

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

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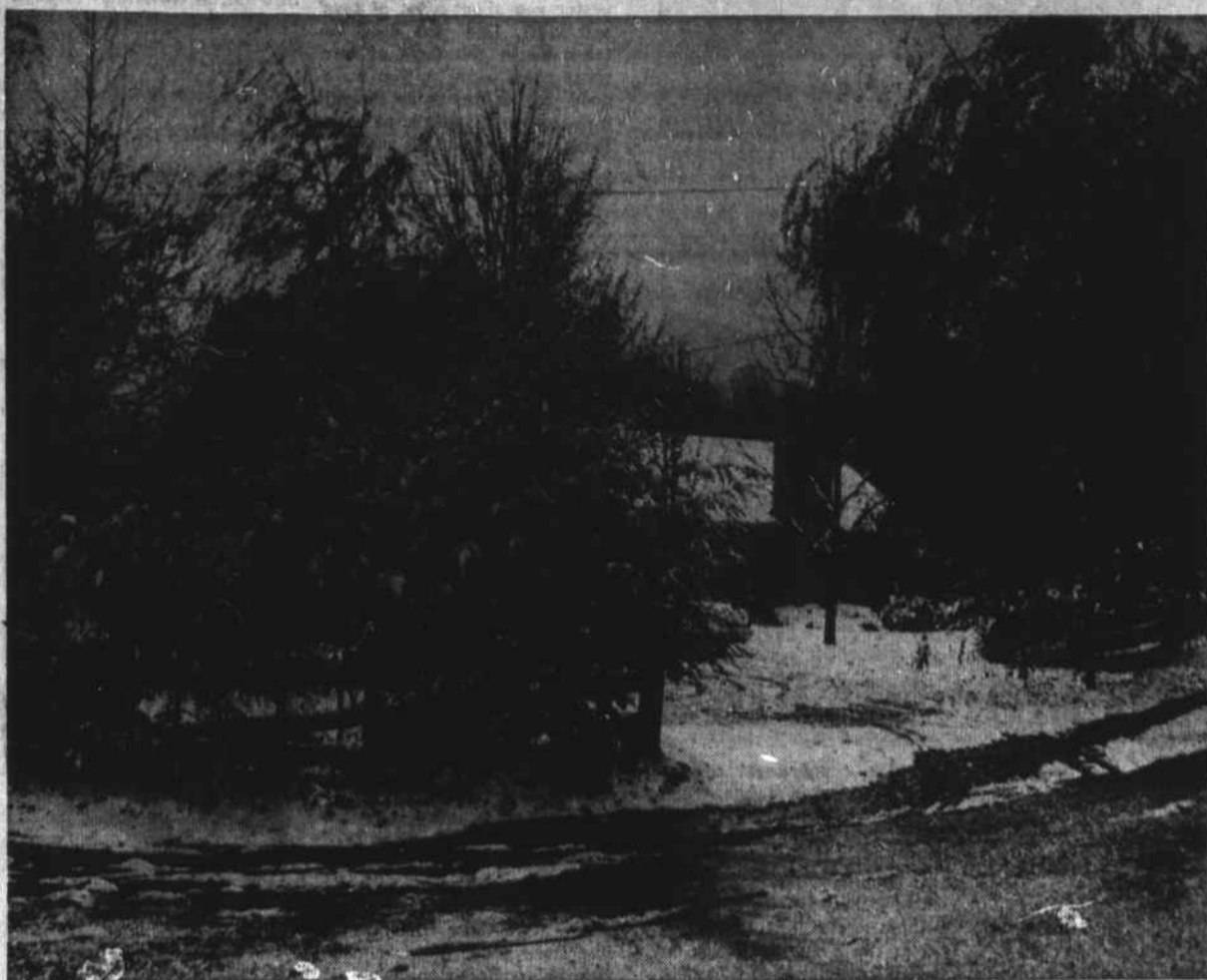
BOONE WEATHER			
1963	Hi	Lo	prec.
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Dec. 23			.62

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### White Christmas

Monday as the Democrat goes to press, the area is experiencing what perhaps will be the heaviest snowfall of the season. Three to four inches accumulated before mid-morning, and forecasters have the notion that maybe six to ten

inches will fall. Prospects for continued below-freezing temperatures would seem to insure a white Christmas.—Staff photo.

### NOTED ECONOMIST PREDICTS

## Babson Sees Good Times, Tax Cut, Johnson Winning

By ROGER BABSON

I am still emotionally upset as I make this forecast after the brutal assassination of President Kennedy. I, however, will try to submerge my emotions and base this forecast of 1964 on the facts as I interpret them.

OUR NEW PRESIDENT. I state emphatically that President Johnson may accomplish far more constructively before November 1964 than our late President would have been able to do. President Johnson understands better how to handle Congress, and has the confidence of businessmen. Therefore, I am reassured as to the first ten months of 1964.

