

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1944

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## FARM COMMITTEE MEMBERS CHOSEN LAST THURSDAY

### Two Hundred and Fifty Farmers Go to Polls Under Terms of Triple-A Law; Mast Again Heads Agricultural Conservation Association

About 250 Watauga county farmers participated in the election held last Thursday when the community committee for the Agricultural Conservation Association were named for Watauga county, also delegates to the county convention of the association held in Boone last Saturday.

The convention re-elected W. W. Mast chairman; H. Neal Blair, vice-chairman; Ned Glenn, regular member; Edgar B. Hardin, first alternate; and Stewart J. Barnes, second alternate. The group then named Melvin L. Shepherd secretary, and Miss Wilma R. Baird treasurer.

The various community committees elected are as follows, the first named in each instance being the chairman, followed by the vice-chairman, regular member and first alternate:

Bald Mountain: W. F. Norris, W. S. Miller, Glenn Howell, George Trivett.

Beaver Dam No. 1: Sanford Creed, Clyde Robinson, Dallas Wilson, Ray Stout, George Robinson.

Beaver Dam No. 2: Conley Norris, John Ward, Willard Dishman, T. C. Vinex, Frank Tester.

Blowing Rock: L. M. Frye, Shuford Edmiston, S. C. Greene, C. R. Spann, Dan Klutz.

Blue Ridge: M. O. Coffey, F. L. Hampton, Rom Cook, Fred Hartley, Hammond Hampton.

Boone No. 1: Joe McNeil, C. A. Clay, Tom Lawrence, T. L. Mast, W. R. Anderson.

Boone No. 2: S. J. Barnes, R. L. Maliba, J. C. Hodges, Fred Farthing, Ralph Moretz.

Boone No. 3: R. H. Vannoy, L. M. Moretz, Walter Carroll, John F. Cook, Frank Bobek.

Cove Creek No. 1: J. M. Burkett, Thos. L. Wilson, E. G. Greer, R. A. Thomas, Clay Reese.

Cove Creek No. 2: Spencer Dishman, Allen Adams, Thos. J. Eanser, John K. Perry, Jim T. Mast.

Elk: N. G. Wheeler, Albert Greer.

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## CLAY RAGAN DIES IN MINE DISASTER

### Former Resident of Boone is Killed in West Virginia Coal Mine

Clay Ragan, former resident of Watauga county, and son of Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Ragan of Boone Route 2, was killed as a result of an explosion in a coal mine in which he was employed at Giatto, W. Va., Tuesday of last week. Exact details of the manner of his death are not available.

Funeral services were conducted at Giatto on last Sunday, and were attended by a brother, Dave Ragan, and two sisters, Miss Margaret Ragan and Mrs. Bynum Norris, of Boone.

Deceased is survived by the parents, his widow and five children. The following brothers and sisters also survive: Mrs. B. R. Bryan, Boone; Miss Margaret Ragan, Mrs. Bynum Norris, Dave Ragan, of Meat Camp township; Mrs. D. Gragg, Blowing Rock; Mrs. Grace May, West Jefferson; Pfc. Kenneth Ragan, Italy; Cpl. Joe Ragan, Shelby; Miss, John and Jennings Ragan of Giatto, W. Va.

## Health Department to Conduct T.B. Clinic

The local Health Department, sponsored by the County Tuberculosis Association, will conduct a chest clinic on December 13. X-Ray pictures will be made on those persons positive to the T.B. skin test. All those interested in having a check-up, please come to the Health Department Saturday morning, Dec. 1, for the skin test.

## To the People of this Community

"Sad little personal belongings are strewn all over these bitter sands." Thus wrote Ernie Pyle from a beachhead in Normandy.

More than 2,000 bundles of these belongings, carefully collected and packed by the armed forces, are sent monthly from a Kansas City depot to homes throughout America. That's the current price of victory over enemies who forced this war upon you. These "souvenirs" are enveloped with heartaches and drenched with tears.

How long this tragic depot stays in business is up to you. Every second prolongs the slaughter. Every extra \$100 War Bond in the Sixth War Loan helps to shorten the fighting. Can you do less than to lend your money for speedy victory?

THE EDITOR.

