WATAUGA COUNTY
Leading agricultural and tourist area. Livestock, dairying and truck farming of paramount importance. Blue Ridge Parkway traverses county, and touches Blowing Rock, one of the principal Summer resorts of Eastern America.

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Year 1888

BOONE
The educational center of Western North Carolina. Home of Appalachian State Teachers College, which attracts hundreds of students annually from all parts of the nation. Modern business district. A good place to live.

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KING STREET

BY
ROB RIVERS

EASTER comes and goes, with good spring weather, good preaching, splendid music, plenty of food on the tables, and the traditional Easter Parade . . . The pageantry of the best dressed men and women in all the world, . . . the day when the glad rags may or may not be the principal thought in the minds of most people . . . And the man and woman, seen now and then among the throng, who just amble along with what was their Sunday's best last year . . . Just as happy as the traditional Jay bird in June, and absolutely unmindful of the contrast between their costumes and the more colorful trappings of their neighbors . . . Always sort of admired these rugged individuals of styledom . . . Most of the stores of the city are closed down Monday, as owners and employees take Easter holiday . . . Wade Brown walks about town in striped overall suit and tells of the hard work he must get done while away from the office . . . Business as usual at hardware store, garages and a few other places . . . while your county newspaper gets down to business right on the dot, same as other days . . . High school kiddies ride pickup through the town Saturday, gathering old newspapers and report a bountiful supply contributed by householders . . . Fishing season opens next Saturday, and game wardens say that they placed large numbers of trout in the waters of the county . . . which should provide good angling for the time being at least . .

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TOWN WORKERS busily engaged the first of the week, in clearing away debris from back alleys, thus getting an early start on clean-up week . . . Pete Hagaman, who does a lot of building in this section, says building materials take jump in last few days, as indications mount that 1950 will be a banner year in the construction business . . . Spirals of blue smoke rise in various sections of the town as vegetable gardeners burn rubbish from their plots, and make ready for the plowman . . . That is those of us who failed to get the seeds, in the ground on Good Friday, when they were supposed to be planted.

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BOBBY McCONNELL retrieves his dog from Jerry Coe, some days ago, and the canine who went (on his own) to Doctor Martin's home to get his broken bones mended, is well on the way to recovery . . . Incidentally the dog tale found its way into the channels of the national press, and one reader called our attention to its appearance on page one of a metropolitan newspaper . . . Incidentally, Mr. W. D. Farthing, cashier of the Northwestern Bank, says that dog tale fixed us right up with a title . . . a spank-up good one . . . We had visions of being called "Colonel", "Squire," or something of the sort, when the genial banker, concluded, "You are without question the most gifted liar in the community!" . . . Mr. Farthing allowed as how the place of the best tale-teller had been vacant for a good long time, and that he, personally, is glad that the matter has been settled conclusively . . . So are we . . . had always wanted some sort of a title . . . one that didn't carry along any great degree of responsibility . . . and at the same time hinted at accomplishment . . . Think we've been fixed up!

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TALK OF THE MAY PRIMARIES first indication that it's election year again, and that everybody can roll up his sleeves and take to the great American game, like the traditional duck to the lily pond . . . Folks are beginning to choose sides in the Senatorial race here, and long-range prospects are for the running in Watauga to be between Senator Graham and Willis Smith . . . No indication at present that Bob Reynolds will command any sizable local support . . . Meantime we enjoy the streetside conversations about the candidates, the cracks about the President, the Congress, the Governor, and the sure-fire proposals one hears advanced for the settling of the explosive international problems, together with the recipes for preventing the cold war from warming up.

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THESE DISCUSSIONS are sometimes most interesting . . . The other day we heard a number of these round table affairs concerning the national administration in particular, and talked to several individuals in between, each of whom had an angle . . . One fellow, who was right down low in the economic scale, and whom by all the rules, would have been expected to be a devotee of the New Deal, the Fair Deal, and President Truman . . . just didn't like a thing

(Continued on page six)

ABRAMS CITES PROGRESS OF EDUCATION IN NO. CAROLINA

Educational Leader, Speaking At College, Says Ignorance Is Most Deadly Disease Now Known; Many Problems Yet Remain To Be Solved.

Dr. Amos Abrams, associate editor of the NCEA Journal, Raleigh, was the speaker at the junior-senior banquet held at Appalachian State Teachers college on Saturday night. Before taking his present position, Dr. Abrams was for fourteen years, the head of the English department at Appalachian.

Speaking on progress and problems of public education, Dr. Abrams said, "Ignorance is the most devastating disease which today afflicts our people. The most severe epidemic we have ever had in North Carolina. You and I have seen men and women, through ignorance, subject to superstition and slaves of quick remedies. We have seen communities divided by some rumor which had no foundation in truth. We have witnessed juvenile delinquency and crime directly retraceable to ignorance. We know that when ignorance prevails you can drive a people and enslave them. When education prevails you can lead them, but you can't drive them, because education makes them free.

