

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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THE DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1949

FIVE CENTS

KING STREET

BY ROB RIVERS

"WEATHER," said Mark Twain, "is a literary specialty, and no untrained hand can turn out a good article on it," but there has been off the cuff comment in copious quantities on the rain, as the two weeks down-pour stops about long enough to prevent an all-out flood condition. Day after day, the rain continues, as we become mildewed, merchants complain, and farmers suffer considerable loss from the almost incessant precipitation. Hay crops are particularly hurt by the wet weather, says the county agent, while potatoes have blighted, and the tubers are likely to rot if the rain continues. Sheep and cattle, likewise, it is said are not thriving on the soaking wet ranges, and the outlook is none too favorable for the farm industry. Slides on Lenoir-Blowing Rock road reported to have resulted in one-way traffic for a distance, and gray skies continue to remind us of 1940, when similar conditions reached a climax in the greatest disaster Watauga has ever had, from the standpoint of human lives lost and property damage. There is alarm over the weather, but as some famous one observed, "For after all, the best thing one can do, when it is raining, is to let it rain!"

ALONG THE WAY there's the lady with the bespattered hose, the men with the soaked trouser legs sticking near his shanks... the wet feet, the sneezes, and the cheerful one who yells, "Think it will rain?" At any rate as this is typed (Monday) one of our spies reports that the moon is due to change phases at noon, and sure enough the rain is easing, and likely as not before this column receives its baptism of ink, sunny days will be here again... so's folks can start worrying all over again about dry weather.

ODDS AND ENDS: The crowds being attracted to radio shops by the coming of television... the big truck load of Ford automobiles on the way to the Winkler Motor Co. The big oil truck which arrives at the Esso bulk plant within five minutes of the same time every trip... The wooden-legged man asking alms from his seat on the bare concrete, and the blind musician singing his way down the street, unattended, while an occasion coin hits the cup... The tall weeds in the vegetable and flower gardens, and the beautiful blooms which manage to survive the rain... Ed Culler, for near to forty years an indispensable worker down at the College, taking medical treatments, and telling us some good yarns... The truck loads of watermelons and muskmelons, and the papas being guided thereto by the youngsters... the bedraggled cottontail slipping back into the tall grass as we approach, and the catbird, with the huge grub worm in her mouth, trying to locate her errant offspring in the driving rain... the increasing number of automobiles, the parking problem, and that lucky feeling one has after passing through town without a wrinkle in a fender... The mimosa tree blooming in front of Miss Jennie Coffey's, another one down at the E. S. Coffey old homeplace... The girls and the boys "holding hands" as they stroll along, and the spot where we always observed the beer cans which had been tossed out by week-end celebrants, now littered with the empty short-quart bottles, which had held the more potent beverages.

BACK IN OUR BICYCLING days there was a city ordinance... enforced "tolerably well" says we recall it... against riding bicycles on the sidewalks of the town... Whether the copy of the law was lost somewhere down through the intervening years, we do not know... but if it was, wouldn't it be a bad idea to write a new one... Some of these cyclists have become a menace to the safety of the harassed pedestrians, as they weave in and out among the folks on the crowded walkways, and even at times chase the church-goers from the concrete... Cycles definitely belong in the regular lanes of vehicular traffic, and should be placed there...

Air Show Is Again Postponed by Rain

Inclement weather for the second week in succession forced the postponing of the air show scheduled here last Sunday. Parties in charge of the event state the show has now been put off until Sunday, July 31, but that weather permitting, it will definitely be held on that date. The Meyers Air Circus had a previous engagement for the weekend of the 24th, this necessitating the two week postponement.

LECTURER



A. S. ARNOLD

Arnolds To Present Holy Land Exhibits

It is frequently the dream of persons interested in our religious heritage to visit the Holy Land. This is only possible for a few. However, a bit of the Land Of The Bible will be brought to Boone and Watauga county the week of August 7. This is referring to a Biblical and Palestinian collection assembled by Mr. A. S. Arnold and his wife. The exhibit will be on display in the basement of the Boone Baptist Church and open to the public at regular hours. Arnold helps the visitor to visualize Palestine, the Bible and our religious heritage with illustrated lectures, 16 modern wall and relief maps and charts, 700 slides, more than 250 articles from the Holyland arranged in 24 display cases. In addition are 70 pictures of familiar Biblical persons and places. First in the display the visitor confronts "The Land and The Books" shown in two exhibit cases. After this general introduction all articles and pictures that follow are used to visualize Palestine. Animated talks by Mr. Arnold as he conducts visitors through the display room give the exhibit an added attractiveness and value for teaching purposes. History and Bible students have agreed that this collection is one of the finest private exhibits of its kind in the nation. The residents of Boone and the county look forward to its display here.

