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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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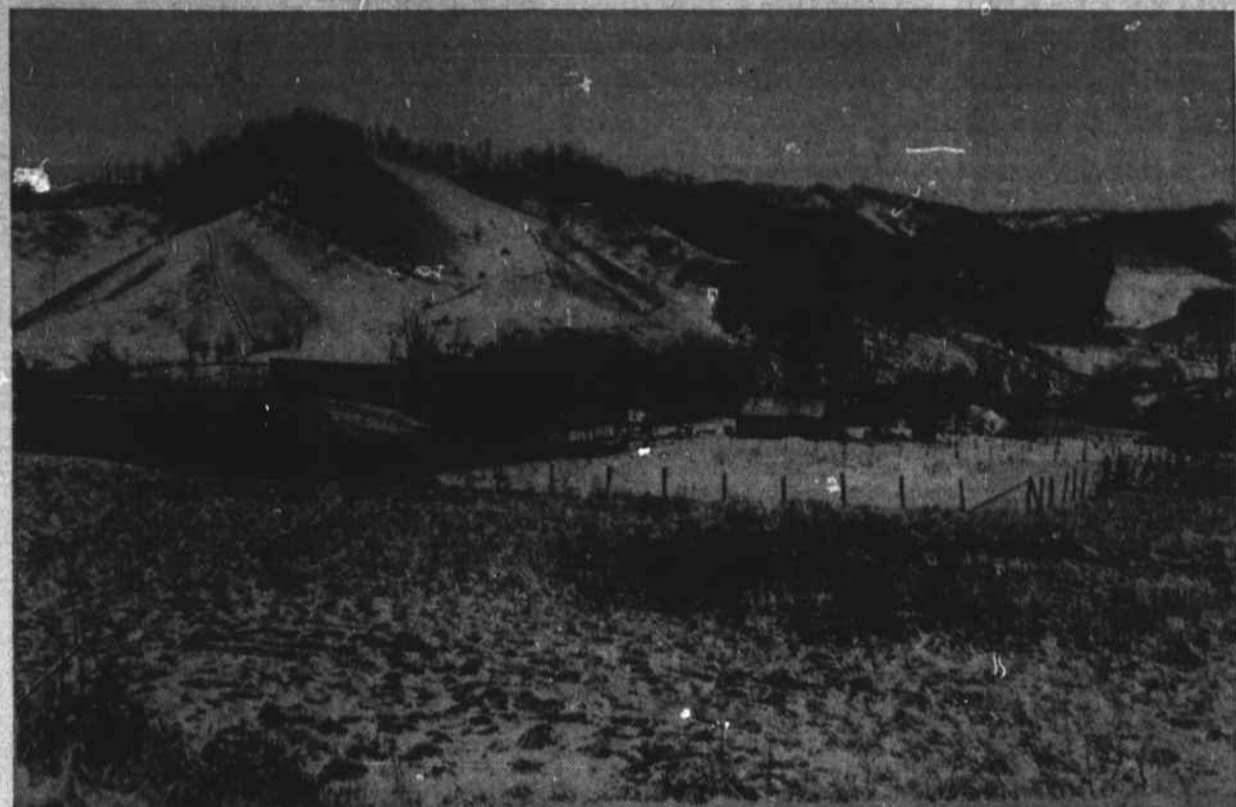
BOONE WEATHER					
1963	Hi	Lo	prec.	'62 Hi Lo	
Jan. 22	43	9		55	37
Jan. 23	41	15		51	38
Jan. 24	15	-12	.09	48	30
Jan. 25	35	2		55	48
Jan. 26	38	19		65	45
Jan. 27	36	7	.06	55	39
Jan. 28	29	-2		40	26

VOLUME LXXV.—NO. 31

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1963

6 CENTS

16 PAGES—2 SECTIONS



A LIGHT SNOW and sub-zero temperatures were recorded in Watauga County during the last week. The above picture was made near Zionville last Friday, following a snow which

measured less than an inch deep. Lowest thermometer readings were minus 12 degrees Thursday and two below zero Monday.—Staff photo.

SHERIFF MYERS OFFERS TESTIMONY

Greer, Three Others Held Without Bail For Shooting

Lenoir—Millard Greer and Ralph Ray Parsons were charged with the January 18 murder of Blowing Rock's late Chief of Police William D. Greene at a preliminary hearing here Saturday.

Parsons' 22-year-old wife, Carol, and 17-year-old Mrs. Millicent Eyon Hinson are charged with aiding and abetting in the slaying of Chief Greene.

