

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Year 1888

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1948.

FIVE CENTS A COPY

## KING STREET

BY  
ROB RIVERS

FRIGID WAVE is bolstered by six inches or so of snow the end of the week, and the news comes from the weather man that there's another blow on the way—little relief to be expected for several days. . . . City adds snow plow attachment to truck and most of the streets could be traveled soon after the heavy snowfall. . . . kiddies got their snow slides in just about prime condition by the time the light thaw the first of the week spoiled the deal for them.

SITTING BY THE GLOWING embers on the hearth, and not much caring if we are short on adequate central heating, until it's time to heave some more green wood. . . . conjuring up pictures in the live coals, while trying to figure out a few things. . . . dishing up a couple of columns of "home work" after the family is asleep, and burying the remains of a hickory log in the ashes, so that there'll be a quick fire in the morning.

Winter in Boone is a pretty tough proposition, but think Pink was right—"just don't pear to freeze tight the way it uster." . . . Only a few years ago it was not uncommon for ice to freeze thick enough over the river to bear a heavily laden wagon for weeks on end—making the best sort of bridge—where none had ever been, and such freezes were depended upon for the next summer's ice among the better livers of the community.

ICE HOUSES were numerous in the community, the structures being erected with thick double walls and sawdust insulation between. When the weather had been right sharp for a few days, laborers were dispatched to the old Malthe mill dam at Poplar Grove where they worked for days sawing the big blocks of ice from the frozen pond. . . . The wagons brought the ice to town, where it was packed away in sawdust, and kept against the hot days of the following summer. . . . The blocks were often eight to twelve inches thick. . . . The old mill dam looked pretty muddy during the summer, one wouldn't have stopped by and took a drink from its murky depths. . . . but the ice therefrom was stirred in the lemonade, etc., during the summer and imbibed without thought as to its impurity. . . . Hadn't gone in much for the germ theory these days. . . . just went along unconcerned, letting nature take its course, and strangely enough a visit of a medical man was rare enough to constitute something of an event in the family circle.

JOSEPHUS DANIELS, dean of North Carolina newspapermen, Carolina's no. 1 citizen, and intimate friend of the two generations of the Rivers family who have published the Democrat, has lain aside the pad and pencil, the paste pot and the shears and written "30" to end a distinguished career as editor, author, diplomat and friend of the folks. So far as we know he was the last of the old-line editors who called a spade a spade, who had firm convictions on all matters of public import and the courage to publicize them, without regard to their effects on the cash book. . . . who used his pen in behalf of the little man as against the overlords of privilege way back in the days when such was immensely unpopular, and most unorthodox.

CAROLINA will have cause to miss this distinguished member of the fourth estate, who incidentally used to be a familiar figure on King Street. . . . Thoroughly democratic, he was equally happy at a State dinner in the White House, with his old friend, "Frank" Roosevelt, or partaking of a meal at the modest home of a country editor, where he and the late Bob Rivers always got around to the early days in Carolina newspapering, the quality of the crops and the size of the herds and flocks on the mountain slopes, and of course winding up the evening with the possibilities of a Democratic victory come election time. . . . We shall miss the visits of our old friend which were frequent when he

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## GIRLS CAPTURE BOY IN LEAP YEAR HUNT



The regular leap year bachelor hunt, with girl chasing boy, was held at Lakewood, N. J. The girls were aided with scent-tracking dogs in following the elusive males through the forest trails. Of the 72 bachelors who participated in the hunt, 30 were tracked down and claimed. Photo shows the members of the girl posse, led by Mary Jane McEvoy, succeed in capturing her bachelor, Al Maiera, who was the first casualty of the hunt.

## PRESIDENT'S BALL TONIGHT

Collegians Offer Services Of Band To Aid Benefit Hop Tonight.

The President's Birthday Ball, a social climax to the March of Dimes campaign, will be held in the High School Gymnasium this (Thursday) evening starting at eight o'clock.

Tickets have been available at different points in the town for several days and advance sales indicate that the ball will be largely attended, and that a sizeable sum will be realized to bolster the infantile paralysis fund in this county.

Howard Cottrell, chairman of the arrangements committee for the ball, who is also the chairman of the county chapter of the infantile paralysis foundation, has announced that Charlie Johnson's College Band, will supply the symphony for those who "dance that others may walk", and that the Collegians are offering their services in this connection without cost. They have the sincere thanks of the committee for their outstanding generosity to the worthy cause.

Those who have not purchased tickets, if they find it more convenient, may secure them at the door. The people of the town and county are urged to attend and enjoy the big social event of the winter, while contributing at the same time to the health and the happiness of our own children.

**Mrs. Ward Billings Is Taken By Death**

Mrs. Sallie Ward Billings, 76 years old, died January 20th and funeral services were conducted from the home. Rev. Ronda Earl and Rev. Ed Farthing officiated and burial was in the Ward cemetery.

