

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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VOLLIX, NO. 52

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1947

FIVE CENTS A COPY

HOSPITAL IS GIVEN SUM BY MRS. CONE WILL

Will Disposing of Cone Fortune Filed For Probate; Blowing Rock Hospital Gets \$10,000; Employees are Remembered by Late Millionaire

The Security National Bank of Greensboro, with a \$160,000 bequest, is executor, headed the list of numerous legatees of the will of Mrs. Bertha Linda Cone of Blowing Rock and Blowing Rock, who died June 8 at her estate, Flat Top Manor, Blowing Rock.

Outright grants of approximately \$242,000 were provided for in the will, which was filed June 9, 1947, in the office of Fred M. Gragg, clerk of court for Watauga county. The will was signed October 27, 1945.

A number of employees of the Cone estate were given cash bequests, as follows: A. C. Moody \$2,500; Chas. J. Icenhour \$2,500; Tilden Icenhour \$2,500; Carl Holler \$1,000; Lloyd E. Coffey \$1,000; L. O. Talbert \$1,000; Edward Bumpus, colored chauffeur, \$2,000. Items of furniture, etc., were given to various relatives under the terms of the document.

Settlement of the estate, which is estimated in excess of \$150,000, is spending action of the board of trustees of the Moses H. Cone Memorial hospital, which will determine the value of properties and belonging of the late Mrs. Cone.

The will, which leaves \$10,000 to Blowing Rock Hospital, and codicil are documents written in addition to the indenture forming the Moses H. Cone Memorial hospital fund, which is to be established in Greensboro, which provided for in May, 1911, three years after Mrs. Cone's husband died leaving no last will and testament. The fund, approved by the state legislature in 1913, conveyed to the hospital shares of stock in Cone Export and Commission Company and Proximity Manufacturing Company, Greensboro. It was stated that the hospital fund receive the balance of the estate after deductions, (which include the bequests exceeding \$242,000) listed as beneficiaries in Mrs. Cone's will.

The hospital trust includes a clear grant of 67 acres in Greensboro. Also cleared from the settlement is the 3,500-acre Cone estate on Flat Top mountain, which is to become a public park.

Sources close to the family have stated that many of the persons named as beneficiaries in Mrs. Cone's will predeceased her. It was her written will that after her death her residence at Flat Top Manor in Blowing Rock, North Carolina, shall be closed and not maintained or kept open for any purpose whatever.

Bar Will Hold Three-Day Meet At Blowing Rock

Raleigh—The 49th annual North Carolina Bar association meeting will open three-day activities at Blowing Rock, Thursday, it was announced by Edward L. Cannon of Raleigh, secretary-treasurer.

Bolivia J. Lewis, chief justice of the U. S. district court for the District of Columbia, will speak Friday on the cooperation by laymen, the bench and the bar.

Charles R. Jonas of Lincolnton will speak on the same subject Thursday. Bryce R. Holt of Greensboro, U. S. attorney for the middle district, will discuss the new federal tort claims act on Friday.

The committee on taxation will present a discussion on "Taxation of Family Partnership" and "Some Practical Aspects of Handling an Income Tax Case." Discussions will be led by A. W. Kennon of Durham and Norman Block of Greensboro. D. E. Henderson, U. S. attorney for the western district, will lead a discussion from the committee on criminal law and enforcement.

Ozmer L. Henry of Lumberton, chairman of the committee on public relations, will make a report. Other committees are headed by Kingsland Van Winkle of Asheville, Allston Stubbs of Durham, Albert Coates of Chapel Hill, Louis J. Appison of Wilmington, J. M. Broughton of Raleigh, L. K. Martin of Winston-Salem, Sam J. Erwin of Morganton, and H. M. Robbins of Asheville.

SISTERS SWAP HOMES

Polk, Neb.—As a matter of convenience, two sisters, Mrs. Carl Steelquist, of Polk, and Mrs. Otis Anderson, of Caldwell, Idaho, swapped houses so that each could have a vacation. Mrs. Anderson wanted to visit relatives in Polk and Mrs. Steelquist wanted a vacation, so they worked out the novel idea of just swapping houses.

