

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Year 1888.

VOL. LVII, NO. 34

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1946

5 CENTS A COPY

WATCH the LABEL

on your paper as it shows the date your subscription will expire and the date your paper will be stopped unless sooner renewed. The Democrat is operating strictly on a cash in advance basis. There are no exceptions to this rule.

WATAUGA, AVERY CITIZENS URGE LINVILLE ROAD

Chamber of Commerce Meeting Thursday is Well Attended; Citizens of Two Counties Agree to Bend Their Efforts to Secure New Highway

About one hundred citizens of Watauga and Avery counties were in attendance at a meeting of the Boone Chamber of Commerce held last Thursday evening, and called by President H. W. Wilcox for the expressed purpose of considering the construction of a new highway from Boone to Linville. Perhaps 25 citizens of Avery county and the territory along the proposed route were present to urge the construction of the 18-mile thoroughfare from Boone to the Avery county resort town. John Frank Hampton of Linville, was spokesman for the Avery delegation, and pointed out that the distance from Linville to Boone was about 18 miles, while by way of Blowing Rock the distance is 31 miles. If one should go by Banner Elk and Valle Crucis, he said, the distance would be 37 miles.

Mr. Hampton stated that the right-of-way for the five miles in Avery county had already been secured, and said the tenth district highway commissioner had already given his approval of the route. It was stated that the highway is important to both Watauga and Avery counties, due to the commercial advantages of reaching Boone as the logical shopping and marketing center of the area, and because of the great scenic beauty of the region which the proposed highway would traverse. Mr. Hampton believes that the new route could follow the line of the abandoned Linville River Railway for a large part of the distance and opined that a saving of about 50 percent of the grading cost could be effected.

The proposed road would connect with modern highways to Marion and other points south, and to Johnson City, Tenn., to the west.

Mr. J. L. Hartley, another Linville citizen, stated that Boone, with its tobacco, bean and cabbage markets, and with its modern shopping district, is the logical commercial center for the entire area, and referred to the superior educational advantages provided by Appalachian College, which could be brought closer to the people of the adjoining county. He pointed out that when the Blue Ridge Parkway is completed, that section of the route from Linville to Blowing Rock cannot be used commercially, and that farmers in his area having produce for the Blowing Rock and Boone markets will have to go by way of Banner Elk and Valle Crucis, which route is definitely not one of commercial possibilities.

Avery Official Speaks
Lee Sturgill, chairman of the board of commissioners of Avery county, said his board had endorsed the construction of the proposed highway. H. O. Aldridge, of the Watauga board of commissioners, said the local board had passed a resolution endorsing the Avery-Watauga highway.

By unanimous vote the meeting endorsed this highway as the number one recommendation for immediate construction, placing it ahead of the three-lane highway to Winston-Salem, which had been strongly endorsed by the local Chamber of Commerce in a meeting with Winston-Salem citizens at a Chamber of Commerce meeting held here Nov. 15.

Others endorsing the Linville road were W. H. Gragg, who classed the project as a farm-to-market road; John Fox, of Watauga township, who stated that mail and school buses were unable to negotiate some two miles of road in his section, and Dr. B. B. Dougherty, Appalachian College president, who taught one of his first schools in the Shulls section, and who has been in the lead for the construction of better roads in the mountain section throughout the years. Others speaking were W. R. Winkler, chairman of the Democratic executive committee; former Senator H. Grady Farthing; W. D. Farthing, Representative S. C. Eggers, C. C. Cooke for the Boone Merchants Association, and G. K. Moore, for the Lions Club.

E. Ford King, of the local highway office, stated that Watauga county was one of the few not forced to close schools because of the bad roads this winter, and said that the pending program for the coming summer will greatly improve Watauga's road system.

A committee was appointed by Chairman Wilcox to meet with Com-

(Continued on page eight)

To Appear Here



MISS SARI BIRO

FAMOUS ARTIST COMES TO COLLEGE

Native of Hungary to Be on Appalachian Campus for Two-day Period; Concert Friday

Miss Sari Biro, a distinguished artist, comes to Appalachian State College Friday, Feb. 22 under the sponsorship of the Association of American Colleges. Miss Biro, a distinguished pianist, is a native of Hungary and was trained in Europe. Before the war put a stop to cultural activities, Miss Biro performed in all the important European capitals and musical centers.

