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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Seventy-Fourth Year of Continuous Publication

BOONE WEATHER						1961-62
Dec. 19	High	Low	6 pm	precip.	1960-61	High
Dec. 19	33	30	44			36
Dec. 20	43	28	28			41
Dec. 21	41	24	26	tr.		30
Dec. 22	49	18	34			19
Dec. 23	38	23	34			20
Dec. 24	34	17	22	*.23		34
Dec. 25	34	18	20	*.17		43
*Approx. 3 in. snow; total precip. — 1/2 inch.						

VOLUME LXXIV.—NO. 26 BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1961 PRICE 6 CENTS TEN PAGES—TWO SECTIONS



CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS.—On the street parking was hard to find in Boone as shoppers continued to come to town Saturday for their Christmas buying. Stores were busy, window shopping was brisk, and the traffic was heavy right up to closing time Saturday night.

STATISTICIAN, ECONOMIST MAKES PREDICTION

Babson Hopeful Of Good Business In '62; Sees No Nuclear War Or Disarmament

By ROGER W. BABSON

1. I am hopeful for 1962; it should be a better year for my readers than 1961. Industrial production will exceed that of 1961.

2. There will be neither a nuclear war nor total disarmament in 1962. Considerable progress may be made toward a ban on atomic weapons.

3. Some thirty stocks may reach an average of 1000 during 1962, although these will not necessarily be the thirty Dow-Jones stocks.

4. Retail trade will make new records during 1962. Increased newspaper advertising, especially in colors, will be a great boon to merchandising.

5. Commodity prices will act erratic during 1962. Agricultural prices will be held up by legislation, but many metals will sell for less.

6. The official cost-of-living figure will rise slightly in 1962, but there may be a scandal in Washington over how this figure is calculated or adjusted. The real increase in the cost-of-living will be due to increased wages demanded.

7. The only certain shortages during 1962 will be in land suitable for parking places and waterfront property readily accessible to building lots; also for automobile "graveyards" near cities which have been zoned.

8. The building of shelters will look silly before the end of 1962. Certainly the Federal Government will not underwrite the building of private shelters for individual families.

9. Good real estate must rise in price as the population increases. Elementary mathematics determines the price of suburban real estate. This is notwithstanding the claim of the "space companies" which are said to be interested in selling rights on the moon. There probably are crazed speculations.

10. While the land on which your house now stands should increase in value during 1962, the building itself depreciates from the moment when it is first occupied. A possible exception would be certain very attractive ranch houses painted in color.

11. Automobile production will be the most important statistical indicator during 1962. This applies to both the number of automobiles and their sales value. We now have no reliable figures for the latter.

12. We will gradually approach an average of two cars for every family. The life of automobiles should gradually increase. The percentage of automobiles annually destroyed will decrease in 1962.

13. Automobiles and gasoline will be, increasingly, sources for raising money by taxation. These means will be extended to include an additional assessment on the manufacturers of automobiles.

14. Taxes, as a whole, will continue to increase in 1962 for every family. Business net taxes, however, will decrease in 1962, through the granting of depreciation refunds which can be done by Executive order. The manufacturer may greatly increase his deductions for past investments and new machinery, plant, and equipment. Douglas Dillon feels that such tax reductions will increase the purchase of new equipment, develop greater efficiency, and result in a net improvement in the employment situation. This is good news for 1962.

15. Speculation in real estate and securities will be active during 1962; but good children will gradually be recognized as the best investment. Young people will be married earlier and will want to have large families.

16. Public education will gradually be recognized during the years ahead. Schoolhouses will be built as places to "park the kids" while the parents are at work. New schoolhouses will be built so as not to be over one story high, with lots of sunshine.

17. Owing to the lack of airport facilities and to inadequate equipment, there will be increasing airplane accidents during 1962.

18. With all the above changes, plus increased public improvements and longer vacation periods, families must save somehow and cut somewhere. I think it will begin in 1962 with clothing. This will gradually become cheaper and more attention will be paid to color.

19. The time is approaching when the weaving of cloth will be greatly curtailed. Clothes will be made like paper. Plastic coats are already on the market. These are produced by feeding the cellophane into a machine which cuts to desired sizes and bonds (not sews) the material into beautifully finished goods of different colors.

20. We will hear more about automation during 1962. But the cost of building automatic factories is so great that the change is coming slowly. Even electronics has been overemphasized.

(Continued on page four, Sec. B)

Farm Income Picture For 1962 Said To Be About Same As 1960

Farm income in 1962 is expected to be about the same as in 1961.

Two extension farm management specialists at N. C. State College, R. L. Johnstone and W. L. Turner, made this prediction after taking a look at the factors that will likely effect farm income next year.

"There are two major factors that will likely have a depressing influence on income," Johnstone and Turner said.

Lower prices are expected for several of the livestock and livestock products. Production costs are expected to continue upward.

On the plus side is higher prices for several major commodities resulting from higher price supports. Also, consumer demand and exports apparently will continue strong.