Doctor of Philosophy



Burke M. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Smith, who received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Duke University at the recent commencement exercises. Dr. Smith taught at Appalachian College prior to his enlistment in the navy in 1943. Since his discharge in January, 1946, he has taught at Duke. His parents attended the commencement.

ASKS FOR FULL BURLEY CROP

Coleman Advises Planters to Set Their Full Allotment of Tobacco Plants

Mr. R. C. Coleman, of the Mountain Burley Warehouse Co., is very anxious that the farmers of this area set their full allotment of tobacco plants this season, even if in some cases the planting is a little later than usual. Mr. Coleman says that there will be a forty dollar government floor price, and that the better types of smoking leaf will command as much or more money than was the case on last year's market. With this subsidy, Mr. Coleman believes, there is no other money crop that will bring the county the financial returns that tobacco will at this time.

Mr. Coleman, who recently purchased the Farmers Warehouse here, will be in a position to handle all the tobacco brought to the local market this season, without congestion, resulting in good service and quick sales. He expects to be in Boone the first of the week to look out for his interests here.

BRIEF NEWS

Mexico plans a national foundation to help indigent children. Estimated twenty tons of spoiled food reaches public daily. 10,000 persons routed by Iowa floods for second time.

Hietanen of Finland takes fifteen-mile run, sets U. S. record. U. S. investigators link big German banks to rise to Nazis.

Gandhi assails Indian princes, gives support to British plan. Truman acts to protect foreign patent right in inventions.

War Department to send church group on tour of Europe. Navy to test blood of men who served at Bikini atomic tests.

Purchasing agents' survey sees trade failing, competition rising. Senate body to investigate the shortage of box cars.

U. N. names Foote of U. S. to be chief of new press bureau. Advances in atomic processes is called "startling."

Parran pleads for U. S. participation in world health group. Former Judge Roberts, Green of AFL back refugee entry.

Power of Japan's cartelized holding companies is held broken. Gromyko hopeful of atomic accord; blames U. S. for obstacles.

Roman Catholic population of U. S. rises 866,049 to 25,268,173. Lillenthal warns of atomic defeat if we accept "phony" policy.

Thorp says American aid is keeping foreign trade going. Mrs. "Babe" Zaharias beats Miss Gordon for British golf title, 5 to 4.

Disarmament and security are held attainable through N. N. Forrestal and Nimitz warn against weakening the Navy now.

Compton calls U. S. military weak; urges universal training. Forest Service takes step in promotion of Alaska newsprint.

Anderson denies high meat prices are caused by exports. National banks put 66 per cent of earnings in 1946 into business. Japanese are held to need assistance for a long time to come.

MOUNTAIN SING DRAWS CROWDS

Thousands Go to Old Grandfather Sunday For Varied Music and Sermons

There was music in the hills Sunday as several thousand mountain folk and city folk with a dash of country left in them made their annual pilgrimage to the 23rd annual "Singing on the Mountain" held at the foot of western North Carolina's venerable Grandfather mountain.

For the first time in the history of the sing, rain clouds scudded across Grandfather, and a cold drizzling rain fell in midmorning. Later on the sun came out to bring some relief from the mountain cold. Joe Hartley, 74-year-old veteran of many sings, explained, "The good Lord always takes care of us."

Everything was arranged, if at all, very informally. Every hour there was a sermon by a different mountain preacher from the main platform. Sandwiched in between were songs by duets, trios, quartets and choirs as back-country "professors" and their "classes" vied with each other for top singing honors.

Singers from the Carolinas, Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia, and Kentucky met together for massed chorus singing as vendors sold hymn books while strolling through the crowd.

Some of the mountain folk up Grandfather way walked 10 miles to the sing and brought their lunches with them.

Preachers of the mountain Gospel set up amplifying units on big rock and preached to small groups of followers.

Cold-natured folks whose foot-tapping didn't warm them enough to keep out the mountain chill built fires in the green meadow and gathered around to swap stories about their trips to the sing and try and find relatives in common.

