

Jean Rivers' woman's page reviews the social scene. Besides personal mention, weddings, parties, club meetings are reported on page five.

Date	High	Low	3 p.m.	Pres.
Dec. 25	37	20	24	
Dec. 26	31	18	20	
Dec. 27	41	24	41	
Dec. 28	53	29	43	
Dec. 29	44	14	17	
Dec. 30	33	15	29	00*
Dec. 31	47	25	42	

\*Melting snow—snow on ground about 3 in.

## 100 To Face Trial At January Court

Judge Zeb V. Nettles, of Asheville, will preside over the January term of Watauga Super Court when it convenes in Boone January 21. One murder case, one case of manslaughter, and a robbery trial head the list of about 100 cases scheduled to come before him.

One family accounts for eleven cases of violation of prohibition law, with four persons involved. The murder case charges William O. Wyatt of Ashe County with the death of Clemon Triplett. Triplett died from gunshot wounds allegedly inflicted by Wyatt last year.

Wayne Vannoy, Boone, RFD, will stand trial for the automobile accident death of Phil Shull of Sugar Grove. The accident occurred on highway 421, near the Wilkes County line.

Ten cases of driving drunk will come before Judge Nettles, about 50 persons will be tried for speeding, with the balance of the docket made up of miscellaneous charges.

Jurors for the term will be: From Bald Mountain township—Don Lewis, Arthur C. Wineberger.

Beaver Dam—John Wood, Spencer May.

Blowing Rock—Max R. Moody, Ralph Shore, Charles Bolick.

Blue Ridge—Virgil Day, G. J. Keller, Jr., Ernest Shore.

Boone—Roy R. Blanton, Chester Smith, James Foster, James Be-shears, John Hollar.

Brushy Fork—Lewis Wilson, Lonnie Henson, John R. Horton.

Cove Creek—Raymond Isaacs, Dana Green, Charlie Wilson.

Elk—Turner Miller, James

Hayes.

Laurel Creek—Ernest Rominger, Ira Pressnell.

Meat Camp—Walton Norris, Roby Wineberger, Wade H. Moretz.

New River—Will Cook, Earl Hartley, Howard Brookshire, P. W. Palmer, Thomas I. Holloway.

North Fork—Will Wallace, Will Potter.

Shawneehaw—Floyd Hicks, D. S. Oliver, Basil Tester.

Stony Fork—Stuart Hamby, Claude Bodenhammer, Thomas G. Miller, Noah Church, Luther Mor-etz.

Watauga—Cius Aldridge, Marl Aldridge, Fred McLean, Troy Rup-ard, Worth Davis.

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Hayes.



The publisher and staff of the Watauga Democrat extend warm greetings and sincere good wishes for the New Year.

## Blowing Rock Voters To Pass On Proposal For City Swimming Pool

By WALTER K. KEYS (Special to the Democrat)

Blowing Rock, December 31.—The voters of Blowing Rock will go to the polls January 22, to pass upon the issuance of bonds sufficient for the building of a community swimming pool.

There are now two swimming pools in Blowing Rock—one at Mayview Manor, the other at the Country Club. Neither of these pools are available to the general public.

For many years those who have the best interests of this tourist town at heart have realized that

the need for a public swimming pool is very great. This need is greatly emphasized by the fact that the economy of Blowing Rock is almost 100% based on the tourist business. Within the past two or three years the town of Blowing Rock has lost thousands of dollars in trade because of the fact that there are no swimming facilities provided.

Last year, one of the town's long-time summer residents, always a great booster for Blowing Rock, told this writer that he was selling his Blowing Rock summer home, because their children, now

growing up, were not content to spend the summer at a place where they could not engage in water sports. Dozens of families, looking for a place to spend a week or two, or a month, pass on through this town because of the almost unbelievable situation, to them, that there is no swimming.

The average family, spending the summer in a resort area, will spend at least \$1000. The vacationing family will spend at least \$300 per week. To lose many such families, as is done each summer, represents a greater annual loss in income to the people of the town than the total cost of the swimming pool.

The wisest investment ever made by the Town of Blowing Rock was in the acquiring of the Coffey property in the heart of the town for a recreation park. Many of us remember how long it took to accomplish this end. Now this Playground Park, the envy of every other resort area in the mountains of western North Carolina, needs only a swimming-pool to make it complete. Remembering the long and arduous efforts of the then Mayor, Mr. Joe Winkler and the Town Commissioners of that day, to carry the bond issue which enabled the town to buy the recreation center area, the people of Blowing Rock will certainly vote the bonds for this further development of this property.

Others who gave lavishly of their time and effort to secure the original purchase of this playground area, no longer with us in the flesh—Mr. G. C. Robbins, Sr., Mr. Charles G. Beck, Mr. Orrin Stone—but surely in spirit they are looking to us to continue the great work in which they were so deeply interested.

## 200 Local Business Men In Credit Book

Each January business concerns in all parts of the United States receive from Dun & Bradstreet requests for their annual financial statements. This year the number of requests going out nationwide will approximate three million, with over 200 going to Watauga County businessmen.