Justice of the Peace Claude Goble of Lenoir ordered that the two men and two women be held without bond for the February 25 term of Caldwell Superior Court.

Among the estimated 200 persons who attended the hearing were the blond widow of the slain chief and an aunt of Chief Greene.

Greer and Parsons, 45 and 22 respectively, showed no outward emotion when Justice of the Peace Goble ordered that they be held in jail without the privilege of bail for trial in the term of Caldwell Superior Court starting February 25.

Twice during the 72-minute hearing Greer leaned over to confer with his court-appointed Attorney Ted West of Lenoir. The Parsons are represented by Attorney A. R. Crisp of Lenoir.

Absentee Probe Is Directed At West Carolina

Raleigh — State Elections Board Chairman William Joslin said Saturday the State Bureau of Investigation may begin a probe into alleged voting irregularities in eight Western North Carolina counties.

The Charlotte Observer said Saturday two of its reporters had unearthed evidence of vote buying, forgery, fraudulent registration and violations of the state voting laws in Ashe, Clay, Jackson, Madison, Polk, Swain, Watauga and Yancey counties.

Gov. Terry Sanford had been asked at his news conference Thursday whether he had had a chance to study Joslin's recommendations for tightening voting laws in North Carolina.

Sanford replied he hasn't, but said he told Joslin "to do all possible to see that elections are above question."

Joslin said Saturday that although the Elections Board cooperated with the Observer in its investigation, there was some fresh evidence turned up he didn't know about.

Len Hicks Is Held In Fatal Shooting Case

Len Hicks was ordered held under \$5,000 bond last week following a coroner's inquest in connection with the January 12 shotgun death of James Henry Matheson, 21, of Valle Crucis. Hicks, 23, has been formally charged with murder, according to sheriff Dallas Cheek of Boone.

Hicks, one of twelve to testify at the hearing, said that the gun discharged accidentally as he sat in an automobile.

The coroner's jury recommended Hicks be held for grand jury action at the April term of Watauga Superior Court. The jury said it found negligence on Hicks' part.

Hicks and five other men were held for questioning after Matheson's body was found about 11 p. m. January 12 in the yard of Bill Hicks' home. Bill and Len Hicks are related, but not closely, Cheek said.

All but Len Hicks were released two days later. Len Hicks was free under \$2,000 bond pending the inquest. Following the inquest, Hicks was formally charged with murder and is to appear in court this April.

Testifying in addition to Len Hicks were Don Clay Hicks, Dean Hicks, Council Mains, Bill Hicks, Callie Hicks, Louise Hicks, Sandra Hicks, Dallas Cheek, Charlie Whitmire, Hugh Young, and Carl Presnell.

The corner is Richard Kelley.

Legislators Visit ASTC To Discuss Its Needs

For two consecutive Saturdays, legislators of the State General Assembly have visited Appalachian State Teachers College to see and discuss matters relating to education and pressing needs of the college.

The Home Economics department, trustees and wives, administrative staff and wives served as hosts at a tea in the Home Economics building and the president's office, luncheon in the college cafeteria, a tour of the campus, entertain-

ment of the wives of the legislators, and a visit to the Blowing Rock Ski Lodge. Many of the legislators remained in Boone as guests of the college for a basketball game.

Dr. W. H. Plemmons, president of the college, welcomed the legislators and introduced the Appalachian family.

Ralph Winkler, ASTC trustee from Boone, discussed the contribution that Horn in the West is making in this area and the state as a whole.

Teacher Missed School Last As A Child Of Five

Mrs. Virginia Strother of Sugar Grove, esteemed teacher in the Cove Creek School system is ill in the Watauga Hospital.

Of interest is the fact that Mrs. Strother has taught more than thirty-five years, and this is the first time since she was five years of age that she has missed being in school, either as a student or as a teacher.

Mrs. Strother was reared at Sugar Grove, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Phillips, and is known as one of the county's most dedicated teachers. Her many friends, both in and out of the teaching profession, will wish for her an early recovery, and return to the classroom.

Dale Dotson Home Razed By Fire Sun.

Firemen from the Boone Volunteer Fire Department fought a losing battle against flames which destroyed the home of Dale Dotson on Wilson Ridge Road, Sunday afternoon at 1:15.

The house, a total loss, was estimated by firemen as being worth \$8,000. Furnishings lost in the blaze amounted to an additional \$2,000 to \$3,000.