Orville and Herb Gray brought their guitars all the way from Craig, Clarence Crump, a Craig fiddler, brought the fiddle he had whittled out of native mountain maple. This trio sat on the edge of the crowd and sang their mournful mountain ballads throughout the day.

Alphonso Buchanan, another sing star, brought his organ all the way from Johnson City, Tenn., sat down and accomplished himself in "Beautiful Home."

Some of the choirs and soloists, tired of waiting their turn at the warped main singing platform, clambered up on big rocks and started singing unaccompanied some of the old hymn-favorites.

A group of artists from the Penland Art colony was on hand with sketch pads and charcoal. It was obvious to old-time singers that the mountains aren't as isolated as they used to be. Some of the younger children were barefooted, but the teenage crowd came in sweaters and saddle shoes. The older folks came all slicked up in their Sunday best.

S. E. Gragg, 86-year-old preacher of Advent Christian church at Shulls Mills, basked in the limelight as amateur and press photographers, flanked by artists and sightseers, flocked around to gaze at his flowing beard, heavy watch chain and silver-headed cane. Gragg is a veteran of 21 sings and a director of this year's production. He posed for pictures and confided in photographers that he'd enjoyed seeing himself in the newsreels and newspapers after last year's sing.

As big singing and lots of preaching whetted their appetites, folks in the crowd drifted away from the platform and headed for their lunch baskets.

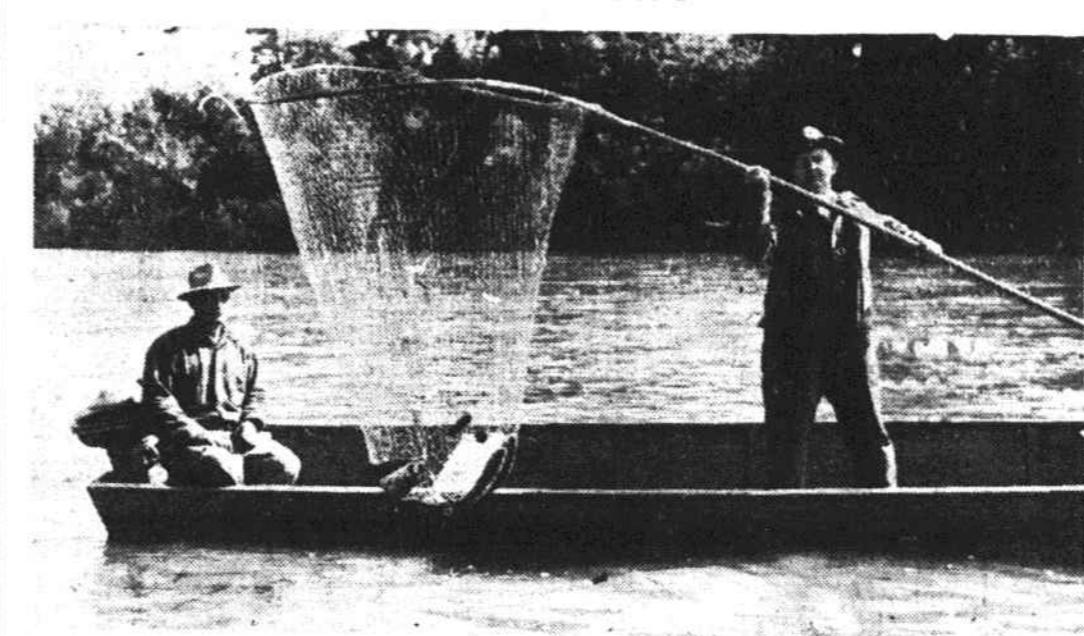
College Reading Conference Meeting

The summer reading conference for in-service teachers attending Appalachian State Teachers College summer school had their first meeting on Thursday afternoon in the college auditorium. Dr. W. J. McKee of the University of North Carolina was the speaker. A conference is planned to meet weekly on Thursday afternoon throughout the summer and is of the forum type. Some distinguished educator will lead each discussion, and visual education will be used from time to time. The director of these conferences is Miss Louise Robles of the Dupont Institute, Wilmington, Delaware. The attendance is entirely voluntary, no prerequisites, no fees, and no academic grades. This is a continuation of the conferences of this type that have proved so popular during the last three summers.

