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# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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This Week

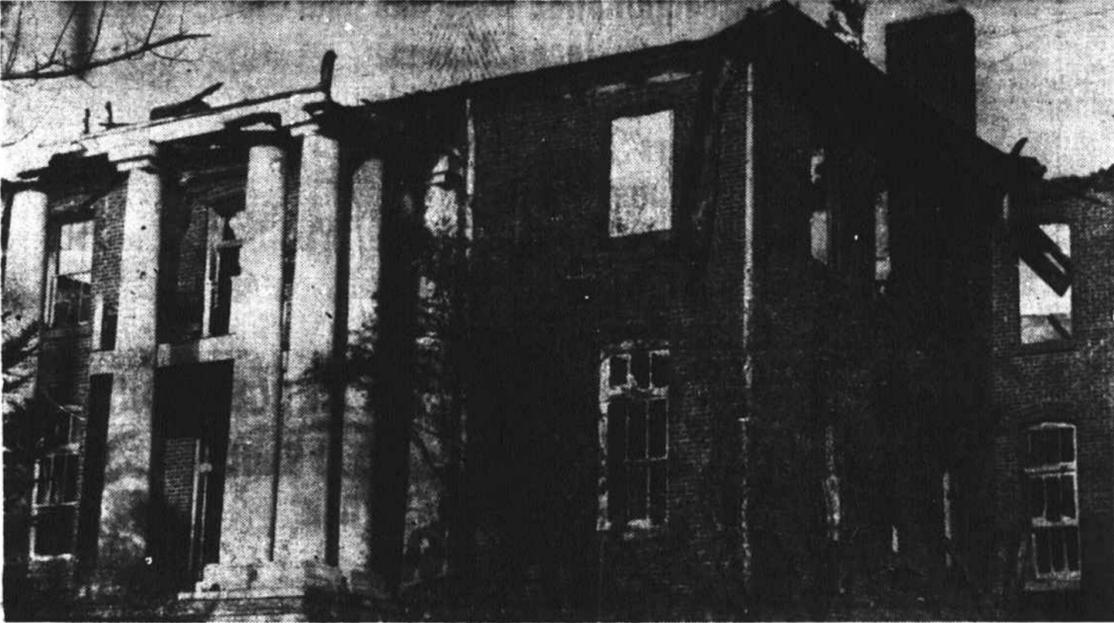
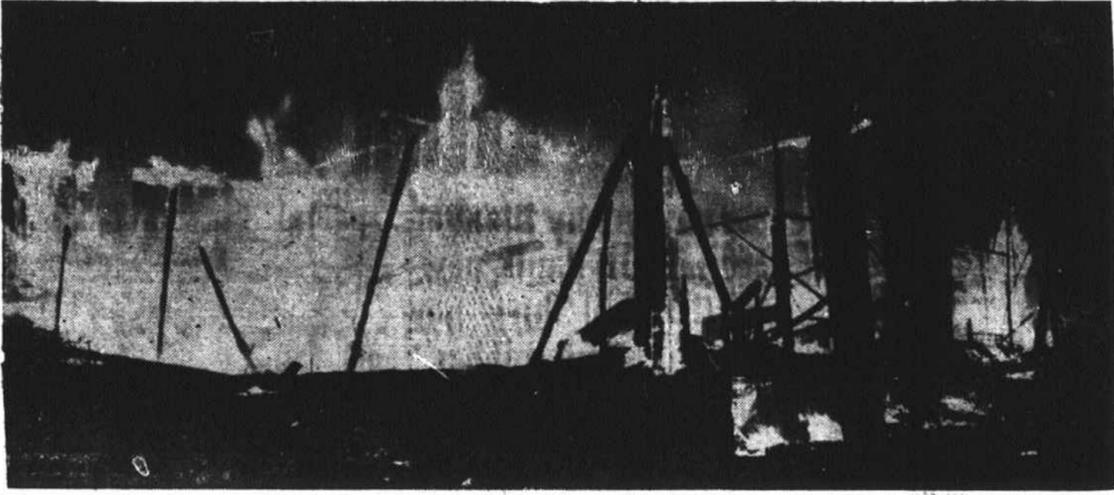
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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1946

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## SCENES AT CITY'S MOST DISASTROUS FIRE



Above is shown the music building, frame structure of Appalachian College as it was razed by flames in an early morning blaze last Friday. Below are the ruins of the art building, its interior burned out by fire, which did a damage to the college plant of no less than \$200,000. (Photo by Palmer Blair).

