

BOONE TRAIL IDEA ORIGINATED MORE THAN 18 YEARS AGO

Hanes, Eller and Rich Held First Meeting and Laid Foundation for Association. Becomes One of the South's Most Important Thoroughfares. Crosses Six States and Intersects With Oregon Trail.

With reference to the Saturday celebration of the completion of the Boone Trail Highway, Director J. Hampton Rich, of the Boone Trail Highway and Memorial Association sends to The Democrat a historic sketch, issued by the board of directors of that organization, which tells of the beginning of the Boone Trail, and the purposes which actuated the huge undertaking. The statement in full follows:

The idea of the Boone Trail was conceived on the porch of the home of Mr. P. H. Hanes in Winston-Salem, just after the money was secured from the national government for the post road through Forsyth, Davie and Iredell counties. The idea called for an arterial highway to reclaim the counties in the northwestern part of the state. The original thought was that of Hampton Rich and the first consultation was with P. H. Hanes and A. H. Eller.

An organization known as the Boone Trail Highway and Memorial Association was effected in North Wilkesboro on October 19, 1913, and afterwards chartered by the State. The following were present: T. B. Finley, Lynn Vyne, Richard Hackett and Hampton Rich. C. C. Wright afterwards joined.

A marker was designed with the relief of Boon at the top and the map of the highway raised with the border lines of counties and states shown on a tablet. This was afterwards worked out by a sculptor in Washington, D. C., who was secured by the aid of Senator Simmons. The plan of propaganda was begun, the Winston-Salem Journal giving full support, as well as the Wilkes and Watauga press. The counties finally were induced to vote a bond issue, including the counties of Yadkin, Wilkes and Watauga and Don Laws, chairman of the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners lent valuable aid. The North Wilkesboro Commercial Club and the Civic Clubs in Wilkes and Watauga also gave strong support. The road was built by the counties.

In the larger program of the State in its road building campaign of county-to-county highways the road was taken over and surfaced with gravel. "By constant insistence on the part of the friends of the Boone Trail Highway and the Association which began the work of propagating the road, the work is now a shining thread of concrete reaching from the fertile Piedmont country to the region where purple peaks reach through the azure up into turquoise skies.

"The movement is now national, and the markers now trace the way of a great trans-continental thoroughfare, crossing the states of Tennessee, Kentucky and Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, where the trail becomes a part of the Oregon Trail, reaching to the Pacific."

More Than 5,000 Here at Saturday Celebration

(Continued from page one.)

remark that he would try to have Tennessee to help get a Federal number for the Boone Trail in that State. Mr. Lovett pointed out that Tennessee was once a part of North Carolina and promised the co-operation of Tennessee, not only in road building, but also in all other enterprises, for, he said, "we are not going to neglect our old mother North Carolina any more."

Congressman Lovett, who as an independent Republican candidate last fall defeated Carroll Reese, regular nominee of his party, was a favorite with the audience, and his eloquent address drew long rounds of applause and produced an atmosphere of good-fellowship. He was accompanied by Mrs. Lovett and a party of other distinguished Tennesseans.

J. A. Wilson of Kentucky represented Governor Sampson, who was unable to attend, and expressed in his short talk the same co-operation of his state in the completion of the Boone Trail and the Park-to-Park Highway.

Congressman Bob Doughton, who rose to introduce Governor Gardner, preceded his remarks with a resume of his own work as a member of the Congressional committee on highways. From this he led up to the work of Governor Gardner in building highways and remodeling the State government, and classed the present chief executive as "one of North Carolina's eight great governors since 1900."

Thunderous applause greeted Governor Gardner as he took his place at the speakers stand. He told that on his way up the mountain he met a load of cabbage going down, and it reminded him of his boyhood days when his mother made kraut from Watauga cabbage. "But in those days it took a week to get a load of cabbage from Boone to Shelby," he said. "Now it takes less than half a day."

"That was where I got my taste for kraut juice. Some of my more candid friends have told me that I

have gained weight since I became governor. Yes, I've gained fifteen pounds, and I attribute it to drinking Watauga kraut juice for breakfast." "That the Lost Provinces have been found, there is no doubt," the Governor continued. "I take this occasion to pay tribute to the enterprise and vision of this section, and I pay tribute to the leadership that has given you the cosmopolitan setting you now enjoy. I turn to my friend here, to the grand old man of North-western North Carolina, Governor R. A. Doughton. I present to you as the incarnation of the indomitable spirit of Western North Carolina the spirit that regardless of years is ever youthful. I present Governor Rufe."

