

BOONE WEATHER			
Date	High	Low	6 p.m.
July 23	80	61	63
July 24	74	62	65
July 25	75	50	65
July 26	75	46	64
July 27	77	54	67
July 28	78	49	66
July 29	76	50	70

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1957

TWELVE PAGES—TWO SECTIONS

16,000 Pieces Mail Handled Every Day At Boone Postoffice

By JOE C. MINOR
 Democrat Staff Writer

Sixteen thousand pieces of mail—that's what Boone's first class postoffice expects to handle today, tomorrow, and every working day this year.

Lyle B. Cook, acting postmaster, says an average of nine to ten thousand pieces of mail come into Boone while five to six thousand are dispatched from the local office daily.

This means a lot of work for somebody. Sixteen persons are presently hired to handle this mountain of mail. Included are the postmaster and his assistant; three regular clerks, a substitute, and temporary substitute clerk; three regular city carriers and a substitute; and three rural carriers.

The town receives five incoming mails and dispatches mail six times a day. Two highway post-offices, from Greensboro and Charlotte, serve the local office.

Eight Star routes serve the town, and one in particular offers faster service to Boone patrons. A Star route arriving here from North Wilkesboro at 7:30 a. m. meets the HPO there and brings mail to Boone two hours earlier than the HPO would get it here.

All of this is a far cry from the way mail came into Boone when the local office was known as Council's Store, back 134 years ago—and all mail was carried by horseback or on foot. Mails were few and far between in those days, but improvements were made all along. The Boone station was designated as a third class office in 1916, and in 1926 was changed to second class.

Twenty-two men and women have served as postmasters since a postoffice was first established here. Jordan Council was first postmaster, and continued to hold the title after Boone was founded in 1850 and the name of the station was changed from Council's Store to Boone. Joseph C. Council took over for a year in 1859, but Jordan Council came back into office the next year and stayed until 1866.

Other postmasters and years of their appointments were: Henry Hardin, 1866; David Sands, 1867; John W. Hall, 1869; William C. Coffey, 1873; Marion F. Modphew, 1882; John T. Lippard, 1883; Leander G. Storie, 1884; James F. Amos, 1884; Daniel B. Dougherty, 1885; Mrs. Mattie Greene, 1889; Robert C. Rivers, 1893; Thomas C. Blackburn, 1897; Manly B. Blackburn, 1903; Sallie J. Rivers, 1914; M. P. Critcher, 1916; John E. Brown, 1919; William Dudley Farthing, 1923; Abner W. Smith, 1927; Wiley G. Hartzog, 1934; John E. Brown, Jr., 1943; and Lyle B. Cook, 1953.

The postoffice has grown with the community, and all the former postmasters carried names which may be identified with the progress of the town.

An increase in receipts has been noted for many years at the post-office. Requirements were met during the year 1952, when John E. Brown, Jr., was postmaster, for first class rating. Receipts (stamps, postcards, etc.) were more than \$42,000. Total needed for the rating was \$40,000. The station was designated first class at the fiscal year beginning 1953.

Money taken in, postage only, for the years following, according to Postmaster Cook's records, follows: 1953 — \$44,900; 1954 — \$49,700; \$55,700 in 1955; \$56,000 in 1956. Receipts this year are ahead of last year's, Mr. Cook said. He expects \$60,000 or better.

The \$60,000 expected receipts for this year is a slight increase over that taken in in the year 1922 when the station was started. That year, according to records kept in Washington, receipts amounted to \$4.58.

In talking of the advantages of having a first class postoffice, Mr. Cook said, "With a first class rating we can demand and get top service for our incoming and outgoing mail." Even greater improvements may be expected here as the office grows, he stressed.

The handling of the 16,000 pieces of mail is not the only work employees of the office have to do. For one thing, a lot of stamps—some days up to 5,000—have to be passed through the windows. Money orders and C. O. D.'s have to be taken care of. A postal employee in this office has to be versatile because he may be "casing" the mail one minute, selling stamps the next, weighing and re-



POSTAL WORKERS—Morris Barnett, left, is busy placing mail in its proper "pigeon-hole," while Farthing Hayes, far center, bags outgoing mail. Acting Postmaster Lyle B. Cook operates letter cancellation machine, while Mrs. Nellie C. Linney "cases" incoming mail. Mr. Cook, left, poses with vehicles which contribute greatly to mail service for Boone. Center truck is used about town, and end vehicles are highway postoffices, which transport mail between Boone, Greensboro and Charlotte.

Brilliant Musical Spearheads Blowing Rock Hospital Drive

BLOWING ROCK—The most distinguished social and musical event of Blowing Rock's summer season, the annual concert for the benefit of the Blowing Rock Hospital, will take place at the Blowing Rock Country Club on Friday, August 9th at 9 p. m.