Since coming to the United States her appearances have been of equal importance: An annual recital in Town Hall; a coast-to-coast concert tour; guest soloist with the symphony orchestras of Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Kansas City, New Orleans, Denver and New Haven; numerous appearances as soloist and guest artist with outstanding orchestras of radio.

The critics have recorded her performances with such remarks as "One of the best women pianists of the day" (New York Times); "Miss Biro established herself as definitely belonging in the front group of contemporary pianists, male or female" (New York World-Telegram). Miss Biro will be on the campus two days, Feb. 22 and 23, as a guest of the music department. She will discuss "Music as a Career and Professional Attitude" with the students.

Her formal concert will be Friday evening at 8 o'clock in the college auditorium.

Ray Brendell Home Is Damaged by Fire

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Brendell was damaged to an undetermined extent Monday by fire, which caught presumably from a flue. The fire department responded promptly and the blaze was brought under control before any very great damage was done. Lack of water handicapped the fire department, but the blaze was extinguished by chemicals.

Mr. and Mrs. Brendell take occasion to thank the members of the fire department for their prompt action in saving their home from more serious damage.

Meeting of American Legion Next Friday

A regular meeting of Watauga Post, American Legion, will be held at the Legion hut Friday evening, Feb. 22. All Legionnaires and ex-servicemen are urgently requested to be present.

A representative of the Carolina Mortgage and Housing Corporation of Hickory will be present to discuss how to borrow money for the purchase of farms and business property under the terms of the GI bill of rights.

Refreshments will be served prior to the meeting.

Draft Board to Be Closed Next Friday

The Selective Service Board states that its office will be closed on February 22, a national holiday, and that since the office is never open on Saturday, no business can be transacted until next Monday.

Employment Office to Be Open Next Friday

Next Friday, Feb. 22, is a national holiday, but it is announced that the U.S. Employment office here will be open for the filing of continued claims.

SUMMER SCHOOL HAS CASH BALANCE

Summer School Endowment Fund at Appalachian Administered by Trustees; Some Contributors

The auditor's report for the Appalachian State Teachers College summer school endowment fund shows a balance of \$597.78 carried forward from 1943, with a total balance to date of \$23,085.95. This fund is held, invested and administered by the board of trustees, only the income—interest and dividends—can be used for current expenses of the summer school. The income for the past year available for the 1946 summer school amounts to \$1,424.35.

Some of the larger contributors to the endowment fund are: Northwestern Bank, Appalachian Book Store, N. B. Smithey (Smithey's stores), Appalachian Amusement Company, Mountain Burley Tobacco Company, Queen City Coach Company, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Qualls, B. B. Dougherty, Boone Lions Club, Boone Chamber of Commerce, Belk-White Company, Dr. C. H. Mock, H. Grady Farthing, W. W. Mast, Daniel Boone Hotel, Caldwell Cotton Mills, Hudson Manufacturing Company, Moore Cotton Mills, Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Payne, C. H. Martin and others.

64 NEW STUDENTS AT APPALACHIAN

Total of 640 Are Now Registered at Local College; Many Soldiers Enroll

Sixty-four new students have registered for the spring term at Appalachian College, according to H. R. Eggers, registrar, who states that the total enrollment is now 640. Others are expected to register during the week.

Included in the registration at Appalachian are 88 former servicemen, it is stated, 22 of whom are married and 66 single.

Lions Club to Stage Annual Benefit Show

The Boone Lions Club, at its regular meeting Tuesday evening, enjoyed a program of stunts and light entertainment, under the direction of Howard Cottrell, Lions taitwister.

At a meeting of the board of directors following the meeting, a committee for arranging the annual Lions show was named by President Robert C. Busted. The committee is composed of Cratis D. Williams, chairman; W. A. Abrams, D. J. Whitener, A. R. Smith and Howard Cottrell.