Following his tribute to the mountain people and to Mr. Doughton, Governor Gardner explained his newly inaugurated road program. In closing, he said: "The idea which motivated us in effectuating is that under the reorganization we have been able to reduce the total combined expenditure for State highways and county roads, and we have also brought about a better condition of equity in the support of highways and roads as between users and non-users on the one hand and as between users of State highways and users of county roads on the other hand; and we have also brought about a better equity between those paying property taxes and those paying gasoline taxes."

Following Governor Gardner's address, "Governor Rufe" Doughton rose to respond and to present the Boone Trail and the Wade Harris bridge to the people of the mountains. He gave the dimensions of the structure and explained the engineering necessity for building it. "Then," he said, "came the question of giving the bridge a name. It seemed the unanimous desire of the people of this section to name the bridge in honor of a man who for half a century has worked without ceasing and without tiring to tell the world of the greatness of North Carolina and particularly of its mountains. He has written about our industries, about our resources, but above all he has written about the beauties of the mountains he has always loved. This meeting has developed into a patriotic meeting, and as such it is meet that we honor one of our greatest patriots."

Colonel Harris arose and came to the stand. Mr. Doughton continued: "In honor of the editor of the Charlotte Observer, whose work has done much to make this great piece of architecture possible, and in the name of the State of North Carolina, I present to you the Wade Harris bridge."

Colonel Harris then stepped forward, waited for the applause to die down, and responded to what, as he told his audience, he considered the highest compliment of his life.

"This proves a happy day in my life's history, for I am given impressive token of the regard in which I am held by the people whose fine character has so long enlisted my admiration. These people have established my name among the hills I have loved, and to which I have so often journeyed for the inspiration their beauty develops.

"So long as this bridge bears my name, it will stand for one, who, from early boyhood has taken delight in spreading before the world the glories of the North Carolina mountains, the vastness of their resources in minerals and gems, in woods and water powers and unmatched opportunities in industry and agriculture. Particularly has he endeavored to impress the outside world with the sterling character of the people who dwell in these hills, the finest type of American citizenship in the United States, which means in all the world.

"These I leave behind, I am sure, will cherish this testimonial as a treasure heritage. To these warm-hearted friends who inspired it, and to Chairman Jeffress and members of the State Highway Commission who gave it their endorsement, I express my profound gratitude for what I regard as distinctly the highest honor that has ever come my way. My abiding hope is that my name will never do dishonor to the bridge."

The program concluded, the throng gathered round the tables prepared on the campus and enjoyed one of the most bountiful spreads ever prepared by the women of the mountains. Fried chicken, baked country ham, roast beef and mutton, deviled eggs, sausages, apple pie, cake and other delightful foods were passed out to the folks, and second helpings were in order. Following the meal, the American Legion Band of Winston-Salem and the Central High School Band of Charlotte, who had furnished music during the program, gathered on the lawn of the Daniel Boone Hotel, and gave several patriotic selections.

Other notables who enjoyed the day in Boone included W. W. Neal of the Highway Commission; J. C. B. Ehringhouse, candidate for Governor; Lieutenant Governor Dick Fountain, another outstanding candidate for the Governorship; former Highway Commissioner McNair, of Scotland Neck; R. Gregg Cherry of Gastonia, past commander of the North Carolina Department, American Legion; Judge Johnson J. Hayes of the Middle District Federal Court; Judge T. C. Bowie, candidate for U. S. Senate; Congressman Walter Lambeth, and Senator Mary McKee, of Sylvia.

Fourteen members of the State Highway Patrol were present to take care of traffic, under the direction of Captain Farmer. The Charlotte party motored to

DR. CHARLES WEAVER IS DELIGHTED WITH BEAUTIES OF THE MOUNTAINS

(Deferred from last week.)

Charles P. Weaver, Ph. D., professor of English at Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, Ala., with his wife and sister, Mrs. J. L. Wade of Nashville, Tenn., who had been enjoying a brief vacation in Boone for several days, were joined Tuesday by the former's brother, Rufus W. Weaver, one-time president of Mercer University and at present a resident of Washington where he is engaged in writing, and on Wednesday a family reunion was enjoyed at the Greene cottage in the western part of the city. Miss Carolyn Weaver, director of primary education at A. S. T. C., another sister, completed the happy party.

