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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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2 Sections

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1947

FIVE CENTS A COPY

KING STREET

...By...
Rob. Rivers

Crowds of shoppers grow larger each day as Christmas draws nearer . . . processions of buyers wending their way in and out of the modern stores and shops along the street . . . friendly merchants and courteous help giving exacting attention to the wishes of their patrons . . . man carrying express wagon, tin soldiers, roller skates, and big sack of odds and ends . . . kiddies counting the days till Santa will arrive, and anxiously scanning the skies, hoping for snow . . . pop scared stiff a blizzard will hit . . . mom laying in the provender against the period of festivity . . . and most folks in the community looking forward to an old-time Merry Christmas.

Minister of Gospel, a friend of many years, gravely concerned over the commercialization of Christmas, and expressing the belief that the true meaning of the day is being lost in the quest of money . . . holy hymns being used for trade promotions . . . few churches open on the natal anniversary of the Prince of Peace, . . . winning and dining well-to-do friends, perhaps having too little care for the unfortunate . . . To one who regularly promotes the commercialization of the holidays, the Man of God brought a disturbing thought . . . perhaps we aren't thinking in just a straight line of the birthday of the Babe of Bethlehem . . . likely don't practice enough of the philosophies and precepts of the Nazarene . . . these being sufficient to solve all the world's vexing problems . . . Wish we did . . . if we could catch the true spirit of Christmas and hold it through the year, we would have traveled a long way in the right direction.

REV. SAM MOSS, whose unworthy parishioner we are, delivering Christmas sermon, interspersed with a lovely program of Christmas music . . . shaking hands with old friends about the churchyard, and asking for the last lines of Preacher Sam's sermon, which went something like this:

"A window filled with things . . . Dresses for those already over-dressed . . . books for those who read too much . . . golf clubs for those who play too much . . . tools of labor for those overworked . . . arm chairs for people who rest too much . . . Christmas cards to replace the letters we are too dull or selfish to pen . . . more things—for people already drugged and blinded by them . . . the faces of poor children, their noses flattened against the pane—hungry eyes devouring the things they need and want, but can never have . . . young people walking past and giving the windows a dull and contemptuous stare—because they are already overloaded with things they no longer enjoy . . . Why this Christmas window? . . . Because one clear night a mother looked out of a stable at the stars, and held close to her bosom a child born to tell the world that mere things do not count . . . God of the Ages, will we thy children never learn?"

LAYING IN the family Christmas tree . . . getting out the lights and trimmings stored nearly a year ago . . . finally, after much sighting and adjusting, making the cedar perpendicular . . . working half the night helping the kiddies string the lights, hang on the colored balls, and all the rest . . . admiring handiwork from arm chair . . . occasionally rising to make slight change . . . shifting the silver star atop the topmost bow, the better to catch the light . . . looking up a Yule log to lend its warming glow Christmas morning . . . all of them too dry . . . and finding trouble in locating our traditional fat goose for the Christmas dinner.

Tellers busy cashing tobacco checks after regular banking hours . . . flipping out numbers of centurion notes to speed the thing up . . . had a family before we'd ever seen a hundred dollar bill . . . will folks have the resourcefulness to do without money again? Installation buying, book accounts . . . both (Continued on page 6)

DRESSES FOR EUROPE



In response to the urgent need of the distressed peoples of Europe for textile products, U. S. mills, under a voluntary program initiated by the American Cotton Manufacturers Association, have contributed enough cloth to make the equivalent of a quarter of a million dresses. Officials are shown inspecting some of the cloth prior to shipment to Europe.

COUNTY FIRST IN SEAL SALE

Watauga Leads State of North Carolina in Reaching T.B. Seal Quota

Watauga was the first county in the State of North Carolina to reach its quota in the annual Christmas Seal Sale, it is learned by Rev. James McKeown, county chairman of the campaign.

On December 10th, when the first reports went in, Watauga had received \$870, one-third over her quota of \$600. This report did not include the money received by the chairmen in Bethel, Sugar Grove, Valle Crucis or Blowing Rock.

The chairman asks that all who have not sent in their money for seals, do so at once, so that the campaign may be closed.

MRS. D. C. MAST DIES SUNDAY

Rites for Sugar Grove Woman Are Held at Cove Creek Tuesday Afternoon

Mrs. Nora Mae Mast, 73 years old, a resident of Sugar Grove, died at Watauga Hospital Sunday evening. Mrs. Mast had been ill for a number of months, and her condition had grown gradually worse during the past several days.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday at 2:30 from the Cove Creek Baptist Church by the pastor, Rev. Mr. Middleton, who was assisted in the rites by Rev. R. J. Starling of the Methodist Church, and interment was in the Mast cemetery.

