

**THE DEMOCRAT**  
is your best and most economical medium for advertising. With more than 2,600 paid-up cash subscriptions, your message goes to 13,000 people, on the universally used basis of five readers to each subscriber.

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

**16** PAGES  
2 Sections

An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Year 1888

VOL. LX, NO. 24

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1947

FIVE CENTS A COPY

## KING STREET

By Rob. Rivers

Now, since "Miss Hush" has been positively identified, and the winner of about everything in the catalog announced, we can set out to enjoying Saturday nights according to our own whims . . . can actually relax . . . Couple of week-ends spent trying to figure out who possessed the rich musical voice . . . reading through various and sundry encyclopedias, hoping to chase down the name of one opera singer, movie star, dancer, or something who would fit in with the clues supplied by the announcer, and definitely giving it up as a bad job when we got to the last paragraph of a personal letter from Harvey Dinkins of the Winston-Salem Journal . . . who went into the finals of his envy and appreciated message like this

" . . . By the same token, the poverty-stricken burn the midnight oil trying to conjure up answers to radio quizzes that will win them a yacht, a year's free maid service, shoe shines for a thousand years and \$90,000 in cash when the whole thing's a hoax in the first place, or at the best, a way of getting away from paying corporation taxes. Why can't they pass a national lottery law? Then the sucker would have at least a mathematical chance."

Sort of glad Harvey eased up the tension . . . had been worrying about where we would place the extra autos, airplanes, carload of furniture, overseas refrigeration units, and a couple of trainloads of stuff we've forgotten about.

Happy to know the Empty Stocking Fund, which the Democrat originated in this community, is faring rather better this year than formerly and that prospects are for a happy Christmas for a lot of youngsters who happened to be born in an unfavored economic circle . . . doing our bit in the movement . . . but not campaigning for funds this year . . . rather put up the amount we have been procuring than conduct another financial campaign such as last year, which relatively speaking, just wouldn't bear fruit . . . folks from other sections and other states finally sensed the dilemma we were in by the reams of copy we had been writing . . . and chipped in enough so that the fund reached at least some of the needy kiddies . . . home folks wouldn't warm to any appreciable degree.

Have had some mighty good times in the old days trying to fix up for a lot of little kiddies whose pappies weren't around, or just couldn't make the grade . . . Spent many days with Jim Rivers, and Wait Gragg rounding up a few dollars . . . many of them of the depression sort . . . touring the town buying up every conceivable sort of small toy, items of clothing, nuts, candies, and fruits . . . talking the merchants out of a little extra on the side . . . getting the stuff to the city hall, where members of the fire department . . . and Carl Teague, of course . . . made ready for the big Christmas party . . . Lots of fun . . . and this year we are battling for the youngsters as of yore . . . and a lot of other folks are doing the same . . . it's going to be a right merry Christmas all around this year . . . a bunch of good folks around town have decided they don't want a heap of empty stockings hanging beside cold hearthstones next Christmas morning . . . neither do we!

Sport fans about the town cussing over Joe Louis winning the decision after the dusky challenger beat him up . . . comparing it to the long count deal, when Jack Dempsey, lost the crown and became considered by Tex Rickard as the "Uncrowned heavyweight champion of the world" . . . recalling the day when Jack Johnson, burly negro, mauled the daylight out of old James J. Jeffries . . . later to take the count from Jess Willard, rangy plainsman, who never could fight, in a ridiculous sort of fistic encounter in Havana . . . Father McKeown, sipping coffee at drug store sandwich bar, and dishing up some good thoughts

## To Leave Orphanage



DR. I. G. GREER

## EXERCISES SET FOR FALL TERM

Graduation For Class of 18 Is Scheduled at Local College December 17

Graduation exercises for the class of 18 finishing at the end of the fall quarter and at mid-term of the winter quarter will be held at Appalachian State Teachers College at 7 p. m., Wednesday, December 17.

Dr. John G. Barden, head of the Appalachian department of education, will be the commencement speaker. The invocation will be given by Rev. J. K. Parker, Jr., of the James I. Vance Presbyterian Church. The mixed quartet of the college will sing "Rest in the Lord" by Ashford, and Hoyt Safrit will sing a solo, "Jesu Bambino" by Pietro-Yen. The degrees will be conferred and diplomas awarded by President B. B. Dougherty. The benediction will be pronounced by Rev. Sam Moss of the Boone Methodist Church.

Graduates who will receive degrees include Gozelle Andrews of Boomer; Nancy Ross Black of Matthews; Fuller H. Brooks, Jr., of Columbus, Ga.; William Lynch Carpenter of Rutherfordton; Benjamin Grose Cole of Forest City; Dorothy June Dinkins of Yadkinville; Carol Margaret Erwin of Mt. Ulla; John Milton Fletcher of Chester, Pa.; Aubrey Clement Fuller of Lexington, Ky.; Charles William Hall of Iva, S. C.; James D. Hamilton of Magnolia; Charles E. Harris of Chicago, Ill.; John D. Hiatt of Mt. Airy; John Henry Honbarrier of Granite Quarry; Eddie Grovone Howard of Polkton; Laura Lee Huffines of Cameron; June Elbert Pratt of Pinnacle, and Carolyn Louise Townsend of Buie.