ELECTION IN NOVEMBER. At the Republican Convention in the summer of 1964, there will be a conflict between Goldwater and Rockefeller, and per-

haps others. For this reason, Mr. Nixon may slip in and get the Republican nomination. Certainly President Johnson will secure the nomination of the Democratic Party; he is a far-sighted man, and knows politics. Therefore, with the Republicans nominating any one of the three leading names mentioned above, I now forecast that President Johnson will be elected President of the United States in November 1964. All of this gives me more assurance that 1964 should be a good year.

TAX CUT. A tax cut will be enacted sometime during the coming session of Congress; and it will surely be made retroactive to January 1, 1964. The tax cut should help consumer buying; it may even increase general business.

CIVIL RIGHTS. Some sort of a civil-rights bill will be passed by Congress during 1964. The Administration wants to please the South and hold its Democratic votes there, but the civil-rights bill now before Congress is not satisfactory to the white people of the North. Therefore, I forecast that whatever civil-rights bill is passed before the election of 1964 will be considerably watered down.

NEGRO PEOPLE. The Negro will continue to make progress

and get more, but I predict that the gains will have to come largely through changing attitudes of the people. Otherwise, the situation will be much like the prohibition problem which the good people of the nation thought could be solved by legislation. Such reforms take place only as the minds and hearts of the people are changed for the better.

GOVERNMENT SPENDING. Of course, in the long run, the survival of a nation should depend upon its spending less than it takes in. Nowadays, however, it is unfashionable—for consumers or government—to have balanced budgets. Therefore, I predict that 1964 will see a bigger deficit than this year's.

DEPRESSION. Whether for better or for worse, the voters have been taught to believe they can and should get something for nothing, and only a severe depression could ultimately change this belief. I, however, look for no depression in 1964.

AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK. Although crops, prices, and farm income may be basically dependent on the weather, much of the world is short of food. Russia's and China's heavy purchases of grains will do more to bolster U. S. farm income than will government-supported

prices in 1964.

DOW-JONES INDUSTRIALS. I forecast that the stock market as measured by the Dow-Jones Averages will make a new high in 1964, but may sell lower after the elections. However, readers must remember that the Dow-Jones Industrial list, which everyone seems to think represents the market, may be very deceptive.

SPECULATIVE STOCKS. Of the approximately 1550 stocks listed on the New York Stock Exchange, a majority have been going down while the Dow-Jones list of 30 which everyone watches have been going up. This is due to the purchase of Dow-Jones issues today largely by trustees, pension funds, mutual companies, and others that prefer fairly conservative and dividend-paying companies. I forecast that stocks not in the (continued on page four)

### Democrat Takes First Steps In Expansion Plan

The Architects Engineers Collaborative of Boone and Hickory are making plans for the rebuilding of the Watauga Hard-ware structure next to the Democrat, which will become a functioning part of the newspaper property.

As soon as plans are complete and bids can be taken, work on the structure will begin, and should be completed in a few weeks.

Printing presses and other equipment used in commercial printing will be moved to the rear of the building, which will connect with the present Democrat composing room. The front will give us more room for office supplies, which we have always handled on a limited scale more as a service to our customers.

This is the first step in a long-range building and expansion program at the Democrat.

### Dr. Fail Joins Staff Of Lenoir Hospital

A personable, well-qualified young physician is the latest addition to the medical profession of Caldwell County.

Dr. Philip Fail, who has been practicing in Blowing Rock for the past few years, joined the staff of Dula Hospital Dec. 1.

Dr. Fail, a native of South Carolina, spent his childhood near Orangeburg at Branchville, where his widowed mother, Mrs. James Frank Fail has her residence.

Upon graduation from high school he joined the United

States Navy and was with it for two years near the end of World War II. In Japan he was stationed at Hiroshima for a time after the war.

Dr. Fail did his undergraduate work at the University of South Carolina. He not only has a medical degree but also a pharmacist's degree. After receiving his college diploma he practiced pharmacy in Columbia.

He then returned to school, entering the Medical College of (continued on page six)

### \$50,000 TRANSACTION

## New Hospital Site Is Part Of Greer Farm

### Sale Of Present Plant To State Is Authorized

A site has been chosen for the construction of the new Watauga County Hospital, Jack D. Cobb, vice-chairman of the hospital Board of Trustees, announced Thursday.

The site, known as the Greer property, is located on Deerfield Road near Highway 321, just outside of Boone. "The site," Cobb said, "contains eight and one-half usable acres, at a total price of \$50,000."

Purchase has not yet actually been made, but the trustees have an option on the site, Cobb said. Actual construction will begin as soon as final plans for the new structure are completed by Holloway and Reeves, Raleigh engineering and architectural firm.

The hospital, a \$1,500,000 project according to original estimates, was made possible through the passing of a \$500,000 hospital bond issue in the county Sept. 18.

Purchase of this site, listed as Site No. 3 among the nine originally proposed for the hospital, has been approved by the North Carolina Medical Care Commission.

In a letter dated Dec. 10, Bruce K. Jones, engineer for the North Carolina Medical Care Commission in Raleigh, had this to say about the site: "This site is on rolling ground, but is more level than any of the other eight sites inspected by the Commission. The sewer system is less than two-tenths of a mile away, and city water is adjacent to the site."

