

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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MEMBER NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION
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"The basis 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.

BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1963

Tax Cut Needed

The administration is going to ask the Congress for a tax cut of more than four billion dollars, and the President of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, Secretary Hodges, and other leaders in the business world are seeing eye to eye with the New Frontier in the matter of letting the folks spend more of their money, to buy more goods and services and to give the economy the lift that is needed.

Walter Heller, chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, said the tax program of the administration will include a larger reduction in the lower brackets, a cut in tax rates above 65 per cent, plus more incentive for investment.

He said:

"What is required is not a small cut of one or two billions, but a substantial cut . . . a three or four billion cut won't do the job. . . For five and a half years this economy has been operating below, considerably below its potential. The tax system keeps pulling out of the economy too large a total amount to permit the products of industry and agriculture to be sold at full employment levels."

We have long contended that a tax cut would spur business at all levels more than anything else. Even in Boone, where salaries are lower than the national average, it would be astonishing what could be done to the local economy if salaried people could spend a considerable per-

centage of what is siphoned off in taxes from their income. It would appear to one not schooled in an academic type of economics that the final income to the government might even be upped, while the folks were living better.

We hope the administration will get a tax cut through. In the light of recent elections and other happenings which have enhanced the popularity of the President, we shall hope that the Congress will have its weather eye turned toward the mood of the country.

Leading Citizen

In the death of W. C. (Bill) Lentz of Blowing Rock, that community and the county at large lose a good man.

Always concerned with matters of public need, Mr. Lentz served capably on the Watauga County Board of Commissioners, and was chairman of that important body. He had served as a school committeeman, as a town councilman at Blowing Rock, and in other posts of public responsibility.

Mr. Lentz had been well known in business circles for a great many years and performed his public duties with the same amount of diligence he used in his own affairs. He was a splendid citizen, public-spirited and competent, and made a generous contribution to his town and county.

Business Good

Business during the holidays was good in Boone. Fact is, most of the merchants to whom we have talked, said they had chalked up new sales records during the festive season.

Boone is becoming better known as an outstanding shopping center and that accounts for part of the increase. And the merchants are providing a constantly improving service, and we like to think that more and more people are seeing the common sense of trading at home.

Those of us who've been around a long time note the business

changes more. Casually reading a file of the Democrat we note that January 4, 1907 the Watauga County Bank had loans of \$26,716.10, and checking accounts of \$23,600.51. It had gold coin in the amount of \$690, silver \$511.04, National Bank Notes of \$1,749.00 and was due from other banks \$6,988.03. E. S. Coffey was cashier and the report was signed by Directors W. C. Coffey and N. L. Mast.

And that was doing good 56 years ago.

Non-Farm Employment Climbs

Total non-farm employment climbed to a record-breaking average of 1,249,300 in North Carolina during 1962, according to a preliminary report released today by the State Department of Labor.

State Labor Commissioner Frank Crane said Tar Heel employment averaged 40,200 higher in 1962 than the 1,209,100 average in 1961.

The 1962 figure is subject to minor change when employment reports for the month of December become available in mid-January.

Miracle In America

(Shuford Mills Spinner)

The people of the United States, occupying only 6% of the world's land area and representing less than 7% of the world's population, OWN:

- 85% of the world's automobiles
- 60% of the life insurance policies
- 54% of the telephones
- 48% of the radio sets
- 46% of the electric power capacity
- 35% of the world's railway mileage
- 30% of the improved highways
- 92% of the modern bathtubs.

The preliminary figures for 1962 are based upon the first eleven months of the year.

Factory employment in the State climbed 18,800 during the year, rising from a 1961 annual average of 509,000 to 527,800 in 1962.

Non-manufacturing employment (including trade, construction, mining, service industries, utilities and government) increased 21,400 during the year, rising from a 1961 average of 700,100 to 721,500 in 1962.

