

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Year 1888.

VOL. LVII, NO. 39

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1945

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## JOHN M. BROWN, BUSINESS LEADER, A SPEAKER HERE

Winston-Salem Insurance Executive Speaks to Meeting of Chamber of Commerce and Talks of Development of This Section of Country

Mr. John M. Brown, field executive for the Mutual Life Insurance Company of Winston-Salem, delivered the chief address before a half hundred business men and their ladies at the annual Chamber of Commerce meeting held last Friday evening.

Mr. Brown's address was replete with humor and he proved himself to be both an entertaining and informative speaker. He spoke of world conditions and of the huge tasks that lie ahead of communities such as Boone. Recalling the days before Boone had highway outlets, the speaker recounted the movement which resulted in the building of the Boone Trail highway into the region. He praised Dr. B. B. Dougherty and others who had a part in this accomplishment, and spoke of the interest shown by Hon. Sanford Martin, Winston-Salem newspaperman, in supporting this enterprise. Praising this section of North Carolina, Mr. Brown painted a rosy picture of the region in the days to come.

Mrs. Brown and daughter accompanied Mr. Brown to Boone, and enjoyed the banquet.

Dr. and Mrs. Ralph W. House, of the college, and Prof. and Mrs. Donald Thompson, of the demonstration school, were guests, and their efforts to aid in making Boone a better place in which to live were recognized.

### Officers Elected

Following the dinner addresses, a business session of the Chamber of Commerce was held, at which Mr. C. A. Price, treasurer, made an excellent report, which indicated a substantial balance in the treasury.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: H. W. Wilcox, president; Russell D. Hodges, first vice-president; W. W. Chester, second vice-president. The following directors were named: J. E. Holsouser, M. R. Maddux, L. T. Tatum, Barnard Dougherty, Guy Hunt and C. A. Price, treasurer. No other business was transacted.

The directors will meet soon to name a secretary for the commerce body, which has been left open since the death of the incumbent, L. H. Crowell.

President Wilcox says announcement will be made soon of a meeting at which it is proposed to discuss an accumulation of matters of concern to the community.

## ASA EDWARDS TO ADDRESS JUNIORS

State Leader to Deliver Feature Address at Spring Meeting of District Jr.O.U.A.M.

Hon. Asa Edwards, of Green county, one of the leaders in the fraternal, governmental and agricultural life of Eastern Carolina, will address the spring meeting of District 3, Junior Order United American Mechanics, which will be held in the Junior hall in Boone Thursday evening, April 5, at 7:30 p. m., it was announced this morning.

Local members of the fraternity feel fortunate in having secured Mr. Edwards for this occasion. He was recently appointed along with Dr. B. B. Dougherty, of Boone, as a member-at-large of the new State Board of Education, and has been frequently mentioned as a likely Democratic candidate for the governorship of the state in 1948.

The North Wilkesboro degree team, which is recognized as one of the best in the state, will be on hand for the Junior meeting and conduct the initiation of a class of ten or twelve candidates.

District three, Junior Order, embraces Watauga, Avery and Mitchell counties, and the district officers are: Zelzah McCourry, councillor; W. H. Gragg, vice-councillor; J. L. Stout, secretary; J. H. Perkins, warden; B. S. Dugger, conductor; B. K. Osborne, inside sentinel; W. M. Cook, outside sentinel; Howard Shore, chaplain.

## Oak Leaf Cluster Won By Boone Man

Lt. Emsley M. Eggers, of Boone, is among a group of Superfortress crewmen to be awarded the Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal for outstanding and meritorious achievement on operational and combat flights from 20th bomber bases in India and western China, it was announced by the 20th bomber command on Monday.

Lt. Eggers had been reported as missing in a Superfortress flight over Jap territory some time ago.

### Delivers Address



Mr. John M. Brown, field executive of the Mutual Life Insurance Co., of Winston-Salem, who was the chief speaker at the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce here last Friday evening.

## COVE CREEK WINS NORTHWEST CAGE TOURNAMENT HONORS

Championship Comes to Local School Group in Journal-Sentinel Basketball Tournament; Victory Scored in Last Five Seconds of Thrilling Game

Cove Creek red-clad cagers captured the boys' championship of the northwest when they were crowned champions of the 19th annual Journal-Sentinel basketball tournament which ended Wednesday night, March 21. Cove Creek won its way to the finals by defeating Jonesville on Tuesday night.

Probably no game has been played during the nearly two decades of the tournament that kept fans on the edge of their seats as did this final game between Cove Creek and Pinnacle.

