

SANTA CLAUS IS GREETED AS CITY IS GAILY LIGHTED

Shopping Season is Officially Opened and Merchants Report Early Holiday Upswing; Tobacco Growers Swell Retail Receipts

Santa Claus made his initial appearance in Boone last Wednesday evening as the kiddies of the community and county made merry and as the myriads of colored lights brought cheerful illumination to the shopping district.

The patron saint of childhood handed out his parcels to the kiddies at the junction of Depot and King streets and police officers were kept busy keeping traffic moving at a snail's pace and preventing the hundreds of kiddies present from becoming endangered.

Retailers of the city reported greatly accelerated trade the last of the week and there is evidence that a large number of local people are getting down to attending to their Christmas buying ahead of the rush period.

The tobacco market is bringing a large number of people to the city and purchases by the burley growers is augmenting the usual retail receipts. Holiday shopping will have hit its stride by the end of the week, say retailers, with constantly increasing retail activity until Christmas eve.

Mrs. Larna Miller Dies Friday Evening

Mrs. Virginia Dare Miller, 19, died at Watauga hospital Friday evening following an appendix operation.

Funeral services were conducted from the Cove Creek Baptist church Sunday at 1:30, with the pastor, Rev. H. K. Middleton in charge.

Surviving are the husband, Larna Miller, Boone; the parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Banner, Sugar Grove; four sisters, Mrs. Ada Crisp, Elizabethton, Tenn.; Mrs. Mary Moody, Blowing Rock; Misses Grace and Cholene Banner of Sugar Grove.

Mrs. Miller was held in the highest regard by a wide circle of friends in Boone where she had lived since her marriage a little more than a year ago.

Active pallbearers were: Emory Phillips, Jim Banner, Lester Miller, Earl Pennick, Robert Banner, Glenn Warren and Paul Walsh.

Flower girls were: Ruth Sherwood, Mrs. Paul Walsh, Flowers Mast, Geneva Mast, Sue Mast, Mrs. Paul Tugman, Floy Greene, Margie Baird, Mrs. Glenn Warren, Mrs. Ralph Williams, Mrs. Don Henson, Katherine Sherwood, Mrs. Thomas Bingham, Dare Campbell, Wilma Bentley, Lavola Brown, Jimmie Harmon, Billie Harmon, Mrs. Sam Austin, Mary Alice Paimer, Violet Miller, Ruth Henson.

Cars Must Carry New Tags By Jan. 1

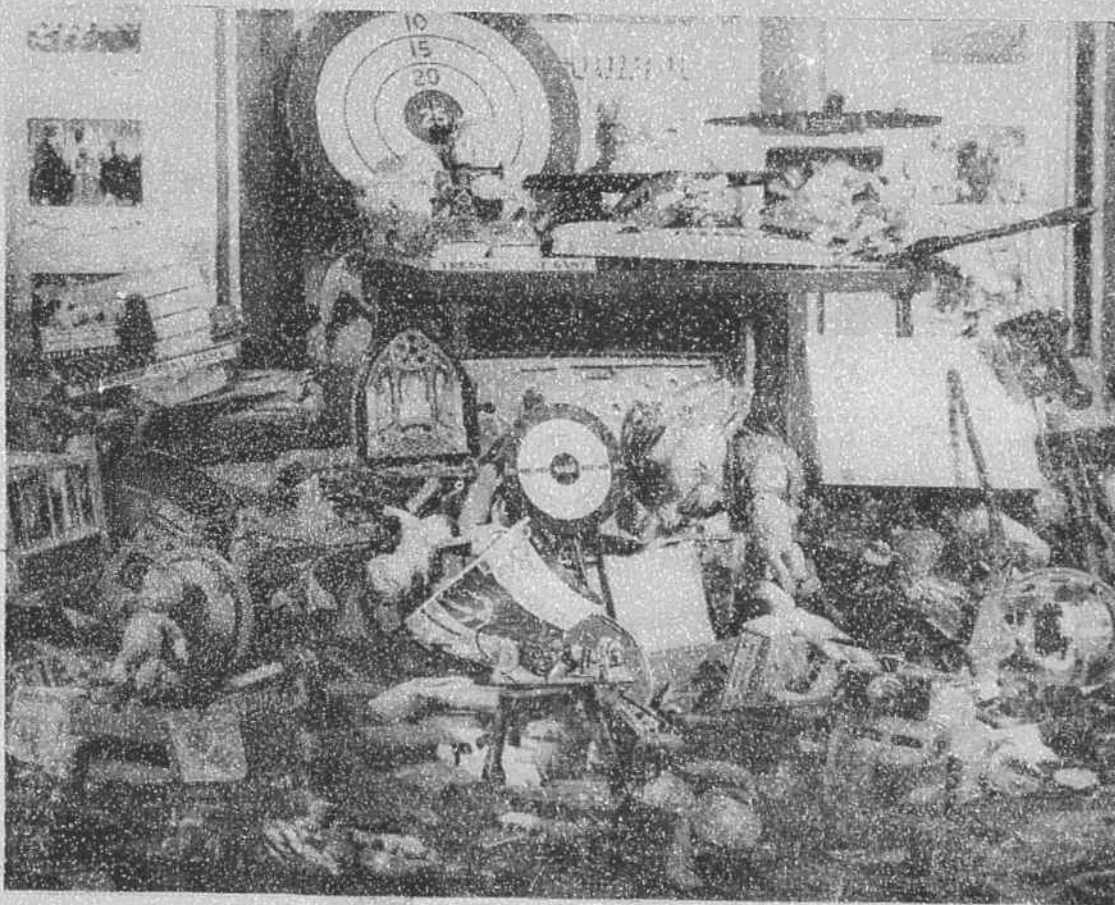
All automobiles must carry the new 1941 tags by the first day of January, according to C. M. Jones, state highway patrolman, who makes this early announcement so that all may have an opportunity to comply.

