bus Crowell, Dr. Ralph W. House, Prof. A. R. Smith, Clyde R. Greene, H. B. Teague, W. B. York, Joe Crawford, Edward Gunter, Charles Hartley, Lee Holston, Elwood Roberts and Maurice O'Sullivan.

Visiting the Club were C. C. Lovewell, Red Cross worker, Drew Field, Fla.; Lion Bryan Collins, Asheville; L. H. Smith, Winston-Salem, and Jake Caudill, Boone.

The club looks forward to the next meeting, at which time a delegation of the North Wilkesboro Lions Club will furnish a program. The local club will send a delegation to Valdese to put on a program March 2.

## Robbers Loot Ration Board Office; Typewriters Taken From Draft Board

A large number of gasoline and shoe stamps and No. 4 ration books were taken from the local War Price and Rationing Board Tuesday night, and three typewriters were stolen from the office of the Selective Service Board, presumably at the same time, since entrance to the county building was gained by forcing a window in the draft board office.

The investigating authorities have been notified of the robberies by the local officials.

Mr. Richard Olsen, executive secretary of the War Ration Board, states that 75 No. 4 ration books were missing; 10 "E" gas books; 61 shoe stamps; 43 "A" books, and 25 "R" books.

In the hope that local merchants and filling station operators will be on the lookout for these stolen stamps, and aid in help stamping out the black market, and thus in winning the war, Mr. Olsen lists the serial numbers of the stamps lost.

The No. 4 ration books are numbered 924026 to 924100; "E" books numbers 403141 to 403150; "A" books 646008 to 646050; "R" books 635926 to 635960. The special shoe stamps stolen were unnumbered, Mr. Olsen says.

## Fire Sweeps Grocery and Produce House Tuesday

## Thompson's Grocery Store Practically a Total Loss, While M. C. Hollar, Local Produce Dealer, Loses Heavily in Seed, Potatoes, Bags, Etc.; Building to Be Replaced Quickly as Possible

Former Assistant County Agent Dies in Fortress Over Germany; Had Been Reported Missing

A fire of unknown origin which started in the Thompson Grocery store building early Tuesday morning, gutted the structure, bringing a loss to Messrs. Triplett and Thompson, the owners of the food store, of from \$3,000 to \$5,000. M. C. Hollar, who used a portion of the building for storage of produce, states that his loss of seed, potatoes, bags, etc., is from \$1,600 to \$1,800. Mr. Hollar and volunteer workers succeeded in salvaging a considerable part of the stored potatoes, but Mr. Triplett states that the grocery stock is to be considered as a total loss.

No insurance was in force on either the stock of groceries or produce.

The building, the property of Mr. I. T. Barnett, and which was a comparatively new brick structure, was all but demolished, although the walls stand. Mr. Barnett plans to start the rebuilding of the structure as quickly as possible.

The fire was discovered in the back of the store shortly after 3 a. m., and when the alarm was sounded, the volunteer fire department responded, and aided by other citizens of the town, fought the fire heroically during the freezing temperatures, aiding in the salvage work and preventing the spread of the flames to other buildings.

**Grocery Had New Owners**

The Thompson Grocery store had been bought by Messrs. Coker Triplett and Donald Thompson the first of the year, and since that time the new owners had added to the stock, and were enjoying an increasing patronage. Mr. Triplett desires to express thanks to the customers of the store for their fine patronage and states that just as soon as the building can be finished, the firm will again be doing business with an enlarged stock, and asks for the indulgence of the people during the interim.

Mr. Hollar had used a section of the building as an auxiliary storage space for a long time. However, much of his stock was in his own building, as well as in other structures in town.

Messrs. Triplett and Hollar express their appreciation to those who aided them during the conflagration.

## WAR BOND FILM IS SEEN BY OVER 700

"Guadalcanal Diary" Draws Large Number of Bond Buyers; to Return March 2

The bond premiere of "Guadalcanal Diary," perhaps the most stupendous war production of the present conflict, screened last Thursday evening by Appalachian Theatre, without cost, to aid in the Fourth War Loan, was unusually well received, and 769 persons attended.

Admission was only upon special tickets issued upon the purchase of war bonds, and the box office was not opened. Mr. Norman, theatre manager, states that the amount of bonds represented by the tickets is \$79,025.00.

The film, which is the first screen version of this war, showing American might at its victorious best, will be returned here on regular billing March 2, it is announced.

## Legion and Auxiliary To Meet Friday Night

The American Legion and Auxiliary will meet Friday night, Feb. 18, at 7:30. All ex-service men of both World War 1 and 2 are invited to attend. Also any service men who may be home on leave are cordially invited to be with their friends at this meeting.

In addition to the regular routine business, there will be some other matters of much interest to the Post to be considered.

Comrade Lionel Ward will be at this meeting with the necessary blanks for making application to secure mustering-out pay. All veterans of World War 2 who have an honorable discharge may apply for this money. It is required that your discharge accompany this application. It is advised that all ex-service men have their discharge recorded in the office of the register of deeds at the courthouse.

Comrades and veterans of World War 2, come to this meeting. Bring your discharge and apply for this mustering-out pay.

## BUY WAR BONDS