Resolutions strongly favoring the construction of the Linville-to-Boone highway were adopted, copies of which will be sent to various groups interested in the project.

Guests present at the meeting were Edgar Brown, William Richardson, Dr. C. A. Parker of Norwood, and B. B. Broome of North Wilkesboro.

P.-T.A. Will Observe Founders Day Monday

The Boone Parent-Teacher Association will observe "Founders Day" Monday night, Feb. 25, at 7:30 in the high school library. The program follows:

Scripture and prayer by Rev. E. F. Troutman.
Hymn: "My Country 'Tis of Thee."
"The Biography of the two National Founders," by Mrs. E. F. Warman.

"Biographical Sketches of Local Founders," by Mrs. W. G. Hartzog.
"Realizing the Hopes of the Founders," Rev. J. K. Parker.
Rev. E. F. Troutman, leader.

Heavy Supply of Burls At Local Pipe Factory

Mr. David P. Lavietes, president of the D. & P. Pipe Works, states that purchases of burls have been unusually heavy for the past few weeks, and that he now has about two thousand tons of the raw product at his factory here, or practically a year's supply.

Mr. Lavietes says business is good, and that his plants here and at Sparta are working to capacity to fill orders for blocks and finished smoking pipes.

SEAMAN DEXTER ROMINGER EN ROUTE TO THE STATES

Pearl Harbor—Dexter I. Rominger, seaman first class, son of Will Rominger, of Reese, is one of many navy veterans returning to the states aboard the USS Neshoba, an attack transport of the "Magic Carpet" fleet. This ship left Guam Feb. 3, and is scheduled to arrive in San Francisco Feb. 16.

Glee Club Officers



Pictured above are officers of the Appalachian High School Boys' Glee Club. From left to right: W. B. York, president; Fred Council, vice-president; David Edmisten, student director; and Marvin Casey, secretary-treasurer.

Joins Theatre Staff



J. W. BEACH

J. W. Beach, popular local man who received his discharge from the U. S. army last September after four and a quarter years of active duty, has accepted a position with the Statesville Theatre Corporation and assumed the duties of assistant manager at the Appalachian Theatre here Monday.

Mr. Beach entered the service in June, 1941, taking his basic training at Camp Wheeler, Ga.; from there he went to Fort Benning, Ga., where he joined the Fourth Division and in succeeding months was stationed at Camp Gordon, Ga., Fort Dix, N. J., Camp Gordon Johnson, Fla., and Camp Kilmer, N. J. In January, 1944, he went overseas and trained with the Fourth Division for four months in southern England. On D-day he landed on Utah Beach, proceeding up the coast to Cherbourg.

After Cherbourg was taken the division awaited the arrival of Gen. Patton, who was to take over command. Three thousand allied planes bombed a forward position to which the division was to advance, and in this advance Beach was wounded by enemy artillery. He spent three months in a hospital in Norwich, England, then returned to full duty with his division in Germany where he remained until V-E day. When the Fourth Division was returned to the U. S. for re-deployment Mr. Beach, with enough points to his credit for army discharge, remained in Munich for three months waiting for plane passage to the states. In early September he landed at Miami, Fla., was sent to Fort Bragg, and received his discharge Sept. 15, 1945, after two years duty overseas.

Among his decorations are the Bronze Star, five battle stars and the Purple Heart.

Mr. Beach gained much experience in theatre operation when during his high school years he was employed at the Pastime Theatre here. During his senior year of high school he was elected president of both the senior class and the student council and was prominent in many school activities. Following his graduation from high school he held a position at the Carolina Pharmacy and remained there until he entered the service. He is making his home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Beach.

PRESIDENT NAMES MAX GARDNER TO TREASURY POST

Washington, Feb. 19—President Truman today nominated O. Max Gardner, native of Shelby, N. C., and former Tar Heel governor, to be undersecretary of the treasury, succeeding Daniel W. Bell, who resigned last year to take a Washington bank job.

Gardner's name will be sent to the senate for confirmation at its session Thursday.