Pinnacle opened the game like a house afire and ran up an 8-1 score in the first quarter. Cove Creek's Red Raiders began their uphill grind in the second quarter, scoring 8 points while holding the Pinnacle outfit to 4 points.

The Cove Creek quint, playing cool headsup basketball, tallied 8 points in the third quarter and with two minutes to go, tied the score, 17-17. Pinnacle quickly broke the tie, and the third quarter ended with Pinnacle leading 19-17.

The two teams fought in and out of each other's defense until only two minutes remained in the game. Then the fireworks started. Billy Billings dribbled in and put Cove Creek in the lead, 24-23. Billings fouled Lane of Pinnacle, and he sank the ball to tie the score. Pinnacle got another basket which put them ahead 26-4. Billings sank one, and the score was tied again. With only 5 seconds remaining, Holder of Pinnacle, fouled Robert Allen, and the Cove Creek captain eased the free shot through the basket to win the championship for Cove Creek.

### Pfc. Ronda Hollar Seriously Wounded

Pfc. Ronda Hollar, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Hollar, of Lenoir, formerly of Blowing Rock, was seriously wounded in the fighting in Germany on Feb. 13, his parents have been advised.

Pfc. Hollar has been in the European theatre since April, 1944.

### In Italy



Pfc. Arnold C. Presnell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roby C. Presnell, of Beech Creek, who took his training at Camp Wolters and Camp Swift, Texas, and who went overseas in January. He is now serving his country in the mountains of Italy. He would like to hear from his friends.

## RED CROSS FUND PASSES SEVEN THOUSAND MARK

Chairman of War Fund Campaign Urges Those Who Have Not Contributed to Do So at Once; Reports Should Be Turned In By the End of This Week

The Red Cross War Fund campaign in Watauga county has reached the sum of a little more than \$7,000, to exceed the county's quota by about \$300, but Clyde R. Greene, War Fund chairman, insists that those who have not contributed, do so at once, even though the quota has been reached.

Mr. Greene points out that with the big actions in Europe and the mounting tempo of the war in the Pacific, the demands upon the services of the Red Cross are increasing daily, and everyone has a definite responsibility in this regard.

Mr. Greene asks that all solicitors have their reports in his hands by the end of this week, so that the campaign may be closed.

Following is the latest tabulation of returns by communities:

Total reported last week.....	\$5,516.55
Shulls Mills community.....	5.00
Shulls Mills Baptist Ch.....	25.00
Assembly of God Church, Shulls Mills	5.00
County Building, H. M. Hamilton	88.00
Foscoe community, Mrs. C. P. Moore	19.00
Elk community, Stewart Simmons	53.00
Appalachian High School, Orby Southard	40.50
Courthouse, Paul Coffey	56.00
Howard's Creek school, Maggie Moretz	12.35
Cove Creek High school, Mrs. M. H. Osborne.....	107.50
Blowing Rock, Mrs. H. C. Hayes	22.00
Lower Meat Camp, Nellie Lookabill	80.50
Flanders Fork, Carolina Greene	31.00
Windy Gap, Henry Hagaman	23.25
Perkinsville, Mrs. S. J. Barnes	72.15
Howard's Creek community, L. F. Cottrell	113.25
Howard's Creek church, Castle school district, Mrs. Russell Vannoy	3.00
Bamboo community, Mrs. Vance Keller	80.55
Bethel community, Ruby B. Tester	78.50
Cook school, Miss Amelia Bingham	1.51
Silver Lake community, Louise Lentz	18.00
Flat Top community, Bernice Lentz	15.25
Green Park community, Bun Knight	52.00
Boone (Howard and Locust Streets, Mrs. Hale Vance	62.00
Aho community, M. O. Coffey	8.50
Cove Creek Elementary school, Mrs. Gladys M. Bingham	65.00
Boone Dem. school, Mrs. Adams 4th grade	31.16
Boone (Grand Boulevard), Mrs. Guy Hunt	23.50
Mabel school, Mabel R. Norris	50.58
Rominger school, George Harmon	9.75
Rutherford school and community, Mrs. Muriel Glenn	14.75
Lower Meat Camp community, Paul Moretz	54.00
Lower Middle Fork community, Mrs. F. H. Pennell	2.50
Grandfather community, Mrs. Vester Moody	22.05
Deep Gap community, Mrs. Grace R. Moretz	51.33
Brushy Fork Baptist church Boone, B. M. Grogan and C. H. Mock	37.00
Miscellaneous	21.00
Beaver Dam community, Sanford Creed	8.00
Watauga Consolidated school, B. M. Neal	20.21
Boone (East Main St.) Mrs. J. V. Caudill	26.55
	36.00
Total	\$7,079.49

Through an error, the contribution of \$60.00 by the D. & P. Pipe Works was omitted last week.