Highway Link Paving Be Finished in August

Paving of the link of the Blue Ridge Parkway between Blowing Rock and Deep Gap, six miles east of Boone on U. S. Highway 321, will be completed by the end of August, according to Sam J. Weems, supervisor. When that link is opened, there will be continuous pavement on the parkway from Adney Gap, nine miles south of Roanoke, to Toe River Gap, where the state highway turns off to Mt. Mitchell. Pending the completion of the Blowing Rock-Deep Gap section, traffic on the parkway is routed from Blowing Rock to Boone over U. S. Highway 221 and thence over U. S. Highway 321 from Boone to Deep Gap. Construction work on U. S. 221 between Blowing Rock and Boone has progressed to the point where it has been practical to turn traffic through the part still incomplete.

About seven miles of this nine miles on U. S. 221 have been paved. A gravel surface has been laid on the remaining two miles, which will be paved as fast as the weather permits.

Teacher's Pay Hike Has Been Approved

Raleigh.—The State Board of Education this week approved an overall increase of 28.17 per cent in teachers' pay for next year. The new salary schedules, Board Controller Paul A. Reid said, will increase the average teacher salary from \$1,945 to an estimated \$2,494. For 1950-51, he added, the average will climb to an estimated \$2,511. Salary scales set by the board in working out its budget for the next school year included: Class A—certificate teachers—\$2,061 for beginners up to \$2,745 for those with eleven years' experience. Graduate-certificate teachers—\$2,322 for those with two years' experience up to \$3,069 for those with twelve years' experience. The old scale for A-certificate teachers was \$1,620 to \$2,169, and for graduate teachers, \$1,827 to \$2,412.

Community Cannery Opens At Cove Creek

The Cove Creek community cannery opened for business Tuesday, and will be open Tuesday and Friday of each week until further notice.

Fermi says atom in industry is not "just around corner."

HOSPITAL IS PAYING WAY, BOARD TOLD BY CHAIRMAN

Report of Financial Chairman Enthusiastically Received by Board; A Review of the First Six Months of Operation Is Given

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Watauga Hospital, held at the Skyline Restaurant, received with great gratification the report up to July 1 the hospital was operating without a deficit. It was expected that the first six months would be very hard to operate without a deficit, but instead of a deficit, there is a small balance in the operating fund. Clyde Greene, chairman of the Finance Committee, enthusiastically reported the good news to members of the board. In January a campaign to raise \$20,000 for purchase of new equipment was over subscribed. All of this money was used to purchase new equipment; none was used for operating expenses. Carol Moore, business manager, reported the hospital admitted 335 patients during the five month period. The average number of patients each day during the period was 26 9-10. One hundred eighty-one new citizens for Watauga county were born at the hospital during this period. The hospital now employs six registered nurses, sixteen nurses' aides, three male orderlies, a laborator technician, an X-ray assistant, a medical record keeper, in addition to the business manager.

The trustees expressed themselves as being highly pleased with the progress made in the operation of the hospital and the fine spirit of loyalty and cooperation shown between Mr. Moore and the hospital employees, and was especially pleased at the report of the fine spirit shown by the physicians of the county who have brought their patients to Watauga hospital. G. K. Moose, president of the board, discussed fully the survey of the hospital needs made by the Duke Foundation, and the fact that the Duke Foundation has offered the hospital a gift of \$10,000 provided the sufficient money is raised to enlarge and equip the kitchen to adequately serve the patients and staff of the hospital. This additional improvement, to make it an A-1 hospital according to the Duke Foundation's standards, will cost around \$20,000, which means an additional \$10,000 must be raised in order to get the \$10,000 from Duke. This enlargement of the kitchen was not considered when the other campaign was made, but which has been found to be an absolute necessity in order to operate as a first class hospital.