Boys' Glee Club Reorganized; New Officers Elected

The Boys' Glee Club of Appalachian high school was recently reorganized, at which time the following officers were elected: Student director, David Edmisten; president, W. B. York; vice-president, Fred Council; secretary-treasurer, Marvin Casey.

At present the club is working on selections to be used at various high school programs. Plans are also being formulated for a special spring concert to be given early in May.

Members of the club are: Gordon Hartzog, Donald Warman, Cecil Carter, Grady Moretz, Ned Lyons, Tommy Hodges, Arlis Hodges, David Edmisten, W. B. York, Pete Story, Lawrence Phillips, Charles Lyons, Robert Teague, Gene Craven, Gurney Carlton, Carey Moretz, Harry Brendell, Fred Council, Junior Cooke, Marvin Casey, Roscoe Brown, Henry Cooke, Donald McCracken, Teddy Barnett, Jimmy Harrison, Durwood Stallings, Coy Bolick, Hal Vannoy, James Beshears and Mack Elrod.

Mr. O. M. Hartsell is director of the club.

Memorial to War Vets Being Planned By American Legion

Plans are under way by the Watauga Post of the American Legion for the construction of a memorial to the men who participated in the two world wars, and Edwin Dougherty, chairman of the memorial committee, asks that those having suggestions as to what form this memorial shall take, communicate with the commander, H. S. Steelman.

Appalachian Matmen Defeat Auburn Here

In one of the most interesting wrestling meets held at the college gym, the Appalachian grapplers defeated Auburn Saturday night. The Plainesmen from Alabama defeated Appalachian earlier in the season at Auburn. The much-improved wrestlers of Coach Red Watkins won six of the eight matches.

The feature match was between Robinson of Appalachian and Wolf of Auburn, Robinson scoring a fall in 1:50 of the second period.

Summary:
121-lb. class—Martinez (Auburn) fall over Edmisten (App.) second period.
128-lb. class—Abernethy, decision over Knorch (Auburn).
136-lb. class—Robinson, fall second period over Wolf (Auburn).
145-lb. class—Day, fall second period over Woodham (Auburn).
165-lb. class—Capt. Reese, decision over Bryant (Auburn).
175-lb. class—Villeg (App.) drew with Jernigan (Auburn).
Heavyweight—Pate (Auburn) won on forfeit over Harris (App.).
Total Score: Appalachian 2 1/2; Auburn 1 1/2.

Collector To Aid State Tax Payers

Mr. F. L. German, deputy collector with the State Department of Revenue, will be in the office of the clerk of the superior court in Boone on March 4-5, for the purpose of assisting the taxpayers in filing their state income tax returns.

State tax returns must be filed by March 15, by any unmarried person having an income of \$1,000 or more during the year 1945, and any married man having an income of \$2,000 or more during the same period.

RED CROSS DRIVE TO GET UNDER WAY ON MONDAY

Meeting of Workers to Be Held Tonight; Plans Are to Be Perfected For Campaign Which is Expected to Raise Quota of \$5,150.00

The 1946 fund-raising campaign for the American Red Cross will start next Monday, and a meeting of the Red Cross workers of the county has been called for tonight (Thursday) at 7 o'clock at the Boone high school cafeteria, when plans will be perfected for the campaign, and the necessary materials supplied to the workers.

The quota which has been assigned this year is \$5,150, which is a considerable reduction from last year; however, it is pointed out that it will be necessary for each person in Watauga county to be given the opportunity to contribute if the county is to reach the quota. So far Watauga has gone far over the amount asked for in each Red Cross campaign, and it is the purpose of the organization to maintain this record this year.

