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THRONGS HONOR J.E. LUTHER, LAST CONFEDERATE VET

Deep Gap Man 102 Years Old; Only 12 Followers of Lee and Jackson Remain on State Pension Rolls; Governor Felicitates Aged Veteran

Many hundreds of Northwestern North Carolina people gathered at Gap Creek Baptist Church, near Deep Gap, Sunday for an unusual event, the 102nd birthday of Jesse Elihu Luther.

His birthday falls on September 10, but the people of his community set the celebration on Sunday to give more people an opportunity to attend and to pay their respects to the grand old man who has been aptly called "the Sage of the Blue Ridge."

Mr. Luther is one of only 12 surviving veterans of the Confederate army in North Carolina, and according to historians, who spoke at the celebration Sunday, he is the only surviving veteran of Brigadier General Lane's famous brigade, who fought under the command of General Stonewall Jackson.

Mr. Luther, on his 102nd birthday, retains remarkable alertness of mind and can still get about on his mountain farm under his own power and with reasonably good vision.

People of his home community, aided by numerous people from distant points, had a most fitting celebration at Gap Creek church, which nestles in Gap Creek valley near Mr. Luther's home, and where he so often worshipped during his long extended and highly useful life.

Ira W. Day, who went from the Deep Gap community to Raleigh, and there ranks high in the business of the capital city, returned to his native community to be master of ceremonies at the all-day program, and during the day led a drive for funds with which to erect a new and larger church building. Before the day was over more than \$750 had been raised to start the fund.

In the morning program, Rev. G. A. Hamby, of Boone, delivered an inspiring message from the pulpit and Chairman Day recognized many visitors for brief talks. J. Gordon Hackett, of North Wilkesboro, who is widely known as a brilliant and accurate historian, talked briefly and read to the large assembly a letter of greeting from Governor R. Gregg

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520 REGISTER FOR COLLEGE TERM

Appalachian Opens First Post-War Term With Flattering Prospects

Five hundred and twenty students were enrolled at Appalachian College for the fall term as of Tuesday afternoon, States Registrar H. R. Eggers, this being an increase of one hundred over the number enrolled during the fall term at the local college a year ago.

There will be additional registrants from time to time, and Mr. Eggers states that veterans who want to resume their college work may re-enter their classes at any time during the year.

County FSA Office Closed Every Saturday

Beginning Saturday, Sept. 15, the county Farm Security Administration office at Boone, will be closed all day on each Saturday, Mr. W. A. Smith, county supervisor, announced today.

The new schedule is in compliance with an administrative order which specifies that effective Sept. 9, the workweek for all FSA employees will be five days of eight hours each, from Monday through Friday. Any change in the regular administrative workweek must have the prior approval of the administrator.

The office hours Monday through Friday are 8:30 a. m. to 5:30 p. m., Mr. Smith said.

Squirrel Season to Open Here Saturday

The squirrel season will open in Watauga county on next Saturday, County Game Warden Walter Edmisten states, and says there is prospect of a good number of squirrels this season.

Mr. Edmisten further states that some of the local dealers state that some ammunition will likely be available in time for the opening of the season.

Mikado's New Boss



Photograph shows General MacArthur, taken the day before he took over the Japanese government. MacArthur's headquarters were moved Saturday from Yokohama to the American embassy in Tokyo.

NAVY MAKES DRIVE FOR NEW RECRUITS

Men in 17 to 30 Age Group Sought; Navy Recruiting Officer Here Each Saturday

Navy recruiting stations all over the country are initiating an all-out drive for voluntary enlistments, particularly in the regular navy, among men in the age group of 17 to 30 inclusive, according to announcement this week by Chief Specialist J. E. Huffman, navy recruiter for Watauga county and adjacent areas. These draft age men can now enlist by reason of President Truman's recent executive order lifting the ban on voluntary enlistments by draft age men. This ban had been in effect since December 5, 1942.

The navy's recruiting drive is designed to speed demobilization of men with long war service, to reduce the navy's calls through selective service, and at the same time to enable the navy to fulfill its extensive responsibilities through the transition period and beyond.