### COLEMAN SAYS BURLEY SALES SHOULD BE GOOD

Manager of Mountain Burley Warehouses Getting All in Readiness For First Sales Next Week; Another Big Warehouse Now Being Used

Mr. R. C. Coleman of Tabor City, has been in town for the past few days getting all in readiness for the opening of his two warehouses of the Mountain Burley Warehouse Corporation, and believes that prices will be good on the Boone market this year and that the poundage of last year will be increased. He is inclined to the belief that seven or eight million pounds may be sold in Boone this season.

Mr. Coleman, who has managed the Mountain Burley Warehouses here for six years, states that the big new house near the bus station, which was to have been in use last year is now ready and will double the floor space of the corporation. The first sale will be held in the new house he says, on December 2, and the No. 1 house on December 4th. With favorable grading weather, tobacco is coming in satisfactorily, and Mr. Coleman says there should be at least 200,000 pounds on the baskets today. The houses are open 24 hours a day for the receipt of tobacco.

Mr. Coleman is to be assisted in the management of the two houses by his son, R. C. Coleman, Jr., and Miss Harriet Sykes, the remainder of the Mountain Burley organization being as follows:

Bookkeepers: E. H. Cox, Mrs. Cox and Don Watson.  
Fred McQueen, bookman.  
Mr. Russell, chipman.  
Harvey Nunn, auctioneer.  
W. Webster, ticket marker.  
W. E. Allen, day weighman.  
Blaine Miller, night weighman.  
Russell Greene and Vernon Greene, floor managers.  
Audrey Harrelson, leaf man.

Messrs W. H. Gragg, S. C. Eggers and H. Grady Farthing will be on the floor to assist the factory of a midemeanor."

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### \$200,000 Fire Razes 2 College Buildings

#### Preaches Sunday



Dr. Luther Little, who has been engaged by the Boone Baptist Church as a supply minister during the month of December, will preach next Sunday morning and evening at the local church. Dr. Little, who is one of the state's most able ministers, was formerly heard by many local people through the facilities of radio station WBT.

#### Laws For Fur Dealers Are Cited By Warden

Stringent laws have been enacted by the State affecting fur dealers, it is reminded by County Game Warden Walter Edmisten, who says:

"Section 1, Chapter 333, public laws of North Carolina state that every person, firm or corporation who buys raw furs, pelts or skins of fur-bearing animals shall take out a license with the Department of Conservation and Development according to his activities in state or county, and shall have said license before he buys furs.

"Any person or firm who buys furs without the proper license or furs unlawfully taken, is guilty of a midemeanor."

Blowing Rock Fire Department Aids Local Fighters in Effort to Stop Flame Which Destroyed Original College Building; Music and Art Departments Suffer From Fire; No Building Plans

An early morning fire, of undetermined origin, on Friday morning razed the music building at Appalachian State Teachers College, spread to the art building, where only the brick walls were left standing, and inflicted a damage to buildings and equipment of no less than \$200,000, representing the most disastrous conflagration in the history of the town.

The college night watchman noticed the flames at about 2 a. m., which seemed to have originated in a top story of the old Watauga Academy building, which housed the music department. The fire department immediately responded to the alarm. The Blowing Rock department was shortly fighting shoulder to shoulder with the local men, but despite the heroic efforts of both groups, the two buildings represent a total loss.

The music building housed perhaps ten pianos, and various other equipment, including the equipment of the high school and college bands, while the art building contained much valuable equipment belonging to the college, as well as to individual faculty members.

Dr. B. B. Dougherty, President of the college, states that work is going along in the music and art departments, by the use of other buildings, and by the use of some of the class rooms at the Baptist Church, which were generously tendered to the institution in the emergency. The State carries insurance on the buildings. Dr. Dougherty says, and an adjuster was expected to arrive the first of the week. Dr. Dougherty couldn't at this time state when a building project

(Continued on page 8)

### TAYLOR THINKS BURLEY SALES TO BE EIGHT MILLION

President of Farmers Warehouse is Enthusiastic About Prospects for the Boone Market This Season; the Personnel at New Warehouse

"We are enthusiastic over the prospects for the ensuing burley tobacco season in this area," says C. C. Taylor, president of the Farmers Burley Warehouse, Inc., of Boone.

"Tobacco looks good and the weather has been favorable. "We at the Farmers Burley Warehouse believe that Boone will have one of its very best seasons in 1946-47 and we estimate that the Boone market as a whole should sell pretty close to eight million pounds of tobacco this season. We are trying to do our part to make this a banner year for the grower and for the market."

Mr. Taylor announced that the Farmers Burley Warehouse personnel for the opening of the season, with officers of the company Mr. A. G. Wright and Mr. C. C. Taylor as sales managers, and Mr. Rex Taylor as assistant sales manager and general floor manager. "Butch" Chandler will be the Farmers Burley Warehouse auctioneer. Floor managers will be Mr. Perry Greene and Mr. Alvin Cannon. Ticket marker will be "Tommy" Thomas. State licensed weighmasters will be on duty, and they are James I. Waggoner, Woodrow Greene and A. G. Wright, Jr. The office personnel is made up of Mr. C. H. Jackson, bookkeeper and payoff man; "Clip" Walker, bookman; Kermit Watson, clipman, and Mrs. Agnes Hayworth, general office clerk.