People of Watauga county are fortunate to have such an excellent plant without indebtedness of any kind, and the board feels friends of the hospital will be glad to donate the additional money necessary to claim the \$10,000 from the Duke Foundation. In addition to President Moose, the following members of the board, were present: Wade E. Brown, secretary; Clyde Greene, John Howell, Dave Mast, A. E. South, W. R. Winkler, and J. H. Winkler.

Scott Names Two Men To N. C. Parks Agency

Raleigh.—Governor Kerr Scott announced the appointment this week of two men to the North Carolina National Park, Parkway and Forest Development commission. They are W. F. Osborne, Spartan farmer, who succeeds Ralph Winkler of Boone, and E. C. Guy, Newland banker, reappointed.

Junior Order Will Install New Officers

Daniel Boone Council of the Junior Order will install officers at a special meeting Friday night, July 22. I. S. Ayers, councilor of the third district, will be in charge of the work, and all members are urged to be present.

Crippled Children's Clinic Next Friday

Dr. J. S. Gaul, orthopedic surgeon, from Charlotte, will be at the Health Department in Boone, on Friday morning, July 22, to conduct the Crippled Children's Clinic. All crippled children requesting his service should be at the Health Department by 9:00 a. m. Friday.

FISH CATCHES BOY

Venice, Italy.—From now on, Giovanni Casonato, 17, will keep his mouth shut while fishing. Recently, while emptying his net, a small fish leaped into his mouth and got stuck in his throat, necessitating a trip to the hospital and an operation to remove the fish.

Coble Milk Grading Plan Given Out By Commissioner Of Agriculture Ballantine



The ox team and ancient wagon, a contribution to the centennial parade by Hayes Wellborn of Deep Gap, created much interest along the line of march. —Photo Palmer's Studio

Ballentine Announces Official Classification Plan Affecting 700 Producers; Three Classes of Milk Listed

Raleigh.—Agriculture Commissioner L. Y. Ballentine today announced an official classification plan for Grade A milk purchases from 700 producers by the Coble dairy of Lexington.

The schedule, effective immediately, affects dairy farmers in 14 Piedmont and northwestern counties. The Coble milkshed is one of the state's largest. Under the classification law, the utilization of milk becomes the basis upon which producers are paid by processors and distributors. The latter, however, are free to name their own prices for the various classification groupings, as the law gives the commission no authority in this respect.

Briefly, the schedule announced last week establishes three classes of milk based on ultimate use.

Class I includes interplant sales, or "transfer milk," as well as most fluid milk and cream sales. Class II covers cultured skim milk or plain buttermilk when not accounted for as a cream by-product under class I. Class III includes all Grade A milk not accounted for in the other two classes, or what is known in the trade as "manufacturing milk."

Commissioner Ballentine acted under provision of the State Milk Audit law enacted in 1941 in setting up the classification plan. Under the law, it is illegal for a processor or distributor to sell milk in a higher classification than that in which it was purchased, except in emergencies with the approval of local health authorities. Announcement of the classification plan followed a public hearing 10 days ago at Elkin. Ballentine listened to testimony from both sides for four hours. He enlisted the aid of North Carolina State college specialists as well as the Department of Agriculture's Dairy division authorities.

Another it was the third classification schedule set by an agriculture commissioner, it was the first in which there was disagreement between the producers and distributors.

Other Cases

The other classifications were set in the Asheville milkshed in 1941 and last spring in the Concord milkshed. In both cases, there was general agreement among producers and distributors.

Ballentine, in announcing the classification plan, said, "It is regretted that a formula satisfactory both to the producers and distributor could not be found in this instance. Lacking such a formula, it was deemed advisable to put transferred milk in Class I when its end use is in the form of Class I products."

He declared, "The present schedule of milk classes is subject to revision and, whenever circumstances justify, I shall be happy to reopen the matter upon the request of either producers or the distributor."

The commissioner pointed out that "Our immediate problem has developed out of a temporary, seasonal surplus in some areas, but the State as a whole has never experienced a real surplus of milk. We still need to increase our over-all production."

Ballentine asserted that "North Carolina presents an unusual marketing problem, with the eastern sections comprising a heavy deficit area while some of the western counties produce more milk than required to meet local demands."

He said he expects to announce within a few days his decision in another milk classification case involving a processor-distributor and about 40 producers in Cleveland county.

