

KING STREET

BY
ROB RIVERS

CENTENNIAL VISITORS have gone away, the advertisements are gradually going from the store windows, the displays of antiques, some of them, are giving way to merchandise, and the business of routine living, which had been knocked into utter confusion during the gala week, is returning to some sort of a normal status. . . the birthday party, given the county, however, is yet the principal topic of conversation. . . Bearded men and bonneted women are still in evidence, while personally, we are enjoying a new kind of contentment, since our well-tended mustache, which tickled our nose, dunked itself in our coffee, and made us generally uncomfortable. . . went down the drain pipe. . . Yes sir, we had a good time, but we're glad the things over, so's we can settle down to the second hundred years.

MR. MILTON SHEARER, Mrs. Shearer, their daughter, Mrs. J. R. Blair, and Mrs. Blair came over from Lenoir on the first day of the celebration and were appreciated callers at the Democrat office. . . Mr. Shearer, who was reared on what was later known as the Perkins farm, east of Boone, is a son of the late Robert Shearer, and is almost 94 years old. . . He is a distant kinsman of Daniel Boone, and speaks entertainingly and authentically of the early days around Boone.

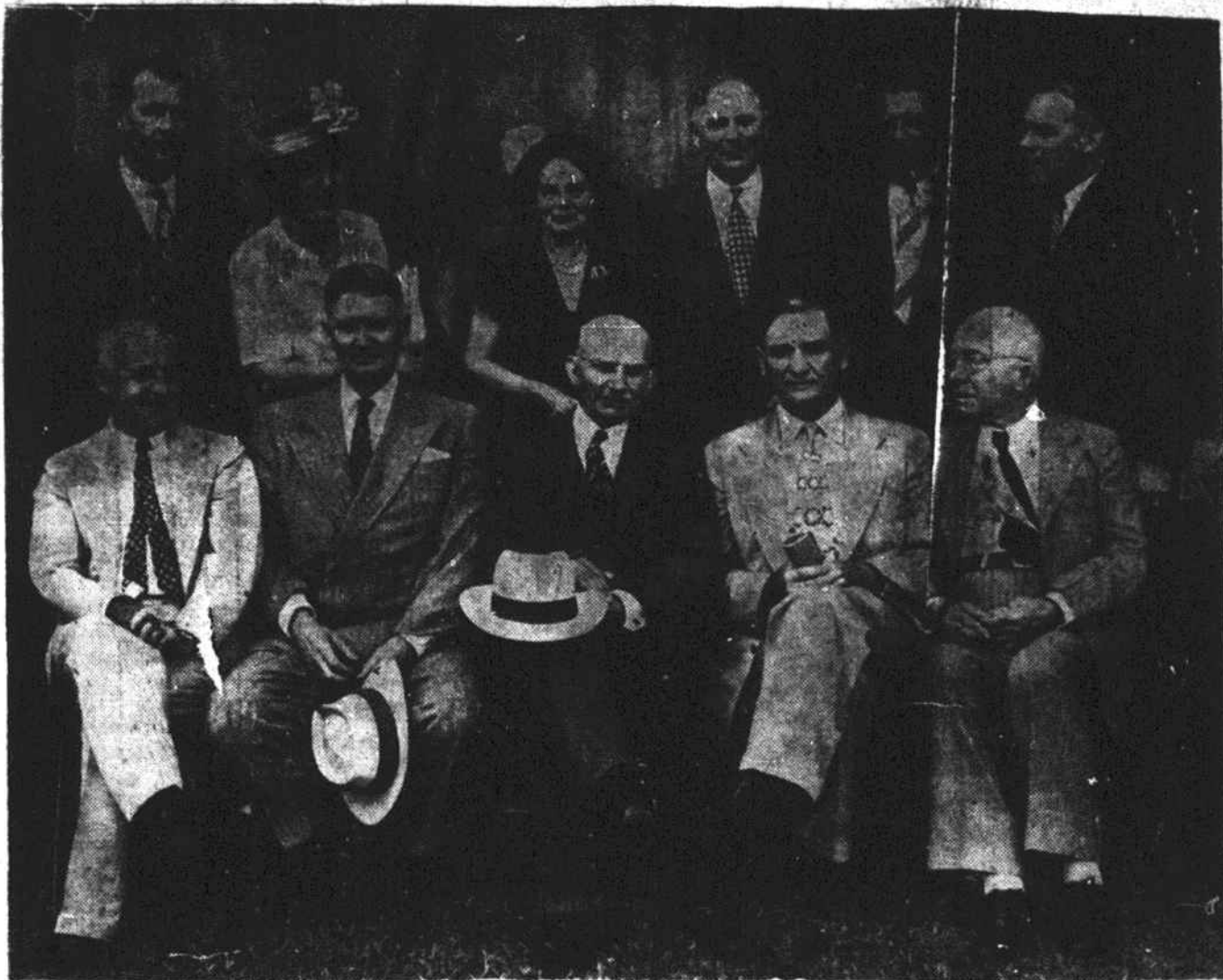
MR. SHEARER SAYS: "Annie Shearer, who married a Coffey, and lived on Mulberry, was Daniel Boone's niece, and my great grandmother. . . I saw her once. . . she was the woman who fought the deer (a large buck) around the poplar tree, until the dogs released her. . . When I was a small boy my father took me to see Daniel Boone's cabin, which was in the place the town of Boone now is. . . it was a one-room house, built of small logs. . . the roof was off and part of the walls down. I also saw Ben Howard's cabin built on the side of Howard's Knob. He was the Tory who had a cave on Howard's Knob, in which he lived a part of the time. . . Howard's Knob was named for him and the Howard's Creek was named for the Knob. I was born one mile east of Boone, the 4th of September 1855, so you see that if I live two months longer I will be ninety-four years old."