Others assisting in the operation of the floor will be A. W. Smith, "Bud" Forester, Fred Greer, O. L. Badgett, Baxter Wilson and Audrie Presnell.

As the occasion demands others will be added to the force. Navy reorganizing operating forces; no more numbered fleets.

### Christmas Issue of Local Newspaper Appears Next Week

A survey of the local mercantile establishments reveals that the bulk of the Christmas advertising will be run in the next issue of the Democrat, and the publisher wishes to state that he must have advertising copy as quickly as possible in order to do the increased job, without additional help, which can't be secured. All advertisements must be in hand as nearly as is possible this week to insure publication, and Monday noon will be the time limit. The rush of holiday and other advertising at this season makes it necessary for the publisher to have complete cooperation to do the job. Cuts and layouts with copy suggestions will be supplied where wanted.

Contributors are asked, likewise to get in their organization news, and other matters of routine nature at once. Only spot news can be handled at the last minute.

### CONVICTED FOR MISUSE OF MAIL

Grady Trivett Fined in Federal Court for Using Mails to Defraud

Grady S. Trivett of Vilas, on Tuesday of last week, pled guilty in Federal court at Wilkesboro, to an indictment for using the mails to defraud, in connection with advertising bird dogs for sale through the mails, and then failing to deliver the dogs after receiving payment therefor.

The crime allegedly was committed on October 1, 1945, and on other dates, according to Post-office Inspector Clarence C. Keever of Lenoir who investigated the charges and brought about the indictment of Trivett.

The following scheme was said to have been used:

Trivett advertised hunting dogs in the "Red Ranger," a sportsman's magazine, accepted orders accompanied by checks in amounts of \$25 to \$65, did not ship any dogs in return for the money or make refund to the purchaser.

Victims resided in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, Kentucky and Alabama. He secured \$250 in this way, Keever said.

Trivett was sentenced by Judge Hayes as follows: Make complete restitution of amounts defrauded, pay a fine of \$250, a year and a day at Petersburg, Va., the execution of this sentence to be set aside until the May, 1947, term of court at Wilkesboro, at which time the defendant will be placed on probation for three years, if the other provisions of the sentence are complied with.

### Mrs. Ruth B. Kennedy Succumbs Thursday; Funeral On Saturday

Mrs. Ruth Benfield Kennedy, 39 years old, died at the home of her mother, Mrs. D. C. Benfield last Thursday. Mrs. Kennedy had been in bad health for eighteen months, and her condition had been considered critical for the past several weeks.

Mrs. Kennedy had spent the greater part of her life in Boone, was a member of the Baptist Church, and before she became ill had taken an active part in the affairs of the community. Friendly and personable, she was well known throughout this area, and held in the very highest regard by her acquaintances.

Funeral services were conducted from the Baptist Church Saturday at 11 o'clock by Rev. J. C. Canipe, the former pastor, who was assisted by Dr. John G. Bardeen, and interment was in the community cemetery.

The active pallbearers were: Wade E. Brown, Dewitt Barnett, Bob Agle, J. C. Canipe, Jr., Howard Cottrell and Hale Vance. The only immediate survivors are the husband, Mr. A. H. Kennedy, and the mother, Mrs. D. C. Benfield.

### CUT RATES MAY END

The reduced furlough rates for servicemen will be terminated by all but four of the railroads operating East of the Mississippi. The new rates will go into effect on Dec. 1, unless rescinded by the U. S. Commerce Commission, pending a hearing, according to the Association of American Railroads. Bus lines are also considering cancelling servicemen's low rates in certain areas.

## Boone Burley Market to Hold First Sales Monday

### Heads Polio Effort



R. E. AGLE

### Agle Chosen To Lead March Of Dimes Campaign In County

Dr. Ralph MacDonald, State Chairman of the 1947 March of Dimes Campaign, has appointed R. E. Agle, local theatre manager, to serve as chairman of the Watauga county division. The drive will open January 15 and continue through January 30.

Committees are being appointed and plans formulated that will be announced shortly. As in the past, 50% of the funds collected will be retained for use in the county while 50% will be turned in to the National Foundation of Infantile Paralysis.

### STORES OBSERVE THANKSGIVING

Most Business Establishments Close Their Doors for Thanksgiving Holiday

The members of the Boone Merchants Association are closing their stores today in observance of Thanksgiving, says Mr. Grady Tugman, president of the organization, who states that information is that most non-members are following suite and observing the holiday.

