

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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WATCH THE LABEL

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## WATAUGA STEPS UP MONTHLY PAY TO NEEDY AGED

### Average Payment Under Pension Plan is \$9.02 Month, Late Survey Shows; Payment to Dependent Children Is Also Upped

As the state and its counties prepare to go into another fiscal year next week, North Carolina public welfare agencies look forward to even greater accomplishments in 1945-46 than in the year coming to a close on Saturday.

During the past 12 months Watauga county has increased its average payment monthly to needy aged persons from \$8.33 to \$9.02. The state-wide average has gone up from \$10.67 to \$12.50, according to Dave P. Mast county welfare superintendent.

In this county there were 185 persons receiving old age assistance last June as compared with 183 this month.

Watauga county has increased its monthly average grant to families of dependent children from \$16.34 to \$18.23 for the 45 families now receiving aid. A year ago there were 46 families receiving this aid. The state average payment to dependent children is \$24.76 for the month of June, 1945. A year ago it was \$18.29.

A year ago there were 91 private homes in North Carolina in which children could be boarded temporarily while arrangements were being made for their permanent care. Now there are 121 homes although a good number of them are in some of the more populous counties. Watauga county has not established such a home within the past year and every effort is being made to provide

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR)

## FEWER FARMS IN WATAUGA COUNTY

### Initial Census Report Gives Data on Number and Size of Local Farms

The number of farms in Watauga county, as shown by the preliminary count of returns of the 1945 census of agriculture was 2,601, as compared with 2,696 in 1940, and 2,614 in 1935. This was announced today by Hugh M. Bailey, supervisor for the 1945 farm census in the sixth North Carolina census district with headquarters in Salisbury.

The total land in farms in Watauga county, according to the preliminary 1945 census count, was 165,453 acres, as compared with 160,798 acres in 1940, and 166,394 acres in 1935. Average size of farms shown in the preliminary 1945 census count for Watauga was 63.6 acres, as compared with 59.6 acres in 1940, and 63.7 acres in 1935.

In announcing the 1945 census totals of farms and land in farms in the county, Supervisor Bailey pointed out that the figures are preliminary and subject to correction. Final tabulations of Watauga county farm census returns will be made by the Bureau of the Census and announced from Washington when completed, Mr. Bailey said.

## TWO ASSISTANTS NAMED AT A.S.T.C.

### Appalachian Graduate School Enrollment Up 100 Percent Over Last Year

Due to the large increase in enrollment in the graduate school of Appalachian College for the summer season, two assistants have been added to the department.

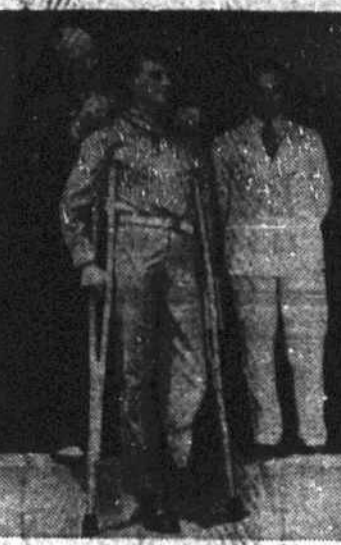
Decision to add the assistants was reached after Dr. W. W. Pierson, dean of the University of North Carolina, was called here to consult with officials of Appalachian. It was pointed out that enrollment in this division has increased by more than 100 percent over the figure for 1944.

Miss Louise Robles of DuPont school, Wilmington, Del., and Albert Bucholz of Tampa, Fla., are being added as assistants.

While here, Dr. Pierson addressed the student body on "Research in Higher Trends in Higher Education" and a meeting of the faculty on "What is Research."

There will be a general meeting of the Woman's Worthwhile Club Thursday evening at 8 o'clock in the club house.

## Presidential Honors



Marine Pfc. Luther Skaggs, Jr., of Henderson, Ky., as he receives the Congressional Medal of Honor from President Truman. Critically wounded when a Jap grenade exploded in his foxhole on Guam, he applied a tourniquet to his shattered leg and for eight hours continued to return the enemy's fire.

## WEED GROWERS MAKE REPORTS

### Burley Producers Required to Report Planted Acreage to AAA Committeemen

All burley tobacco growers who plan to sell tobacco this fall should report their planted tobacco acreage to their community committeemen named below, on June 30, at one of the following places:

Bald Mountain township—W. G. Cook's store, 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.—W. F. Norris, W. S. Miller, Glenn Howell.

Beaver Dam No. 1—Community house, 9 a. m. to 12 m.; Don Hagan's store, 1 to 5 p. m.—Sanford Creed, Clay Robinson, Dallas Wilson.