## Sgt. Carroll Eggers Dies a Hero; Distinguished Service Cross Award

Sgt. Carroll Eggers, of Vilas, who drove the Germans back three times in a battle in Europe in July, only to fall victim to a sniper's bullet, is one of the real heroes of the war, and there will be a distinguished service cross for the Watauga man, who fired withering blasts from his machine gun into the Nazis, even after facial wounds had made him unable to stand. In the arms of an ammunition carrier, he fought on until the end. The graphic story of Sgt. Eggers' heroism is taken from "Jack Bell in Italy," a feature column in the Miami (Fla.) Herald, issue of November 18.

"Sgt. Carroll Eggers, Vilas, N. C., was in a hot spot. His heavy machine gun squad was on the left flank of the second battalion of the 362nd infantry one morning in July. The Germans were coming strong and his squad had been pretty well shot up. He sat behind his machine gun, facing a determined attack. His gun poured fire on the foe and they were forced to retreat. But they were many, and well armed. Soon they were attacking again, this time after plastering Sgt. Eggers' position with heavy mortar fire.

"Once more the sergeant's gun poured withering fire and once more the Germans had to drop to earth and crawl back. They poured more mortar fire and moved again. This time, almost as soon as the attack started, a German bullet struck Sgt. Eggers in the jaw, a severe, painful wound that knocked him from his gun. His crew was at a loss without him and the situation was desperate.

"But Sgt. Eggers wasn't through. The Carolina boy called an ammunition carrier and ordered the man to hold him up. So, resting in the arms of a comrade, Sgt. Eggers once more fired with deadly effect, finally driving back the third attack.

"Then came the tragedy. After driving off dozens of Germans three times, Sgt. Eggers slumped to the ground and lay still. A sniper's bullet had gone through his brain.

"There is a Distinguished Service Cross for this lad, too, who died a real hero. It developed that his work had been of utmost importance. The Germans were unusually determined that morning. He had driven them back three times, attacks the Americans hadn't expected in such force. His efforts held them long enough for Lt. Louis Gele, New Orleans, crack mortar officer, to bring up his 81-mm guns and repel two more desperate attacks. It was one of the hardest battles of the campaign."



SGT. CARROLL EGGERS

## 41 LOCAL MEN ARE INDUCTED INTO ARMED SERVICES

### Current Quota of Watauga Men Predominantly Non-Fathers; Six Fathers Included in List; Names of Those Reporting to Camp

Thirty-eight Watauga county men and three transfers from other boards were sent by the local draft board to an army induction center of the army, to do service under the terms of the selective service act.

The names of the men included in current local quota are as follows:

- Henry Bynum Hollars
- Troy Ray Cornett
- John William Ragan
- Lige Calvin Hollar
- Ray Dewey Harmon
- Thomas Cecil Swift
- William Edward Kirby
- Walter Ray Welch
- Doyle Waitstie Hollifield
- Clyde Webster Woodring
- Jack Simmons Church
- Elmer Lloyd Scott
- Raymond Pierce Glenn
- Ralph Thomas Fairchild
- Austin Bruce Miller
- Tommy Edwin Yates
- George Butler Adams
- Linard Laney Wineberger
- Delmar Lee Thomas
- Conley Field Taylor
- Wilbur Newton Brewer
- Howard Hagaman Parlier
- Cloyd Shufford Bolick
- Howard J. Townsend
- Dean William Moretz
- Lloyd Harold Miller
- James Howard Moretz
- Charles Mevin Adams
- Russell Jennings Beach
- Arnold Ford Ward
- Noah Allen Hamby
- Floyd Linney Hodges
- Glenn Martin Watson
- James Clyde Trivette
- William Elmer Miller
- Henry Vance Dishman
- Transferred From Other Boards
- Yatza Frank Greene
- Clyde Andrew Tester
- Thomas Howard Hodges
- Transferred to Other Boards
- Jessie Cleveland Harmon
- Junior Sanford Jones

## Chamber Commerce Lists Projects For Post-War Period

By H. W. WILCOX

It is the purpose of the Chamber of Commerce to bring before the public some of the outstanding "must" post-war projects. Every project named in this column will be discussed and approved by the commerce body in regular meeting.