"It is difficult to foresee any improvement in farm income during 1962," Johnstone and Turner said, "since farmers generally had a favorable production year in 1961 and prices for several major commodities were relatively strong."

Looking beyond 1962, the farm management specialists say two major factors bear close watching. One is farm price legislation; the other is the European Common Market.

"Should a widespread feeling develop that the current government effort to support farm prices is too expensive, there may be some legislative resistance," Johnstone and Turner predicted.

This could mean lower prices for several major commodities, such as feed grains. If this occurs, production could also expand because of less control.

The development of the European Common Market may bring greater competition for several U. S. farm commodities.

"Economic pressures under which agriculture operates are likely to remain for the next five years," the specialists predict. "Total net farm income will likely remain relatively stable while national income increases in coming years."

Tobacco Economy Is Expected To Set New Records In Coming Year

Washington.—The nation's tobacco economy should set new records again in 1962, the industry's 350th anniversary year, topping the records set in 1961, reports George V. Allen, president of The Tobacco Institute, Inc.

In a year-end review and outlook, Allen said:

"There appears to be little question that in the next 12 months we shall see new records, topping those set in 1961, for income to tobacco growers, for output of most manufactured products, and for contributions to other segments of the national economy, including excise and other tax payments to all levels of government."

Allen cited these 1961 records:—Two billion pounds of tobacco were grown by tobacco farmers, who received about \$1.3 billion for their crops during the year. Higher quality leaf brought better prices than ever to the farmers.

—Exports of U. S. cigarettes totaled 22.3 billion, up 10 percent from 1960.

—Cigarette sales in the U. S. reached 503 billion cigarettes, 19 billion more than 1960. Consumers spent about \$7 billion for cigarettes in 1961, up \$400 million.

—About 44 percent of what consumers paid for cigarettes was for federal, state and local taxes. On cigarettes alone, taxes were \$3.1 billion, up from \$2.9 billion in 1960.

Use of cigars, cigarillos and smoking tobacco also showed gains.

Allen recalled that 1962 will be the 350th anniversary of the tobacco industry in the U. S. In 1612 Virginia colonist John Rolfe harvested his first crop of tobacco in Jamestown, which was then on the brink of economic collapse.

"When shipped to England, it assured an English-speaking future for America, for the success of Jamestown was assured," he said.

(Continued on page six)

BRIEF SURVEY IS MADE

Boone Holiday Business May Be Best In History

Say Trade Was As Good, Better Than In 1960

Holiday business along the street was exceptionally good, and there is general opinion in the town to the effect that never has trade been so brisk as was the case the last few days before Christmas.

Department Stores, variety stores, hardware stores, toy shops, markets and every sort of retail establishments experienced heavy traffic, while the streets were crowded with automobiles. Parking was almost impossible, and despite the heavy buying by the merchants for the holiday trade, in some instances stocks were depleted during the last minute rush. Many of the stores observed evening hours, and large crowds came after supper to see the decorations and to enjoy a leisurely shopping trip.

Due to the Democrat's late publication hour this week, it was impossible to get a comprehensive survey of the business district but a few merchants spoke out on the holiday trade:

D. L. Wilcox, Boone Tire & Bargain Store: "Up from last year."

Fred Church, Church's Store: "An increase over any previous December."

Russell D. Hodges, Farmers Hardware & Supply Co.: "Business as good, and perhaps better than last year."

John B. Robinson, Crest Store: "Up at least 20% over last December."

W. W. Chester, Belk's: "Business good during all the fall period."

O. K. Richardson, Boone Drug Co.: "Certainly as good as any year, perhaps even the best."

Joe McClung, W. W. Mac Co.: "Even better than we anticipated."

Howard Williams, Walker Jewelry Co.: "Strong finish offset a late start. Certainly as good as last year, perhaps better."

Postal Take Sets Record

The Boone postoffice handled the largest volume of mail prior to Christmas in its history, according to Postmaster Ralph H. Beshears.

Stamp sales showed an increase of more than 15 per cent over last December, the official said, while during the month more than 200,000 letters and cards were cancelled.

Good weather enabled star route and highway post office operations to remain on schedule, it was pointed out.