For many years this concert, organized and financed by Mr. David Owens of Charlotte has brought to Blowing Rock outstanding stars of opera and concert fame. This year's program will bring back two favorite performers of previous concerts—charming Jane Hobson, Contralto, and America's leading accompanist, Stuart Ross—and introduce to Blowing Rock three brilliant newcomers just reaching the top of their musical careers—lovely Ewan Harbrecht, soprano; Jean Deis, tenor; and Chester Watson, bass-baritone. The program is carefully balanced to delight all music lovers and to provide a challenge to each artist's special talents. Larry Walker, president of CSOTP, will act as M. C., as he has in the past. An overflow audience is expected.

Growth Requirements Of The Hospital
 The entire proceeds of the Concert will go to the Blowing Rock Hospital, as always. But this year the concert is expected to spearhead a drive to provide funds for critically needed expansion of the facilities of the hospital. Newly constructed in 1952 as a modern 18 bed hospital, its planned facilities have been unable to keep pace with requirements arising from the phenomenal growth of Blowing Rock's summer population, and with growing peakloads during the winter months of year-round patients from Watauga and adjacent counties. For example, during January, February and

Rooms Needed At Blowing Rock

Since an overflow crowd is expected at Blowing Rock for this week end, due to the Horse Show and related activities, Mrs. T. L. Clear at the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce, asks that those having extra bedrooms for rent during the week end in that vicinity, communicate with her, so that the demand for lodgings may be met as adequately as possible.

Mitchell County Man Dies In Cycle Crash

Howard Charles Byrd, 20, of Bakersville, died last Wednesday at Watauga Hospital from injuries received on Monday when the motorcycle he was riding overturned in highway 105 in the vicinity of Shulls Mills.

He reportedly died of a fractured skull. He never regained consciousness.

Funeral services were held Friday at 2 o'clock at the Bakersville Methodist Church. Rev. L. C. Cornwell and Rev. Carl Haire officiated, and burial was in Byrd cemetery, Red Hill.

A son of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore R. Byrd, deceased was reared in Mitchell county. A graduate of Bowman High School he had been employed by the Toe Valley View and the Mars Theatre in Bakersville.

In addition to his parents, two brothers and three sisters survive.

June production in nation tops '56 level.



MAX FOX empties at Boone one of 550 bushels of tender beans on a truck which hauled them to a cannery at Newport, Tenn.—John Cory photo.

Park Commission Partly Approves Parkway Plan

Proposal Of Park Service Is Again Aired

WAYNESVILLE—The North Carolina National Park, Parkway and Forests Development Commission last Thursday announced approval in part of a plan proposed by the National Park Service for construction of concession facilities on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

The commission, headed by William Medford of Waynesville, urged that steps be taken to further develop tourist sleeping, eating and service facilities in areas adjacent to the 21-year-old parkway.

The parkway connects Shenandoah National Park in Virginia and Great Smoky Mountains National Park in western North Carolina and Tennessee.

The National Park Service said none of the proposed facilities would be constructed or operated with government funds.

The parkway in North Carolina will be divided into three contract areas, they said.

The total estimated capital outlay for the additional facilities in North Carolina, including the purchase of presently government-owned facilities, and operating capital sufficient to insure sound financial operation, would be about \$2,300,000.

National Park Concessions Inc., a non-profit, non-stock corporation, which operates concessions in other national parks, presently operates under contract all concession facilities on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

The contract, dated Jan. 1, 1942 and extending to Dec. 31, 1961, can be terminated at any time by the Secretary of Interior.

The commission's report Thursday said the contract "apparently will be terminated in those areas when new facilities are ready for construction. Thereafter a new contract covering the construction and operation of all facilities in that contract area will be let . . ."

The plan made public by Park Service spokesmen also gave details about plans for lodging, eating and gasoline stations along the parkway.

The commission held a hearing at Asheville May 21 attended by representatives of cities and towns affected by parkway travel.

Park Service proposals were supported by representatives from Sparta, Brevard and North Wilkesboro.

They were opposed by representatives from Boone, Blowing Rock, Asheville, Spruce Pine, Burnsville, Newland and several organizations, including the North Carolina Motel Assn.

The report said that Park Service proposals for increasing lodging facilities at Doughton Park and at Pisgah Inn are not now needed.

The state commission recommended that material be made available along the parkway to advise tourists what facilities were available in the areas adjacent to the 477-mile long mountain drive-way.

Jimmy Mast Is Named Coach

Jimmy Mast, former Appalachian State Teachers College basketball star, has been named basketball coach at Southwest High School in Forsyth county, succeeding Ray Simpson, resigned.

Mast was an outstanding high school athlete at Cove Creek, being named to the Journal-Sentinel all-Northwest basketball squad.

He played four years of basketball for the Mountaineers, captaining the team his senior year. He was voted the most valuable player on the squad his last season.

Mast coached six months at Pilot Mountain High before going into service.



LIONS CLUB DISTRICT GOVERNORS—The new North Carolina Lions State Council held its first meeting of the year in Boone recently with the Boone Club acting as host. The council is composed of governors of all the nine districts in the state and 100 percent attendance was noted. Members are, left to right, front row: Lawrence L. Mair, governor District 31-C, Belmont; M. R. Rourk, 31 H, Shallotte; Norman Trueblood, state secretary and treasurer, Elizabethtown; C. Paul Carr, 31-G, Hillsboro; Michael L. Polk, 31-E, Mt. Pleasant; second row: Robert M. Langley, 31-J, Bath; William A. Hart, 31-A, Weaverville; A. R. Smith, 31-B, host governor, Boone; Emmett V. Stone, 31-D, High Point; William B. Farmer, 31-F, Laurinburg.—Photo Palmer's Studio.

