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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER			
1966	Hi	Lo	Snow Prec.
Jan. 25	28	17	
Jan. 26	16	22	2 1/2
Jan. 27	22	-3	2 1/2
Jan. 28	29	10	
Jan. 29	23	11	1 1/2
Jan. 30	18	-13	6
Jan. 31	17	-10	

Snow Given To Nearest Half Inch

VOLUME LXXVIII—NO. 32

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1966

10 CENTS PER COPY

18 PAGES—3 SECTIONS



AT FIRST, IT WAS A PRETTY SNOW, and street, gathering up supplies in the midst of people moved back and forth along Boone's a storm that came late and is staying long. . .

Biting Gales Prevail

-18 Degree Temperature Accompanies Last Snow

Heart Effort Begins

The 1966 Heart Fund Campaign will open here and throughout North Carolina on Tuesday, February 1, and will continue through February 28, it was stated today by Mrs. Lura Greene, Watauga County Heart Fund Chairman.

The officers of this local division of the Heart Association met last Monday to outline work for the month's campaign under the theme "Hope For Hearts". Although this is the shortest month of the year, it will be the busiest of the year for those volunteers who have taken up this as their cause. It is hoped that every person in Watauga County will have a chance to help in the fight against heart diseases during the month of February.

"Great advances have been made against the heart and blood vessel diseases in the years since the Heart Association became a voluntary organization in 1948," the chairman declared. "The public's attitude of pessimism about heart disease has been reversed. Today we know that some forms of the heart and blood vessel diseases can be prevented, some cured and almost all helped with proper treatment after early diagnosis," she pointed out.

"Most heart attack victims recover from initial attacks, and of those who do, three out of four go back to work. High blood pressure, which can cause heart, brain, and kidney damage, now can be controlled in most instances. Stroke is no longer hopeless, and thousands of victims are now being rehabilitated and returned to active lives. Most cases of rheumatic fever can be prevented. In the past decade, remarkable progress has been made in correcting congenital heart defects through surgery," she said.

Despite this progress, the campaign chairman added, it was purchased in the winter of



HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT WORKING TO OPEN SECONDARY ROADS

Schools Yet Closed, Drift Problem Posed

BY RACHEL RIVERS

At first it was a nice snow, the kind that falls so gently that it piles up on telephone lines, the kind that's good for making snowballs or sleighing down a sloping hill.

The ski lodges were having a banner business and as the long-awaited snow began easing into the mountains, people began loading up with groceries and trying to remember how much antifreeze was in the car.

County schools had been out for several days, and college students were beginning to wish their classes were cancelled.

It was Saturday, Jan. 29—the day the temperature got up to 18 degrees.

Snow Like Sand

Just after dark, the great North Wind broke loose in the Blowing Rock area and moved methodically into Boone. Loose snow carried by gale winds was like thick sand, and a drift became two feet deep in less than an hour.

Night skiing at Blowing Rock Ski Lodge was called off. Even professionals were barred from the stormy slopes. A family was making arrangements to spend the night in the lobby of the Lodge. There were no accommodations left, and the canvass-top camper they had brought was not likely to last out the storm.

Sunday dawned cold. U. S. Weather Observer Joe C. Minor noted a reading of 12 degrees below zero at 8 a. m. Sometime during the day, the mercury dipped six more degrees to 18 below.

Town of Boone road crews were working feverishly to keep the streets clear, although impassable drifts were building up within a few hours. There was the Faculty Street drift, and the Water Street drift, and a hundred others in residential areas in Boone and Blowing Rock.

Nearly all families residing on secondary roads were snowed in, and although state machinery was constantly at work on primary roads, wind and snow were unfriendly conspirators.

Sunday afternoon, a small boy, who had struck out into the storm, finally hailed a car and climbed in out of the cold—with tears on his frosty cheeks—for a ride home. He didn't want to talk about the weather, he didn't want to talk about school being out. He wanted to go home.

By and large, those who were in the storm wished they (continued on page four)

Engineer Who Mapped Parkway Dies Sunday

R. Getty Browning Sr., former chief locating engineer for the State Highway Commission who mapped the Blue Ridge Parkway, died early Sunday at Blowing Rock. He was 82.

Browning came to North Carolina as a district engineer in 1922 after working for the Maryland State Roads Commission. He became the chief locating engineer in 1925.

As chief locating engineer, Browning was responsible for the routes which many North Carolina highways follow. He literally hiked over hundreds of miles throughout the state seeking the best routes.