KILLED BY SPLINTER

Secaucus, N. J.—Anthony Hortak, 49, was killed instantly when his automobile was in collision with a light truck loaded with old railroad ties. One of the ties was hurled into Hortak's automobile and a splinter from it pierced his heart.

HE GOT TWO



A haul with a net is usually one of the much-sought rockfish (striped bass), but this netman was lucky. Highly prized quarry, ranging from two to 100 pounds, are being taken from Roanoke River at Weldon, N. C.—"Rockfish Capital of the World"—as they proceed upstream to their breeding.

COBLE PLANT IN OPERATION

Milk Plant, Destroyed by Fire, is Rebuilt; Heavy Receipts Are Noted

The Coble Dairy Company's milk plant at Sugar Grove is again in normal operation, and the new building which is almost complete, is described as being thoroughly modern and a great improvement over the old structure which was destroyed by fire on February 5.

The building is of concrete block construction, stuccoed, is 45x82 feet, and houses the newest equipment for handling the vast volume of milk which is daily gathered there from a wide area. Officials state that with favorable grazing weather, receipts of milk are hitting an all-time high at the local plant.

Lutheran Group Will Meet Here Sunday

The Lutheran Brotherhood of the Western Conference of the North Carolina Synod will meet in Grace Lutheran Church Sunday, June 28, at 3:00 p. m.

Dr. W. C. Boleik, pastor of the church of the Reformation, Columbia, S. C. will bring the message on church extension. He is a very able speaker and you are cordially invited to come and hear him. Luther Boleik of Hickory, president of the N. C. Lutheran Brotherhood is his brother.

15-WORD WILL

Los Angeles—The will of Arthur Rich, while containing only fifteen words jotted down on a piece of paper, 2x4 inches, disposed of an estate of around \$2,000. Rich, who died on May 18, left a will which read: "I, of sound mind, do will all my possessions to my wife, Messie May Rich."

Even the tiny, one-celled protozoa has memory, according to the Encyclopedia Britannica.

Wins Award



Miss Martha Ann Banner, valedictorian of the senior class at Blowing Rock high school, who won the scholastic medal given by the school for the 1946-47 term.

Playcrafters Will Present Comedy at College Friday

The Playcrafters of Appalachian State Teachers College will present "Dear Ruth," a comedy by Norman Krosna, Friday evening, June 27, at 8:30, College auditorium.

The play, which was a feature of the spring commencement exercises is being staged a second time for the benefit of the summer school. No admission will be charged and the public is invited.

Those appearing in the cast are Bill Ross, Beverly Townsend, Rachel Ann Vance, Howard Johnston, Mary Lee Hedgecock, Alta Ponder, Anne Graham, Johnny Albea, Gene Johnson, and Raymond Smith.

Assisting with lighting, make-up and staging are George Wilson, Jo Dockery and Sarah Miller Mathews. The play is directed by Cratis D. Williams.

BROWN CHOSEN BY GOVERNOR

State Senator Named Member of Commission for Studying Examining Boards

Governor R. Gregg Cherry has notified Senator Wade E. Brown of Boone, of his appointment as a member of a special committee, whose purpose is to study and investigate certain examining boards in the State. The commission was authorized by the last General Assembly, which directed that the group be composed of three persons from the house and two from the senate.

Following is the full membership of the committee: Frank K. Sims, Jr., chairman, Charlotte; Sam O. Worthington, Greenville; Winfield Blackwell, Winston-Salem; Senators Wade E. Brown, Boone, and L. M. Griffin, Lillington.

The Governor asks that the commission meet in Raleigh Friday, June 27, at 11 o'clock, so that their oaths may be administered and formal delivery of the commissions made.

Vilas Man Loses Home in Fire Monday

Mr. and Mrs. Olen Brown, of Vilas, RFD, lost their home and its entire contents by fire Monday afternoon, while members of the family were employed on the farm, and there is no information on the origin of the blaze. The house was new, not fully completed, and all food, furniture and clothing belonging to the family was destroyed. It was not learned whether or not there was insurance in force.