Mr. Jones states that the new tags are also valid for the remainder of this year. They may be secured in Boone at the Cook-Nichols Motor Company.

WOULD PROTECT BIRDS

Mrs. Edna Robertson, formerly of Charlotte, who has recently established her home in Boone has been appointed membership chairman for Watauga county for the N. C. Bird Club, an organization which would protect the bird life of the state.

CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR NEEDY CHILDREN



A portion of the huge truckload of toys gathered at Appalachian Theatre through the broken toy machine for the benefit of underprivileged children at Christmas time.

RED CROSS ENDS ROLL CALL DRIVE

Total Memberships Nine Less Than Goal; Total Receipts Are \$511.58

Practically complete reports compiled by Mrs. W. M. Matheson, Red Cross Roll Call chairman, indicate that the campaign for dollar memberships launched a month ago, has added 491 to the rolls of the organization, or just nine less than the quota of 500 assigned to Watauga chapter.

Contributions of \$29.58 brought the total receipts to \$511.58. Boone supplied 321 of the dollar memberships, two \$5 memberships, two \$2 memberships, and \$17.10 in contributions.

Cove Creek, 56 members; Bethel 42 members, and one membership of \$1.50; Blowing Rock, 38; Valle Crucis, 26, one \$2 membership and \$1.78 in contributions; Deep Gap, 17; Foscoe, 7; Meat Camp, 5, and 20 cents contributions.

Mrs. Matheson expresses the thanks of herself and the chapter for the unusually fine response to the roll call this year.

Following are the names of members hitherto unreported:

- Boone: W. R. Richardson, Edwin N. Hahn, Mrs. Edwin N. Hahn, Mary G. Greene, Paul Fish, Paul Lavietes, Mrs. Geo. L. Sawyer, Tom Beach, Chloe Greer, Mrs. Maude Estes, Mrs. Edna Pennick, Vernician Literary Society, Lutheran Students, Association, Safety Council, Dyncian Literary Society, Presbyterian Club, Boy Scout Troop No. 40, Thalian Literary Society, W. W. C. A., Mrs. Viola Odell, Methodist Club, B. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Garbee, Playcrafters.

Deep Gap: Claude Watson, Alan Wellborn, Mollie C. Wellborn, D. L. Stanberry, G. F. Brown, Chas. M. Watson, M. F. Greene, V. L. Moretz, Mrs. A. A. Greene, Guy Carlton, I. W. Watson, Mrs. Walter C. Greene, Grant Greene, Mrs. Grant Greene, Coolidge C. Greene, Allie Watson, Frank Cook.

Cove Creek: Mrs. K. T. Payne, Roy Ellison, Mrs. Ruth Mast, Miss Anna Mae Sherwood, Miss Jennie Love, Miss Annabel Bingham, Mrs. S. B. Adams, Ernest Hillard.

Valle Crucis: Miss Winifred Thornberg, Calvin Wentz.

SHORT STORY CONTEST WINNERS TO BE GIVEN

The winners of the short story contest, recently sponsored by the literary and education department of the Woman's Club, will be announced in the near future, says Mrs. E. T. Glenn.

The club wishes to thank the high school principals and teachers of the county for their splendid co-operation in the contest.

Election Officials Absolved As Notice Appeal is Heard

DEEP GAP FAMILY LOSES HOME MON.

