

JAMES McNEIL DIES IN CRASH OF CARGO PLANE

Former Appalachian College Student and Husband of Boone Woman, Dies With Four Others in Inferno of Wrecked Airliner at Charleston, S. C.

Capt. James McNeil, former Appalachian College student, and husband of the former Miss Jean Wilson of Boone, was killed, together with four others, when their cargo plane, a DC-3 type ship, owned by Intercontinental Airways, crashed and burned at Charleston, S. C. last Wednesday night. The big ship was bound for Miami, Fla., from Newark, N. J.

All the occupants of the ill-fated airplane were burned almost beyond recognition, it was said. Four of the victims of the crash were employees of the airlines, while the fifth was tentatively identified as Stewardess Doree Wynn.

The identified dead: Capt. Thomas A. Austin, pilot, San Fernando, Calif.; Capt. James McNeil, Dania, Fla.; First Officer Elmer J. Kortman, Westfield, N. J.; and Stewardess Maria Olga Bodmer, New York City.

The big airliner, flying in a drizzle which made visibility poor, crashed and burst into flames in a suburban section about three miles northwest of the Charleston airport. Only four minutes earlier the plane had established contact with the airport control tower in Charleston.

Funeral services for Capt. McNeil, who was known by many Boone people, were conducted in Lumberton last Saturday, and interment was in the home neighborhood. The family had been residing in Dania, Fla.

ASSEMBLY FACES SPENDING TASK

Legislature Gets Down to Business Entrusted With More Than Any Assembly in History

Raleigh, Jan. 7.—A heavily predominate Democratic party caucused tonight on the eve of the opening of the 1947 general assembly, aware that into its hands had been entrusted the task of spending more money than any North Carolina legislature in history.

While there was an atmosphere of party harmony, there also was evident a feeling of tension over controversial measures sure to hit the hoppers.

Republicans—two in the senate and 13 in the house—took a back seat, but were expected to pledge their loyalty to the duly elected officers.

Rep. Tom Pearsall of Nash county, whose name already is being mentioned as a potential gubernatorial candidate, was nominated unanimously as speaker. That had been generally expected since Rep. F. E. Wallace of Lenoir county withdrew last summer and pledged his support to Pearsall.

Senator Joe Blythe of Mecklenburg, whose name has been projected into the governor's race the next time the job goes to the west, was named president pro tem of the senate.

WAR CEMETERIES

Members of the American Satellite Monuments Commission are planning a personal inspection of sites for permanent cemeteries for American war dead in foreign lands. According to Senator Barnett R. Maybank, of South Carolina, a member of the Commission, the War Department plans to establish cemeteries for the heroes of World War II in Northwest Europe, Italy, North Africa, Puerto Rico, Juneau, Oahu and the Philippines. A chapel will be built in each cemetery, as was done after World War I. The Senator said.

Of the 20 most serious fires in this country since 1900, none burned on a Friday the 13th.

Mild Winter Compared With Year Ago, Says Local Weather Analyst

Watauga county is experiencing its mildest winter in many years, there having been relatively few frosts, only one trace of snow, and a couple of sleets, and W. H. Smith, who records the whims of the elements in Boone, reveals that a year ago the city had been visited by 21 separate snows.

The following comparative data for October, November and December of 1945 and 1946, is given the Democrat by Mr. Smith: The first frost in 1945 came October 4th, and the first snow on the 14th. The low average temperature for October 1945, was 26 degrees and the high average 64 degrees.

In 1946 the first freeze occurred

Local Men Take Assembly Seats



Wade E. Brown, above, Democrat, elected to the State Senate from this district, and below, S. C. Eggers, Republican, Watauga's representative in the House, are in Raleigh for the opening of the Legislature today. Both men were present for their respective party caucuses Tuesday evening. Committee assignments will be made today, and Governor Cherry will deliver his message to the Legislature Thursday.

DIES IN CRASH OF AUTOMOBILE

Mrs. Lester Hollar Dies From Injuries Sustained When Car Leaves Highway

Mrs. Lester D. Hollar of Blowing Rock, died in the local hospital Saturday afternoon from injuries sustained Wednesday night of last week, when the automobile in which she was riding with her husband, left Highway 421 near the M. C. Hollar farm, three miles east of Boone.

State Patrolman C. M. Jones, who investigated the accident, states that Mr. Hollar is being charged with reckless driving and operating a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicants.

The body of Mrs. Hollar was taken to Boston, Mass., for funeral and interment.

Lions Entertained by Twin Tail Twisters

The Lions club meeting Tuesday evening was featured by entertainment by the organization's twin tail-twisters, Howard and Raleigh Cottrell. The meeting was kept in a constant uproar by the stunts pulled on different members.

Ladies night will be observed at the meeting to be held Tuesday evening January 21.