Miss Croft Will Present Program



MISS FLORENCE CROFT

Miss Florence Croft, successful teacher of speech, dramatics and oral reading, will present a program of readings and dramatic interpretation in the College Auditorium on Monday evening, August 5th. Miss Croft, a native of West Virginia, is currently working in the remedial reading center at the local institution.

Miss Croft, whose work with high school speech and dramatic groups has led to several winning performances at state and district festivals, is a celebrated monologist in her own right. She has made a name for herself on TV, radio, and before district and state conventions. Dr. Cornea Mowery, past president of NEA, pronounced her program of monologues "the best at our spring meeting in years."

The public is invited.

Dr. Farthing Dies Saturday

Dr. Watts Farthing, 45, whose father, the late Dr. L. E. Farthing, was a native of Boone, died in a Wilmington hospital last Saturday, following a long period of failing health.

Dr. Farthing, who was reared in Wilmington, studied medicine at the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, taking post-graduate work at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn., and had been a practicing surgeon in Wilmington for many years. He had often visited with relatives in Boone, where he was well known.

Funeral services were held in Wilmington Monday afternoon. An uncle of the deceased, H. Grady Farthing of Boone, attended the rites.

Surviving are the widow, a son and daughter, John and Connie Farthing of the home, and the mother, Mrs. L. E. Farthing.

Nashville, Tenn.—Tom Henderson, 21, and his 63-year-old bride spent their honeymoon in Miami, Florida, as the guests of Granville Dozier, night-club operator, who offered them a free one-week Florida honeymoon and round-trip airliner tickets.

Horse Show Crowds May Set A Record

John Harmon Funeral Held

John Calvin Harmon, 89, retired farmer and carpenter of the Beech Creek neighborhood, died at his home Saturday, following a long period of declining health. He had lived in the Beech Creek section for 46 years.

Funeral services were held Monday July 29 at 3 o'clock at the Beech Valley Baptist Church. Burial was in the Beech Valley cemetery. Rev. Ed Farthing and Rev. Roe Payne conducted the services.

Survivors include three sons: Roosevelt Harmon, Boone; McKinley Harmon, Seattle, Wash.; Raymond D. Harmon, Wickliffe, Ohio; six daughters: Mrs. Grady Neris, Mrs. Cloyd Parlier, Mrs. James Norris, Elk Park; Mrs. Carroll Keller, Science Hill, Ky.; Mrs. Glenn Austin, Akron, Ohio and Mrs. Narvie Moore, Sugar Grove.

Receive Gift On TV Show

Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Crowder of Boynton, Va., recently received felicitations and an anniversary gift on the NBC television program, "It Could Be You."

Mrs. Crowder is formerly Miss Josephine Miller of Boone.

The Blowing Rock Horse Show, the highlight of the resort season at the mountain top resort, will get under way Friday afternoon, the concluding performances being Sunday.

Indications are that there will be more than 150 entries this year, to establish a record. Special activity is reported in the three and five-gaited classes and in the Tennessee walking horse division.

In the children's horsemanship classes interest is running high, also, it is said, with 24 having already been entered in one class. Entries have been made from Maryland to Florida, horse show officials said.

One of the oldest horse shows in the South, the Blowing Rock event uses its proceeds for charitable and other community purposes—Boy Scouts, Volunteer Fire Department, Community Club, Community Playground and general town improvements.

At the Horse Show grounds there are 100 boxes, 1,000 new grandstand seats, ample parking facilities, and 150 stalls for horses.

Entertainment has been planned for exhibitors and spectators. A buffet supper and dance will be given for the exhibitors Friday night, and the traditional horse show breakfast will be served at Mayview Manor Saturday noon. Saturday night the Grand Horse Show Ball will be held at Mayview Manor.

Artists To Appear At Grandfather Home Day

Banner Elk—David Owens, Charlotte philanthropist and business executive, will once again present the need of Grandfather Home during the thirty-ninth Grandfather Home Day held at the Rumble Memorial Presbyterian Church, Blowing Rock, at 11 a. m., August 11. Dr. Walter Keys, pastor of the church, will preside.

Grandfather Home Day has been celebrated through the years in a number of ways, but always in the Rumble Memorial Church. Eighteen years ago, Owens began presenting the need of this child-care institution to a wide North Carolina audience by arranging a benefit concert as a portion of the program for the traditional Grandfather Home Day. His gift covers the costs so all receipts go to the home.

Grandfather Home Day was the brain child of Dr. Charles G. Vardell and continued through the years under the leadership of Dr. James I. Vance. In the early 1900's, the Rev. Edgar Tufts, founder of the three institutions at Banner Elk, which include Grandfather

(Continued on page two)