### Red Cross Banquet Sponsored by Legion

Watauga Post 130, American Legion, is sponsoring a banquet Saturday night, March 31, the proceeds from which will be given to the Red Cross War Fund.

Tickets are now on sale at the Carolina Pharmacy, Appalachian Soda Shop, Parkway Co., Boone Drug Co. and Burgess Antique Shop.

Besides a good dinner, a fine program is planned, including talks by some field workers of the Red Cross, who will tell us what the Red Cross is doing here and in foreign service.

## W.N.C. Women to Care for War Wounded



To care for America's returning war-wounded, a platoon of 13 Western North Carolina women were enlisted as WAC medical technicians in colorful ceremonies at Asheville last week. Part of the group, shown above, are, left to right: Marion B. Nance, Lenoir; Mildred L. Wood, Canton; Mary L. Osborne, Canton; Dorothy L.

Taylor, Franklin; Mary J. Bledsoe, Todd; Lucy I. Timmerman, Hendersonville; Edna L. Skinner, Candler, and Doris E. Walker, Boone. Privates Bledsoe and Walker will be stationed at Finney General Hospital, Thomasville, Ga., after receiving 12 weeks of training at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. Both chose the hospital at which they wanted assignment.

## COUNTY TEACHERS HOLD MEETING

Watauga Unit of N. C. Education Association in Informative Meeting on Wednesday

The Watauga unit of the North Carolina Education Association met Wednesday afternoon in the auditorium of the Appalachian High school. Paul Bingham, principal of the Cove Creek High school, presided.

The program was a challenging panel discussion of problems connected with administering necessary school activities other than regular classroom teaching.

Cratis D. Williams, instructor in speech and dramatics and counselor at Appalachian High school, led the panel. Those participating in the panel were: Miss Helen Clardy, librarian at Appalachian High, library problems; Miss Gail Clay, supervisor of playground activities at Appalachian Elementary school, playground activities; Sam F. Horton, superintendent of Watauga county schools, classroom supplies; Paul Bingham, principal of Cove Creek High, transportation problems; Mrs. Edmisten, principal of Valle Crucis school, lunchroom problems; Dr. John Borden, critic teacher in Appalachian Elementary school, practical arts; and Grady Tester, principal of Bethel High school, audio-visual education.

Mrs. Albertine McKeller, of the state department of education, spoke briefly on the need for more adequate health and physical education instruction and activities in the schools of the state.

The first mid-week teachers' meeting was largely attended, over a hundred of the county's 125 teachers being present.

In the business session at the conclusion of the meeting, officers for the 1945-46 period were elected. Mr. Cratis Williams, of the Appalachian High school faculty, was elected president; Mr. Grady Tester, principal of Bethel High school, was elected vice-president; Mrs. Max Edmisten, teacher in the Valle Crucis school, was named secretary, and Mrs. Sarah Gaither, principal of the Blowing Rock High school, was elected treasurer.

Dr. Orby Southard, program chairman for this year, announced that plans are under way for a picnic at Cove Creek High school for the next meeting of the association, on Wednesday afternoon, May 9th.

### Rites Held Tuesday For Mrs. Hagaman

Funeral services were held at the First Baptist church in Boone Tuesday afternoon for Mrs. Nancy Joan Hagaman, aged 75, who died on Monday at the home of a son, Mr. Roy Hagaman, of this city.

Rev. J. C. Canipe was in charge of the rites which were attended by a large number of friends of the family, and interment was in the city cemetery. Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home being in charge of the arrangements.

Mrs. Hagaman was born and reared in Beaver Dam township, a member of one of the county's most prominent families, but for many years had made her home in Boone. She had been a member of the Baptist church for many years, and always evidenced the highest interest in the affairs of her church. During her residence here she made a large number of friends, and was a splendid Christian lady.

Surviving is one son, Roy Hagaman, of Boone; two brothers, Smith Hagaman, Winston-Salem, and Emmet Hagaman, of Knoxville, Tenn.; two sisters, Mrs. Alice Moody, of Jonesboro, Tenn., and Mrs. Roy Dotson, of Mountain City, Tenn.

### Killed in Action



Pfc. Ralph M. Brown, who was killed in action in the fighting in Germany on February 23, as chronicled in The Democrat last week. Pfc. Brown was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brown, of Boone.

