

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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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, NOVEMBER 14, 1963

## Can Co-operate In Ford Grant

Seldom does the giving of a large sum of money reach as far into the life of the people as will the grant of The Ford Foundation to The Council of the Southern Mountains, announced on November 7. By the express terms of the grant, Watauga County can co-operate in the enterprise and reap great gain over the next few years.

The Ford Foundation is furnishing a quarter of a million dollars in the expectation that this sum, used under the direction of The Council of the Southern Mountains, will provide the people of each county with a better understanding of their hope as well as their difficulties; that it will result in new approaches to education to prepare for work and citizenship in a shifting world; that pilot projects in education and community planning will become the standard for related accomplishment all through the Appalachian South.

This program is not merely a plan to "help the helpless" but a straight-

forward attempt to develop people's abilities to act on their own behalf. It is based on the fact that most people in the mountains are unemployed chiefly because they are unskilled for the work that is needed today, increasing their poverty and further limiting their usefulness.

The plan made possible by the Ford grant suggests no quick or easy remedy but offers a strong hope for people who tend to think their plight is hopeless. State by state, county by county, every resident of the uplands will have the chance to gain by this daring and thorough departure from previous methods.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors will meet in Berea on November 26, the Committee on Education will meet in Atlanta on December 5, and Watauga County will be invited to take part in this next step toward its own development by its own initiative and under its own leadership.

## Wood Brings Billion Dollars

It was interesting to learn, from information gathered by the Southern Pulpwood Conservation Association, that payrolls of the pulp and paper mills in the South and purchases of pulpwood by these mills totaled more than a billion dollars last year.

The significance of this is greater than it might seem at first glance. For example, any big industry will disburse a sizable payroll in its area of operation. However, few industries buy so much of their raw material from local independent business men who, in turn, buy this wood from so many individual landowners.

That, however, is just what the region's pulp and paper industry does. It did that in 1962 to the tune of \$511.7 million which was distrib-

uted over 12 states through purchases of pulpwood from 90 per cent of the counties in the South!

In addition, the job of converting the raw material into pulp and paper gave the industry's 91,000 workers a total payroll of \$549.3 million. This adds up to the billion dollars-plus that literally came out of the woods directly into the South's economy.

Right now, according to SPCA, wise forest management, reforestation, and protection from fire, insects and disease—foresighted activities on the part of landowners, industry, and state and federal agencies—are resulting in a favorable balance of growth over man's use and natural losses in the South's woodlands. It behooves everybody to help keep it that way.

## Shoppers Will Find Plenty

Christmas shoppers in search of the unusual will find plenty of variety and high quality this year, with prices about the same as last year, according to Changing Times.

But, the current issue of the magazine reports, luxury items—color TV, high-priced fashions, expensive appliances (large and small), hi-fi sets, cameras and jewelry—are high on the list of items merchants expect to sell in quantity.

For the toy shopper there will be an increase in power toys—everything from miniature home appliances to tiny cars. A new line of educational toys is designed to teach youngsters basic optics, linear mea-

surements and simple counting.

Among the new dolls is one that is multilingual and comes complete with a record library so that "Chatty" can talk and talk. On the do-it-yourself shelf there are new sets enabling children to mold their own toys.

And as always there is a gift for that difficult person who has everything: a home entertainment console that includes a stereo set, four track tape recorder, color TV receiver, TV camera and a TV tape recorder that can take programs off the air for replay later on. It's nine feet long and costs \$30,000.

And you may be surprised at this: Somebody up in New York gets out a little monthly magazine that is devoted entirely to covered bridges — their history, form of construction, etc.

A Wake County resident went to a drug store recently to buy some medicine for his wife and suffered a heart attack while doing so. The headline in The Dunn Dispatch, telling about the incident, read like this:

BUYS MEDICINE  
AND DROPS DEAD  
FOR HIS WIFE

## Russian Proverbs



## From Early Democrat Files

### Sixty Years Ago

November 12, 1903  
There will be a public meeting of the citizens of Blowing Rock and vicinity held in the new Reading Room in that town on Tuesday, November 17 at 7 p.m. for the purpose of organizing a Debating Society. All persons interested in the above idea will show it by attending the meeting.

Mr. Robbins, who has been teaching at Sands for some time, has abandoned his school for the present on account of the non-attendance of the pupils. This, in our mind, a sad state of affairs.

Lenoir News: Last Wednesday at the home of the bride on King's Creek, Prof. Y. D. Moore, County Superintendent of Schools, was united in marriage to Miss Lilly Greer, Rev. I. W. Thomas of Lenoir officiating.

Jacob Brown, who is teaching school at Virgil, says that all the pupils in the district have been enrolled, save three, and that the regular attendance is very good. It would be well if all the teachers in the county could say as much.

Oliver Hawkins and family have moved to Virgil, N. C., where Mr. Hawkins will continue in the saw mill business. Sorry to lose them, and hope that they may again occupy their home here when it is convenient.

J. B. Horton, of North Wilkesboro, was in town yesterday talking life insurance.

The pretty residence of Atty. Coffey is now being painted.