"All of the site would be usable for hospital purposes, and its dimensions are such that there would be no difficulty in locating a building on the site in a way that would allow for future growth and expansion. "This appears to be the most desirable of the sites inspected, and although the acreage is less than some of the other sites, it is with the knowledge that all of the site would be usable."

"Its approval is recommended by the Medical Care Commission."

Jones further stated that the (continued on page six)



Five persons were injured, two of them critically, in the wreckage of this Volkswagen early Friday morning. Photo by Flowers.

## Five Are Injured As Car Goes Over Embankment

### Democrat Editorial Printed In Congressional Record

An editorial from the Watauga Democrat, written on the death of President Kennedy, has been printed in the Congressional Record, according to a letter from Senator Sam J. Ervin, Jr., who writes as follows:

Mr. Rob Rivers  
Editor Watauga Democrat  
Boone, N. C.

Dear Mr. Rivers:  
On December 11 I delivered a eulogy of the late President Kennedy on the floor of the Senate. Following the eulogy, I placed in the Congressional Record a number of articles and editorials from the North Carolina press, including one which you sent to me.

Your thoughtfulness in providing me with the material which I included in my statement, is appreciated. I think it is highly appropriate that such articles and editorials be made a permanent part of the record of the Senate as evidence of the esteem and affection the people of the State had for our late President.

It occurs to me that you might care to have a bound copy of these proceedings, therefore I shall send one to you at such time as copies are received from the Government printer.

With all kind wishes, I am,  
Sincerely yours,  
SAM J. ERVIN, JR.

### New Auto Tags To Go On Sale

New automobile license tags will go on sale at Boone Chamber of Commerce office January 2.

All persons are requested to read carefully the instructions enclosed with their license renewal cards as to information concerning proof of liability insurance.

### Pete Hagaman, Local Builder, Dies Suddenly

Orville Orin (Pete) Hagaman, 54, well-known retired building contractor, died from what was believed to have been a stroke last Tuesday at his home at Forest Grove, in Beaver Dam township.

Mr. Hagaman had been in ill health for several years, but no recent change for the worse in his condition had been noted.

Mr. Hagaman worked as a builder all his adult life, mostly in Watauga County. He worked during the war years as a draftsman with Fisher Body Corporation in Detroit. (continued on page six)

### Arkie Hampton Rites Saturday

Emanuel Arkie Hampton, age 83, died Dec. 19 at his home on Route 4, Boone.

We was a farmer and life long resident of Watauga County and the son of Jordan and Rachel Coffey Hampton.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday at 2 p. m. at Mount Vernon Baptist Church by Rev. E. O. Bustle. Burial was in Mt. Vernon cemetery.

Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Mary Ann Storie Hampton of Route 4, Boone; four sons, Dallas of Lenoir; Luther of Germany, Charles and Herbert of Boone; six daughters, Mrs. Ray Brown of Boone, Mrs. Wilma Greene of West Point, Va., Mrs. Ronda Coffey of Blowing Rock, Mrs. Carroll S. Lamkin

(Continued on page four)

Five persons were injured about 5 a. m. Friday when the 1958 Volkswagen in which they were riding plunged off an embankment on Highway 105 near the Watauga River bridge.

Investigating Highway Patrolman George Baker reported that Conley M. Williams, of Landrum, S. C., was going south

### Bulletin

Debra Williams, five-month-old passenger in the 1958 Volkswagen which wrecked Friday morning on Highway 105 near the Watauga River bridge, died Saturday night at Watauga Hospital, despite round-the-clock efforts by surgeons to save her life.

The girl was said to have been suffering from loss of blood and a respiratory condition brought on by overexposure to the cold weather Friday.

Her death was the seventh traffic fatality on the county's highways since September 3.

Mrs. Virginia Williams, mother of the dead child, remains in serious condition at Watauga Hospital, but is said to be much improved.

on 105 when he ran off the road onto the right shoulder, ran down the embankment, and struck a large rock. The vehicle bounced across the creek and landed on its top.

Admitted to Watauga Hospital were two passengers in the (continued on page six)

### Stores To Close For Christmas

Herman W. Wilcox, President of the Boone Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association, reports that stores will stay open today (Monday) until 9 p. m., but will close at their regular hours tomorrow, Christmas Eve.

The stores will close two days for Christmas, Wilcox said — Wednesday, Christmas Day, and Thursday, Dec. 26. Stores will also be closed all day Jan. 1, New Year's Day.

### Eggers Old Home Burned Down In Saturday Blaze

The former S. C. Eggers home, which stood by the side of Mr. Eggers' present home, one mile west of Boone on 421, was completely destroyed Saturday noon by a blaze of unknown origin, which might have originated from an oil stove in the building.

The two-story frame house, Mr. Eggers said, was built by Mr. Clay Trivette about 1900, and was occupied for many years by the Hines family, pioneer residents of this area. Mr. Eggers and his family lived there until recent years and all their children were born and reared in the old home, and he says that there was considerable sentimental attachment to the house.

Two families occupied the house, but both families were away at the time of the fire. Some of the furniture was saved from the downstairs area of the burning building.

Mr. Eggers says the total loss was about \$20,000. It was partially covered by insurance.