Cecil Farthing, one of the firemen who answered the call, stated that the firemen were

Educational Fund For Greene Family Sought

An Educational and Emergency Fund has been established for the family of Blowing Rock Chief of Police, Bill Greene, who was killed in the line of duty.

Those organizations and individuals wishing to contribute to the fund may do so by making checks payable to the Com-

BURLEY YIELDS UP Watauga Farm Income Was \$3,389,386 In '62

Livestock Sales In County Go To Over \$700,000

High burley tobacco yields helped Watauga county farmers to increase their total income in 1962 by more than a third of a million dollars over that of 1961, in spite of a lower sale price for tobacco and some reduction in the yield of pasture hay and vegetables, according to the annual report of L. E. Tuckwiller, County Extension Chairman.

The gross farm sales in Watauga county, the report shows, reached approximately \$3,389,386 or about \$337,232 over the sales of 1961. Burley tobacco led in gross sales with \$1,242,000 going to the growers. A six per cent increase in allotted acres plus an increase in yield per acre of approximately 165 pounds on a county-wide basis provided the additional poundage to offset the reduced prices paid last year.

Other enterprises that gave more dollars to the farmers of Watauga in 1962 than in 1961 were beef cattle, apples, small fruits and broilers. Those yielding less in 1962 include potatoes, lambs and dairy products.

The relatively new enterprises of nursery stock, Christmas trees, Christmas greenery and small fruit production are contributing more each year to the county income, the report shows.

Following burley tobacco in gross farm income are livestock sales of approximately \$700,000; broilers \$400,000; fruit and vegetable sales \$400,000; dairy products \$235,000; wood products \$85,000; and miscellaneous sales, \$326,386, for the total of \$3,389,386.

The North Carolina Extension Service has set a goal of increasing the gross farm income by 1.6 billion dollars by 1966 in the state. Watauga's part of this increase is approximately a half million dollars, Mr. Tuckwiller said.

"We are proud of the accomplishment of the Watauga farmers in 1962 and are confident that they will surpass this goal and perhaps even double it by 1966," Mr. Tuckwiller said.

Business men urge spending cut to accompany reduction in taxes.



APPALACHIAN EDUCATION SECRETARIES held their annual meeting recently at the Daniel Boone Inn. Those attending the luncheon included: first row, left to right: Peggy Whittaker, Becky Younce, Margaret Wagoner, Maude Carroll, Ruth Redmond, Helen Baird; 2nd row: Donna Sink, Judy Norris, Frances Ragan, Scotti Kelly, Becky Martin, Julia Van Pelt; 3rd row: Ann Far-

thing, Jackie Bynum, Marisha Cooke, Janice Greene, Hazel Powell, Lennis Wilson; 4th row: Dianna Brackett, Carolyn Satterfield, Carole Robinson, Dianne Greene, Earleen Pritchett; 5th row: Frances Blalock, Pat Hodges, Shelba Lee, Melba Tugman, Ruth Snider, Margaret Cook, Mickey Gibson; 6th row: Carolyn Coffey, Judy Castle, Betty Greene and Alma Earp.—Larry Penley photo.

Sanford And Others Will Be Asked To Attend Celebration

Governor Terry Sanford is scheduled to attend the Carolina Tercentenary Celebration of "Daniel Boone Crossing the Blue Ridge" June 30, according to an announcement this week by Herman W. Wilcox, general celebration chairman.

The working chairmen and special guests met last Friday to further plans for the celebration next June in connection with the opening of Horn in the West.

Out of town guests were Judge Johnson J. Hayes and T. Edgar Story of North Wilkesboro, and C. E. Viverette and Herman Anderson of Lenoir.

Judge Hayes spoke briefly, telling the group of the importance of the celebration, saying that Watauga county is the gateway of Daniel Boone trail to the West and that the Southern prong of the gateway was right through Boone. He said that Daniel Boone and his family were outstanding, beyond reproach and contributed much to the building of this area. He spoke of Daniel's home place at Holman Ford in Wilkes and said he came across the Blue Ridge in the Bamboo section of Watauga county.

Plans of the "Wagon Train" committee, headed by Clyde R. Greene, are to start a wagon train at Holman's Ford and come into Boone via Cocks Gap, the Blue Ridge crossing of Daniel Boone trail, on into Boone for the parade and celebration by Saturday afternoon, June 30. Mr. Greene stated that the train would originate on Thursday,

camping out two nights on the way. The last night's camp will be pitched in Cocks Gap.