RADIO TO RUSSIA

The official radio voice of the United States will begin speaking Russian on or about January 15, according to State Department officials. This will be in line with the Department's plan for a far-reaching information program, designed to penetrate Soviet censorship and go directly to the Russian people.

Local Holstein Sets Production Record

Brattleboro, Vt. Dec. 30.—A registered Holstein-Friesian cow in the dairy herd owned by Appalachian State Teachers College, Boone, has recently completed a 361-day production record in advanced registry test of 538 pounds of butterfat and 15,302 pounds of milk, the Holstein-Friesian Association of America announces. This is more than 3 times the production of the average dairy cow in this nation.

Her official name is Smith Haven Beulah Pietje 2267283. She was milked 2 times and was 5 years 3 months of age when she began her test period. Her sire is Downhamdale Findexe Pietje 118469 CHB.

Testing was supervised by North Carolina State College of agriculture and engineering in cooperation with the Holstein-Friesian Association of America.

BURLEY PRICES HIT SEASON'S HIGH MONDAY

First Sale of Year Brings Average Price of \$44.60; Receipts Heavy as Auctions Move into Last Stages; Plenty of Room on Local Floors

Tobacco commanded the highest prices of the season in the first sale of the New Year held at the Farmers Warehouse on Monday, when Mr. C. C. Taylor reports the sale of 266,458 pounds of burley for \$119,346 or an average of \$44.60. Besides establishing a season's record on the local market, information is that the price commanded was ahead of many of the other markets on the burley belt.

At the Mountain Burley Warehouse No. 1, there was a full sale Tuesday and Mr. R. C. Coleman states that prices prevailing were very much higher than was the case during the pre-holiday sales. Sales are proceeding this morning on the floors of No. 2 Warehouse where there is a full sale on the baskets, and Mr. Coleman believes that the high prices of Tuesday will prevail.

Today sales are being conducted on the floors of Mountain Burley Warehouse No. 2, where there is a full sale of choice weed. On Thursday the auctions will return to the Farmers Warehouse; Friday, Mountain Burley No. 1; Monday, Mountain Burley No. 2; Tuesday, Farmers Warehouse; Wednesday, Mountain Burley No. 1; Thursday, Mountain Burley No. 2; Friday, Farmers Warehouse.

All warehousemen state that there is plenty of room to unload on the floors of the Boone market, and that there will be the minimum of waiting to get a sale. Following the favorable grading weather of last week, receipts are continuing heavy, and with the improvement in prices, warehouse crews expect to have a busy time for the next few weeks.

Basketball Starts Season January 15

In making preparations for the opening of the conference basketball season against Elon College here on January 15th, the athletic department at Appalachian State Teachers College has been faced with the very grave problem of seating facilities for the students and other supporters who may wish to see the games this season. Because of inadequate space, this problem has always been acute, but is worse this season because of the increased enrollment at the college.

Coach Flucie Stewart urges that those who plan to attend the games come as early as convenient to assure themselves a seat. Tickets will be sold at the gate as long as the seating spaces permit. All tickets this season will be seventy-five cents.

The athletic department is anxious to do everything possible to handle the supporters of its teams in the best possible manner, and any suggestions to better the present plan will be appreciated.

News Briefs

Greek Premier says U. S. has promised "immediate" relief. Chinese demand that U. S. marines go.

Check shows GOP gains highest in the East in last election. U. S. reports small-farm plan succeeding in irrigated areas.

Salter tells scientists the world can grow enough food for all. 1946 traffic deaths put at 54,000, an increase of 5,000 over 1945.

Commodity index registers a rise of 30.9 per cent in year. Rising production is forecast for durable goods in 1947.

Agriculture Dept. asks ICC inquiry of motor carrier rates. American rubber industry set new high marks during 1946.

Army, Notre Dame elevens to suspend relations after 1947. Commission plans tour to select permanent war cemeteries.

Hoover of the FBI reports a drastic rise in crimes by women. Divorced have good chance in new marriages, a study shows.

Zale selected "fighter of the year" by the Ring magazine. U. S. Army forces in Japan to curtail luxury procurement.

United States prepares to pay German prisoners \$200,000,000. Vandenberg backs Baruch on vetoless atom punishment.

Labor Department reports gains in employment of veterans. Educator says baby talk is national trait among our people.

Best meat supply since 1911 is predicted for 1947. Undernourishment growing in space in Germany, survey finds.

U. S. gains in making our zone in Germany pay its own way. State Department to release secrets of the "Big Three."

Anderson assails prediction sugar curbs will be lifted soon. Cost of clothing in 1946 is estimated at \$125 a person.

Revenue freight increases by 21.8 per cent in nation. Toys termed good if they answer need in child's life.