"You ought to be proud of the progress we have made in North Carolina. You will enter the teaching profession at a time when the state is spending more money for public education than ever before in its history—when teachers are receiving the highest salary ever paid in North Carolina, when the teaching load is the lowest it has ever been, when the state, by legislation, having a vote of the people, is helping to build school buildings for the first time in North Carolina, and at a time when the state has set up a program of supervision and a program of school health such as we have never before had in North Carolina.

"At the same time, in spite of this progress, we have not solved many of the vicious problems which confront public education." Dr. Abrams listed as some of the problems still facing public education as follows: Teachers salaries will buy but little more than the salaries received a few years ago; the teaching load is still so heavy in certain schools in certain counties that both teacher and child are frustrated; retirement benefits are too low to compensate those who have given their lives to public education; in spite of inspection and some improvement in bus transportation, we are still packing children into many of our buses; in spite of an extensive building program, there are still thousands of children whose educational opportunity is determined by their place of birth (such as counties where teachers are hired and fired by local politicians.)

The banquet, held in the college cafeteria, was one of the most beautiful held at the college. Decorated by tall white columns, topped by maroon jars, with a profusion of white and maroon gladiolus, and lighted by tall maroon tapers, the cafeteria bered. Professor O. M. Hartsell was a setting long to be remem- was sponsor for the junior class who gave this outstanding entertainment for the seniors.

165 To Be Tried At Spring Court Term

Judge Frank M. Armstrong will preside at the spring term of Watauga Superior Court which will convene Monday, April 24, and one hundred and sixty-five cases have been docketed for the one-week criminal term.

The following have been summoned for jury duty during the term:

Bald Mountain, Russell Vannoy, Carl Davis and Frank Greer; Beaver Dam, George Smitherman, Frank B. Wilson and Dudley Greene; Blowing Rock, H. E. Coffey, Kent Church, Clyde Clawson, Wiley Greene; Blue Ridge, Arnold Triplett, Allen Beach and Hugh Hampton; Boone, C. C. Wilcox, J. C. Cline and Earl D. Cook; Brushy Fork, Mack Norris, M. J. Williams and Joe McNeil.

Cove Creek, Dallas Edmisten, Alvin Dishman and Enoch Isaacs; Elk, Virgil Greer and Marion Hodges; Laurel Creek, E. Y. Edmisten and Sam Cable; Meat Camp, John F. Greene, Milton Coffey and Luther C. Moretz; New River, Newton Barnes, Robert Shull and Frank Bolick; North Fork, Dan South and Mack Thomas; Shawneehaw, Harston Coffey and Calvin Yates; Stony Fork, Wade Tugman and Arthur Moretz; Watauga, George T. Tester, Joe Gragg and J. B. Reid.

FARTHING, B & L PRESIDENT; NEW QUARTERS ARE BOUGHT

H. Grady Farthing was reelected president of the Watauga Building and Loan Association, A. W. Smith, vice-president and W. H. Gragg, secretary and treasurer at a recent meeting of the board of directors.

Mrs. Mabel B. Brown, was elected bookkeeper for the ensuing year, as the directors reviewed the progress of the association during the closing year. It was reported that the Association is in fine condition and has done a good business in the past twelve months, aiding people in the construction of their homes, as well as in repairing and modernization programs.

Information was released concerning the purchase by the Building and Loan of the J. N. Lyons building on the principal street, generally referred to as the old postoffice building, which is to be used by the Association, following remodeling operations which will start on May 1.

Mr. W. H. Gragg, secretary of the Building and Loan says the Association will use the space on the street floor, which will be thoroughly redecorated and firnished to meet the needs of the Association, a new front will be provided, and that the second floor offices will be refinished and offered as rental property.

MAYOR ASKS FULL SUPPORT IN CLEANING UP THE CITY

by Margaret E. Agle

In proclaiming May 1-6 as Clean up-Paint up-Fix up Week in Boone Mayor Gordon H. Winkler said, "This is the call to all the people who live in this community to share in the responsibility of making Boone a cleaner, healthier, safer and more attractive place in which to live. Because I am certain that you appreciate living and doing business in a town like ours and believe you want Boone to look and be clean, I am asking each of you to give your full cooperation."

The critical eye of public inspection is moving over the town this week, spotlighting places where improvements may be expected during the next two and a half weeks preceeding Clean up week. On the inspection committee are local town people and out-of-towners who will form the judging committee when the campaign ends. Every part of Boone, residential, business, school, government and public property will be surveyed this week and again at the end of the campaign when prizes will be awarded to persons having wrought the greatest improvement on their property.

Vacant lots, long a source of concern to beauty lovers, are being chosen by civic organizations with an eye toward beautification and use for rest and recreation grounds; many business houses have voiced an interest in placing benches in areas that can be made usable for parks.