The following sons and daughters survive: Dorris Greer, Sugar Grove; Lester and Frank Billings, Vilas. She also leaves her husband, Mr. W. R. Billings, 12 grand children and five brothers.

## HUNTING SEASON ENDS SATURDAY

The hunting season for upland game and birds closes Saturday January 31st, according to Walter Edmisten, district game protector. Mr. Edmisten adds that since the carry-over of both game and birds is small this year, all are needed for re-stocking. Therefore the cooperation of landowners as well as sportsmen is needed to make a successful program.

Trapping for mink and muskrats in the water courses of the area will continue until February 15th, it is stated, while all other trapping is unlawful.

## ALL OR NONE



Secretary of State George C. Marshall as he told the senate foreign relations committee to promptly enact an adequate four-year European recovery plan or none at all.

## APP FACULTY WELL TRAINED

Forty-Eight Master's Degrees Held By Appalachian Professors.

The faculty of Appalachian State Teachers college is a widely-studied and cosmopolitan group, according to information compiled in the Dean's office here.

Of the 62 faculty members, 19 hold doctor's degrees from 11 colleges and universities in five states.

There are 48 master's degrees from 23 different colleges and universities in 13 states. The faculty members hold 69 bachelor's degrees from 50 different colleges and universities in 17 states.

Altogether, the group represent a total of 63 different institutions from 27 of the 48 states. Thirty-six members of the faculty have studied beyond their doctoral or master's degree at 23 different colleges or universities in 16 states.

Heads of all department at Appalachian hold the doctor's degree or its equivalent in study toward the doctoral degree. At least two members of the regular faculty are away at present doing additional graduate work.

## QUICK WORK

Oklahoma City—Police, called to end a fight between two men in front of a South Broadway mission, arrived to find the men, inside the mission, kneeling together at the altar, reconciled.

## DOUBLE ORDER

Gettysburg, Pa.—Taking an unusually large egg that had been laid by a hen on his farm to a restaurant to be cooked for his breakfast, C. M. Wolf had two eggs instead of the intended one. When the restaurant chef opened the egg, he found another, complete with shell and yolk, inside.

## MANY PHONES ADDED HERE

Bell Officials Ask Subscribers To Ask For Specific Numbers.

With a recent twenty per cent increase in the number of telephones in service in Boone, an official of the Southern Bell Co. tells the Democrat, that it is now all but impossible for the operators, to give service when one doesn't ask for a specific number. Heretofore, the old system of calling for a name or firm has been in vogue, but now you'll have to give the number. Mr. George says there is a rapid turnover of the personnel in the local exchange and that the new help can't be expected to follow out the old method. Keep the phone book handy, call your number or ask for information, if no book is available.

The official states that 109 telephones have been added to the Boone system recently, bringing the total in use to 501, which on a population basis, compares favorably with the national average. There are now 90 requests for installations, besides 30 in Perkinville. The company expects to take care of the suburban district in the spring.

Mr. George states that switchboard facilities are being expanded to take care of the added business and that every effort is being put forth by the company to keep ahead of the demands of the growing community.

## Eller Named Head Of State Association

The State Association of Soil Conservation District Supervisors in its two-day meeting January 15-16 at Winston-Salem, elected Mr. Wade E. Eller of Warrensville, Ashe county, president for the year. Mr. Eller is district sanitarian of the Alleghany-Ashe and Watauga District Health Department and is very active in work with the rural people in building up better living conditions. He has been especially interested in the building of A-grade dairies throughout this area and much credit is due him for the present rating of the area along this line.

The State Association of Soil Conservation District Supervisors in North Carolina is made up of twenty-two districts including eighty-three counties, which were well represented at the meeting.

## Chamber Commerce To Meet Thursday

There will be a dinner meeting of the Chamber of Commerce Thursday, January 29th at 7:00 p. m. at the Skyline Cafe. All members are requested to be present since important matters are to be discussed at this meeting.

United States makes no move to take part in British rocket test.

## LOCAL MEN TO VOTE AT MEET FARM BUREAU

R. H. Vannoy and H. G. Farthing to Cast Votes for Local Unit at Meeting of State Farm Bureau in Asheville Next Week.

Watauga County Farm Bureau will have two voting delegates, in addition to a sizable contingent of regular delegates, at the annual convention of the North Carolina Farm Bureau in Asheville, February 1, 2, 3 and 4, Clyde Greene, county president, has announced.

"The number of voting delegates representing a county Farm Bureau is determined by the total membership of the local unit," Greene pointed out. "In all, there will be 344 voting delegates at the meeting, representing the statewide membership of 70,805."