Now that the bars are raised permitting the armed services to reach into the draft age group for voluntary enlistments the navy is endeavoring to triple the voluntary enlistment performance for August. During that month, despite the ban on enlisting men from 18 through 37 inclusive, more than 16,000 17-year-olds were enlisted, and of that number 6,300 enlisted in the regular navy. The remainder entered the naval reserve.

Men who have not been in uniform as well as those recently discharged through the army and navy demobilization plan are sought through this recruiting drive. Navy spokesmen announced that already a number of World War 2 veterans are signing up for the regular navy. It is anticipated that this number will greatly increase as the demobilization program progresses. Navy service is solely a matter of voluntary action on the part of those who want to follow the navy as a peacetime career. Many veterans have embraced this opportunity after spending long awaited furloughs and leaves at home.

Chief Huffman said that a number of changes had been made in this new enlistment program. The term of enlistment in the regular navy has now been reduced from six years to four years with the exception of 17-year-olds, who may enlist only for "minority," or until they reach the age of 21. Physical standards have been lowered in the light of war experience. Men changing to the regular navy from the naval reserve and men re-enlisting in the regular navy not only retain their rights to mustering out pay, but also are entitled to full credit for past duty, a special cash re-enlistment bonus, and up to 60 days leave at home.

Peacetime recruiting got off to a good start in Watauga county, according to recruiter Hoffman. Those accepted for naval reserve include John Worth Graham, Todd; Gordon Dale Phillips, Boone, and George Jefferson Keller, Jr., Blowing Rock. Those enlisting in the regular navy include B. J. Burkett, Route 2, Boone, and Nera Ithel Hampton, of Boone. The recruiter will come to the Boone post office each Saturday to interview applicants.

Mohammed, the great prophet of Islam, suffered severe epileptic fits, and it was during one of these that he received his first "message" from heaven.

ANNUAL FARMERS PICNIC SLATED TUESDAY, SEPT. 18

Farm Bureau Sponsors Outing For Farmers of County; Hon. A. C. Edwards to Make Principal Address; Flake Shaw is Also Invited

The first annual Farm Bureau picnic for the farmers of Watauga county will be held in the grove at Gap Creek Baptist Church on Tuesday, September 18th, at 11 a. m., it is announced by Clyde R. Greene, president of the Watauga unit of the organization.

Hon. A. C. Edwards, one of the outstanding farmers of eastern Carolina, will deliver the principal address. He was chairman of the committee on agriculture at the last session of the general assembly, and was, in that capacity, instrumental in gaining additional recognition for the farm population. He is a member of the state board of education, representing the state at large, along with Dr. B. B. Dougherty, of Boone, who will make the introductory remarks.

The picnic is for all farmers, whether or not they are members of the Bureau. All are invited to bring baskets of food and enjoy the fellowship of fellow farmers.

Mr. Flake Shaw, secretary of the State Farm Bureau, has been invited to attend this picnic. The meeting will be held in the church building in case of rain.

RED CROSS FACES POST-WAR TASKS

Mrs. Grubbs Attends Conference to Gain Information on Veterans' Aid

With the end of the war, the armed forces are ready for the greatest demobilization in history. The American Red Cross stands by to assist Watauga county's returning veterans in securing the government benefits to which they are entitled, and to help them with the many problems they face in their return to civilian life, Rev. E. F. Troutman, county chairman, said today.

Mrs. Bess Grubbs, executive secretary, has just returned from Hickory, where she attended a two-day conference on veterans' claims and benefits. At the meeting it was emphasized that work of the American Red Cross at home will of necessity continue and in some respects will increase, particularly in those services related to the serviceman, the ex-serviceman, and his family.

Newest developments in veterans' claims and benefits were discussed and a program planned which will enable the Watauga county chapter to provide the greatest possible service for returning servicemen. Veterans desiring assistance are advised to contact Watauga county chapter on Main street, Mr. Troutman said.

Lieut. Bingham Gets Posthumous Award of Navy, Marine Medals

First Lieut. Robert Hal Bingham has been posthumously awarded the navy and marine corps medal for heroic action in the Pacific.