Concert To Be Given At ASTC Tonight

Mark Wolner, international violin virtuoso, who has been concertizing extensively in North, Central and South America, will give a recital at Appalachian State Teachers college, Thursday, July 21, at 8:30 p. m.

Mr. Wolner's recent engagements included concerts at Columbia University Teachers college, the Riverside Church in New York, the Art Museum in Boston, and the Wheeler School in Providence, R. I.

Besides compositions by Bach, Vivaldi, Dvorak, Ravel, etc., Mr. Wolner will present for the first time a new work by Donald Lee Moore, well known North Carolina composer.

Miss Mary Brooks will be the accompanist. Both artists are under the management of G. H. Dairymple, Hollywood, Calif.

Sagamore Hill home of Theodore Roosevelt will be stricken.

Reynolds To Speak at C. Of C.

Hon. Henry Reynolds, clerk of the middle district Federal court, of Greensboro, will be the speaker at the July meeting of the Chamber of Commerce to be held at the Skyline Restaurant July 26.

Mr. Reynolds is a gifted after-dinner speaker, and captivated his audience here a few years ago with his ready wit, and original observations. His appearance here is looked forward to, particularly by those who have heard him previously.

Directors Meet
A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce Monday noon heard report of the membership committee, which indicates a great deal more interest in the Chamber of Commerce than in the past. While a great many of the old members have not renewed for the year, most of them are undoubtedly waiting for someone to call on them. All are urged to send in membership renewal.

Members of the Board were enthusiastic about the fine advertising Watauga County and Boone got due to the Centennial and urged the Centennial Corporation to make it an annual event with such modifications as are necessary to its continued success.

Rotary Club To Aid Crippled Children

Boone Rotary Club will give a square dance at the Farmers Warehouse on the Bristol highway Saturday night, July 23. The revenue from this dance is to be devoted to the aid of crippled children in Watauga County. Already one crippled boy has been given a Herford heifer calf to start his herd. Two others are applicants for the calf club.

Another important project is to send some boys and girls to the crippled children's camp located between Boone and Blowing Rock. Already four children have applied for admission to the camp.

Admission to the dance will be 50 cents plus tax per person. If all occupants of a car hold tickets, free parking will be provided in the building. Those interested in helping crippled children and those desiring a nice, clean square dance are urged to attend.

KILLED IN RAIL ACCIDENT



Lloyd Ray Sluder, and wife, Mrs. Laura Jane Church Sluder, who were recently killed by a Norfolk and Western train, while walking on a trestle, near Kermit, W. Va. Mr. Sluder was stationed with the 45th armored medical battalion at Fort Knox, Ky., and Mrs. Sluder, who had been living with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Church of Shulls Mills, was visiting him pending his transfer to foreign duty.

Trucks Smashed By Falling Wall

Three Chevrolet trucks were badly smashed Monday morning at the Colvard Chevrolet Company's parking lot, when a huge concrete retaining wall, evidently weakened by the heavy rains, came tumbling down on the shiny new vehicles.

The section of the massive wall which fell was perhaps thirty by twelve feet, and the front ends of two of the vehicles were completely smashed. The left portion of the third vehicle was caught by the edge of the concrete.

No exact figures of the damage were given out by Colvards, but the loss incurred is obviously several thousand dollars.

Christianairs' Appear At Advent Church

The Christianairs, a male quartet of singers and Christian workers from Brookline, Mass., will conduct services at the Advent Christian Church on Thursday and Friday nights of this week, July 21st and 22nd, beginning at 7:45 p. m. They are on a tour through the Appalachian region conducting services each evening from some church.

One of the young men Rev. Powers who is preparing for foreign mission work will bring the message each evening. These young men are well trained and have been active in Christian work for sometime. They have been well received wherever they have gone.

Gentry New Principal Of Bethel Hi School

Mr. J. H. Gentry has been employed as principal of Bethel High School, while Mrs. Gentry will also teach in the Bethel School. Last year, Mr. and Mrs. Gentry taught in the Sugar Hill School, Marion, N. C. Mr. Gentry has had fourteen years of experience as a teacher and principal. He holds an AB degree from the University of South Carolina and during the last year served for four years as a Captain in the army.

Within a short while the Gentry family will move into the Bethel community.