Beaver Dam No. 2—Clyde Perry's store, 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.—Conley Norris, John Ward, Willard Dishman.

Blue Ridge—Bamboo school, 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.—M. O. Coffey, F. L. Hampton, Rom Cook.

Brushy Fork—Harmon's store, 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.—Joe McNeil, C. A. Clay, Tom Lawrence.

Boone—AAA office, 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. (CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR)

## SGT. EARL SOUTH IS LOST AT SEA

### Nephew of Boone Man Loses Life While Being Transported to Japan as Prisoner

S-Sgt. Earl South, son of Mr. and Mrs. Blaine South, of Deerwood, Minn., was lost at sea on Oct. 24, 1944, when the transport on which he was being taken from the Philippines to Japan as a prisoner of war, was sunk. The information came in a letter to an uncle of the deceased, Austin E. South, of Boone.

Sgt. South had been a prisoner of the Japs since the fall of Corregidor, early in the war, and the place of his death was given as the South China Sea. A twin brother, Oriast South, is in a hospital in the Marianas, recovering from wounds received on Okinawa.

Sgt. South's parents left Boone almost 30 years ago.

## Junior Order Names New Slate Officers

At the last regular meeting of Daniel Boone Council No. 129, Jr. Order United American Mechanics, the following officers were elected: Councilor, Wm. Cook; vice-councilor, B. K. Osborne; financial secretary, Clyde R. Greene; recording secretary, Russell D. Hodges; treasurer, W. C. Greer; conductor, Dee Shoemaker; warden, Chas. Osborne; inside sentinel, S. B. Greene; outside sentinel, W. S. Christian; chaplain, Howard Shore.

The degree team from North Wilkesboro Council will put on the three degrees of the order at Elk Park on Saturday night, June 30, at 8:30 o'clock. Any and all members from the Daniel Boone Council are invited to attend this meeting, provided you let either Mr. Wm. Cook or Mr. B. K. Osborne know that you will go by Friday of this week.

PFC. JAMES D. MARSH is at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Marsh, of Boone, on a 30-day furlough from the Ashford General Hospital, White Sulphur Springs, Va. Pfc. Marsh, who received serious injuries during the invasion of France, is recovering.

## TOWNSEND IS NEW STATE ATTORNEY; LENOIR RESIDENT

### Governor Names Lenoir Man to Succeed L. S. Spurling; Solicitor Was Law Partner of W. C. Newland; Will Not Stand for Election, He Says

Folger L. Townsend, Lenoir attorney, was appointed Thursday by Governor Cherry as solicitor of the 16th judicial district, to succeed the late L. S. Spurling. He was immediately sworn in by Associate Justice A. A. F. Seawell.

Mr. Spurling, who had held the important post for the past 18 years, died at his home in Lenoir on June 13.

The district is composed of Watauga, Caldwell, Burke, Catawba, Cleveland and Lincoln counties.

The new solicitor has practiced law in Caldwell county since he took his law degree in 1928. He became a partner of the late Lt. Governor W. C. Newland in a firm known as Newland & Townsend, and was later associated with his cousin, Nat C. Townsend, who is now in the armed services.

He has prosecuted criminal dockets in Caldwell superior court and in surrounding counties a number of times since Mr. Spurling became ill last fall.

Mr. Townsend is a member of the Methodist church, chairman of the Caldwell county library board, and is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He is married to the former Miss Laura Abernethy, of Hickory, and they have two children.

There were seven candidates in the district for the post besides Mr. Townsend. Every county in the district except Watauga and Catawba had one or more who aspired to become solicitor.

Burke had three candidates, C. E. Cowan and O. L. Horton, with former Judge Sam Ervin offering to accept an interim appointment; Cleveland county offered C. C. Horn; M. T. Leatherman, of Lincoln county, was a candidate with Kemp Nixon suggested for an interim appointment. In Caldwell Attorney L. H. Wall was also a candidate.

In a letter to the governor accepting the appointment, Townsend said he would not stand for re-election to the office at the end of the term, which ends January 1, 1947.

## Miss Laura Wilson Dies At Home on New River

Miss Laura Virginia Wilson, 78, died at her home on New River, near Boone on June 17, after a long period of failing health. Funeral services were conducted at Three Forks Baptist Church on June 19th, by Rev. Raymond Hendrix, and burial was in the Ray cemetery.

Surviving is one sister, Mrs. J. C. Greene, of Boone. There are two nieces, Miss Alma Greene, of the home; Mrs. John Frank Johnson, Farmington, N. C., and one nephew, C. R. Greene, of Willoughby, Ohio.