A butcher shop in the village would pay, it seems to us.

### Thirty-Nine Years Ago

November 13, 1924  
Married on last Sunday at Key Station, Tenn., Mr. Floyd Eggers, youngest son of ex-Sheriff and Mrs. E. R. Eggers, to Miss Bertha, only child of Mr. and Mrs. Pink Hodges of Adams. The groom has been working in the feed store of his brother, Mr. S. C. Eggers, in Boone for some time, and has made many friends in and about the town. The bride is one of Watauga's most charming daughters.

Mr. Milton Greer, who for a number of years has been located at Bloomfield, Neb., has, with his family, moved back to his native county. He has taken work with the Boone Planing Mills and will move here a little later on. His friends in Watauga are glad to see him back, and the people of Boone just as glad to know he will soon be a citizen of our town.

Mr. W. E. Roark of Beaver Dam came over Tuesday, bringing with him his daughter, who was operated on for tonsillitis at Watauga Hospital in the afternoon. Four others underwent the same sort of operation and are getting on nicely.

Married on Wednesday of last week at some point in Tennessee,

Mrs. I. S. Rambo, after spending some two weeks in the village, left for her home on Sunday last.

Mrs. Cora Council, of Asheville, is spending a few days here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Bryan.

Mr. Joseph Wayman to Miss Ruth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson of Gastonia and Boone. The groom is an efficient member of the State Highway Commission construction crew in the county, and his bride is one of our most attractive and accomplished young ladies. We are told that they will occupy the Dr. Letcher Bingham property in the near future.

Yesterday forenoon Mr. Farthing Edmisten, coming to town on the Boone Trail, driving a pair of mules, was run into by a Ford driven by Mr. T. Len Cook, coming up the Blowing Rock road at a lively clip. The lead mule got most of the impact and was thrown entirely over the tongue of the wagon, but fortunately was not seriously hurt. The Ford came out unhurt except for a slightly bent bumper. This intersection is one of the danger points on the Boone Trail and this is not the first accident that has occurred there.

### Fifteen Years Ago

November 11, 1948  
Mrs. C. B. Angell is serving on the Federal Grand Jury in North Wilkesboro this week.

Mr. and Mrs. James G. Austin announce the birth of a son, William Craig, on October 24th at Watauga Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Greer of Lenoir announce the birth of a son at Blackwelder Hospital recently.

Mr. E. Ford King returned home Sunday afternoon from Watauga Hospital where he had been a patient for a week.

Mr. and Mrs. James L. Penley announce the birth of a son, Morris James, on October 28, at Watauga Hospital.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Winebarger on November 28 at Watauga Hospital a son, who has been named Robert Scott.

Miss Bernice Gragg left by plane Saturday for San Diego, Calif., where she will spend two weeks with her brother, Mr. Hoy Gragg and Mrs. Gragg.

Mr. and Mrs. William Hartley, Mr. K. P. Peck and Richard Peck of Albemarle were week end guests of Mrs. J. A. Idol of Boone, Route 2.

Ann Greer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Greer, returned home Sunday after spending a week with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. German in Boomer.

Mrs. Claude Jackson has returned to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. G. Carroll, of Deep Gap, after having undergone a thyroidectomy at a Statesville hospital. Her condition is said to be satisfactory.

Mr. and Mrs. Niley G. Cooke of Blowing Rock left today for their home in Miami, Fla., where they will spend the winter.

Miss Jimmie Ann Brown of Hickory spent the week end with her grandmother, Mrs. Bessie Underhill, and Mr. and Mrs. Clint Brown of Trade, Tenn.

Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Wilson and daughter of Mountain City, Tenn., visited with Mrs. Wilson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Carter, Sunday.

Mrs. W. C. Miller and son, Bobbie, have returned to their home here after visiting relatives and friends in Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. They also visited many interesting parts of California.

Eugene Wilson of Kingsport, Tenn., spent the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Wilson.

# KING STREET

BY ROB RIVERS

## Veterans Day . . . Little Flag Waving

Veterans' Day, successor to Armistice Day, which had its beginning at the cessation of hostilities in the First World War, doesn't rate enough interest in Boone, or maybe anywhere. . . . Not, perhaps, that we're less mindful of the deep significance of the occasion, or are less appreciative of the valorous sacrifices of the men who manned the guns in the great wars. . . . But it is that the patriotic speeches are not made anymore hereabouts, the "brass hands" don't blare out the stirring numbers as in days gone by, and most folks keep on working.

MONDAY, SOME FLAGS were out. . . . In our end of town they were scattering. . . . We couldn't lay our hands on ours, but Wade Brown and Linney Walker had the Stars and Stripes in the breeze, reminiscent of the days when the lads were coming back from France a long time ago, and there was merriment and celebrating at the glad reunions, and great tides of happiness welled up in those who were glad because it looked like there'd be no more mass conflicts. . . . We remember on one occasion when there was an Armistice Day celebration in Lenoir, and the town of Boone went en masse. . . . We worked in the morning and in the afternoon took a walk down town, where we found Dr. Moose, alone in his drug store, which was then on the north side of the Street. . . . He had no customers, so we chatted for an hour or so, and observed the glad day with refreshing potions, and not a soul entered the door during the afternoon.