Marshalls for the exercises will be Sam Moir of Francisco, chief; Betty Cornette of West Jefferson, Phoebe Dulin of Rowland, Mozelle Rodgers of Thomasville, Frances Essie of Cana; James Bradford of Mooresville, and Thomas Ward of Sugar Grove.

## Only Four Days For Drivers to Get Papers

Only four more days remain for "A" and "B" motorists to renew their operator's license in Watauga county until the deadline December 31, it is announced by W. R. Stansberry, state examiner, of West Jefferson, who comes to Boone each Thursday and Friday.

Due to the Christmas holidays Mr. Stansberry says he will not be in Boone December 25th and 26th, and explains that after December 31, all persons whose last name begins with A or B, who have not renewed their operator's license will be subject to a minimum fine of \$25.00, if caught driving a motor vehicle on the public highways of the State.

## Snow Masonic Lodge Elects New Officers

A. R. Smith has been elected Worshipful Master of Snow Lodge No. 363, A. F. & A. M., for the ensuing Masonic year. Other officers elected are: R. E. Kelly, Senior Warden; B. W. Stallings, Junior Warden; Clyde R. Greene was re-elected treasurer, and J. E. Clay was re-elected secretary. The officers will be installed at the next regular lodge meeting December 19th.

**JUNIOR ORDER MEETING**  
Daniel Boone Council, Junior Order, will meet Monday night at 7:30. All members are asked to attend.

## DR. I. G. GREER TO QUIT POST AT MILLS HOME

Former Appalachian College Professor and Watauga Native to Become Executive Vice-President of Business Foundation of North Carolina January 1

Winston-Salem — Dr. I. G. Greer of Thomasville, superintendent of Mills Home there, will become executive vice-president of the Business Foundation of North Carolina Jan. 1, 1948.

The announcement was made here Friday by Robert M. Hanes, foundation president and president of Wachovia Bank and Trust Company.

Dr. Greer will resign his position at Mills Home and take over the Foundation job on a full-time basis.

The Business Foundation was established at the University of North Carolina July 13, 1946, by prominent business, industrial, and professional leaders in the State.

The general purposes of the foundation are "to aid and promote, by financial assistance and otherwise, all types of education, service and research for business and industry at or through the School of Commerce and other department of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill." Among its first aims are a \$10,000,000 trust and to make the

## TOY MATINEE AIDS KIDDIES

Annual Theatre Party Arranged to Secure Toys for the Underprivileged

A special movie will be held Monday, December 15 at 9:45 a. m. to collect toys to provide Christmas cheer for needy kiddies. All children who present a good usable toy, or preferably a new toy, will be admitted to the show free.

The Worthwhile Club, with the cooperation of the Lions Club and the local theatre manager, is again seeking to prevent their being empty stockings in Watauga county on Christmas morning. A meeting of committee chairman was held Sunday evening to formulate plans for carrying out this project. The committees assigned at present are Mrs. Herbert Adams, Mrs. Claude Norris, and Mrs. Len Hagaman, general committee from the Worthwhile Club; Dr. King, A. E. Hamby and Paul Coffey, general committee from Lions Club; Mrs. G. H. Phillips, Mrs. R. W. Watkins, and Mrs. Carlos Delima, food; Mrs. Lee Reynolds, Mrs. Wiley Smith, Mrs.

(Continued on page 8)

# Two Million Pounds Of Burley Sold To Smash Former Records

MEET IN INTEREST WATAUGA RIVER ROAD



Above picture shows part of the gathering of Boone, N. C., and Elizabethton and Johnson City business men who met last Thursday night in the interest of securing construction of a new and shorter highway between Boone and Elizabethton. In the foreground, Wm. S. Waddell, president of the Elizabethton Chamber of Commerce (left) is shaking hands with Herman W. Wilcox, president of the Boone Chamber of Commerce (right) rear from left to right, E. Ford King, resident highway supervisor of North Carolina; C. A. Hayworth, resident engineer, North Carolina highway department; F. P. Jennings, Elizabethton insurance and real estate man; Frank Payne, Boone insurance man; Wade Brown, attorney and state senator; Clyde Eggers, representative in N. C. general assembly; Grady Farthing, former state senator; Earl M. Reasor, Elizabethton banker; and D. L. Wilcox, Boone business man. (Photo courtesy Elizabethton Star).

## Boone - Elizabethton Highway Sought By Leaders Two States

### Banquet Speaker



## DR. DALTON IS A.C.E. SPEAKER

Regional Meeting Association for Childhood Education Held Here Saturday

The regional meeting of the Association for Childhood Education met Saturday, December 6, at the Boone Demonstration school. The main speaker for the occasion was Dr. Theo Dalton, principal of Curry school, Greensboro and state advisor for the ACE. Mrs. Ennis R. Davis, regional chairman, presided. Rev. Edwin Troutman gave the invocation.