Mrs. Mast was born in Watauga county, and was a daughter of the late Sheriff David Baird and Mrs. Baird. She was well known in the county, where she has wide family connections, and a host of friends, attracted to her by her sterling traits of Christian character.

Surviving Mrs. Mast are the husband D. Charles Mast, and two children: Dave P. Mast, superintendent of welfare, Sugar Grove; Mrs. Joe Phillips, Detroit. One brother and four sisters survive: T. C. Baird, Valle Crucis; Mrs. W. W. Mast, Valle Crucis; Mrs. Alice Shull, Mountain City, Tenn.; Mrs. Lydia Moore, Lenoir; Mrs. Jack Horton, Riva, Md.

Johnnie Hollars Wins Quarterback Award

At a meeting of the Boone Quarterback Club and the 1947 Appalachian football squad, Johnny Hollars received "the most valuable player" award which is given annually by the local club. This award is based upon his value to the team throughout the past season as well as his co-operation to the coaches and fellow players. The Quarterback Club invited the entire squad to participate in this voting.

J. C. Honeycutt was runner-up in this contest, with Co-Captain John Kirk and Blois Grissom also receiving votes.

Dogers name Durocher manager. Shotton farm overseer.

A A A FARMERS HOLD ELECTION

Agricultural Committees Are Elected in Various Neighborhoods of County

At the county AAA committee election at the AAA office December 10, delegates from the twenty communities elected the following committee for the 1948 agricultural conservation program year: Ned Glenn chairman; Dwight Cable, vice-chairman; H. Neal Blair, regular member. The two alternates elected were H. E. Greene and J. M. Burket.

Delegates representing the twenty communities were elected by local farmers in each community at elections held previous to the county election. Delegates elected to the county convention were: Bald Mountain, W. S. Miller; Beaver Dam 1, Asa L. Reese; Beaver Dam 2, D. F. Greene; Blowing Rock, Q. B. Cannon; Blue Ridge, M. O. Coffey; Boone 1, Joe McNeil; Boone 2, Harold Henson; Boone 3, Avery H. Moretz; Cove Creek 1, J. M. Burket; Cove Creek 2, John K. Perry; Elk, N. G. Wheeler; Laurel Creek 1, Howard Edmisten; Laurel Creek 2, V. C. Harmon; Meat Camp 1, Tom Jackson; Meat Camp 2, O. G. Winebarger; North Fork, W. C. South; Shawnee, J. L. Triplett; Stony Fork, W. S. Moretz; Watauga 1, Bun A. Hodges; Watauga 2, C. P. Moore.

GATEWAY CAFE SCENE OF FIRE

Damage Relatively Small as Main Business District is Threatened

A fire which broke out in the rear of the Gateway Cafe Sunday evening, and which could have caused a major catastrophe in the center of the business district, was brought under control by the fire department with a damage of only a few hundred dollars. Fire Chief Howard Cottrell was unable to determine a logical reason for the fire, and suggested that spontaneous combustion could have been the cause. The building was damaged considerably, a good deal of new painting will be necessary, and stored furniture on the second floor was damaged by fire and water.

On Monday afternoon the house trailer, occupied by J. C. Ward near Burley Warehouse No. 2, was destroyed, all clothing, etc., going up in the flame. A tile floor had been laid in the trailer, and was being cleaned with gasoline. The fumes ignited from an open-flame gas heater.

Chief Cottrell says the fire department has considerable new equipment and is striving to protect the property of the people of the town. All the department wants at present, he says, is the cooperation of the public. Those who persist in chasing down the fire truck when it is answering an alarm, or who otherwise interfere with the work of the firemen will be prosecuted in the future, the Chief says. The minimum fine for these offenses is \$25 and the cost. Mr. Cottrell takes occasion to compliment the police officers on their fine cooperation in keeping the curious back a safe distance from the fires.

Mother of Mrs. Bond Dies in Richmond, Va.

Dr. and Mrs. W. G. Bond returned the end of the week from Richmond, Va., where they had been called on account of the death of Mrs. Bond's mother, Mrs. R. B. Watkins, which occurred there on December 8th.

Funeral services were conducted on the 10th from Raleigh Forbes Church. Mrs. Watkins was the wife of Rev. R. B. Watkins, the pastor of this church, and had been ill for some time.

Dr. and Mrs. Bond are appreciative of the many kindnesses extended them in connection with their bereavement.

Eye bank gets 600 donations from U. S. public in two years.

New 3,000,000-volt X-ray said to aid treatment of deep cancers.

CANNERY OPEN FRIDAY

The Cove Creek community cannery, it has been announced, will be open for business next Friday.

Chemical industry discounts possibility of World War III.

Pound of butter costs 3-4 hour of work, AFL reports.