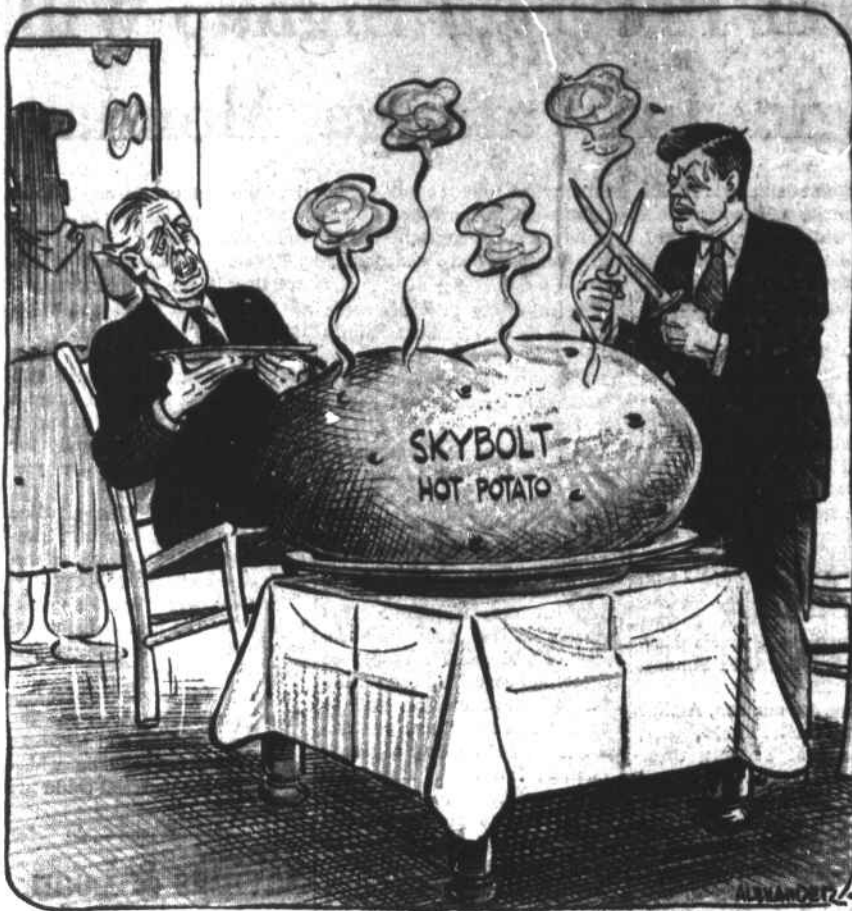
For years the curious came to see. Then about 1935 a member of the family had a thick coat of tar poured over the glass windows to stop the pilgrimages of the morbid.

More time passed. Children heard the story of the windowed grave and came and tried to scratch away the tar. But in doing so they scratched the glass so it was not transparent. But then the children found that by pouring water on the scratches, the glass became smooth enough for them to see.

Someone in America will always divide his food or share his gasoline or tire tool with the person in need.

Somehow, America has bred a degree of human sympathy that is without parallel in the history of mankind.

The Main Course?



From Early Democrat Files

Sixty Years Ago January 1, 1903.

Mr. Clint Hulcher of Mt. City, Tenn. and Mr. Jordan Hardin of Sutherland, were in town Monday.

Mrs. Mary Hagaman of Baker's Gap, Tenn., died at her home on the 22nd. She had lived to a ripe old age and was loved and respected by all who knew her. She had many friends and relatives in Watauga, she being the eldest sister of the late D. B. Dougherty.

Married at the home of the bride's father, Mr. Thomas Critcher at Deerfield on the 21st, Mr. Charley Vannoy to Miss Edwinnie Critcher. Rev. J. M. Payne performed the ceremony.

The little child of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Hodges, who died Dec. 24, was buried on Christmas day. The little one was a sufferer all its short life, it never being able to walk.

Thos. Vandyke, County Surveyor, has purchased a new set of instruments and is better than ever prepared to do your surveying, plotting, etc.

Mr. Smith McBride of Amantia, leaves this week for Richmond, where he will enter the Massey Business College.

Rev. David Green has just closed a very successful meeting at South Fork Church.

Messrs. David Council, Roy Brown, Henry Perry, and Logan Farthing, Watauga's represen-

tatives at the State University, spent the holidays at their respective homes. They will return in time for the opening of the school next week.

Prof. D. D. Dougherty has moved to his new residence, and the one vacated by him is now occupied by Mr. C. J. Cottrell and family who will conduct a boarding house for the benefit of the school.

Mr. Charles Critcher and Miss Maggie Parlier, both of Deerfield, were married on Christmas day, at the home of the groom's father, Uncle Guilford Critcher. Rev. Payne officiating.

Thirty-Nine Years Ago January 3, 1924.