## SAYS GERMANS QUITE HUMANE

Lieut. Glenn Hodges, Son of Former Watauga, Tells of German Prison Camp

Dr. J. E. Hodges, of Maiden, former Watauga county citizen, whose son, Lieut. Glenn Hodges, is in a Nazi prison camp, has received a letter from a fellow American officer, telling of conditions prevailing in the enemy camp, and the text of the letter, which follows, will be of interest to the many friends of the Hodges family in the county: (CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT)

### Pfc. William Greer Wounded in Germany

Pfc. William Greer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cicero Greer, of Vilas, was slightly wounded in action on March 17.

Pfc. Greer has been in Germany for the past five months. He entered the army February 19, 1943.

The message was received by his wife, Mrs. Beulah Greer, of Lenoir.

### With Patton's Army



Cpl. Clyde Townsend, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Townsend, of Banner Elk, Route 1, has been in the army for 27 months and has been in the European theatre of operations for 13 months. He is serving with General Patton's Third army. His job is driving for high ranking officers. Cpl. Townsend received his training at Fort Sill, Okla., and Fort Jackson, S. C.

## BRIEF ILLNESS PROVES FATAL TO R. LUTHER CLAY

Long-Time Resident of Boone Was Chief of Field Division of the United States Internal Revenue Department; Funeral in Greensboro Sunday

Robert Luther Clay, chief of the field division of the Internal Revenue Department, and long a resident of Boone, died at a hospital in Greensboro Sunday, following an illness of two weeks. He was 55 years old.

An appendix operation and complications resulted in his death.

Mr. Clay, who was born in Avery county, in the vicinity of Montezuma, came to Watauga shortly after the Linville River Railway built its lines to Boone and served as station agent at Shulls Mills, before coming to Boone more than 20 years ago, where he held a similar position with the railway. In 1933 he went to Greensboro to work with the revenue department and became field division chief in 1943.

While here he contributed a full share to the civic and religious life of the community. He had served on the city council, was a Mason and a Shriner, a member of the Methodist Church, where he served as steward for many years and as Sunday school superintendent for two years.

In Greensboro Mr. Clay became identified with the West Market Street Methodist church where he was a member of the Ireland Bible class.

Mr. Clay was widely known here where the family had regularly spent the summers and the news of his demise came as a distinct shock to his many friends in the area, who had not been apprised of his serious illness.

He was a particularly popular citizen, possessed of admirable traits of character and a deep sense of sincerity. His radiant personality, and spirit of innate friendliness and neighborliness, contributed to his popularity, not only in Boone but throughout practically every section of the state. His death will be widely mourned.

Funeral services were conducted at 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon in the Hanes chapel in Greensboro, by Dr. E. K. McLarty, Methodist minister of Boone, and by Dr. W. A. Stanbury, pastor of the Centenary Methodist church of Winston-Salem. Interment was in Forest Lawn cemetery in that city.

Surviving are the widow, the former Miss Annie Stanbury, of Boone; five daughters, Mrs. Margaret Clay Tucker, Chicago, Ill.; Mrs. Ned Gibbs, Albemarle; Mrs. Shelley Rolfe and Mrs. Betty Clay Learner, Highland Park, N. J., and Miss Bobbie Ann Clay of the home; three sisters, Mrs. Mary Lovin, of Newland; Mrs. Myrtle Lovin, of Linville, and Mrs. Nell Presnell, of Knoxville, Tenn., and four grandchildren.

## LOCAL MEN ARE CALLED TO ARMY

Ten Go To Induction Post, While 25 Others Are to Take Pre-Induction Tests

Ten Watauga county men have recently been sent to an induction center of the army for service under the selective service act, and 25 others have been sent for pre-induction physical examination by the local selective service board.

The names of men included in both categories follow:

- Pre-Examination List**
- Thomas Grady Winkler
  - Otis Jones Watson
  - Andrew W. Tester
  - Ernest Dee Brown
  - Lee Edmisten
  - Robert Franklin Miller
  - Creed Estes Taylor
  - Raymond Jones Triplett
  - Dillon Lane Triplett
  - William Edson Bledsoe
  - Barney Edward Cornett
  - Ernest Presnell
  - Luther Lee Smith
  - James Frank Harmon
  - Dennie Whittington Parks
  - Bernard Grant Proffitt
  - Cloyd Trivette
  - Charlie Stanford Watson
  - Charles Everett Tester
  - Earl Eugene Miller
  - Floyd Collins Triplett
  - Roscoe Brown
- Transferred to Other Boards**
- Collis Lewis Brown
  - John Benjamin James
- Induction List**
- Balsom Hardy Perry
  - John Henry Lookabill
  - Calvin Cottrell Church
  - Paul Junior Woodring
  - Ransom Edward Welch
  - Cline Greene
  - John Ed Isaacs
  - James Kermit Wallace
  - John Edward Norman
  - Edd Roy Greene