The presentation was made to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Bingham by Major Greer from U. S. Marine Corps headquarters. In addition to the medal a letter from A. A. Vandergrift, commandant of the marine corps and Presidential citation were presented. The citation reads as follows:

"For heroic conduct following severe explosions aboard an LST in the Pacific area on 21 May 1944, while attached to the Fourth Marine division. When a troop-laden vessel was shaken by terrific explosions and casualties were inflicted among the crew, Lieut. Bingham unhesitatingly exposed himself to personal danger to rescue comrades wounded by shrapnel and falling debris and, although he himself was struck by shell fragments, gallantly refused to leave the area until all his men were evacuated. Lieut. Bingham's fearless conduct and valiant efforts in behalf of others were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States naval service."

Lieut. Bingham's only brother, Aviation Cadet Gene Bingham, who is attending B-29 flight engineer school in Texas, is at home for a few days.

Japanese Sign Official Surrender



General Hsu Yung Chang signs the surrender document aboard the USS Missouri, as General MacArthur and his allied staff look on. MacArthur signed with five different pens, to be presented to General Wainwright and others.

LIONS CLUB SEEKS USED KITCHEN FAT

End of War Does Not Mean Need is Ended For All Kinds of Waste Fats

The Lions Club of Boone is sponsoring a campaign to secure every possible ounce of used kitchen fats, and an arrangement has been made for those delivering A grade milk in Boone to pick up the fat, where it is not convenient for housewives to take it to their meat market for disposal.

Frank M. Payne, who is county salvage chairman, is also chairman of the used fat campaign committee, the other members being Grady Morretz and Harry M. Hamilton, Jr.

It is pointed out that the end of the war does not mean that the need for the used household fats is less. Continued diminished production of animal and vegetable oils is in prospect for this year, and although the war has been won, there is a urgent need for the fats to replenish the domestic supply, and to provide for the manufacture of much civilian goods. The fat should be delivered, wherever possible, direct to the meat markets, where it will bring four cents a pound and two red points.

TEACHERS MEET NEXT SATURDAY

First County-Wide Gathering of County Teachers To Be Held in Boone

The first county-wide meeting of the teachers will be held at the Appalachian High school auditorium Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock, it is announced by Prof. Cratis Williams, president of the Watauga unit of the North Carolina Education Association.

Mr. Williams states that the meeting will be primarily for organization purposes and that all the teachers of the different county schools are expected to be present.

Local Wildlife Club To Hold Fish Fry

The Watauga Wildlife Club will hold a meeting and fish fry at the home of Kenneth Linney Thursday evening, Sept. 20, at 6:30 o'clock.

A feature of the meeting will be a junior and senior casting contest with prizes to the winners in each division.

Admission will be by ticket only and Dr. Richardson requests that the tickets be purchased well in advance in order that adequate preparations can be made. Tickets may be purchased from members of the club or from the Boone Drug store.

American Legion to Hold Meeting Friday

A call meeting of the American Legion will be held at the Legion hut next Friday, Sept. 14, at 7:30 o'clock, to take the place of the regular meeting which was to have been held on the 21st.

The regular meeting is dispensed with, says Commander H. S. Steelman, because of the fact that a district Legion meeting is to be held here on Sept. 28, at 7:30 p. m. At this time District Department Commander Victor R. Johnson, of Pittsboro, will deliver gold star citations to relatives of men killed in the service.

BAPTISTS AGAIN NAME REV. CANIPE

Boone Minister Elected Moderator For Three Forks Association at Meeting Here

Rev. J. C. Canipe, Boone minister, was re-elected moderator of the Three Forks Baptist Association at the recent meeting held at the Boone Baptist church.

Other officers named at the gathering which was largely attended, are: Vice-moderator, Rev. R. C. Eggers; clerk-treasurer, Clyde R. Greene; historian, W. J. Farthing; song leader, W. M. Hodges; Sunday School director, C. J. Farthing; orphanage director, R. D. Hodges; B. T. U. director, W. J. Farthing; hospital director, D. M. Edmisten.

Rev. R. C. Eggers was named chairman of the executive committee, the other members being: S. C. Eggers, Rev. N. M. Greene, Rev. G. A. Hamby and Rev. Ben L. Ray.

There are 40 churches in the association, with a combined membership of 6,851, a gain of 116 over the membership of 6,735 recorded in 1944. Contributions of \$56,852.56 were reported, a gain of \$8,529.23 over those of a year ago.

It is interesting to note that the last time the association met in Boone was in 1907, when there were 34 churches in the association with a membership of 3,413. At that time collections for the churches totaled \$3,855.60. In 1907 Boone was the smallest church in the organization with 25 members. It now has 783 members.