All Food and Clothing Lost in Flame; Appeal for Help is Made

Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Watson of Deep Gap, lost their home and its entire contents in a fire Monday afternoon, and while the wife and eight children made good their escape, all the clothing and edibles stored in the house were destroyed.

Mr. Watson was away from home when the fire started, and Mrs. Watson was engaged in canning pork. The freshly slaughtered hogs were also consumed in the fire.

Tuesday Red Cross officials and welfare agencies were notified of the plight of Mr. Watson, who is a hard-working citizen, and foods and some clothing were supplied; however, there is yet need for help.

Clothing for Mrs. Watson, who, it is explained, wears size 14 dresses, as well as for the children, is urgently needed. There is a boy 5 years old, while the ages of the girls are 11, 9, 6, 3, 2 and one month.

Any clothing which could be used would be appreciated as well as furniture, tables, chairs, etc. A stove is also required.

Those wishing to help this destitute family should get in touch with Mrs. E. E. Garbee, head of the Red Cross, the county welfare department, or the Watauga Democrat.

Mr. Watson, who is a carpenter, could rebuild with the aid of his neighbors if he had lumber, about \$250 worth of which would be required. Anyone wishing to help by (Continued on page four)

LIONS CLUB'S SECOND ANNUAL BENEFIT SHOW WILL BE GIVEN MONDAY, DEC. 16

The Boone Lions club is holding its second annual benefit show at the Appalachian theatre next Monday, December 16.

It will be an all-fun show consisting of a blackface womanless wedding, entitled "Whar's De Groom?" which promises to be even funnier than the excellent minstrel show it staged last year.

The cast of "Whar's De Groom?" includes many of the fine performers that "wowed" you in last year's minstrel, plus some new talent that gives promise of being equally as good.

There's plenty of fun in store for you next Monday night when you see "Whar's De Groom?" Just take a look at the cast: Gene Wike, as Economy Endive, the bride; J. O. Cook, as Exodus Endive, the bride's mother; E. Ford King, as Foliun Endive, the bride's father; Jim Council, as Shoofly Tallow, Foliun (Continued on page four)

Alleged Irregularities Are Described as Election Board Investigates Conduct of Voting in Boone November 5; State Board to Hear Case at Undetermined Date

The Watauga county board of elections in special session here today investigated charges of irregularities growing out of the holding of the November 5 election in Boone township, dismissed charges made against the registrar and Democratic judge of election, found that the voting place was arranged in substantial compliance with the law, and found that the result of the election could not be changed by the charges, which it was said, were not filed according to the statutes in the matter.

The hearing was conducted before R. T. Greer, J. C. McConnell and Russell D. Hodges, members of the Watauga county board of elections. L. B. Prince of Hendersonville, member of the state elections board, was present, and served with the local board in an advisory capacity.

Various affidavits were submitted to the board by Republican citizens of the township charging official misconduct on the part of A. E. (Continued on page four)

Boone Mart Leads Burley Belt As Sales Continue

Stores of City To Be Open Evenings

Stores of the city, particularly those dealing in Christmas merchandise, will be open evenings until 9 o'clock, beginning next Wednesday, December 18, according to word coming from the Boone Merchants Association this morning.

The evening hours will be observed up to and including Christmas eve and will give ample opportunity for working people to attend to their shopping during their leisure hours.

PARADE STAGED AS FIRST DRAFTEES INDUCTED HERE

American Legion Members, High School Band and Others Join in Paying Honor to First Men to Leave Watauga Under Defense Draft Act

William Shelton Penn of Zionville and Claude Woodrow Bentley of Valle Crucis, leave this (Wednesday morning) for Fort Bragg to begin one year's military service, they being Watauga's original contingent to be inducted into the army under the compulsory draft act of the federal defense program.

Tuesday afternoon under the auspices of Watauga post, American Legion, Messrs Penn and Bentley were given a rousing reception by the people of the town which was preceded by a parade in which troopers of the World War marched with the Appalachian high school band and a group from the Watauga Red Cross chapter.

The spirited parade ended on the courthouse lawn, where Mayor W. R. Lovill delivered a brief patriotic address, praising the draftees for the part they are to play in the defense of the world's last free nation.

Messrs Penn and Bentley are guests of the local Legion post at the Daniel Boone hotel tonight and Thursday at 7:30 are to report at the local selective service office for their departure for Fort Bragg.

The members of the American Legion post express their sincere thanks to the Appalachian high school band for their aid in the program, to the Boy Scouts, the Red Cross and others who helped in making the parade successful.