FARMERS DAY, and specifically the parade, was of paramount interest to those of us who were reared close to the mellow black soil of Watauga. . . The ox team and wagon, supplied by Hayes Wellborn, the old loom, the spinning wheel, the donkeys, the dairy cattle, and the fat, stocky Holsteins, the hogs and the sheep, were fascinating to a farm-minded citizenry. . . There were the prairie schooner type of covered wagon, obsolete farm machinery, guns, uniforms. . . Rufus Colvard on his mule and the snuff-dipping women-folk, along with modern equipment, evidencing the progress of the farmer in the last few years. . . We liked it a lot, and were gratified that E. E. Earp's fine Herefords were recognized before the footlights at the pageant during the evening's performance.

WE HAVE LONG CONTENTED that the farmers of the county are basically its economic backbone. . . They and Appalachian College are the joint forces which have made the county one of progressive tendencies, and record development, and are the mainstays in the progress of the town, which they built. . . We point with a feeling of pride to the amazing agricultural progress which has been so rapid since the triple A has fostered the enrichment of our soil, which is the basis of all material accomplishment. . . The farmer and his government have worked hand in hand in developing the possibilities of the farm, and in promoting the welfare of its people. . . Farming is now a highly specialized going business, and we are proud of our farmers, and hope for their continued progress and happiness.

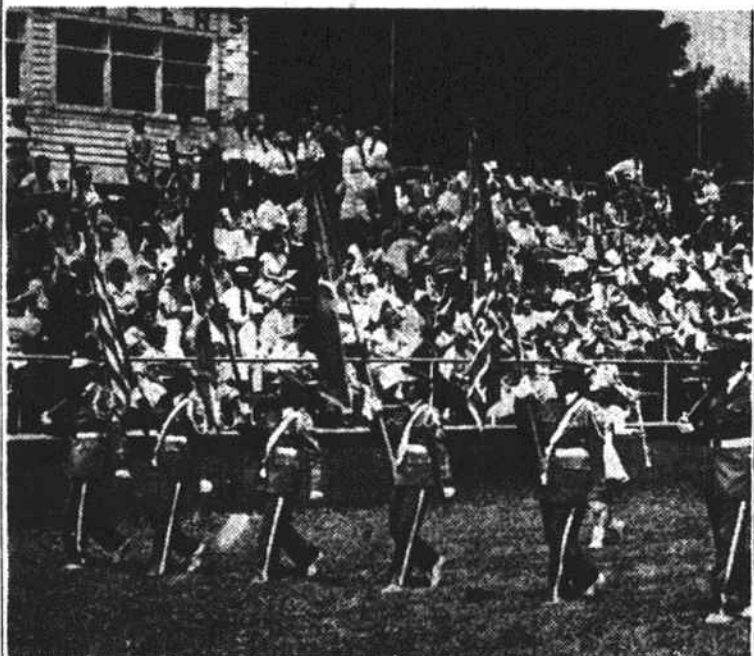
DR. DOUGHERTY'S DAY and the luncheon, attended by local and State leaders, along with many of us, who are longtime neighbors and personal friends of the educational leader, who has carved for himself a place of the highest esteem in the hearts of the people of the State, whom he has served so long and effectively. . . We, who know Dr. Dougherty best, and who live with him year in and year out, are especially grateful that by Providential chance, he was permitted to live in Boone. . . He's Watauga's no. 1 citizen, and ranks right close to the top of the list in the roster of all North Carolinians who have made outstanding contributions to the