The Weaver family, long prominent in educational work in the South, have become attached to Boone and its environs; they revel in the beauties of the countryside, and marvel at the progress of this little mountain empire. Incidentally, each of them promises a return trip next summer. Rufus Weaver, possessor of three college degrees, is widely traveled, yet he opines that no country is blessed with greater beauties than Watauga, and that the future holds great promise for the section as a resort center. The happy reunion of the brothers and sisters was broken late Wednesday, when the estimable people departed for their homes. Dr. Charles Weaver, for many years identified with the newspaper craft in North Carolina, left with the Democrat a brief manuscript giving his impressions of Watauga and its people which is reproduced in full.

Dr. Weaver's impressions
To those who live in green pictures, distant pastures always appear greener. If this is true, the views of an outsider may prove interesting to those who were born and reared in this beautiful section of North Carolina, which, it appears to me, is all too little known, even to North Carolinians.

Last summer I visited Boone for the first time and remained only a little more than a day. This year my visit has extended over ten days and I would extend it longer if it were possible but my vacation is over and I must return to my home in Alabama. I plan, however, to make another pilgrimage here next summer if possible.

There may be lovelier places to spend a summer vacation in North Carolina but I have yet to find them. The town of Boone lies in a beautiful valley not far from the head-

waters of two rivers, the New and the Yadkin, which means that the land is excellent drained. The land is so rich, I am told, that the farmers use no fertilizer for their crops and one piece of land not many miles away has been priced at a thousand dollars an acre, but the owner refused to sell. Beautiful mountain peaks are to be found on every side and the views of more distant peaks are superb enough to tempt any artist to reproduce them on canvas. I know of one who has been doing this for the past week and is still loathe to have them.

The atmosphere of Boone is altogether pleasant, literally and figuratively. The citizens are pleasant, friendly folks, who seem to enjoy living and are willing to help others do likewise. Here also is to be found an institution of higher learning which is a part of the State's educational system. In fact, it is largely due to the Appalachian State Teachers' College, located here, that the town itself has grown to its present proportions and the community owes a great debt of gratitude to the indefatigable efforts of Dr. B. B. Dougherty, president of the college, and his brother, now deceased, who are responsible for the phenomenal growth of this institution from a modest public school to an educational plant now valued at more than a million dollars. Here come annually hundreds of ambitious young students from this section of the State to prepare themselves to be efficient teachers, and go away inspired to be builders of society like their great president, who would make a great governor of the State if his fellow citizens would see fit to draft him for that great office.

Another pioneer who has had much to do with the growth of the town is the genial owner and editor of the Watauga Democrat, Robert Rivers, who, for more than forty years has published his very interesting weekly newspaper here. Beside me as I write is a large stack of neatly bound files of the paper covering this entire period and not far away is the old hand press on which the first issues of the paper were printed. The paper is a monument to his faithful years of effort for the community and as it passes into the hands of his two enterprising sons he watches with pardonable parental pride the work he originated go forward under able and efficient management with the assurance that his efforts have by no means been in vain.

GRANDFATHER NEWS

(Deferred from last week.)

The continued rainy weather has almost made the roads of this section impassable. However, Mr. Martin Herman, with a crew of men, has been steadily at work clearing the right of way and doing the most stressing things.

A revival meeting at the Watauga Church closed Sunday the 16th. Large crowds were present every night to hear the splendid sermons by Brother Ashley. The regular pastor, Rev. N. H. Hampton of Crossmore, was unable to be present on account of bad health.

Many people from our community joined those from Johnson City on their excursion to Boone and Linville Gap last Sunday. A road time was reported both at Linville end on the trip to Boone.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Sam Attridge, a girl.

Mr. Clarence Fox and Miss Ida Payne were happily married on last Wednesday. Miss Payne is a native of Wilkes County, but has been making her home with Mr. Everett Yarbber for some time. Mr. Fox is just completing a new dwelling near the schoolhouse and it is supposed that he will move there in the near future.

Master Ted Shock, young son of Mr. Jedd Shock, had the misfortune to cut his foot very severely on a piece of glass several days ago, but if no complications set in he will be back in school in a week or so.

We were grieved to hear of the death of our esteemed friend and neighbor, Mr. J. F. Coffey of Foscoe. He was always known here as Uncle Filmore. His daughter, Mrs. H. H. Berry, lives in this community.

This writer feels that some explanation should be made regarding the article in last week's Democrat in regard to the closing of the meeting held recently. The persons who were responsible for the misconduct were not residents of this community, but were from the Linville section in Avery County. Officer Fred Hatlev arrested the offenders and no further disturbance was reported. I feel this explanation is due the good people of Watauga Church, which is one of the strongest in the county. Sunday School attendance here often reaches 150.