Several post-war projects and improvements have already been discussed and adopted by the commerce body, and we will, each week name these in this column, and ask all who read them to keep them in mind, and if at any time you have a way of bringing these about to reality, we will welcome these suggestions. Address any communications to the Boone Chamber of Commerce, and the suggestions will be carefully considered and discussed in our regular monthly meetings, which are held each second Thursday.

It may be that you might have a suggestion for some project you would like this commerce body to sponsor, and if so, we would be glad to hear from you. It is the purpose of this organization to build up our county and secure all worthwhile projects possible, and to do all we can to have provided proper elements for the safeguarding and upbuilding of our community.

The first, and not necessarily a post-war problem, is the water shortage. Everything else we do depends on the improvement of the water supply for Boone, and it is the conviction of the commerce body that this should not be considered a post-war project, but should be acted upon at once. We know we will have the full co-operation of the town council on this vital matter, and that something will be worked out in the near future. If we are to have additional housing facilities, business buildings, tourist cottages, recreational centers or any worthwhile improvements, we must have more water, and we hope everyone will co-operate towards this end.

Next week in this column we will list another project we are sponsoring.

## Thanksgiving Brings Snowfall to Mountains

Thanksgiving Day brought quite a heavy snowfall to Watauga and other mountain counties, but low temperatures prevented the flakes from gaining any great depth. Subsequent lowered temperatures caused some of the snow to remain, however, until the end of the week, and highway workers used cinder on dangerous points in the main highway system. Few motor accidents occurred, none of them serious.

Wednesday morning rain is mixed with snow, following the clear and mild weather of Tuesday.

## HEAVYWEIGHTS PLASTER NIPS

The first co-ordinated Superfortress strike from east and west Monday clamped down an aerial pincers on the Jap homeland. A sizeable force from the Saipan base beat at Tokyo for an hour and a half in the second attack in four days. Another flight of the big ships attacked a rail center in Thailand.

## Commended



S-Sgt. Jack W. Parris, who as chief of section of naval shore fire control party No. 28, in the invasion of Southern France, and who has received a commendation from Lieut. Elston H. Bergen, Jr. Excerpts from the letter of commendation follow: "After volunteering for what he was told would be 'extremely hazardous duty' he faithfully performed all duties demanded of him, often at great risk to himself. . . . S-Sgt. Parris' knowledge of and devotion to duty and his qualities of leadership were strong contributing factors in enabling the party to accomplish its mission. For his services during the period July 4 to October 1, it is my desire to give him my highest commendation." Mrs. Parris, the former Miss Edith Mays, and son Jackie, 2, reside in Boone.

## HANDLING XMAS MAIL BIG TASK

### Postmaster Urges Increased Co-operation of People in Mailing Gift Packages

Postmaster John E. Brown, Jr., states that the appeal of the department to the people to shop now and mail in November, has met with good response, but the co-operation needs to be increased.

Acting on the advice of Postmaster General Frank C. Walker, Mr. Brown states that unless mailing is done this week it will be virtually impossible for all Christmas gifts to be delivered on time.

The unprecedented shortages of manpower, the unbelievably large burden which railroads are carrying, and the impossibility of securing enough extra help are cited as some of the reasons why early mailing is imperative.

Postmaster Brown points out, however, that nothing in his instructions prohibit receiving parcels for mailing after December 1, as has been erroneously reported. They will be accepted right on but those mailing their packages late will not have the satisfaction of knowing whether or not their parcels will arrive in time for the Christmas holiday.

Every effort is being made at the Boone office to take care of the heavy mailing of the next few days, and it is in the interest of better service to the public that the local postal official makes his appeal.

## COUNTY TUTORS MEET SATURDAY

### Two-Part Program Has Been Arranged for Teachers Meeting to Be Held in Boone

The teachers of the Watauga county schools will meet Saturday, Dec. 2, at 2 o'clock, at the Boone High School, it was announced Monday evening, and a two-part program has been arranged for the gathering.

The first section of the program will deal with legislation of interest to the teaching profession, and will be in charge of Prof. John Howell, chairman of the legislative committee.

In the second half of the program Miss Louise Moore will discuss improvement of school libraries, while Miss Gail Clay will stress the need for the improvement of playgrounds.