Mr. James Council spent Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Council of Boone. He left on the day following for his work in Transylvania county where he is engaged in engineering work on the roads in the county.

During Christmas measles broke out afresh in Boone, the families of Mr. Poly Wyke and Mr. Setzer being the latest to contract the disease. Mrs. Wyke was very low for some days but is now much better as are all the others suffering from the malady.

Mr. James H. Bryan of Edmondton, Canada sent his father, W. L. Bryan, Esq. a moose ham

weighing more than 100 pounds, it coming just in time for Christmas.

Mr. Cloy Winkler spent a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Winkler. He has been on a road force in Wilkes county for some time.

Married at the home of Rev. Ed Hodges on Monday the 24th, Mr. Coy Rogers of Boone to Miss Ula Miller of Stony Fork. Pastor Hodges performing the ceremony.

The baby son of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Ray is improving from a severe attack of pneumonia.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Greene of Boone, a boy.

Miss Carrie Horton went to Washington, D. C. to spend the holidays with her cousin, Mr. James Moore.

Mr. and Mrs. Tracy Council visited relatives in Charlotte during the Christmas season, returning to their home here Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bryan and Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Phillips have returned from a visit of several days to relatives in Mebane, N. C.

Fifteen Years Ago January 1, 1948.

Mr. O. J. Harmon remains critically ill at Watauga Hospital, following a paralytic stroke almost a week ago. Mr. Harmon has never appreciably rallied from the attack and hopes for his recovery are not bright. His mother, Mrs. Mattie Harmon and brother, Mr. C. W. Harmon and wife of Pulaski, Ky., have been called here on account of his illness.

Mr. Stacy Clyde Eggers of Wake Forest College, Miss Christine Eggers of Vincennes, N. J. and Mrs. Harland Perry of Bailey, N. C. were Christmas visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Eggers.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Cook of Carolina Avenue had as their guest through the Christmas holidays their daughter, Mary Ellnor of Washington, D. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Claud Todd and sons, Billie and Mike of Newport News, Va., were holiday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Gragg.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. James Geer, Jr. on December 15, at the Blackwelder Hospital in Lenoir, a daughter, who has been named Nancy Gwendolyn. Mrs. Geer is the former Miss Mayie Lewis of Mabel.

Mr. Robert Moretz and children, Bobby and Mike of Elizabethton, Tenn.; Mrs. Grover Triplett of Lenoir, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Triplett of Waco, Texas, Rev. and Mrs. Ervin Ledbetter of Crossville, Tenn. were holiday visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Moretz.

Mr. and Mrs. Townley Bridge and daughter, Bobbie of Washington, D. C., recently visited their daughter, Mrs. Bruce Angel and Mr. Angel and their grandson, Gary Reece.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Wilcox of Deep Gap, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Bill Hodges, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cooke have returned home after spending a few days with their daughter, Mrs. Ray Harrill and Mr. Harrill of Gastonia.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Coffey, Jr. and daughter, Jenny Ray of Columbia, S. C. spent Christmas with Mrs. Coffey's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Ray.

KING STREET

BY ROB RIVERS

At Year's End . . . A Page Is Turned

As nineteen hundred and sixty-three bows in, as a pink-cheeked symbol of the endless counting of time, we look to the past with a good deal of pleasure and to the future with confidence that things are better than they have been, and that the days ahead, if we use them right, will bring forth new areas of good living, new vistas of opportunity and new chances for each of us to mend the broken world to which we have fallen heirs.

Men of rare wisdom and understanding tell us there will be a continuation of the shaky sort of peace through the New Year, that the fuse to the touchy international powder keg will not be lit, and that more folks will enjoy more things than ever before. . . . Which is to say that times are expected to be good, which has come to encompass the sum total of man's aims and ambitions. . . . Locally the signs are good, and the future of this area is rose-tinted.

Old Year . . . 'Twas Good

The old year was good to the community and to the county, and we are glad of the progress which has been made along many lines. . . . We at the Democrat, in taking stock of the year just ended, have a lot for which to be grateful, including the Street and the businesses on it, the county and the farms, and the churches and the schools, but more especially for the people, and their good will and generosity toward us. . . . To all the friends of the Democrat and specifically of this corner, we thank you for your tolerance, for your friendship and for your patronage, and wish for you continuing prosperity and happiness during the New Year.