Miss Willow Way Benbow of the Winston-Salem schools, former president of the state ACE, now on the advisory committee and North Carolina's representative to the National Association, (Continued on page 8)

## Chamber Commerce Hosts to East Tennessee Leaders at Banquet; Short Route from Boone to Elizabethton is Sought; "Let's Build It" Slogan of Meeting

Some eighty representative members of the Boone and Elizabethton, Tennessee, Chambers of Commerce, along with visitors from the two states, met Thursday night in the Skyland Restaurant for an enthusiastic discussion of the new road proposed between Western North Carolina and Eastern Tennessee. The route of the road in question would follow the Watauga River and would reduce the mileage from Boone to Elizabethton by approximately eighteen miles, requiring about 10 miles of construction on the North Carolina side and slightly over four miles on the Tennessee side.

The meeting was held in the form of a dinner with Mr. H. W. Wilcox, president of the Boone Chamber of Commerce, acting as toastmaster. Various members and visitors were introduced by Mr. Wilcox and they, in turn, offered suggestions and praise for the initial advancement in the cooperative program. Of particular note was the fact that all speakers repeatedly stressed the attractiveness of the proposed route in the eyes of potential tourists "who are now routed around this section of North Carolina and Tennessee."

Senator Wade Brown demonstrated by means of a regional map the strategic location of the connecting link, pointing out its gateway aspects with regard to the shortest distance from the densely populated Middle West to the tourist haven of Florida. His viewpoint was heartily endorsed by Rep. S. C. Eggers who urged the Tennessee delegation to see that their legislature meet the North Carolina legislature halfway in this mutual aid project.

Mr. W. S. Waddell, owner and publisher of the Elizabethton Star and president of the Chamber of Commerce of that city, gave the Tennessee viewpoint of the project, painting in glowing terms the interest shown by Tennessee residents and the common benefits to be reaped by the citizens of both states. He also introduced the members of his delegation, inviting them to contribute suggestions and proposals at will.

Near the end of the evening, the meeting took a more practical (Continued from page 1)

High Prices Prevail at Mountain Burley Warehouses as Sales Shift Today to Loaded Floors at Farmers Warehouse

## TUESDAY BEST SALE OF YEAR

Farmers Jubilant Over Good Prices Paid; Three Quarters of a Million Pounds on Baskets as Influx of Weed Continues Brisk

All poundage records were shattered today on the floors of the local tobacco market, when the total sales of weed for the seven days of the current season passed the two million pound mark, the nearest approach to this tonnage at this stage of the auction in any previous year being roughly one and a half million pounds.

Mr. Roscoe Coleman, warehouseman, states that when the sales started this morning more than 750,000 pounds of burley were on the baskets on the three floors, and that the flow of the weed from the tri-state burley area is increasing as a result of the recent favorable grading weather. Tuesday's sale is described by Mr. Coleman as being perhaps the best so far of the season, that is, farmers were more outspoken in their appreciation of the checks they received. Noteworthy, however, is the fact that almost complete satisfaction has resulted from every sale since the auction started ten days ago.

One and three-quarter million pounds had been sold last night, and since the 1,400 baskets allowed to be sold daily, are approximating 250,000, the two million pound estimate should be practically correct.

Sales shifted this morning to the Farmers Warehouse, where a full floor awaits the start of the auction. The sales force will remain at the Farmers until Thursday noon, and sell on the floor of Mountain Burley No. 2 Thursday afternoon and Friday, returning to the No. 1 house next Monday morning.

Tobacco continued to bring high prices Tuesday, lots of baskets running as high as sixty cents, and with a noticeably small amount of the low quality leaf being offered.

Mr. Coleman insists that farmers keep bringing their tobacco to Boone. In spite of the unprecedented receipts, the three big houses of the local market have been able to take care of the crops of all comers, without waiting to unload. Prompt, efficient and courteous service is guaranteed, and every convenience has been arranged for the visiting farmers.

Niemoller urges aid to Europe before it is "too late."

College enrollments in nation set a new mark with 2,338,226.

## Publisher Lauds Aid of Advertisers

The publisher of the Democrat takes occasion to thank the advertisers for their splendid co-operation in supplying advertising matter, etc., so that the extra volume of Christmas business has been handled with dispatch, and without missing a mail. He would like to ask that this fine co-operation in the matter of letting us have the ads the week before, be continued two more weeks. Next week's edition, just seven days before Christmas will, a survey reveals, be used largely for last minute appeals to the shoppers, while the Democrat's annual Christmas greeting edition, dated for Christmas day, will be issued as usual on Monday of that week, according to present plans, and carry the season's greetings to the readers well ahead of the holiday.



Roscoe Coleman, tobacco warehouseman, is seen at extreme left, conducting the first sale of the current burley season on the floors of Mountain Burley Warehouse No. 1. Buyers from all the big companies are shown hurriedly examining the leaf as the auction goes merrily on, and expressions of individual farmers indicate that the prices offered were even higher than had been anticipated. (Photo by Palmer's Studio).