Miss Wilson was born in Boone, December 15, 1866, the daughter of Albert P. and Elizabeth Councill Wilson. She spent almost her entire life at the home on New River. A kindly, modest soul, with a rare sympathy and understanding of others, she moved quietly in her little home circle, making friends of all who knew her—loved and loving.

## Boone Native Pilots Plane of General Ike

Lieut. Joe Brannock, native of Boone, and son of Mr. Ben F. Brannock and the late Mrs. Brannock, piloted General Ike Eisenhower's plane from Germany to London, when the general was en route to the States, according to a letter from Lieut. Brannock to a niece, Miss Kathryn Gabbard, of Hickory.

Lieut. Brannock has been flying in the European theatre of operations for the past two years.

## Scouts On Outing Trip To Winston-Salem Camp

The following local Boy Scouts are spending a four weeks' outing at Camp Leasater, Scout camp near Winston-Salem: Billy Crawford, Joe Gaither, Grady Moretz, Jr., Billy Greer, W. B. York, Jr., C. P. Calloway, Fred Councill, Edwin N. Troutman and Pete Storie.

PVT. BAXER BRAYAN, of Fort Knox, Ky., returned to his post of duty Monday after spending a week at the home of his mother, Mrs. B. R. Bryan, of Boone.

## Independence Summer White House



President Truman will use his home at Independence, Mo., as the summer White House. Lower photo shows the courthouse and business section of Independence. Upper right, the "summer White House." Upper left, the Trinity Episcopal Church where the President and his family will worship while in Independence.

## UNITED-NATIONS END PEACE TALKS

### President Truman Lauds New Instrument of Peace as Conference Ends

San Francisco, June 26—United Nations statesmen signed today the charter of a new world organization and President Truman closed one of the great assemblies of history with an assurance that "you have created a great instrument for peace."

"The world must now use it!" Mr. Truman said.

Addressing the final plenary session of the United Nations conference, the chief executive appealed to delegates of 50 nations to make the charter "a living thing," to seek its immediate ratification. He promised:

"I shall send this charter to the United States senate at once. I am sure that the overwhelming sentiment of the people of my country and of their representatives in the senate is in favor of immediate ratification."

Mr. Truman was given a rising ovation. He smiled and, extending his arms outward, declared, "Oh what a great day this can be in history."

Facing him as he spoke were the men and women who met here two months and a day ago to draft a master plan for peace. Behind him was a bright blue background, with the flags of all the united nations silhouetted against it, interspersed between four austere, golden columns.

Speaking with a trace of Missouri tang, Mr. Truman told dignitaries gathered from the world over they had justified the confidence and hope of peace-loving people.

Secretary of State Stettinius introduced Mr. Truman by saying simply, "Fellow delegates, the President of the United States."

As Mr. Truman spoke there were frequent outbursts of applause. Members of the army, navy and the marine services, including WACS, WAVES and SPARS, stood at rigid attention in a semicircle behind the President.

"With this charter," the President said, "the world can begin to look forward to the time when all worthy human beings may be permitted to live decently as free people."

"If we should falter in the future in our will to use it, millions now living will surely die."

"Let us not fail to grasp this supreme chance to establish a world-wide rule of reason—to create an enduring peace under the guidance of God."

## Memorial Service at Meat Camp Church

The annual memorial service will be held at Meat Camp Baptist church the first Sunday in July, at 2 o'clock. Rev. Ben L. Ray of Blowing Rock, will deliver the sermon. The public is invited to attend.

PFC. HOWARD E. WINEBARGER has been awarded the Combat Infantry badge for participation in the battle of Ruhr pocket, including the capture of Seiburg and Dusseldorf and Czechoslovakian campaign. He is a member of Co. B, 303rd regiment, 97th Infantry division. His wife, Mrs. Ruth E. Winebarger, resides on Route 2, Boone.

## IVAN CHURCH IS HURT IN CRASH

### Mabel Man Receives Near Fatal Injuries in Crash of Automobiles Saturday Night

Ivan Church, of Mabel, an employee of Watauga Hardware, Inc., Boone, is a patient at the Banner Elk hospital, where his condition is described as slightly improved, but still critical, as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile wreck near Mountain City Saturday night.

Mr. Church suffered two fractures of the jaw and a severe laceration of the throat. So much blood was lost by the injured man before he could be aided that transfusions were necessary. However, there are good prospects for his recovery, it is said.

Mr. Church was injured when the car occupied by he and Ralph Critcher, was struck head-on by an automobile occupied by two West Virginia men. Information is that the latter are being held in jail at Mountain City pending the outcome of Mr. Church's injuries. Mr. Critcher was uninjured.