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Above picture shows visitors to Watauga county last Thursday on Education Day of the centennial celebration. First row, left to right, Senator Frank P. Graham, D. Hiden Ramsey, Asheville newspaperman, Dr. B. B. Dougherty, founder of Appalachian State Teachers college and central figure of the day, Federal Judge Johnson J. Hayes, and Dr. Hight C. Moore, Baptist leader. Second row, left to right,

Dr. Clyde A. Erwin, state superintendent of public instruction; Miss Beatrice Cobb, secretary of the North Carolina Press association and Democratic national committeewoman; Mrs. R. Gregg Cherry, former Governor Cherry; Stanley A. Harris, and Commissioner of Agriculture L. Y. Ballentine. —(Photo courtesy Charlotte Observer)



Shown above is the color guard of the Mooresville High School band as it passed in review at the spectator's stand during Educational Day exercises of Watauga county's centennial celebration.

(Photo courtesy Asheville Citizens-Times)

"ECHOES OF THE BLUE RIDGE" PAGEANT HINDERED BY RAIN

The historical pageant, "Echoes of the Blue Ridge," about which the centennial celebration was developed, struck rainy weather last week, and couldn't be staged on Thursday or Friday nights. Rain checks were honored at an added performance Monday evening, and another was scheduled for Tuesday evening.

The pageant was divided into ten episodes, including the prologue, which featured the queen of the centennial, Mickey McGuire, her court, ladies of colonial days, troupers, color guards, Boy Scouts, States, U. S. A. girls, Forest Spirits, flower spirits, sky spirits and river spirits.

The Cherokee Indians, who are presumed to have been the first human beings to reside in Watauga county, were featured in the second episode, and many of the customs and superstitions of the Red Men were portrayed in the scene, which was followed by a Hernando deSoto tableau.

Special treatment was given Bishop Spangenberg's visit to the county. The Bishop, played by S. D. Ollis, and his party, are believed to have been the first white men to penetrate the wilds of what is now Watauga county. Daniel Boone (Kent Brown) and other early settlers of the area were followed by a scene from the revolutionary war period, and one depicting the early church of the county.

An episode featured the formation of Watauga county, and the names of many of those who lived in the county at the time. The jubilation of the local people when they received the news that they had their own local govern-

ment was indicated. The War between the States, and the happiness of the Gay Nineties period was followed by the coming of the railroad to the county, the grand finale, wherein the 500 players formed into a giant "wheel of life," the "Star Spangled Banner" ending the program.

Saturday evening the pageant was changed so as to include the founding of Appalachian college, and Dr. B. B. Dougherty, W. R. Lovill and Capt. E. F. Lovill were seen drafting the legislation creating the college. Dr. Dougherty was then portrayed collecting the local funds which were used in founding the institution.

The pageant, which was produced by the John B. Rogers Co., under the personal direction of Mr. Rowland, was widely acclaimed for both the character of the acting, and its historical completeness and accuracy. It was a marvelous production and the ingenuity of Mr. Rowland, as well as the talent of the hundreds of members of the cast, who worked so faithfully toward the success of the event.

Highway Meeting Is On Second Thursdays

The highway commissioner, together with other highway officials, will meet in Boone on the second Thursday in each month for the purpose of consulting with citizens and hearing suggestions on the highway program in the area.

Dougherty is Honored By Carolina's Leaders

State officials, national leaders, and old friends and neighbors of Dr. B. B. Dougherty gathered Thursday to honor the co-founder of Appalachian College, who is regarded as the most dauntless champion of public education to emerge on the State scene since Charles B. Aycock.

It was the occasion of education day at the Watauga centennial celebration, and marked a climax in the week-long celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of Watauga county.

A parade of speakers led by U. S. Senator Frank P. Graham, spoke enthusiastically of Dr. Dougherty's work spanning half a century in behalf of North Carolina education.