Certain places, notably restaurants, drug stores, and some of the automotive servicing establishments, are expected to remain open, while public offices, the postoffice and bank are expected to close.

### Wm. Martin Hodges Dies at Adams Home

William Martin Hodges, 69 years old, well-known resident of the Adams section, died at the home near Boone Tuesday morning, from an illness of about three weeks. Mr. Hodges had been in declining health for a long time prior to his fatal illness.

Funeral services are to be conducted Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Oak Grove Baptist Church, by Rev. W. D. Ashley and Rev. E. C. Hodges, and interment will be in the Hines cemetery nearby, by Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home.

Surviving are three sons and two daughters: David Hodges, Boone; Dallas Hodges, Vilas; Richard Hodges, Adams; Mrs. Nora Haynes, Boone; and Mrs. Stuart Hodges, Lenoir. There are three brothers and one sister: John, Joe, and Jim Hodges, and Mrs. N. J. Presnell of Adams.

### Trappers Warned To Abide By State Law

Walter Edmisten, county game warden, issues the following information for the benefit of trappers in this area:

"Section 3, Chapter 278, public laws of North Carolina, unlawful to set steel traps or dead falls in all counties west of Surry Wilkes, Alexander, Catawba and Cleveland, except that steel traps may be set for muskrat and mink in the water along streams in cultivated areas. The trapping season for muskrats and mink is December 1 to February 15th. All trappers must have either county or State trappers' license."

### FLUE-CURED LEAF MARTS TO SUSPEND OPERATIONS

Henderson, Nov. 24—All flue-cured tobacco markets will suspend operations indefinitely after Wednesday, Nov. 27, because of the soft coal strike, it was announced yesterday.

### Warehousemen Agree That Poundage May Be Better Than Last Year; Three Big Houses Will Avoid Usual Congestion on Local Mart

The Boone Burley Tobacco market gets going next week, the first sales to be held Monday, and both the Mountain Burley Warehouse Corporation and the Farmers Warehouse Corporation, are of the opinion that with the increased floor space available, the market should sell somewhere near eight million pounds this year, to set a new record for Boone.

The Mountain Burley Corporation has two houses this year, having added a second one since last season, while the Farmers Warehouse Corporation has built a commodious structure in the western part of town. With the three warehouses open day and night receiving tobacco, it is believed that there will be a minimum of congestion and that farmers will be able to place their weed on the floors promptly throughout the season.

Both corporations have their full staffs on the job ready for the season, and have spared no expense in getting together the finest organizations possible, in an effort to insure the continued growth of the Boone market. All houses are manned by men with years of experience in the tobacco business, and farmers will be assured of perhaps the best service in Boone to be found anywhere in the burley belt.

Receipts of tobacco today are fairly large. The weather recently has been right favorable for grading, and large receipts are expected to start before the week-end.

The season's auctions start Monday at Mountain Burley Warehouse No. 2, will switch Tuesday to the Farmers Warehouse, and will be held on Wednesday at the old No. 1 Mountain Burley house.

### SHORTAGE OF TUTORS ACUTE

County Superintendent Gives Idea of Emergency in Which Local Schools Are Found

W. Howard Walker, county superintendent, in calling attention to the acute shortage of capable teachers in the state, reveals that in 1941-42 all teachers in Watauga county had "A" certificates or better, while at present, in an effort to bridge the emergency a number of teachers are being used in the county who have no state certificates at all. There are now 16 teachers with "G" certificates, 89 "A", 7 "B", 1 "C", 5 Elem. "B", and 12 with no certificates at all.

"The situation is alarming," says Mr. Walker, "We continue to have vacancies, with no qualified teachers to fill them."

### Aged Michigan Native Passes At Restorium

Herbert B. Gillette, 85 years old, died last Saturday evening at 8 o'clock in Clark's Creek, at the Valle Crucis Restorium, operated by Rev. W. L. Atkins, where he had resided for six months. Born and reared in Michigan, he made his home in the South for the past 50 years. Thirty years of this time has been spent in Columbia, S. C., where he held a position with the Southern Railway Co.

The remains were sent by Reins Sturdivant to Columbia, S. C., for interment.

His death came unexpectedly, he having been found dead in bed about one and a half hours after retiring. Rev. Mr. Atkins discovered the death in his final check-up of the Restorium.

His only living relative is Dr. E. J. Martin, Detroit, Mich.

### Local Playhouse Host To Fifty Boy Scouts

Almost fifty Boy Scouts of Watauga county were guests at the Appalachian Theatre last Thursday night where a Warner Brothers short subject, "Men of Tomorrow" was showing. The picture told the story of Boy Scouts emphasizing the importance of local community and pointing out the great work done by volunteer workers.