Clyde R. Greene and Harry M. Hamilton, co-chairmen, have announced the following organization for the current campaign:

Town of Boone
J. E. Clay, chairman, business district; Northwestern Bank, Alfred Adams; Hosier Mill, S. E. Cline; D. & P. Pipe Works, Richard Olsen; A. & P. Company, W. T. Welch; Matheson building, Dr. Matheson; Belk-White Co., W. W. Chester; Watauga Hospital, Mrs. Nora Warman; Hunt's Dept. Store, Guy Hunt; Carolina Pharmacy, Dr. Mock; Courthouse, Paul Coffey; County building, Mrs. A. E. Hamby, Jr.; Appalachian College, Starr Stacy, Mrs. A. Antonakos, John Wellborn, Mrs. R. W. Watkins and S. M. Ayers; Daniel Boone Hotel, C. A. Price; State highway department, E. F. King; Dr. Perry building, Mrs. F. M. Stubbs; Postoffice, J. Edgar Brown; Colvard Oil Co., Miss Georgia Ayers; Trailway Laundry, A. E. South; Super Cleaners, R. D. Shoemaker; Smithey's store, Owen Wilson; City hall, Mrs. Ruby Ellis; Wilcox Drug Co., C. C. Wilcox; Winkler Motor Co., Paul Walsh; Boone Drug Co., Dr. Moore; Gateway Cafe, Mr. Flick; Carolina Cafe, M. C. Hollar; Boone Trail Cafe, Mr. Williams; Watauga Hotel, Mrs. Cook.

Mrs. Russell Hodges and Mrs. M. R. Maddux, chairmen of Boone residential section; Mrs. Chappell Wilson, Mrs. J. E. Clay, Mrs. Mack Luttrell, Mrs. G. D. Barnett, Mrs. Floyd Hagaman, Mrs. J. H. Council, Mrs. Rex Geer, Mrs. Paul Coffey, Mrs. W. G. Hartzog, Mrs. Wade E. Brown, Mrs. Guy Hunt, Mrs. Hale Vance, Mrs. R. E. Kelley and Mrs. G. H. Winkler, workers.

Schools
S. F. Horton, chairman; Appalachian high school, Mrs. Ruby Daniels and H. C. Quincy; Boone elementary school, Donald C. Thompson and Miss Annie Kittrell; Howard's Creek, Maggie E. Moretz; Rutherfordwood, Mrs. China R. Lavender; Rich Mountain, Mrs. Blanche B. Payne; Bamboo, Miss Pearl Cowles; Green Valley, Miss Lola Mae Rowe; Winebarger, Mrs. Nell C. Greene; Riverview, Mrs. Clara C. Ritchie; Deep Gap, Mrs. Pearl P. Dowling; Stony Fork, Mrs. Grace E. Greene; Mt. Paron, I. J. Bingham; Elk, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Irwin; Lower Elk, Mrs. Ethel P. Triplett; Blowing Rock high school, Mrs. Beatrice C. Winkler; Blowing Rock elementary, Mrs. D. J. Whitener; Penley, Mrs. Orville Greer; Bradshaw, W. L. Trivette; Cook, Mrs. Ruth Hollars; Valle Crucis, Mrs. Pansy K. Taylor; Grandfather, Miss Floy Cannon; Cool Springs, Mrs. Theima C. Ward; Cove Creek high school, Mrs. Mattie H. Wilson; Cove Creek elementary, Miss Annie Mae Sherwood; Rominger, George Harmon; Presnell, Mrs. Ruth W. Presnell; Kellerville, Mrs. Ella Fae Phillips; Windy Gap, Henry Hagaman; Bethel, Grady E. Tester and Miss Kathryn Sherwood; Mabel, Mrs. Reka W. Shoemaker; Pottertown, Mrs. Pearl H. Greene; Watauga Colored, Bertha M. Neal.

Rural Sections
H. M. Hamilton, chairman, and Mrs. A. E. Hamby, Jr., associate chairman. Following are captains for their respective sections:
Lower Meat Camp, D. C. Coffey; Upper Meat Camp, Mrs. Wade Clawson; New River, Mrs. S. J. Barnes and Lloyd Moretz; Bald Mountain, W. S. Miller; Valle Crucis, W. W. Mast and Mrs. W. H. Wagner; Shulls Mills, Mrs. C. P. Moore; Mabel, W. M. Thomas; Laurel Creek, Ned Glenn and Henry Hagaman; Shawneehaw, W. C. Smith; Deep Gap, H. E. Greene and Balma Miller; Elk, (Continued on page eight)