BUT BACK TO OLD GLORY. . . . The postoffices, big and little, are required to have the flag waving, and perhaps always will. . . . That is, unless some day, some court may decide, that after all, some of those who buy stamps don't believe in the flag and the government for which it stands, and hands down a momentous ruling that she'll have to be furled on all institutions supported by the general public. . . . We'd agree that's a dour notion, but not so far-fetched, we'd sadly add.

\* \* \*

## Serpent Suns

Sunday, during the warm, sunny temperature, we noted a reptile, the size of a skinny little finger, and about a foot and a half long, which had come forth from wherever snakes spend their time when winter comes, and was lying on top of the leaves, getting all warmed up. . . . Snakes like a good deal of warmth, as a rule, which perhaps accounts for the fact that they like to den in rock piles where the stones store the mid-day sun, so to speak, and are not generally found in summer time in the deep dank, weedy shade, where most folks expect them. . . . Anyway the little crawler we saw had been chilled, no doubt about it, was sluggish and made little movement when we plunked down our number twelve right close to him (or maybe her). . . . We didn't molest the harmless creature and he'll no doubt be around somewhere another season, when he will be bigger and longer, and scare somebody else more than he did us, when we molested his snakely dreaming in the sun.

\* \* \*

## Newly Weds . . . Keep Rolling

The younger elements of the newly-weds sally forth in their high speed cars through the hill country, and seem to take a lot of pride in the words painted on their cars, front, aft, and on both sides. . . . One vehicle we noted a while back was occupied by two couples, apparently slightly young for the great adventure. . . . The car was emblazoned, "Just married. . . . From here to maternity. . . . Later, on the hot summer Sunday morning we saw another car whizzing along. . . . She carried about as many words as Craek Council's blacksmith shop did when the circus bill poster had been to town. . . . We caught a line or two: "Just married. . . . Going South to get the son. . . . It's legal now!" . . . Best wishes to the prospective papa and mama and their unsuspecting male heir.

\* \* \*

## The Yule . . . Hurries Up

Christmas seems to come earlier each year. . . . Already

the Merchants Association committee is making initial plans for the gay opening, and it is hoped that the Street may be all a-glimmer by Thanksgiving, which is only two weeks away. . . . As a matter of fact, Christmas may be fairly said to last from Thanksgiving until December 25th, and quite often with all the glad partying, and the happy homecomings and the bright shops and stores, and with the endless shopping, and the growing mounds of Christmas cards, Christmas day sometimes seems a smidgin anti-climatic. . . . At any rate, we're always anxious, like a child, to see the first decorations, and the initial tinsel, and to hear "White Christmas," "Rudolph. . . ." "Silent Night" and all the rest. . . . We hope we always get excited when the holiday shopping season starts, and when we set about to trim the Christmas tree.

## Uncle Pinkney

HIS PALAVERIN'S

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

I reckon it's natural for a feller that's getting old and coming down to the sunset of his days to ponder over the future with an eye on the past and not get too excited over neither one. When a man is approaching the 3-score-and-10 marker he sorter takes ever day as it comes. As a general rule, that ain't true of his old lady. She goes to bed ever night knowin' tomorrow will be better. But the wimmen folks ain't very practical in these matters.

What brung this to mind was a piece I was reading yesterday from the U. S. Department of Agriculture where power vehicles has replaced 27 million horses and mules on the road and on the farm in the last 35 years. This piece went on to say this had "saved" 65 million acres of land that was needed in hay for these horses and mules.

You will recollect here awhile back that Senator Williams reported the Department of Agriculture spent \$1.1 billion in tax money in 1962 to farmers for taking 54 million acres out of farm production. And on account of this being hard on the lime and fertilizer business, the Government had to pay them boys 208 million.

We pick up 65 million hay acres and spend \$1.1 billion gitting 54 million acres on it took out of farm production.

Now I ain't hankering, Mister Editor, to go back to the old days when my Pa took us to preaching in a 2-horse surrey over roads that was knee-deep in mud. And I ain't about to swap pushing the starter on my tractor for hitching a stubborn mule to a singletree and plow. But I'm just mentioning these figgers to show how a old codger like me looks both ways.

Incidental, I'd feel better about them 65 million hay acres if the feller writing that piece hadn't called 'em "saved" acres. But, in a manner of speaking, I reckon they was saved—saved for the Soil Bank.

Talking about land, Ed Doolittle said he was over in another county the other day and saw a sign where a feller had it posted this way:

No huntin  
No Fishin  
No Nothin

Ed allowed as how that was what he'd call a very unfriendly landowner.

Well, Mister Editor, the political rumblings fer 1964, both in the primaries and general elections, is starting to rumble. Fer the next 12 months, to hear them candidates talk, they won't be nothing too good fer "the common man."

Yours truly,  
Uncle Pinkney.