"Voting delegates are elected by the county units to act on resolutions presented to the annual meeting by the 75 county Farm Bureaus in the state. The resolutions, submitted before the state organization only after full consideration on the county level, touch upon various problems and policies affecting North Carolina agriculture. Without doubt, the work of the voting delegates is as important as any action taken at our annual meetings, for their decisions touch upon the organization's whole program for the year to come."

The 1948 convention, which will be highlighted by addresses and discussions by leaders in agriculture, industry, labor and government, is regarded as a milestone in the progress of Farm Bureau in the state, Greene said. Leading the South once more in membership, he added, the North Carolina Farm Bureau is looked upon as one of the strongest state units in the entire organization of 1,275,180 farm families and is expected to continue to show the way in Southern farm leadership.

Watauga voting delegates are R. H. Vannoy and H. G. Farthing.

## FARMERS MUST FILE REPORTS

Practices Under AAA Must Be Reported To Qualify For Payments.

Farmers of Watauga county who carried out approved practices under the 1947 Agricultural Conservation Program and have not made their report must report these practices by February 15 in order to qualify for payment. These practices include any material furnished through the AAA, such as lime, phosphate and seeds, or any such bought materials. Also any such practices as turning rye and red clover, and mowing pastures may be reported. Payment will be made to the extent of available funds.

There are still many reports due and it is urged that these be made before the closing date.

## Aged Boone Negro Dies In Goldsboro

Jack Grimes, aged and respected Boone negro, died at the State Hospital in Goldsboro last Thursday and rites were held at the Zion Church in Boone Sunday, the services being conducted by Rev. Rock Hatten. Internment was in the town cemetery.

The widow survives, together with six sons and two daughters: Fred and Neal Grimes, Boone; Claude, Frank, and Jessie, Johnson City, Tenn.; Joe, Kingsport, Tenn.; Carrie Carson, Detroit, Mich.; and Mollie McQueen of Boone. There are two brothers and two sisters: Monroe and John Grimes, Nella Williams and Rebecca Grimes of Boone.

## Dinner Tonight Will Aid Local Band

A barbecue and chili supper will be served at the high school lunch room Thursday from 5 until 7 p. m. The proceeds from the supper will go for the benefit of the high school band. Your patronage will be greatly appreciated. Our community is very appreciative of our band and our Director, Mr. Gordon Nash.

## He's Being Helped By Your Dimes



Those big brown eyes of little Stokes Brooks, three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Brooks of Monroe, N. C., are shining with happiness because he is recovering from an attack of infantile paralysis that sent him to the Gastonia Orthopedic Hospital. Were it not for the dimes and dollars contributed by North Carolina citizens the expert treatment and care he has received would not have been available.

## MANY ATTEND COLLEGE TERM

Nine Hundred and Forty-Five Registered For Winter Term at Appalachian.

Statistic which have just been released from the office of H. R. Eggers, Registrar of Appalachian State Teachers College, show that a total of 945 students are registered for the winter term. The figures show that 516 of the students enrolled are men, and 429 are women. Of these, 397 are veterans who are studying under the GI Bill of Rights.

Further study shows that there are 125 students classified as freshmen, 94 as first-year students (which means they are carrying irregular schedules), 62 sophomores, 85 second-year students, 60 juniors, 133 third-year students, 98 seniors, and 67 fourth-year students. There are also nine fifth-year students enrolled, and 214 who are classified as special students.

## Payne Praised At Insurance Meeting

Frank M. Payne attended the directors' luncheon and stockholders meeting of the Security Life and Trust Company in Winston-Salem Monday.

Security Life again in 1947 experienced its best year in history says Mr. Payne. The company had a larger increase in number of policies written, amount of insurance sold, insurance in force, as well as the largest increase in assets and policy owners' reserves ever shown in one year. Sales of new insurance were up by 23% over 1946 and the total insurance in force is now \$172,009, 972.

Mr. E. L. Davis, president of the company, complimented Mr. Payne on the fine volume of business he produced in 1947.

## Joseph A. Miller Dies Suddenly Here

Joseph A. Miller, 64 years old, a resident of Triplett, died suddenly in the reception room at Dr. Harmon's office Tuesday.

Funeral services will be held Thursday at 2 o'clock from the Mount Ephraim Church and interment will be at the Laurel Springs cemetery at Laxton.

Mr. Miller is survived by the widow, twelve sons and one daughter: Mansfield, Turner, Grant, Lee, Howard, Charles, Dickie, David, Benny, Boyd, of Triplett; Ronda, Edgewood, Md.; Roy of Bassett, Va., and Mrs. Glenn Triplett of Triplett. There are two brothers, Jake Miller, Stony Fork; Cal Miller of Happy Valley, and one sister, Mrs. Willie Carroll of Triplett.

## MARCH DIMES DRIVE IS NOW IN HOME STRETCH

Agle Says Committee Members Keenly Aware of Vital Need for Funds to Make War on Polio; Names Of Contributors Given.