The literary society of Grandfather school had a splendid program Friday afternoon. The outstanding event was the debate, which was "Resolved, that Washington was a greater man than Lincoln." Lola Gragg is president and Ted Townsend is secretary.

The children of the school were pleased to receive a large package of books from the State Library Commission Friday. The books are loaned for several months by the State to schools having no public library. Almost every child took a book home from the Harris bridge at 3:30 o'clock, where an informal program was given in honor of Colonel Harris.

CATTLE SALE

Johnson City, Tenn.—An unusually large beef cattle sale will be held at the Livestock Pavilion, Tri-State Fair, here on Friday, September 11, at 1 o'clock. Major J. W. Weeks who is in charge of the beef cattle department states that breeders from six states are expected to be in attendance as well as many local breeders and fair exhibitors.

TIT-BITS

By MAUDE HURST CALFEE

(Some of them possibly original; some Common Knowledge; some Believed; Some just Stolen)

Have the greatest respect for exceptionally good men—yet leave them alone; there is likely something wrong hidden somewhere.

Sail ships have skirts, aprons, hoops, bonnets, earrings, stays, cups and a husband.

In marriage a partnership may know ladyship, fellowship, comradeship, companionship, scholarship, tutorship, apprenticeship, township, workmanship and many a hardship.

Since Eve tempted Adam with food, has she not borne the consequences by preparing his food?

We are slaves on earth. The prospect of becoming servants in "heaven" is not alluring.

Keep your temper, nobody wants it.

Civilized man created unto himself a god who condemns to eternal torments in hell those who fail to obey

his tyrannical rule. "Heaven" attribute that dirty work to evil spirits.

"God's will be done." How does it rhyme with "Woman's will be God's will?"

SPECIAL NOTICES

FOR SALE OR TRADE—One new used Chevrolet Truck at a sacrifice price. In Edmiston, Beech Creek, N. C. 7-3-31p

PEACHES FOR SALE—If you want nice peaches, go to Grant Miller's orchard on Tager Mountain. Peaches ripe and ready to pick every day. Grant Miller, Granite Falls, N. C. 7-23-31

PAINTING—I am now located on Blowing Rock Route 1 and am prepared to do painting at most reasonable prices. See me for estimates. Harry Davis. 11p

Dr. C. B. Baughman, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist, Elizabethton, Tenn. will be in the office of Dr. J. B. Hagaman in Boone, on the first Monday in each month for the practice of his profession.

MY FAMOUS STILL BLUFF HONEY may now be secured at your local grocery stores; warranted pure. R. Y. Corbett, Atkinson, N. C. 6-13-31

FOR RENT—Nice furnished and unfurnished rooms with steam heat and hot water. See Edw. N. Hahn. 6-13-31c

FOR RENT—New modern store building, excellent location, suitable for shoe store, dry goods and general merchandise. See Edw. N. Hahn. 8-13-31c

Super Values...

PRINTS, vat dye, 36 inches..... 12 1/2c
DRESS SHIRTS, big asst. 89c to 1.95
CHILDREN'S AND LADIES COATS. See our line before you buy.
SWEATERS, good and warm..... 49c up
CHILDREN'S PRINT DRESSES..... 49c
PLAY SUITS, good assortment..... 49c

FIVE to FIVE STORE

J. B. Brewer, Manager
UNDER-PRICED MERCHANDISE

Our Ledgers are Full of Romance



THEY tell the story of homes built, starts in business, better educations, travel abroad—success in full measure—all through the Savings Account.

Your Savings Account with us will guarantee a fuller enjoyment of life.

Your Patronage Will Be Appreciated

Watauga County Bank

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR A SAVINGS ACCOUNT IN THIS BANK

FOR SALE

Three Milking Shorthorn Bulls for sale, each backed by years of dependable breeding. 1 20 months old, one 36 months old, one six months old.

Can be seen at Warrensville by appointment. Also four registered Hampshire Rams, one and two years old.

D. H. WATERS

BOX 32—NORTH WILKESBORO, N. C.

PASTIME THEATRE

"Place of Good Shows"

THURSDAY-FRIDAY, SEPT. 3-4

Marion Davies and Sydney Blackmer

—IN—

"IT'S A WISE CHILD"

SATURDAY, SEPT. 5th

WALLY WALES

—IN—

"BREED OF WEST"

MONDAY-TUESDAY, SEPT. 7-8

OLSEN and JOHNSON

—IN—

"FIFTY MILLION FRENCHMEN"

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9th

Wallace Beery and Lewis Stone

—IN—

"THE SECRET SIX"

Western Electric SOUND ACTION SYSTEM