STOCKINGS TO BE FILLED IN HOMES OF POOR

Empty Stocking Fund Reaches Satisfactory Proportions as Woman's Club and Lions Make Plans to Distribute Holiday Cheer

When jolly St. Nicholas comes around next week, stockings of more than one hundred children of the county will be filled with the goodies, toys and the like, which would have remained limp but for the Empty Stocking Fund, which this year has reached sufficient proportions to take care of the needs of the kiddies of the area, who otherwise would have spent a cheerless Yuletide.

Under the sponsorship of the Woman's Club, candies, fruits, nuts, toys and items of clothing will be delivered to the destitute families by members of the Lions Club. Hundreds of usable toys were received when Manager Bob Agle of the Appalachian Theatre conducted his annual matinee, when the kiddies of the neighborhood were asked to present a toy rather than a ticket.

More than three hundred dollars have been received for the fund, and when the contributions are completed, it is thought the amount may reach as much as our hundred dollars, this being the first time in recent years the funds on hand appeared to be adequate for doing a bang-up job of playing Santa Claus to the unfortunate little children upon whom good fortune has failed to smile.

DEMOCRAT WILL BE ISSUED ON MONDAY

Next week's edition of the Watauga Democrat will be published on Monday, so that the publisher and staff may enjoy their only holiday period of the year.

Advertising columns will be composed chiefly of Christmas greeting ads. Copy and cuts will be supplied, and advertisers are requested to co-operate fully with the publisher in this early edition. No ads can be received after Friday. News contributions should be brought or telephoned to the office as rapidly as they occur, and routine organization matters cannot be handled later than Saturday.

WRITES HELD FOR MRS. GREENE

Mrs. David Greene Passes Sunday; Funeral is Held at Mount Vernon

Mrs. David Greene, 64 years old, died at the home in the Mount Vernon section Sunday morning.

Funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Mount Vernon Baptist Church, by Rev. R. C. Eggers, and interment was in the Critcher cemetery.

Surviving are the husband and two children, Vilas and Mae Greene, of Boone. One brother and four sisters survive: David Wooten, Blowing Rock; Mrs. Dora Welch, Deep Gap; Mrs. Nannie Combs, Mrs. Martha Thomas, Washington State; Mrs. Lunda Hartley, Coshocton, Ohio.

CHAIN LETTER HELD ILLEGAL

Postoffice Department Warns Participants of Violation of Federal Laws

The newest chain letter scheme, which is reportedly operating in Boone as well as elsewhere, is occupying the attention of the postoffice department, and Postmaster John E. Brown, Jr., requests the publication of the following clarifying statement which he has just received from the Washington authorities:

"The Department has received complaints that a new chain letter scheme is spreading throughout the Nation. This scheme differs from those previously encountered in that participants are warned not to forward the chain letter through the mails, but to keep the letter and send \$2 to the person whose name heads the list of 10 appearing thereon.

"It appears that the originators of this scheme have the erroneous belief that by not sending the letter through the mails they will escape prosecution.

"The Department invites attention to the fact that depositing any matter, including money, for transmission through the mails in furtherance of this scheme, is a violation of 18 United States Code 336 and 338, the postal lottery and fraud statutes, and participants are subjecting themselves to possible prosecution as well as fraud order action under 39 United States Code 259 and 732."

Fire Chief Warns Against Fire Hazards

Howard Cottrell, fire chief, suggests that residents of the community take every precaution against fires during the holidays. He suggests that Christmas decorations not be placed near stove pipes or electrical appliances, that Christmas light wiring be carefully checked. It is also suggested that wood and coal heaters are not overloaded where their is a possibility of a fire starting.

Gets Big Buck on N. J. Hunting Trip

Paul W. Fox of Banner Elk was in town Tuesday exhibiting a nine-point buck which he killed on a hunting trip in the vicinity of Chatsworth, N. J. He was accompanied on the journey by Robert and George Fox.

Shortages will cut '48 road construction 30 per cent, says builder.

Burley Auctions End For Holidays Friday; Resume Sales Jan. 5

Sales Pass Three Million-Pound Mark Today; Fall Sale Held Through Friday; Pre-Christmas Poundage To Be More Than Three and a Half Million

Sales on the floors of the Boone burley market will definitely pass the three million pound mark with sales today (Wednesday) and warehouse officials state that the banner season will have seen the turnover of more than three million and a half pounds of weed when the auctions close for the holidays with the sales Friday.

Receipts are continuing steady, and prices for the better grades are still hitting the top brackets, warehousemen say. The warehouses will remain open for the receipt of tobacco throughout the holidays and the post-Christmas sales will get under way January 5th.