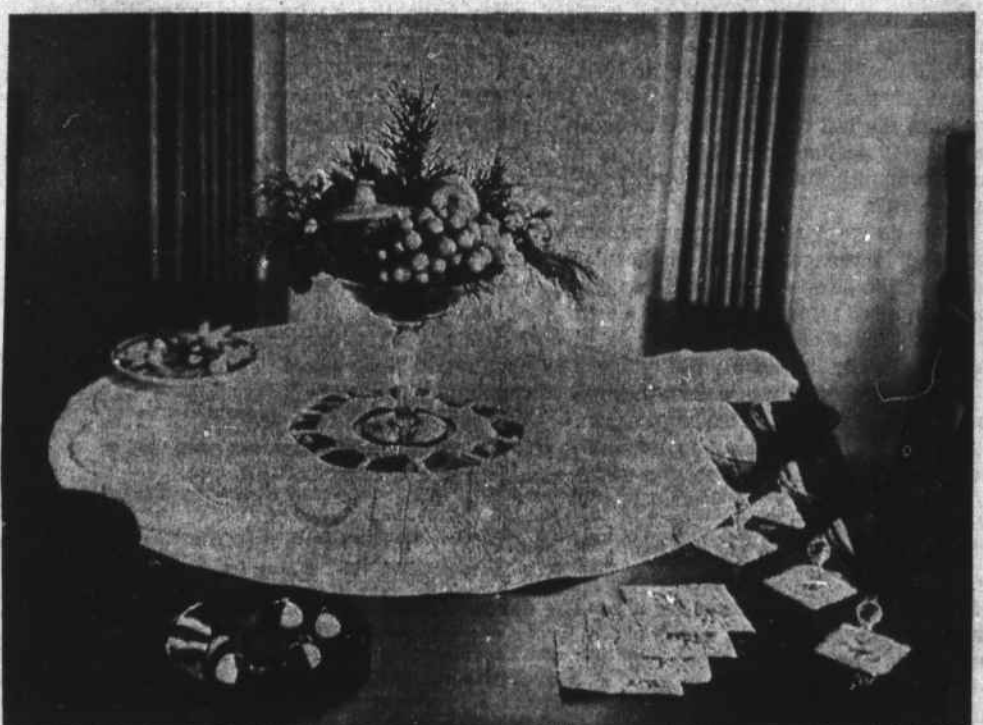
Postmaster Beshears expressed to the Democrat his appreciation for the cooperation and consideration of the public during the rush season at the postoffice.

Rites Held For Greer Infant

Larry Grant Greer, 5 months old, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Grant Greer, 1609 East King Street, Boone, died last Saturday at Watauga Hospital.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Howard's Creek Baptist Church by Rev. Glenn South and Rev. Raymond Hendrix and burial was in the Miller cemetery.

In addition to the parents, the grandparents survive: Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Greer, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Canter, Boone.



INDOOR TABLE WINNER—MRS. JOE CRAWFORD



—Photos by Flowers' Photo Shop

WINDOW WINNER—MR. AND MRS. WILLIARD TRIVETTE

Yule Decoration Winners Are Chosen By Junior Clubwomen

The winners in the 1961 Christmas Decoration Contest for Boone and surrounding area are announced by the Junior Woman's Club, the sponsoring organization.

Winners in each division are listed in this order: first, second, third, fourth.

Indoor table—Mrs. Joe Crawford, Glenbrae; Mrs. Roy Isley, 112 Orchard Street.

Window—Mr. and Mrs. Williard Trivette, 303 Crest Drive; James Wilcox, Oak Street.

Door—Mrs. H. M. Wilson, 117 Woodland Drive; Fred Mast, 414 East King; Mrs. Bill Bingham, 214 Pine Street.

Outside Tree—Joe Crawford, Glenbrae; Community Tree at Todd's Esso Station, decorated by the Gardenettes Garden Club.

Mantel—Mrs. Herman Eggers, 312 Crest Drive; Mrs. Joe Crawford, Glenbrae; Mrs. Frank Payne, 221 Cherry Drive; Mrs. Joe Hartley, Linville Road.

Outside—Bill Dixon, 104 Highland Circle; Bruce Higgins, 119 Horn in the West Drive; Mrs. W. W. Williams, Blue Ridge Avenue.

Due to the large number of entries in the childrens division, four classes were set up, according to age.

Age 6-8—Joe Hartley, first; Sha-

ron Blair and Billy Dixon, tie for second; Jeff Hartley and Bryan Wilson, tie for third.

Age 9-10—Dee Wilson, first; Robert Melton and Gray Wilson, tie for second; Andy High, third; Beth Dixon and Sandra Kirk, honorable mention.

Age 11-13—Linda Dixon, first; Palmer Blair, second.

High School Age—Patty Sue Spencer, first.

The club wishes to express appreciation to all those who entered the contest, and to the local clubs who donated prizes and furnished judges. Clubs are listed with the division sponsored by each:

Appalachian Garden Club, mantels; Gardenerettes Garden Club, children; Rhododendron Garden Club, tables; Blue Ridge Garden Club, outside; Garden Council, outdoor trees; Business and Professional Woman's Club, doors; Home Life Department of the Worth-while Woman's Club, windows.

Construction delays have caused a brief postponement of the opening of Blowing Rock Ski Lodge. President M. E. Thalheimer said the ski area's two runs should be open by January 10, 1962, provided construction work continues favorably and weather conditions allow snow to be made.

Mr. Thalheimer said grading at the ski site has been completed, a large lake which will provide water for snow-making is full, and the ski resort's lodge building is nearly complete.

Snow-making equipment and the two lifts can be installed in a few days, he said.

Blowing Rock Ski Lodge is located just off US 321, 3 1/2 miles north of Blowing Rock and 3 1/4 miles from Boone.

Ski Slope To Open Jan. 10