Mrs. Dana Harmon Dies at Banner Elk

Mrs. Minnie Millsaps Harmon, wife of Dana Harmon of Linville, and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Millsaps of Sugar Grove, died Friday morning, December 6, in the Banner Elk hospital after an illness of about two weeks. She was 22 years old.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday afternoon at 2:00 from Bethel Baptist church with Rev. W. D. Ashley in charge, assisted by Rev. E. J. Farthing. The burial was in the family cemetery near the father's home.

In addition to her husband and three small children, Myrtle, Marie and Dana Edward, Mrs. Harmon is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Millsaps, and the following brothers and sisters: Melvin Millsaps, Sugar Grove; Mrs. Burley Smitherman, Reese; Mrs. Lucy Eggers, Sugar Grove; Bill Millsaps and Rose Edna Millsaps, Sugar Grove.

Funeral For H. P. Dougherty Thursday

Funeral services for H. P. Dougherty, aged 82, the account of whose death was chronicled in the last edition of the local paper, were held from the Boone Baptist church last Thursday afternoon with the pastor, Rev. J. C. Canipe, in charge.

Rev. A. E. Moretz, Rev. Grady Hamby and Rev. R. C. Eggers also spoke briefly during the course of the services. A large number of friends paid their respects at the bier of the well-known citizen.

The pallbearers were C. M. Greer, Rob Rivers, J. O. Cook, Wade E. Brown and D. L. Wilcox. Interment was in the city cemetery.

HEAVY SALES LEAF CONTINUE; PRICES GOOD GRADES HIGH

Tuesday Sets Record as 179,000 Pounds Burley Went Under Hammer; Ashe County Man Sells High Crop With Average of 28 Cents

The Mountain Burley Tobacco warehouse went into its sixth salesday Wednesday, with between 75,000 and 100,000 pounds of tobacco on the floor and with the prospect at noon that the average price paid for the weed would be about 21 cents. Warehouse officials stated that radio reports, newspaper dispatches and word of mouth accounts of sales at other markets indicated that the average for Boone was the highest thus far of any floor in the burley belt.

The three sales last week resulted in the disposal of 350,000 pounds of tobacco for an average of 20.83 per hundred, it is revealed. On Monday sales went to 175,000 for an average of 20.15, while on Tuesday, the banner day for tobacco receipts, 179,000 pounds were auctioned at an average of 21.07.

A Mr. Halsey of Grassy Creek, Ashe county, thus far has the highest record for any burley crop. On Friday he disposed of 1,100 pounds for an average of 28 cents. Roy Trivett of Beech Creek, sold 523 pounds Tuesday for an average of 27.75, while F. G. Garrett of Mitchell county, disposed of 1,438 pounds at an average price of 23.16.

Sales are being held every day except Saturday with a full set of buyers on each sale.

Democrats Will Hold Rally At Salisbury

Salisbury, Dec. 10.—A rally of Democratic leaders from the nine counties in the ninth district, has been scheduled here December 30 to honor Congressman Robert L. Doughton and to celebrate the return of the Doughton banner to Rowan county. The banner has been held by Cabarrus county for six years but was won again by Rowan which cast 59 more votes in the 1940 election than Cabarrus for the veteran congressman.

The banner will be brought here by C. A. Isenhour, chairman of the Cabarrus Democratic executive committee and presented to Walter H. Woodson, Jr., the Rowan chairman. W. D. Kizziah, congressional district chairman, is handling arrangements for the rally.

Air Mail Service Helps Local Mailing

The new air passenger and mail service, recently inaugurated between Norfolk, Va., and Knoxville, Tenn., with stops at Hickory, bids fair to improve air mail service to and from Boone. If officials of the C. & N. W. railway can be persuaded to have the passenger train leave Lenoir 20 minutes earlier than is now the case, a letter mailed in Boone to Raleigh would leave at 8:30 and arrive at 3:30. Likewise mail to Washington, D. C., could be delivered from Boone at 6:15 of the same day, whereas air mail now cannot be delivered in the capital city till the following morning.

Local postal officials and others are making an effort to have the Lenoir rail schedule changed so as this community and others may benefit from the improved air mail service.

METHODIST BAZAAR

A chicken supper and gift sale will be held by the ladies of the Methodist church in the basement of the church building Friday, December 13, from 5 to 9 p. m. The proceeds from a 35-cent admission charge will be used for church purposes.

LARGE POTATO YIELD

Mr. W. W. Gragg of Boone, is busily engaged in marketing his bumper crop of Irish potatoes, which he says are the finest he has yet raised. He produced 4,800 bushels of potatoes on 24 acres of land, or exactly 200 bushels per acre on the average. Some plots, he said, produced 300 bushels to the acre.