CLEANED FISH CAUGHT

Durango, Colo.—A 17-inch trout which Sam Walford hooked recently was ready for the frying pan when he pulled it from the water. It had apparently been caught, cleaned and lost by another angler a short time previously.

MAN SLASHED TO DEATH IN GORY BRAWL

Robert Hayes Accused of Wielding Pocket Knife, Which Inflicted Fatal Wounds on Robert Ragan; Gives Bail to Fall Term of Superior Court

Robert Hayes, local stone mason, who is accused of wielding the knife which brought fatal injuries to Robert Ragan, in a street fight in Boone Saturday night, waived preliminary hearing before Magistrate E. N. Hahn Monday afternoon and was bound to the fall term of Watauga Superior Court, readily posting an appearance bond of \$2,500. Herbert and Raymond Triplett, Jack Winkler, Richard Hodges and Marvin Dotson were placed under bond as important witnesses in the case.

The affray occurred on the main street of the town just west of the courthouse early Saturday evening, and official investigations indicated that the men had been drinking prior to the trouble. However, since no evidence was taken at the preliminary hearing, the details of what started the fight are lacking. Ragan, with an artery severed in the left thigh, died within a few minutes after having been taken to the local hospital. Jack Winkler and Herbert Triplett received minor knife wounds during the brawl.

Funeral services for young Ragan, who was 21 years old and unmarried, were conducted from the Howard's Creek Baptist Church Monday afternoon by Rev. Raymond Hendrix, and interment was in the Sands graveyard by Reins-Sturdivant.

The parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ragan, survive, together with one brother, Calvin Ragan, and one sister, Mrs. Jack Winkler.

Water Diverted As Work Proceeds On Watauga River Dam

The Tennessee Valley Authority announced June 13 completion of the first stage of construction on the Watauga dam near Elizabethton, and said that work on the second phase would start the next day, says the Johnson County News.

The first stage described is the diversion tunnel which will divert the Watauga River around the damsite. Water is flowing through the tunnel and workmen have started on the placement of earth and rock fill in the main dam.

The third and final stage, TVA reported, will be the construction of the powerhouse and the installation of two generating units with a capacity of 50,000 kilowatts.

The Watauga and South Holston dams were authorized by congress in December, 1941, and construction was started in February, 1942. The War Production Board ordered work suspended in December, 1942, due to a shortage of materials and manpower, but work was resumed with congressional approval last July.

Watauga dam will be 319 feet high and will contain 1,450,000 cubic yards of rolled earth and 2,080,000 cubic yards of rock, the TVA reported. When completed the dam will provide flood control storage capacity of 260,000 acre-feet on Jan. 1 of each year, and 110,000 acre-feet from April 15 throughout the remainder of the year.

The Watauga dam is scheduled for completion in 1949 at a cost of about \$29,500,000.

Mrs. Dwight Rivers Dies in W. Virginia

Mrs. Dwight G. Rivers died on June 21, at the home at Crumper, West Virginia, it is learned in a telegram received by a cousin, Mrs. Minnie Farthing Watson of Boone. The husband survives together with a son and daughter: Dwight G. Rivers, Jr., and Mrs. Frederick V. Reed.

Dr. Dwight Rivers is a son of the late Dr. Jim Rivers of Boone, and was a nephew of the late R. C. Rivers and Mrs. J. W. Farthing of this city.

Plans Are Made For Opening Curb Mart

Plans have been made for the opening of the Home Demonstration Curb Market, on Tuesday, July 1 at 10:00 a. m. The market this year will be located on the vacant lot opposite the Adventist Church on East Main Street. Members of the Home Demonstration Clubs will have fresh vegetables, dairy, poultry and meat products, cakes, pies, flowers, handicrafts, and canned products.

FLOODS RUIN TOWNS AND FARMS



The town shown above, Red Rock, Ia., is in the Des Moines River valley, the center of Iowa's worst flood in history, in which many lost their lives and untold damage resulted to farm land and towns. The same story held in other states where high water flooded valuable farm land.