Browning was the chief architect of the Blue Ridge Parkway. He persuaded then Secretary

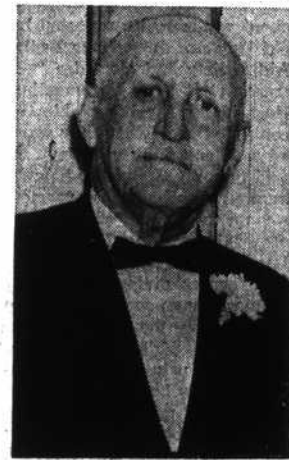
of the Interior Harold Ickes to route the scenic parkway through North Carolina instead of cutting through a corner of the state and then following a route through Tennessee.

A native of Garrett County, Browning joined the Maryland State Road Commission as a youth.

He was attracted to North Carolina by the big highway construction program of Gov. Cameron Morrison.

Browning is survived by his widow, Bertia Cooper Browning, three sons, R. Getty Browning Jr. of Wheaton, Md., Charles R. and Robert Browning, both of Raleigh, and a daughter, Mrs. Charles Davant of Blowing Rock.

A requiem mass was held at Our Lady of Lourdes in Raleigh Tuesday at 11 a. m., with funeral services at Montlawn Cemetery. A rosary service was said at 8 p. m. Monday at Mitchell's Funeral Home.



ED S. WILLIAMS

Ed Williams Dies Sunday; Rites Tuesday

Ed S. Williams, 78, well-known resident of the Mabel community, and long-time leader in the Democratic party, died suddenly at his home Sunday of what was believed to have been a heart attack.

Mr. Williams was born in Beaver Dam township to Jacob B. and Sarah Jane Richardson Williams. He had been engaged (Continued on page eight)

Say Mail Boxes Should Be Put In Handy Place

Boone Postmaster Ralph Behears urges Wataugans to make their homes and mail boxes more accessible to RFD carriers and town carriers during prevailing weather.

Patrons are urged to clear off their steps and walks in town and clean off mail boxes on the rural routes.

Behears says carriers are delivering every piece of mail that they can. All the star routes are running, he said, and mail is coming here regularly from other post offices.

WBTV To Show Ski Lodge Films

Films of Blowing Rock Ski Lodge will be featured on WBTV - Channel 3 from Charlotte at 11 p. m. on Thursday, Feb. 3.

2,269 Auto Tags Sold At C. Of C.

The Auto License Bureau of the Boone Chamber of Commerce reports 477 auto, 158 private truck, 15 farm truck, 16 trailer and one motorcycle tags sold last week. Total: 662.

Sales for the year are 2,269 auto, 773 private truck, 85 farm truck, 88 trailer and five motorcycle tags.

The Chamber reports it is receiving many calls, letters and personal inquiries about skiing, lodging, etc.

Many persons are inquiring about living facilities during the summer months, and letters are coming in from college students seeking summer employment in resorts and business offices.

State Highway Forces Move Snow Round Clock

Additional equipment has been moved into Boone from Eastern areas of North Carolina to assist the State Highway Department in opening secondary roads in Watauga County.

District Engineer Tom Winkler said Tuesday that all primary roads were open except Highway 194 to West Jefferson, and that equipment had been dispatched to break the road open.

Forty-four units are at work on secondary roads here.

The Snow-Go, a machine which blows snow out of the road, rather than scraping it, has been a tremendous asset in the work, Winkler said. It was purchased in the winter of

1960, and can plow right through drifts of eight to ten feet, as well as handle light snow work.

Barring the prospect of new snow, Winkler said all roads should be open by Wednesday (today).

Thirty-five to 40 men from the maintenance crew, the road oil crew and the construction department of the local highway office are working in shifts 24 hours a day to open up secondary roads. Additionally, crews from Eastern N. C. Highway Departments are in the mountains, pitching in to clean up the accumulated snow.

Winkler said Highway Patrol-

men are proving to be invaluable in the work—calling in (Continued on page eight)

Mrs. Isaacs Taken By Death

Mrs. Nancy Elizabeth Isaacs, 90, of Zionville, wife of John H. Isaacs, died Friday morning at her home.

She was born in Watauga County to William H. and Martha Isaacs Greer.

Surviving are her husband; two sons, Alonzo and Don Isaacs of Zionville; four daughters, Mrs. John Davis and Mrs. Max Hagaman, both of Boone; Mrs. James Grindstaff of Butler, Tenn.; and Mrs. Paul Roark of Johnson City, Tenn.; three brothers, Cicero and Filmore Greer of Boone; a sister, Mrs. Alfred Thomas of Zionville; 15 grandchildren, 28 great grandchildren; and four great, great grandchildren.