The 1948 March of Dimes of the national foundation for infantile paralysis swung into its second week today, according to Mr. Bob Agle, chairman of the Watauga county phase of the effort, who disclosed that programs for public participation on a still more intensive scale are scheduled from today on through January 30, closing date for the annual fund-raising appeal.

"The drive is now at the half-way mark," Mr. Agle said. "So far it looks as though the people of Watauga county are joining in the March of Dimes as never before. Reports from chairmen of various committees indicate the public is keenly aware of the vital need for funds to push the fight on infantile paralysis locally and nationally."

"However," Mr. Agle said, "a race is not won at the half-way mark. It's the homestretch that counts. Consequently, I call upon every man and woman, boy and girl to take part personally from now through January 30 in this final week of the March of Dimes. Every dime, every dollar, given to this fight against infantile paralysis helps build a reservoir of service upon which we can draw should polio strike in our county."

"It's what we do in the next few days," Mr. Agle stressed, "that will tell the story of what we can do should infantile paralysis attack us next summer. Let's all get in and pitch harder than ever. With everyone putting their dimes and dollars on the line we can and will win over the Crippler."

Following are the contributors: Bels, White Co. 25.00, A. P. Walsh 2.00, Edmisten 2.00, Ben Wallace 2.00, Stalling's Jewelry 5.00, Home Electric Co. 10.00, Watauga Democrat 10.00, T. M. Greer 2.00, Farmers Hardware 5.00, Northwestern Station 5.00, Boone Flower Shop 5.00, Gulf Cafe 2.00, Gulf Station and Watauga Motor Market 10.00, Maddux East Station 1.00, Boone Frozen Foods 5.00, Smith East Station 1.00, Carways Place 1.00, Mayflower Beauty Shop 5.00, Fashion Shop 5.00, Colvard Auto Parts 5.00, Luther C. Moretz 5.00, Mrs. W. D. Farthing 2.00, Northwestern Bank 15.00, A. T. Adams 2.00, James Farthing 2.00, James Marsh 1.00, Mrs. E. M. Cook 1.00, Herman Cone 25.00, J. E. Clay 1.00, A. Friend 1.00, J. H. Greene 1.00, Dave Wilson 1.00, Gilbert Barnes 1.00, Mrs. Dean Swift 1.00, Mary Huff 10.00, Lucy Brock 1.00, John W. Green 1.00, Blanche Kelley 1.00, Larnce Luttrell 1.00, Pet Dairy Prod. 10.00, J. Frank Wilson 1.00, Orville Hagaman 1.00, Dock Rismen 1.00, Dillard Grocery 2.00, W. W. Chester 5.00, Watauga Hardware 0.00, Auto Parts Co. 5.00, Main Street Station 1.00, Parkway Co. 10.00, Peoples Cafe 1.25, Hilland Cleaners 1.50, City Shoe Shop 1.00, Swifort Tire Co. 1.00, Daniel Boone Shop 1.00, Tar Heel Top 5.00, J. C. Goodnight 10.00, Economy Store 5.00, Junior Vannoy 1.00, John Lookbill 1.00, Wilcox Drug Co. 10.00, Hillside Dairy 2.00, F. Waggoner 2.00, Grady Tugman 2.00, E. T. Stewart 1.00, G. K. Moore 5.00, Mrs. Floy Mast 1.00, Hoy Greene 2.00, C. C. Farthing 1.00, Joseph Carson 5.00, T. B. Jones 3.19, W. M. Hodges 1.00, J. D. Cook 2.00, Mrs. E. W. Bentley 2.00, Greene Smith 2.00, Dorien Dorn 2.00, Boone Baptist Church 2.00, W. Edmisten 2.00, Robert L. Hayes 1.00, Julius Meyer 1.00, Mrs. J. D. Rankin 1.00, L. E. Tuckwiler 5.00, Mrs. Arthur Adams 1.00, H. Ophelia Binham 5.00, L. T. Tatum 2.00, Stella Hagaman 2.00, Homer Coffey 5.00, J. G. Hodges 1.00, C. P. Swift 2.00, S. E. Gragg 1.00, Sam Moore 10.00, Hunte Dept. Store 10.00, H. W. Colvart 10.00, Mr. and Mrs. David R. Hodgins 2.00, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. (Continued on page 8)

## COUNTY TAX LISTING LAGS

Penalty To Be Added To Tax Of Those Who Fail to List By First.

Paul A. Coffey, county tax supervisor, states that taxpayers of the county, are unusually slow this year about listing taxes on property they owned as of January 1, 1948, and again calls attention to the State law which provides that a penalty be added in cases where listing was not done by the first of February.

All those who haven't taken the time to list their property are asked by Mr. Coffey to do so at once, so that the work of the listers may be completed, and so that there will be no necessity for adding penalties.