The next associational gathering will be held with the Rutherford Baptist Church in August, 1946.

More Than Three Million on Deposit At Local Bank

More than three millions of dollars are now on deposit in the Boone branch of the Northwestern Bank, states Cashier W. D. Farthing, who had not expected deposits to reach that amount before the first of October.

With the coming of the tobacco season, it is expected that there will be further substantial increases in the local bank deposits.

Fred Andrews Best Driver of the Week

Fred Andrews, of Blowing Rock, has been adjudged the best driver of the week, in the city's contest, in line with efforts to improve the traffic situation here. In recognition of Mr. Andrews' careful driving, he is being forwarded two tickets to the Appalachian Theatre.

Mayor Winkler states that henceforth each day, one driver will be recognized and rewarded for superior performance.

County Singing to Be Held Here October 7

The semi-annual county singing convention will be held at the Gospel Tabernacle in Boone on Sunday, October 7, it is announced by S. C. Eggers, president of the association.

All choirs, as well as individual vocalists of the area, are cordially invited to attend. About 30 classes were represented at the last singing convention.

All-risk insurance on wheat is now being written through the local offices of the AAA in each county.

CONTRACT TO BE LET ON BLOWING ROCK ROAD OCT. 9

Almost Four Miles of Lenoir-Blowing Rock Highway to Be Constructed Soon; Remainder of Distance to Blowing Rock About 6 1/2 Miles

Contract for completion of 3.86 miles of new highway from the present terminus of the completed portion of the new Lenoir-Blowing Rock road, is scheduled to be let on October 9, according to advices received in Lenoir by Zeb Stewart, eighth division engineer, from W. Vance Baise, of Raleigh, chief engineer of the highway department.

According to information given the Lenoir News-Topic, the project which is classed as No. 7195, will begin at Curtis' store at the end of the present completed road at the foot of the mountain and will run on a line above and east of the present old highway. The new road will be above the water falls and from that point will follow a straight-away course for nearly a mile. The project will end at the road now leading to the Ilmenite mines, or near Dr. Clyde Hedrick's cabin.

Around the old road to the terminus of project 7195, it is a distance of about five miles but with the short cut across the peaks of the mountains the distance will be reduced to 3.86 miles. The remainder of the distance to Blowing Rock which will be covered under another project, is about 6 1/2 miles.

Division Engineer Stewart stated that after the work is started, it is expected the project will be completed about the middle of the summer, including the black topping. He stated that although the new road will not follow the present old highway, it will block the road at points while at other places the construction work will be above and close to the old road which will make it necessary for detours while the work is going on.

GOES TO NATIONAL RETAIL MEETING

Clyde R. Greene in Attendance at National Retail Federation Meeting in Washington

Mr. Clyde R. Greene, local business man, and president of the North Carolina Merchants Association, went to Washington Tuesday evening, where he is in attendance at the national convention of the American Retail Federation. He is accompanied by W. L. Dowell, of Raleigh, secretary of the Merchants Association, and they expect to return Saturday.

Mr. Greene, who acts in the capacity of trustee for the North Carolina organization, at the meeting, states that the presidents of each state merchants organization in the nation will be present at the meeting, which will deal primarily with the reconversion and general post-war problems facing the retailers of the country.

Greetings Are Sent Confederate Vet 102

Raleigh, Sept. 10—Governor Cherry has sent his personal and official greetings to Jesse Elihu Luther, Confederate veteran of Deep Gap, who celebrated his 102nd birthday on September 10.

"When I view in retrospect the days of your service and that of your comrades in the War Between the States," Cherry wrote, "I am convinced that the battlefields of the South are the priceless heritage of our nation. The defeats of the one and the victory of the other have long since blended; and under God, we have created here an indissoluble union of indestructible states which in recent months stood against the world and led our allies to glorious victory."

Mr. Luther is one of 12 surviving North Carolina veterans of the Confederacy. Two negro body servants also are on the state's pension lists.

Red Cross Not Included In War Fund Campaign

To correct a misunderstanding, officials of the local chapter of the American Red Cross point out that the War Fund campaign which starts next month has no connection with the Red Cross. The Red Cross conducts its own campaign for funds, it is stated.