The growth and the industrial development of Watauga County is reflected in statistics just released by the credit reporting firm. Thomas E. Kane, manager at Knoxville, which covers this area, says that this year there will be more requests for financial statements made of business concerns in Watauga County than usual.

The Watauga County section of the current issue of Dun & Bradstreet's Reference Book contains listings of 212 local names com-

prising manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers. It does not include some of the service and "professional" businesses such as barber and beauty shops, real estate and stock brokers. Thus the figures for businesses in Watauga County would actually be higher than the 212 quoted above.

During 1957, Dun & Bradstreet estimates they will be required to make about 100 changes in the listings of business enterprises in Watauga County. These changes will result from adding the names of new businesses, and deleting the names of those who have discontinued; as well as accounting for changes in ownership, trade names and credit ratings.

Watauga County with 212 names in the current issue of Dun & Bradstreet's Reference Book, shows an increase of 8 percent in comparison with the names listed in 1956.

## Abner A. Greer Taken By Death

Abner A. Greer, 84, of Route 1, Vilas, died Saturday December 29 at Blowing Rock Hospital, where he had been a patient for 19 days.

Funeral services were held Monday at 2 o'clock at Willowdale Baptist Church by Rev. Maurice Cooper, Rev. E. O. Gore and Rev. C. O. Vance and interment was in the cemetery there.

Mr. Greer, a retired mail carrier, is survived by the widow, three sons and three daughters: Abner Greer, Jr., Vilas; E. R. Greer, West Grove, Pa.; F. B. Greer, Chapel Hill; Mrs. Maisie Barton, Kenneth Square, Pa.; Miss Corinne Greer, Johnson City, Tenn.; Miss Bobbie Greer, Danville, Va. There are ten grandchildren.

ACCIDENTS

Accidents now rank first as the cause of death in persons between the ages of one and thirty-five years. They are fourth as the cause of deaths in all age groups. Accidents in 1955 killed 93,000 persons, 38,000 of whom were killed in automobiles.



A pretty reminder for Tar Heel motorists that it's almost time for new license plates is Warner Bros. actress Virginia Mayo. The state's new yellow-on-black '37 tags went on sale Wednesday, January 2, and must be displayed after February 15.

## Yule Buying Hits New Boone Record

Quiet Holiday; No Crashes, Few Arrests

Cash registers rang a merry Christmas tune for Boone merchants, as holiday shoppers thronged the streets and stores in an unprecedented wave of gift buying.

Although figures were not available, most local stores reported substantial gains in all gift categories over 1955's record dollar volume. The most conservative estimates pegged it as being "at least as good as last year."

An unusually warm December caused sales to lag during the first two or three weeks of the normal Christmas shopping season, with a major portion of the gift buying being done in the final week.

The weather finally got into the Yule spirit with falling temperatures on Christmas Eve, and a light snow fell early Christmas morning, making it at least a "semi-white" Christmas.

No Traffic Deaths

Watauga County did not contribute to the record total of more than 700 traffic fatalities in the nation during the four-day holiday week end. Sheriff Ernest Hodges' office reported that there were no serious accidents in the county, and no injuries. There were four arrests for public drunkenness, one for driving drunk, and two for shooting fire-crackers.

Boone Police Chief Glenn Richardson reported an even quieter week end, with no arrests being made by his department.

Rufus Brown Rites Are Held

Mr. Rufus James Brown, 93, pioneer resident and retired farmer of the Rich Mountain neighborhood of Meat Camp township, died at his home Thursday, after an illness of seven months.

Funeral services were held Friday at the Rich Mountain Baptist Church. Rev. W. C. Payne and Rev. Arnt Greer were in charge of the rites and burial was in the church cemetery.

A son of the late Jesse Brown, Mr. Brown was born and spent his entire life in Watauga county. He had engaged in farming throughout his life.

Surviving are five sons and two daughters: Frank Brown, Vilas; John Brown, Knoxville; Joe Brown, Lenoir; George Brown, Clyde; Brown, Zionville; Mrs. Ruth Phillips and Miss Eliza Brown, Meat Camp township.

Father Of Mrs. Troutman Dies

Lemuel Nosker Brown, 86, prominent resident of Troutman, and father of Mrs. E. F. Troutman of Boone, died at his home last Wednesday. He had been ill for a year.

Mr. Brown had been active in church, industrial and community activities, had been a member of the Iredell board of commissioners, and had been connected with many business enterprises. He had served as elder in the New Perth ARP Church for 50 years.

Funeral services were held Thursday at 3 p. m. at New Perth ARP Church. Rev. W. C. Lauderdale and Rev. Olin G. Swicegood officiated. Burial was in the family plot in Saint Michael's cemetery.

Mr. Brown is survived by three sons, Herman, Sam and Ben Brown of Troutman; a daughter, Mrs. Edwin F. Troutman of Boone, eleven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

CASH DIVIDENDS

The Commerce Department reports that cash dividend payments by corporations are running more than a billion dollars higher than in 1955. Concerns issuing public reports paid out about \$8,725,000,000 in the first ten months of this year compared with \$7,722,000,000 in the corresponding period a year ago.