Missing . . . A Neighbor

Kenneth Payne who lived on South Water Street, was one of the fellows we always greeted as we passed going to and from our home and office. . . . A retired janitor at Appalachian State Teachers College, Kenneth had been around a long time, and we liked him for his consistent kindness and good humor. . . . All the hundreds of times our paths crossed he was polite, generous and kind, and we always had the feeling after meeting this good neighbor, that after all, the world's a pretty good place. . . . Kenneth had a fatal heart attack the other day, and we shall miss the kindly exchanges with a man we liked, and who contributed his part to the community and to the American system, and to our cheerfulness as we met in dawn's early light and in the

shadows of the evening.

Observes Birthday . . . Works

William B. Hodges, veteran builder, had a birthday on the eighteenth—his 81st, and our neighbor across the street has our best wishes for continued good health. . . . Incidentally Mr. Bill observed the occasion by laying brick for three days straight with men half his age, and putting as many burnt clay blocks in the wall as either of the others. . . . Mr. Hodges tells us one reason he stays in the pink of health, is the fact that he has never had an overpowering appetite—could always quit eating in time. . . . That's likely reason enough.

Christmas . . . Her Leavings

Christmas left us mixed up, what with the irregular publication dates and two days off right at the first of the week, but it was a good time at home with the folks. . . . However, nothing seems quite as forlorn as the bright lights and the wreaths and the gay wrappings, after the day is done, and one is back in the traces after a long, long week end. . . . The Christmas tree is just as bright as it was but the warmth is gone, the turkey has reached the hash state in good flavor, the partying is passed, and at our house we have stored the lights and the trimmings against another Yule. . . . And Christmas leaves its mess. . . . The trees thrown out with bits of tinsel clinging to shedding branches. . . . A spattered pile of ribbon, so lately fashioned by loving hands, gets muddier every time a car passes, and the town is still small, as witness those who throw their bottles and beer cans all over the place, disdaining their garbage cans, lest city workers find out they sometimes smile at the flowing bowl.

Soda Water . . . King Size

Bitsy boy, referring to a quart of ardent spirits he had seen in the home during the festivities of the Yule, piped: "Santa Cwas brougnt Daddy a gweat, gweat big bottle of pop."

Uncle Pinkney

(MacKnight Syndicate)

HIS PALAVERIN'S

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

On account of the fine education I ain't never through the years from reading handouts from all them Federal agencies, I ain't never had much need for a dictionary. Onct in a great while I might make a miscue in my spelling, but them occasions is so rare that it don't bother me none.

And it's fer the same reason that I ain't never invested in an Encyclopediar. Any feller that studies real good all the information they put in the pamphlets from the Department of Agriculture, the Government Printing Office, the U. S. Information Agency, to name a few I git regular, knows about all they is to know about anything important.

Fer instanc, I received notice last week that the U. S. Information Agency has got four new booklets ready for the taxpayers. They is entitled, "Space Exploration," "Trade Expansion," "Mending Men's Suits," and "Growing Ornamental Bamboo." If a feller will git his name on the proper Government mailing lists, they ain't no need, Mister Editor, fer him to buy a Encyclopediar.

But it looks like I'm going to have to go over to Ed Doolittle's and look up a matter in his dictionary. Ever time I pick up the paper I see where a Government "research agency" is needing more money. I figured "research" means I looking for somepun, but nobody could spend that much

money just looking for somepun. I got to see if "research" ain't got more meanings.

I got to admit that a heap of this research is good. Fer instanc, I was reading where a research agency discovered that empty pecan, walnut and almond shells was fine fer blasting out jet engines. They bought \$30,000 worth of them shells, tried 'em out at the Mobile Air Force Base and they worked better'n anything ever tried fer cleaning jet engines. They might be some question amongst the taxpayers about \$30,000 being a little high fer empty shells, but such matters is never a question with the research agencies.

But Sen. Humphrey claims these research boys waste a lot of money just setting around thinking. If they figger it would be better for a lightning bug to have headlights instead of taillights, they draw up a heap of charts and file 'em away fer future "research." Sen. Humphrey says about 6 million of these charts is being filed in the Defense Department ever year, that they already got 50 million of these drawings and charts filed, and that it now takes longer for the research department to look up and see if a certain chart has already been filed than it would to file it again. He says this looking up business is costing \$200 million a year. I think, Mister Editor, I better look up this word "research."

Yours truly,
Uncle Pinkney