General satisfaction is being expressed over the price received for tobacco this year, and it is anticipated that there will be no break in the market during the last half. Warehousemen are urging the farmers to continue to bring their burley to Boone for quick sales, no waiting to unload, and for the best prices and most courteous treatment.

W. H. MICHAEL ENDS OWN LIFE

Harry Michael is Adjudged Suicide; Family Blames Ill Health

William Harry Michael, 33 years old, resident of the Matney section of Shawneehaw township was adjudged a suicide last Wednesday afternoon when his body was found at the home. The load from a 20-gauge shotgun had entered the chest in the region of the heart and death was thought to have been instantaneous. Coponer Richard E. Kelly, who conducted the investigation termed the death a clear-cut case of suicide and did not hold an inquest.

Members of the family attribute the suicide to ill health. Mr. Michael had been seriously injured several months ago, when a truck on which he was loading cabbage backed into another vehicle, catching him between. He suffered severe chest and spinal injuries from which he had never recovered.

Funeral services were conducted Friday at 11 o'clock from the Bethany Baptist Church by Rev. Raymond Hendrix and interment was in the church cemetery.

The widow, one son and one daughter, Charles and Ruby Gwyn Michael, of the home, survive.

STILL SEIZED BY OFFICERS

Sheriff's Office Takes Illicit Whiskey Plant on Mountain Near Boone

Chief deputy A. R. Church and C. L. Smith captured a 55-gallon whiskey distillery on the waters of Howard's Creek, just across Howard's Knob from Boone, and destroyed 350 gallons of mash, in a raid made Tuesday.

No arrests were made, it was said, and evidences were that the plant was being moved a short distance to a new location when the Sheriff's officers arrived. All equipment was taken, including several dozen fruit jars. The boiler was fashioned from an oil drum and the worm was of copper. The still was reported Sunday, according to Sheriff Watson, and cut on Tuesday.

Wildlife Club Enjoys Movies and Awards Essay Contest Prize

The Watauga Wild Life Club held its regular monthly meeting at the courthouse in Boone, December 15, at 8:00 p. m. for the purpose of enjoying some moving pictures of hunting and fishing, for awarding the prize in the essay contest sponsored by the Club, and for the purpose of transacting some important business.

The club thoroughly enjoyed three short films, one on quail shooting, trout fishing and bass fishing. The meeting was then called to order and the following items of business were transacted: The prize in the essay contest was awarded to Miss Peggy Joyce Teague, a seventh grade student at the Boone Demonstration School. A check for \$25.00 is being mailed to her. The club agreed to recommend to our commissioner, Floyd Crouse, Sparta, N. C., that the quail season be closed on January 1, but that the grouse season be left open. The club agreed to invite the next district meeting of Wild Life Clubs to be held in Boone. The date will be announced later. The club also agreed to endorse the idea of releasing a large number of brown trout in the headwaters of New River.

Edward Paul Lund Dies in Pennsylvania

Edward Paul Lund of Gouldsboro, Pa., who lived most of his life in Orange, N. J., died Wednesday, December 10th, after a long illness. He was 64. Born in Orange, Mr. Lund operated a garage in the Brick Church section of East Orange before moving seven years ago to Gouldsboro, where he was president and manager of a silver fox and mink farm.

He was a former member of East Orange Lodge of Elks, Corinthian Lodge, F. and A. M., and the Lions Club.

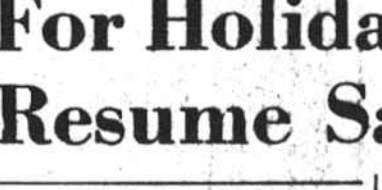
Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Nora Mast Lund, two daughters, Mrs. Allen Driscoll, P. J., of Somerville, N. J. and Mrs. Jack E. Poole of Gouldsboro, Pa., a sister Mrs. Brita Eriksson of California, N. J., two brothers, Victor and Harry Lund of East Orange, N. J. Mrs. Lund is the former Nora Sue Mast of Valle Crucis, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mast. She is the sister of A. Newton Mast of Sherwood.

Rev. Bruce McGraw of Somerville, N. J. conducted services Friday at the Weatherhead Funeral Home, Orange, N. J. Burial was in the Rosedale cemetery of that city.

Gifts For Orphans Are Needed Promptly

Those wishing to give a little money for the benefit of the children at Grandfather Orphans Home on Christmas Day, are asked to leave it with Guy Hunt or Rob Rivers immediately, so that Christmas may be a little more enjoyable for these mountain children in a worthy local institution.

"Cuke" Picker



Paul Porter, 4, son of H. D. Porter, Ruskin, Fla., helps his daddy raise cucumbers for market. With his wistful look he is aiding in the gathering of the first crop for shipment to northern markets.

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