FIRE FIGHTERS.—R. D. Hodges, Jr., left, Bill Crawford, and Pete Everett hunt down the last embers of a fire which destroyed a barn belonging to Ben Watson, retired post office worker, on Howard street, last Thursday. Mr. Watson said the barn which had feed, farming tools, and household articles stored in it, was a total loss. It was built of white pine and burned in a matter of about a half hour. The flame and smoke could be seen for several blocks.

## Bold Burglars Make Front Door Entrance

Parkway Company, Inc., hardware store in Boone, suffered a loss of over \$200.00 Monday night as a result of a robbery, according to Paul A. Coffey, owner.

The store was entered through a broken door glass on the front of the store, after it had been knocked out by the intruder or burglars.

Mr. Coffey discovered the break-in Tuesday morning when he opened the store, and a check on what was taken revealed two .22 pistols missing, a 20-gauge shotgun, a .22 target rifle, and a "handwarmer." Muddy tracks were found on the floor near the door, possibly those of the person or persons taking the merchandise.

A fire screen, which Mr. Coffey kept at the entrance of two counters, had been moved and broken glass was scattered over the floor. Other than this nothing else appeared to have been bothered.

This is the second time in two years the establishment has been entered for the purpose of stealing merchandise. Sheriff E. M. Hodges and the Boone police department were investigating the robbery, and the sheriff stated that a State Bureau of Investigation man had been called in on the case.

## Penick Home Burglarized

The home of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Penick on Oak Street was entered Monday night while the couple was visiting a neighbor.

Mrs. Penick's pocketbook containing a small amount of cash, and clothing valued at about \$200 were taken, said Police Chief Glenn Richardson. The missing clothing included Mrs. Penick's wedding gown, he said.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Penick on Oak Street was entered Monday night while the couple was visiting a neighbor.

## Sales Are Resumed In Burley Houses

Sales were resumed Wednesday morning, January 2, on the Boone burley tobacco market following a recess since December 21 for the Christmas holidays.

The market sold more than 2 1/2 million pounds of burley before Christmas for an average of \$61.58 per hundred, highest in the history of the market. Last year's pre-holiday volume was also topped by approximately a half-million pounds.

"Prices are expected to remain high, and growers will be assured of a satisfactory sale by bringing the balance of their crop to Boone," said Joe L. Coleman, manager of the local market.

The market will continue to operate on a schedule of five days a

week, with the closing date to be announced later. Approximately two more weeks are expected to be sufficient to dispose of the remainder of the burley crop in this area.

THE CAPITOL

Preparatory to inauguration ceremonies the latter part of January, the Capitol has been washed and painted. Congress appropriated \$215,000 for the necessary accoun-

terments to the Capitol and its grounds for the second inauguration of President Eisenhower. This includes a special roofed platform with wooden Grecian columns and 15,700 seats in front. Work on the inauguration stand and seats began in September.

## Winners Yule Contest Are Chosen At Rock

By DR. WALTER KEYS

Blowing Rock, N. C., Dec. 31.—Winners in the Christmas Home Decorations Contest in Blowing Rock were as follows: Best Indoor—First, Mrs. James Storie; second, Mrs. Norman Pitts; third, Mrs. Edgar Young.

Best Outdoor—First, Mrs. Norman Pitts; second, Mrs. Edgar Young; third, Mrs. Spencer Greene.

Best Indoor—First, Mrs. Billy Young; third, Mrs. Spencer Greene, Bolick; second, Mr. John Keller; third, Mrs. Charles Martin.

Best homemade—First, Mrs. Spencer Greene; second, Mrs. Lige Reed; third, Mrs. Jesse Burns.

huge Christmas tree on the Playground Park attracted state-wide attention.

All the services in the church of Blowing Rock were wonderfully impressive. The Christmas trees were lavishly decorated, and there were gifts for all.

Many white Christmas gifts were taken to the hospital and to various families in the community. A special gift to one of Blowing Rock's most respected citizens, who has been sick for a long time, amounted to more than \$100.00.

New Year's services will be observed in all the churches next Sunday. At the Rumble Memorial Presbyterian Church, the pastor will preach on the great Proverb: "Where there is no vision, the people perish."

## Workers Appointed For March Of Dimes

Mrs. Hadley Wilson and Mrs. W. W. Littleton, co-chairman of the 1957 campaign in Watauga county, announced they had appointed the following workers in the local effort:

W. W. Littleton, treasurer; Mrs. Palmer Blair, chairman Mother's March; Mrs. Bill Williams, chairman Blowing Rock division; Joe Daird, chairman college division; and Guy Angell, chairman school division.

Mrs. Wilson stated that "mailers" were being sent out in the county

this week to help the appeal for funds for the fight against polio.

Citizens receiving them are asked to fill them out upon receipt and return them to March of Dimes headquarters "to help aid the thousands of victims of polio for whom the vaccine came too late."

Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Littleton state that this reminder is for those "who might receive the letter and put it aside for a few days" and then forget about it. It only takes a few seconds to fill a mailer and return it.