WOUNDED VETERAN RECEIVES HIS AUTOMOBILE



Pete Coffey, right, student at Appalachian State Teachers College, is shown receiving from Joe Williams of the Harrison Motor Co., his 1946 Plymouth automobile, to which he was entitled by congressional action, as a result of having lost a leg in the European theatre of the last war. The new automobile is especially designed for the use of the injured man. Photo by Palmer Blair.

FRANK CARROLL DIES ON FRIDAY

Prominent Boone Farmer Expires From Heart Attack; Funeral Rites Saturday

B. Frank Carroll, 66 years old, resident of RFD 2, died at the local hospital Friday afternoon. Mr. Carroll was taken to the hospital two weeks ago, following a heart attack, from which he recovered. A second attack proved fatal.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Fairview Methodist Church, where the deceased had been a member for more than 50 years. Dr. J. G. Barden conducted the rites and interment was in the nearby cemetery.

Two sons and one daughter survive: Lester Carroll, Dean Carroll, Boone; Mrs. C. F. Womble, Kannapolis, N. C. One brother, C. E. Carroll of Boone, survives, and two sisters, Mrs. Zora Taylor, and Mrs. C. M. Watson, Boone.

Mr. Carroll was a son of Mr. and Mrs. John Carroll, and was reared in Watauga county. After spending ten years in Mullen, Idaho, Mr. Carroll returned to Watauga in 1914, and has resided here since. He was one of the county's most progressive farmers, and his place was a model of advanced agricultural practices. He was a just and honorable man and held in the highest regard by all of his acquaintances.

P. W. Hamlett Dies in Morganton

Morganton, Jan. 6.—Funeral services were conducted at the First Baptist church here today for Peter Wilkinson Hamlett, sixty-five, a former missionary to China, who died late Friday in a local hospital of a heart ailment. Officiating at the rites were Rev. John McCready and Rev. J. A. Bower. Burial was in Forest Hill cemetery.

Survivors are the widow, the former Miss Lettie Spainhour of Morganton; a son, P. W. Hamlett, Jr., of Chicago; a daughter, Mrs. Lettie Rodgers of Greensboro; a grandchild, and several brothers and sisters.

The Hamletts, who served as missionaries to China for more than 30 years, were interned at the time of the Pearl Harbor attack in Wushu, China, and returned to this country in August of 1943 aboard the repairation ship Gripsbrold. Mr. Hamlett's health declined suddenly several months ago.

Wildlife Club to Hold Business Meet

A business meeting for the Watauga county Wildlife Club is announced by President W. R. Richardson for Thursday night, January 9, at 7:00 p. m. at the Junior and Masonic Hall. The deer stocking program and other business matters will be discussed. Everyone is invited to attend.

LEND-LEASE

In his twenty-third report on Lend-Lease, President Truman informed Congress that 70 per cent of this nation's lend-lease aid amounting to \$50,692,000,000 on Sept. 30, has been marked paid.

Resigns JAMES BYRNES QUILTS CABINET



JAMES F. BYRNES

General Marshall is Named by President as Secretary of State Succeeding Carolinian

Washington, Jan. 8.—James F. Byrnes resigned last night as secretary of state and President Truman chose as his successor the man who guided American military fortunes in the war—Gen. George C. Marshall.

Byrnes declared the doctors had warned him he must "slow down" and that he couldn't slow down in the job of secretary of state.

Marshall, army chief of staff in the war, is presently ending a presidential mission to China.

The announcement of his selection to the cabinet came at almost the exact hour, 7:15 p. m. Eastern Standard time, that Marshall left for home by plane from Nanking.

The Pennsylvania-born, Virginia-educated Marshall takes over the job of helping make peace secure at a time when Republicans have taken over congress. In the army tradition, he has shown no political connections.

This was not believed to be the reason for the change, however. The senate, which rules daily on foreign relations, already had shown a disposition to follow Byrnes' policies.

Congressional leaders were swift to heap praise on both men when the news reached Capitol Hill. Republicans and Democrats alike joined in.

The change in the top diplomatic post was a surprise. It has been known that Byrnes had grown tired some months ago, but the 67-year-old South Carolinian looked to be in very good health lately.

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STILL SEIZED IN PARKWAY AREA

Federal Officers Assisted by Patrolman Jones and Sheriff Watson in Raid

Officers from the alcohol tax unit, aided by Highway Patrolman Jones and Sheriff Watson, destroyed a 150-gallon steam distillery near the Parkway in Ashe county last week.

Eleven gallons of whiskey was destroyed, together with five tanks filled with mash. Sacks of sugar which had contained 1,200 pounds of sugar were found at the illicit plant.

Mr. Jones states that if the raiding party had reached the scene a little earlier, the operators would likely have been apprehended.

Chicago Artists to Appear at College in Lyceum Series

The third number in the lyceum artist series presented by Appalachian State Teachers College will be given on Sunday afternoon January 19th, at 2:30. This is a trio presenting chamber music. The distinguished artists come to us from Chicago, sponsored by Harry Culbertson Incorporated. They are Myron Carlisle, baritone; Nancy Carr, soprano; Hendrix DeBoer, tenor and pianist.

