

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper

EVERY THURSDAY

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"The basic of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first objective should be to keep that right and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without government, I should not hesitate a moment to choose the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive these papers and be capable of reading them."—Thomas Jefferson.

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1949.

THE CELEBRATION

The county has taken appropriate note of its one hundredth birthday in a week-long celebration, depicting the progress of the century-old subdivision of the State, and the town has been crowded with visitors from all sections, who joined in the merriment, listened to the oratory, and marveled at the historical pageantry.

It has been a great occasion, and as Director Harris gets down to the cold figures, he thinks maybe the big venture will pay itself out of the red—he doesn't yet know for a certainty—since all the bills are not in, but had the weather given us a break, there would no doubt have been a considerable surplus.

However, when the books are closed on the celebration, should there be a deficit, we feel that we should make up the loss uncomplainingly, since the advertising value of the centennial is far beyond dollars and cents reckoning, and more has been done in a few weeks to promote the town, county, and their possibilities, than could have been done through routine methods in many decades. Daily the centennial crowds included newspaper men far and wide . . . never have we known of so much publicity being accorded an event, which was so nearly local in character, and not with a million dollars could such an effective promotional job have been done. Hundreds of columns of type matter, scores of pictures, editorial matter without end . . . so much the Democrat cannot undertake the job of reprinting the comments . . . have been published and gone out to hundreds and hundreds of thousands of readers throughout the nation. The publicizing of the celebration continues, and those who have worked so diligently in carrying on the different phases of the celebration, should take a particular pride in having thus contributed to the further promotion of the welfare of the town, the county, and the people.

Stanley A. Harris, centennial director, should be singled out for especial commendation for the marvelous job he has done in the promotion of the county's big birthday party. He has labored diligently and effectively, and the event was organized under his leadership in the most thorough-going manner. His services in this regard are of incalculable public worth.

Mr. Rowland of the John B. Rogers Co., wrought wonders in the production of the historical pageant, "Echoes of the Blue Ridge," which has been widely acclaimed. People from "all over" have commented favorably on the production. The actual participants in the pageantry should have the thanks of the community, likewise, for carrying on night after night, solely for the purpose of contributing to the success of the occasion.

Visiting speakers, committee chairmen, business men generally, who gave liberally of their time and money, and all the folks of the county, who aided, should feel pride in their accomplishment.

The crowds have gone away, the curtain has gone down on the centennial scene, but generations yet unborn will reap value from the publicity which has been accorded our country. We shall be forever grateful to all those who contributed in any way to the remarkable promotion.

DON'T COUGH

Your Head Off!

Ask for

Mentho-Mulsion

If it fails to stop your cough due to colds, ask for your money back.

BOONE DRUG CO.
The REXALL Store



Education Day of the County's centennial celebration attracted a number of State officials and leaders to Boone to honor Appalachian State Teachers college and its president, Dr. B. B. Dougherty. Dr. Dougherty responds to the tributes paid him by

Senator Frank P. Graham and others. on the left. Center, Senator Graham, State Treasurer Brandon P. Hodges, D. Hiden Ramsey, of Asheville, vice chairman of the State Board of Education, and President W. E. Bird of Western Carolina Teachers

College, Cullowhee. At right is former Governor R. Gregg Cherry with Stanley A. Harris of Boone, director of the celebration.

—(Photos courtesy Asheville Citizen-Times)



Above pictures show activities during Watauga County Centennial celebration. The cut at the left shows a group of women marching in the Tuesday afternoon parade. They are dressed in bon-

nets and hoop dresses typical of the dress of 1849. Queen of the Centennial Mickey McGuire is shown on the night she was crowned the leading lady of the celebration. Beardless culprits are shown as they awaited trial in the Kangaroo Court. Police-

man Edwin C. Greene is shown guarding, left to right, Ralph Mast, Jack Edmisten, Charlie Byrd and Lawson Gréer.

—(Photos courtesy Asheville Citizens-Times)



Residents of Watauga County are shown as they began the celebration of Watauga County's 100th birthday. Top left, a photo of parade participants as they marched along King street to officially open the celebration last Tuesday. Right, a group of youngsters from nearby Camp Yonahlossee ride

in a covered wagon. Bottom photos, left: Cecil Miller, Mrs. Nell Linney and B. W. Stallings, of Boone, who were participants in the historical spectacle, "Echoes of the Blue Ridge." Center, Mrs. Louise DeLima and Kent Brown who were cast as Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Boone, and their hound

dogs. Right, Lt. Governor H. Pat Taylor, speaking during Governor's Day festivities, shortly before the presentation of the pageant, with Watt Gragg and Wade E. Brown, seated behind him.

—(Photo courtesy Asheville Citizen-Times)