## PFC. HOUCK DIES IN OKINAWA FIGHT

### Resident of Boone Killed in Action With Sixth Marine Division

Pfc. Bowie M. Houck, of Boone, was killed in action on June 10, in the fighting for Okinawa Island, his wife, Mrs. Lois Palmer Houck, of Boone, has been advised, but no further particulars were given.

Pfc. Houck had been in the Marine Corps since May, 1944, and at the time of his death was with the Sixth division.

Surviving are the widow and two children, Patsy and Jerry; the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carr Houck, former residents of Boone, now living in the Todd neighborhood. One brother, Pvt. Ernest Houck, is in the army stationed in the State of Oklahoma.

## Slaughter Permits Must Be Secured

Farmers in Watauga county were reminded today that in order to slaughter meat for sale during 1945 they must have permit from the War Price and Rationing Board by July 1, Richard E. Olsen said today.

Even though a farmer may not wish to slaughter meat until fall or winter, Mr. Olsen pointed out, he must register with the War Price and Rationing Board before July 1 and establish a quota base for slaughtering.

## Stores of City to Close For July Fourth

The stores of the city will be closed on Wednesday, July 4th. It is announced from the office of the Retail Merchants' Association.

However, it is stated that due to the closing for the Fourth, the stores will remain open Thursday afternoon of next week, dispensing with the usual half holiday on that day.

## WAR LOAN GOES TO FINAL STAGE WITH 'E' BONDS BEHIND

### Only 60 Percent of Local Quota is Subscribed as Chairman Makes Final Appeal to People to Buy Bonds; Reports Are Asked

Watauga county goes into the final stages of the Seventh War Loan campaign with \$75,000 of its "E" bond quota of \$130,000 subscribed, falling somewhat short of the state average at this time, and Chairman Clyde R. Greene insists on heavy last minute purchases of these bonds by individuals in order that the county may not fail to make its quota.

While the campaign officially ends next Saturday it has been arranged to credit all "E" bond sales against the Seventh War Loan quota up to and including Saturday, July 7.

Mr. Greene asks that issuing agents make their reports of sales as promptly as possible in order that the county may get credit for all sales made. A final report as to the overall subscription as well as the "E" bonds, will be made at the conclusion of the campaign.

Mr. Greene re-emphasizes the seriousness of the war situation and appeals earnestly to the people to invest their surplus cash in the government securities, and thus speed the victory over the Japs and the return of hundreds of our young men who have offered their lives in this hour of their nation's destiny.

## 12 INVOLVED IN PRISON BREAK

### Seven Convicts Recaptured; Bars Are Sawed From Window in Cell Block

Twelve convicts, most of them long-term prisoners, escaped from the state prison camp near Boone Saturday night, after they had sawed a bar from a window in the sleeping quarters. By Tuesday afternoon seven of the men had been recaptured.

Those retaken include Lloyd Hester Hite, of Rockingham county, who was captured in Polk county after he allegedly escaped in a stolen pick-up, serving a 25-year sentence; Charlie Robbins, of Wilmington, who was captured Sunday morning at Sugar Grove, seven miles from the camp; F. R. Vermilyea, of Wichita, Kansas, serving 35 years; Edward Minton, of Thomasville, serving 12 years; Luther Dishman and Thomas Barefoot, who were taken at Zionville, and Frank Duncan, captured at Valle Crucis. None of the prisoners offered resistance.

Listed as still at large were David Stephenson, of Dunn, sentenced to 23 years; David C. Tarlton, of Kannapolis, serving seven to nine years; Fred McLamb, of Fayetteville; John W. Westfall, Charleston, W. Va., and Ed Patton, Jr., of Morganton.

## FRANK BALDWIN IS WAR CASUALTY

### Son of Monroe Baldwin, of Blowing Rock, Loses Life in the Fighting in Germany

Pfc. Frank Baldwin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Baldwin, of Blowing Rock, was killed in action in Germany on April 25; his family has been advised. He had been in the service since April, 1942, and overseas since January, 1943. He had been awarded the Purple Heart.

Surviving are five brothers: Sanford Baldwin, in Italy; Daniel and Gordon, Blowing Rock; James Baldwin, Lenoir; and George Baldwin, Morganton; four sisters, Mrs. Gordon Pitts, Blowing Rock; Mrs. Lester Ragan, Asheville; Mrs. Mary Ethel Rader, Collettsville, and Myron Baldwin, Collettsville.

## Farm Meeting to Be Held Here on July 6

Clyde R. Greene, president of the Watauga Farm Bureau, again calls attention to the fact that R. Fluke Shaw, executive secretary of the State organization, will speak at a mass meeting of Watauga farmers at the courthouse Friday evening, July 6, at 8:30 o'clock.

All farmers of the county are invited to attend in the interest of a sound agricultural program in the post-war era.