Mr. Greene is anxious to learn of all ox teams that might be available to pull the wagons. He says some teams have already been lined up.

Another meeting was set for February 4, at which time Dr. I. G. Greer will speak.

The Committees Governor Sanford is honorary chairman of the Tricentenary

Celebration Committee, H. W. Wilcox chairman. The committee members are:

Finance — Alfred Adams, chairman; Glenn Andrews, Bynum Greene, Clyde R. Greene, James Marsh, Estel Wagner, Glenn W. Wilcox, Carl Smith.

Invitations of Special Guests — Dr. D. J. Whitener, chairman; Wade E. Brown, Congressman Jim Broyhill, S. C. Eggers, Sr. (Continued on page two)

ASTC Band To Be Heard In Concert Friday Evening

The ASTC Band will be presented in Concert Friday evening, February 1, at 8 P. M. in the Fine Arts Auditorium, it was disclosed today by Charles L. Isley, Jr., director.

The concert will be open to the public, and admission is free of charge.

A highlight of the concert will be the appearance of James F. Burke, internationally famous cornet soloist. Burke has been solo cornetist with the celebrated Goldman Band of New York City for the past 20 years, and has been featured on many radio and television shows, including "The Jackie Gleason Show," "Wide Wide World," and "Thy Kingdom Comes." His RCA Victor recordings have been sold over the entire world.

The program for the concert will include the following: American Salute, Morton Gould

Pageant, Vincent Persichetti
Hert Wounds, Edward Grieg
Commando March, Samuel Barber

Cornet solos with band accompaniment:
Danza Allegre, composed by James F. Burke
The Magic Trumpet, compos-

Orion Mather Dies In Florida

Mr. Orion Mather, 76, for many years a summer resident of Blowing Rock, died last Thursday in Miami Beach, Fla., and funeral services were held there Saturday.

Other details are unavailable.

el by James F. Burke
Amourette, composed by James F. Burke.

Fantasia, Theme and Variations on "The Carnival of Venice" by Jean Baptiste Arban
1812 Overture, Tchaikovsky.
The 1812 popular, bombastic overture will be conducted by Captain James C. Harper, founder of the Lenoir High School Band, and past president of the American Bandmasters Association.

Band members include: Ann Spradlin, Lenoir; Judy Sharpe, (Continued on page two)

Democrat To Raise Prices Next Friday

Today, Thursday January 31, is the last day subscribers to the Democrat may renew at the old rate of \$2.50 and \$3.00 per year, depending upon whether they live in Watauga or in some other area. Effective February 1 (tomorrow), the price will be \$3.00 in North Carolina and \$4.00 outside North Carolina. Per copy 10 cents.

Soaring postage rates, and trebled production costs since the current rates were established, have combined to make the increase imperative.

The publishers appreciate the reaction to the price increase and the many expressions of approval by our readers.



GLENN HODGES

Glenn Hodges President Of County YDC

The Watauga County YDC met Monday evening at the Courthouse with about 200 new members attending. Past president, James A. Dugger was highly praised for his faithful and efficient work this past year. He is to receive a gift showing the appreciation of the club for his work.

The new officers were elected by acclamation, thus showing the harmony among the members of the club. The officers are as follows:

Glenn Hodges, president. He is a veteran of the Korean conflict, a foreman at IRC, a deacon of the Boone Baptist Church and president of the Brotherhood there. He is married to the former Betty Ann (Continued on page two)

Savings And Loan Continues To Grow; Names Board, Officers

The Watauga Savings and Loan Association continued its phenomenal growth in 1962, the stockholders of the association were told last Thursday by James Marsh, Secretary.

The stockholders were welcomed by H. G. Farthing, President, who told the meeting that he started with the Savings and Loan 35 years ago, and that each year the stockholders had received a progressive report, and added, "Since James Marsh

has been here we have been gaining more than a million dollars a year." Mr. Farthing thanked the stockholders for their cooperation and consistent support of the Association.

Mr. Marsh's report indicated that the assets of the Association during the past ten years had increased from \$1,603,050.30 to \$8,931,562.77. He added these facts: Net income in 1962 was \$76,088.82; dividends for

the year were \$276,894.77, an increase over 1961 of \$41,285.46. New saving accounts for the year 1962, said Mr. Marsh, were \$967,350.90; number of savings accounts at the end of the year was 3,906, which represents about all the families in the county. Loans made during the year totalled \$2,716,579.05. Mr. Marsh commented on the sound appraisal of the land on which loans were made and mentioned

(Continued on page two)