This promises to be one of the finest numbers on the artist course this season. The students and the citizens of the town and surrounding county-side are cordially invited to come out and enjoy this program.

SALVAGE

The Army Quartermaster Corps, patching up everything from typewriters to tubas, has salvaged and returned to stockpiles equipment worth nearly \$150,000,000 since the end of the war. Clothing and textiles make up 67 per cent of the salvaged material.

Sees industry set for record production in 1947.

Highlights of President Truman's Message On the State of the Union

Washington, Jan. 6.—Here is a summary of President Truman's recommendations — on home and foreign affairs — to congress today.

HOME AFFAIRS

First—Better relations between management and labor.

1. Congress should pass laws to prevent jurisdictional strikes—strikes caused by a fight between two unions.

2. Laws to prevent "unjustified" secondary boycotts, but not secondary boycotts necessary for a union's welfare.

This is an example of a secondary boycott.

Union workers strike against Jones because of alleged "unfair" labor dealings. Other members of that union, working for Smith who buys Jones' goods, refuse to handle Jones' goods.

3. Laws to prevent either labor or management from using force to settle a dispute about a contract once it has gone into effect. (An example of force by management would be closing down a plant, and by a union it would be a strike.)

Mr. Truman said that, in such a dispute, both sides should be able to submit to an arbitrator.

4. To make workers more secure, more people should be

brought under social security, and there should be: better housing, a national health program, and a "fair" minimum wage. All these would require laws.

5. Congress should set up a commission to investigate the entire field of labor-management relations. Its job would be to:

a. Suggest ways of preventing strikes in such important public utilities as coal, oil, telephone, transportation.

b. Suggest the best way of carrying out collective bargaining to keep strikes to a minimum.

c. Try to find the underlying causes of labor-management disputes. This would mean a long-range study.

Mr. Truman said the commission should make its first report not later than March 15, 1947.

Second—Holding down business monopolies and encouraging private enterprise.

1. Anti-trust laws will be vigorously enforced to discourage giant firms from monopolizing an industry.

2. The government should help new business by research programs, government lending, and building up industries in areas lacking them.

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WATAUGA GETS LARGE SHARE OF POLIO RECEIPTS

Eighteen Hundred Dollars Has Been Kept in County From Polio Campaigns; National Foundation Sends \$4,881 in Addition to Treat Polio Victims

Referring to the benefits Watauga county people have received from the infantile paralysis campaigns which have been conducted over the nation for several years, Mr. R. E. Agle, chairman of the current campaign for funds, states that the local share of the money collected here since 1942 is \$1,891.54. During the same period, however, it is revealed, a number of Watauga children were afflicted with infantile paralysis and the expenses of the local chapter were \$6,712.67, simply meaning that the National Foundation has advanced the local chapter the sum of \$4,881. This does not institute a loan, but the National Foundation suggests that the money be repaid if and when the chapter is financially able.

Citing one specific case of polio in Watauga, Mr. Agle states that a four-year-old child in the Charlotte hospital from Watauga county has been treated for about two years at a cost of \$5,800. Since 1938 there have been 32 cases of infantile paralysis reported in Watauga.

Thus, it will readily be seen, that contributions to the March of Dimes constitute a contribution to the welfare of our own local children, and Mr. Agle asks that those who have not contributed to this fund do so at once.

The Contributors

Herman Cone (Name omitted last week)	\$ 25.00
Previously reported	136.17
Belk-White Co.	25.00
G. K. Moose	10.00
Farmers Hardware	25.00
Hunt's Dept. Store	15.00
Carl Teague	1.00
Dr. Robert King	5.00
Boone Woodwork Shop	5.00
Boone Candy Co.	1.00
Wilcox Drug Co.	10.00
Brendell's Garage	.50
A. P. Walsh	2.00
Edmisten Furniture Co.	5.00
Watauga Hardware Co.	10.00
S. G. Tugman	1.00
Boone Tire & Bgn. Store	10.00
Watauga Democrat	10.00
Total	\$265.67

RECEIPTS GAIN AT POST OFFICE

Income at Boone Postoffice Shows Gain for First Time Since 1945

The receipts during the December 1946 quarter at the Boone postoffice were \$7,706.75, or a gain of \$303.57 over the corresponding period in the year 1945. Postmaster John E. Brown, Jr. says. This is the first time an increase has been noted since September 1945.

The volume of mail handled during the holidays was in excess of that handled during the last Christmas season, it is said, but the number of pieces of mail cannot be disclosed. It was stated however that city carriers delivered more than a ton of mail daily during the week immediately preceding Christmas day.

Treasury speeds up GI terminal leave payments.