In an address before some 2,000 persons who gathered at ASTC Athletic Field, Senator Graham took time out to urge passage of a bill giving Federal aid to education.

"It would be a tragedy to lose the best opportunity in the history of the country for the passage of the bill for Federal aid to the states for the schools in this session of the Congress, designed especially to meet the critical needs in the South and rural states," Senator Graham declared.

Senator Graham said enactment of the measure would be a tribute to Dr. Dougherty. He added he was prompted in making the plea "by the fact that Dr. Dougherty has had a vital part in the equalization of opportunity for children in the public schools in all counties of the State."

The Senate bill as modified by a House education subcommittee headed by Rep. Barden of North Carolina, has been approved by that group, but not by the full committee.

The junior North Carolina senator got a laugh from the crowd when he remarked that "college presidents come and college presidents go, but B. B. Dougherty, like Old Man River, just keeps rolling along."

"Any words of appreciation of the scenes, the history and the people are humanly inadequate in the presence of the majesty of these mountains, the history of these people, the value of this institution and the life of this man," Graham said.

For an hour and a half one speaker after another stepped to the speakers' stand to add their tributes. But the tributes didn't end when the program at the athletic field was over. They overflowed into a luncheon for visiting dignitaries and into the evening session on "Public Education in North Carolina."

After the morning tributes had ceased, Dr. Dougherty stepped to the microphone and said quietly: "No college was ever built by one man. No distinction should come to me except that I have been here longer than any of the rest of them."

Dr. Hight C. Moore of Ridgecrest, former secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention, de-

scribed Dr. Dougherty as "a teacher of trustworthy teachers, teaching himself before trying to teach others."

D. Hiden Ramsey of Asheville, vice chairman of the State Board of Education, paid tribute to Dr. Dougherty, a member of the board, as "our Solomon."

"He has no more idolatrous friends than the members of the State Board of Education," Ramsey asserted.

Johnson J. Hayes of Wilkesboro, Federal judge of the middle district of North Carolina, declared that Dr. Dougherty's "unending efforts for a State-supported school term" represented a greater contribution than his work at Appalachian College.

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P-T. A. Dance Is Feature of Fourth

The P-T. A. dance which was held at the high school on the evening of the fourth, drew only limited attendance, and it is stated by officials of the organization that the proceeds will likely net no more than \$20.

It is desired to recognize the cooperation of a number of students who made posters and decorated for the dance. They are: Evelyn McCracken, Marie Butler, Landie Brown, Mecky Shoemaker, Joan Aldridge, Lois Townsend, Rachel Coffey, Isabel Eggers, Jimmy Harrison, Guy Hunt, Dixon Qualls, Jerry Troutman.

U. S. undertaker heir to Bar-onetcy; he may not take it. 1948 operating earnings for national banks up by \$72,000,000.

Mr. H. C. Sisk, Jr., manager of the Morganton-Lenoir airport, stated the parties responsible for directing traffic and parking were notified the show was temporarily called off and their absence was responsible for the inconvenience experienced by a number of people in finding suitable parking space and for the small delay in traffic.

Mr. Sisk and other parties interested in the event were emphatic in their statements that adequate parking and traffic directing facilities will be on hand next Sunday. It was further stated that the facilities would be such that a very minimum of delay would be experienced in getting into and out of the area.

The "Echoes of the Blue Ridge" production was again cancelled Tuesday evening on account of the rain, but Stanley A. Harris, centennial director says another effort will be made Wednesday night.

Regardless, however, members of the cast are asked to appear at college field tonight (Wednesday) and turn in their costumes, as this is positively the last time the performance will be attempted.

Robert Christian of Boone, dressed as Kit Carson, is shown chatting with his burly visitor from Alamance county, G. B. Cook, who visited here during the recent centennial celebration.

(Photo courtesy Asheville Citizen-Times)

Religious Services End Week Gaiety

Farmers to Cast Votes on July 23

Voting in the national referendum on tobacco quotas for the 1950, 1951, and 1952 crops will take place at community polling places Saturday, July 23, L. E. Tuckwiler, farm agent for the State College Extension Service, said this week. Mr. Tuckwiler urged all tobacco farmers to cast their ballots.

Marketing quotas furnish growers with a method of adjusting supply to demand and help them obtain fair prices for the tobacco they produce.