A full attendance of all teachers of the county is desired.

## New County Officials To Take Office Monday

The newly-elected Watauga county officials will take over the affairs of the county next Monday, but there will be little change in the personnel of the county administration.

Mr. A. G. Miller, of Deep Gap, is to succeed Chairman Walter C. Greene on the board of commissioners, while W. M. Winkler and H. O. Algridge, incumbents, will remain on the board. Miss Helen Underdown, register of deeds, was unopposed for re-election, while the terms of Sheriff Watson and Clerk of Court A. E. South continue until 1946.

## SIXTH WAR LOAN DRIVE GETS OFF TO SLOW START

### Estimated \$15,000 in E Bonds Disposed of Since Campaign Opened Last Week; Rural Organization is Formed and is Now Getting Down to Work

The Sixth War Loan campaign is getting off to a rather slow start in Watauga county, but it is pointed out that the general county organization is just now getting down to effective work. A total of \$6,091.75 in E bond sales have been cleared through the Federal Reserve Bank, but Chairman Clyde R. Greene estimates that \$15,000 worth of the individual bonds have been disposed of.

Although the initial figures are not very impressive, Mr. Greene states that a close-knit county organization is just now beginning to function effectively and that he expects the sales to mount rapidly in the next few days.

Mr. Greene particularly calls the attention of the people to the third anniversary of the Jap attack on Pearl Harbor December 7th, and insists that everyone make their bond purchases by that time. He also points out the advisability of making war bonds a standard Christmas gift for every member of the family.

### County Organization

Meantime, Harry Hamilton, chairman of the campaign in rural Watauga county, gives out the following names of leaders in the different neighborhoods of the county, who are to give every person a chance to subscribe to the Sixth War Loan:

- Frank Main, Stewart Simmons, D. C. Coffey, Mrs. Howard Gragg, Stewart Barnes, W. S. Miller, Mrs. Richard Olsen, Miss Gladys Taylor, D. F. Greene, Sanford Creed, W. M. Thomas, John Hagaman, Mrs. S. A. Harris, B. W. Farthing, Collis Greene, Granville Storie, Mrs. Vance Keller, W. D. Lookbill, Mrs. L. A. Hensoa, Mrs. Charlie Moore, Mrs. Victor Farthing, Mrs. Myrtle Cook.

## SELECTEES SENT FOR INITIAL TEST

### Number of Wataugans Go to Army Induction Center for Preliminary Examinations

Following is a list of Watauga county men recently sent to an army post for their pre-induction physical examinations:

- Marvin Thomas Proffitt
- Marlin Luther Moretz
- Albert Marion Johnson
- Charles Hayden Fox
- Luther West
- Helen Edward Reese
- Raymond Charley Trivett
- Jessie Willard Yates
- John Ingle Ford
- Allen Everett Henson
- Bynum Lloyd Presnell
- William Finley Ray
- Cecil Paul Presnell
- Edward Jessie Harmon
- William Clarence Greene
- Ron Bill Danner
- Orris David Trivette
- Edward Stanley Critcher
- James Butler Wilson
- McKinley Calvin Yates
- Paul Lewis Ward
- John Dewey Howell
- Ralph Norman Howland

## Vacation Travel Can Cost Gas Coupons

Motorists who use gasoline illegally to travel to winter resorts face the loss of their mileage ration, the OPA warns.

Chester Bowles, OPA administrator, said: "The millions of patriotic drivers throughout the country who are abiding by the mileage regulations and getting along on tight rations so that all may share fairly the scarce civilian supplies have a right to expect OPA to shut down hard on those who obtain gasoline unfairly for non-essential trips. We intend to do just that."

## Tobacco Market To Open Dec. 12th

The Mountain Burley Tobacco Warehouses in Boone will open sales for the current season on Tuesday, December 12th, says R. C. Coleman, the operator, who arrived here from Tabor City Tuesday morning, to remain until the close of the sales season. The warehouses are now open for the receipt of tobacco, and it is stated that better service will be given due to the enlargement of the houses. Mr. Coleman points to an improved crop in Watauga and adjoining areas, and confidently expects to sell three million pounds as compared to two and a half million last year. He expects the price this year to be as good as last, when the average was \$46.49 per hundred.