The funeral was at 2 o'clock Sunday at Union Baptist Church. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Motorists Are Blamed In Slow Snow Removal

Many of the motorists who were upset about city streets not being cleared off may have played a role in the holdup, according to Chief Hubert Thomas.

Town crews went to work as the snow began accumulating Saturday afternoon.

Thomas said at least 50 per cent of the man hours spent on the job were devoted to towing cars out of roads, especially in residential areas.

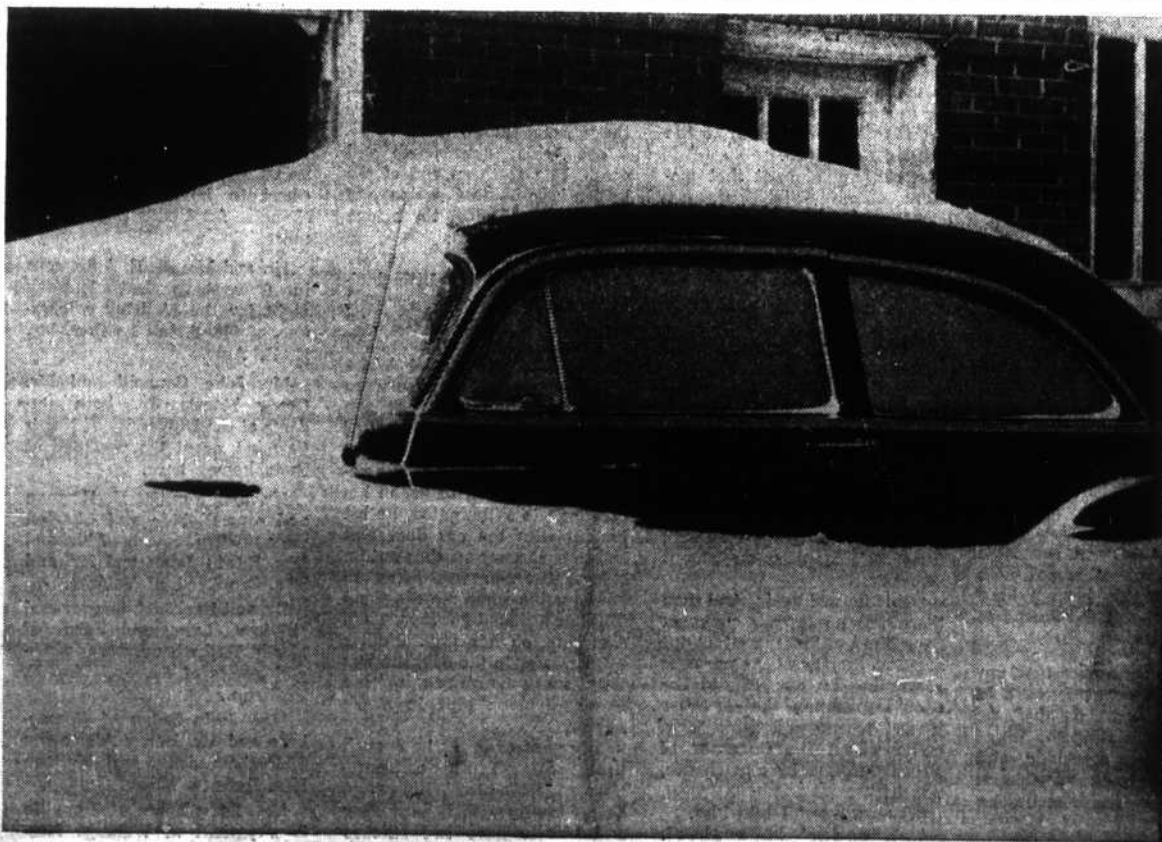
Several cars were deserted downtown also and many of them had to be towed off to make way for the snow plows.

Thomas said the city is not

responsible for cars that were towed, since they were obstructing city work.

As of press time Tuesday, drifts were being reported on Grand Boulevard, and many other streets. Thomas then said that city workers should have all streets open very shortly unless another heavy snow fall comes this week.

Motorists are urged to keep their cars out of the streets until the work is finished, and also in the event of another storm. Thomas said the city has its two trucks and a grader, plus a grader and loader from Brown Brothers at work round the clock.



Most folks just gritted their teeth while the storm covered up many of their favorite things—automobiles included.