The referendum is being held in accordance with the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, which directs the Secretary of Agriculture to call for a referendum to determine whether growers want quotas continued. Growers may vote for quotas for three years beginning with the 1950 crop; may vote for quotas for 1950 only; or may vote against quotas.

Marketing quotas will be in effect if approved by at least two-thirds of the growers voting in the referendum. A grower is any person who has an interest as owner, tenant, or share cropper in the 1949 crop of flue-cured tobacco. No produced, however, is entitled to more than one vote, even though he may have been engaged in production of flue-cured tobacco in two or more communities, counties or states.

Under the law, price support loans at 90 per cent of parity will be available on the 1950 crop of flue-cured tobacco if producers approve quotas in this referendum. Regardless of the outcome of this referendum, price support loans at 90 per cent of parity will be available on the 1949 crop as protection to farmers.

Peace Officers Make Few Arrests

Only fifteen arrests were made during the week of the centennial by all enforcement officers, including city police, sheriff's officers, and members of the State highway patrol, it is reported.

Since often as many are incarcerated during one week-end, it is felt that the conduct during the Fourth and the subsequent celebration, was most commendable.

All the officers ask that their thanks be extended the people for their splendid cooperation during the last week.

County Tax Rate Remains at \$1.25

The county tax rate for the ensuing year will remain at \$1.25 on the hundred dollar valuation, says H. M. Hamilton, chairman of the board of commissioners.

Mr. Hamilton states that a complete breakdown of the budget for the new fiscal year, is not yet available, but that an additional 5 cents of the new levy is to go to school purposes, raising the amount the schools get of the levy from 15 to 20 cents. The county contribution to the school fund had been cut during recent years.

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Thousands Fill Town During Week of Centennial Celebration.

The Watauga county centennial celebration officially closed Sunday afternoon, with a community singing held in the Baptist church, when Dr. E. K. McLarty, former Boone Methodist pastor, delivered the address, and the assemblage joined in singing the hymns popular in bygone days.

Untold thousands of people visited the city during the course of the celebration which got under way last Tuesday, and hotels, and rooming houses were taxed to capacity, while hundreds of residents of the city took visitors into their homes. Public officials, newspapermen, educational leaders, and thousands of those who had formerly lived in the county, came to deliver addresses, publicize the event, mix with old friends, enjoy the pageantry, and otherwise participate in the celebration marking the culmination of Watauga's one hundred years of progress.

The initial parade Tuesday afternoon featured events in the history of Watauga county, citizens attired in early-day costumes, covered wagons, buggies, and even the "surry with fringe on top" were in evidence, along with various band units.

Older residents of Boone described the throngs of people which crowded the town streets as the largest ever to gather here at one time in the history of Boone.

A highlight of the day was the crowning of Queen Mickey McGuire at the assembly grounds Tuesday evening.

Lt. Governor H. Pat Taylor crowned Queen Mickey in a ceremony preceding the pageant, "Echoes of the Blue Ridge."

In the prologue to the tableau were members of the queen's court, who reigned with her through the week.

Barbara Jones was Miss Columbia; Mrs. Dorothy Norris played the part of the belle of Colonial days; Billie Padgett was Miss South; Velma Brunly, Miss East; Annie Mae Carroll, Miss West, and Rebecca Shoemaker, Miss North.

Her Ladyship of Canada was played by Shirley Mae Swift. Ladies in waiting to the queen were Rubby Moody, Katie Sue Farthing, Joan Aldridge and Virginia Jones.

Approximately 500 persons participated in the pageant which was presented nightly on the assembly ground at the football stadium of ASTC.

The pageant was directed by Russell L. Rowland, and Paul Weston of Todd supplied the music for the presentation.

Lt. Governor Taylor spoke preceding the pageant Tuesday and crowned the queen. He discussed the growth of Watauga county from a thinly-populated area which embraced the present Yancy, Ashe, and Watauga counties, into the present day resort and tourist center visited each year by vacationists from all over the country and the world, and

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Air Show Postponed To Sunday, July 17

The famous Oscar Meyers air circus, scheduled to appear here last Sunday has been re-scheduled for next Sunday, July 17.

Weather conditions prevented the planes from arriving in time for the show, and in spite of the disappointment to the large crowd on hand, it was necessary to postpone the event until the following Sunday.

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Tonight to See Finish of 'Echoes'

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