Robber Enters Smithey Store

Mr. Arlie Walsh, manager of Smithey's Store, tells of his place of business being broken into, early in the evening, while both he and Mrs. Walsh occupied the building, and a radio was going full blast.

The entrance occurred before 9 o'clock, a window in the rear of the store being broken. When Mrs. Walsh went to the telephone to call police the would-be robber fled.

New radar sight guides jet's guns; does all but fly plane.

E. C. A. is ready to cancel all Atlantic Gulf contracts.

Jackson Quits School Board

Tom Jackson has tendered his resignation as member of the county Board of Education, and Mr. Troy Norris of Meat Camp township has been appointed to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Jackson, who states that he resigned his position due to personal business considerations, taught school in Watauga for several years, was a member of the Legislature, and has served on the Board of Education since September 1945.

Mr. Norris, who has always shown active interest in the cause of public education, has been a member of the Green Valley district school committee for a number of years.

PARKWAY FACILITIES WILL OPEN SATURDAY, APRIL 15

The National Park Service again opens the recreational facilities of the Blue Ridge Parkway for the use and enjoyment of the public on April 15th.

The Blue Ridge Park, at top of the ridge road through Virginia and North Carolina, has been designed to permit the visitor a leisurely trip along the high country. Here you will not contend with the truck and bus traffic, or the scurring taxi for your place on the road. You will meet and see others intent on drinking in the beauties of our southern highlands. Here you will move along through the forested mountain, catch glimpses of the "Hill Culture" see the herds of dairy and beef cattle that are becoming a big influence in the local manner of living. Your journey may be broken by frequent stops at the many scenic overlooks along the motor road. Here one may look out over the farms, patches of woodland, roads and streams to the cities lying in the valleys below. The views from many of the overlooks are outstanding, their beauty is such that the visitor has that longing to return and visit the Parkway again.

If you have succumbed to that old southern custom of carrying a picnic lunch you will wish to make a longer stop at one of the

(continued on page ten)

Child Hygiene Is Theme of Display

The combined classes of Child Hygiene, under the direction of Mrs. Cleon Hodges, of the Department of Health and Physical Education, will present a display in connection with a class project in the Women's Gymnasium on the campus of Appalachian State Teachers College on April 19, from the hours beginning at 8:20 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon.

The exhibition, featuring children's clothing, food, furniture, and toys, will be found on the main floor and balcony of the gymnasium. All articles and equipment for the display will be furnished by the merchants of Boone. Students and townspeople are invited to attend.

V. F. W. Meeting

The V. F. W. will meet Thursday, April 13th at 7:30 p. m. at the club room. All members are requested to be present, and all those who are eligible for membership are asked to attend and become a member. The V. F. W. meets every second Tuesday and fourth Thursday of each month.

Freshman Class Paper Project Huge Success

The Freshman Class of Appalachian High School made its initial paper collection last Saturday, and it was a huge success. Approximately two tons of paper was collected. The class would like to thank the townspeople for showing so much cooperation.

There will be another drive on April 22, which will be carried on in much the same way as the preceeding one. Those who have not already done so are asked to have their old magazines and newspapers ready by the 22nd.

Mast School Group Prexy

Mr. Howard W. Mast, member of the county board of education was named president of the Seventh District School Board Association at the meeting held in Elkin April 4th, and it was announced that the association will have its next annual meeting in Boone.

Besides Mr. Mast, those attending the meeting from Boone were, Clyde Perry, Wiley G. Hartzog, also members of the school board, and W. H. Walker, superintendent.

Neo-fascism is held to be on the increase in Italy.

LIONS CLUB IS TO CLOSE VOTE IN QUEEN RACE ON APRIL 20th

Standings of Candidates Given as Organization Seeks To Name Queen; Proceeds of Talent Show and Contest To Go To Aid of the Blind.

Dr. John G. Martin, chairman of the Lions club talent show committee, announced this week that the voting in the queen's contest for the show would end at noon, Thursday, April 20. No money will be accepted after that time and no votes after that time will count toward selecting a queen. The date of the show has been set for the night of April 21, and the place will be announced next week.

The voting, as it stood early this week is as follows, in the grammar grades:

Valle Crucis Public School—Laura Milton Church, 2nd grade, 2,810 votes.

Boone Demonstration — Betty Brendle, 6th grade, 2519 votes.

Deep Gap school—Susie Hampton, 4th grade, 2500 votes.

Cove Creek Elementary—Sylvia Robinson, 6th grade, 2475 votes.

Mabel—Betty Bell Mitchell, 6th grade, 1620 votes.

Green Valley—Virginia Greene, 1st grade, 1064 votes.

Stony Fork—Lovella Greene, 6th grade, 620 votes.

Bamboo—Marilyn Triplett, 5th grade, 596 votes.

High Schools:

Cove Creek High—Norma Lee Townsend, 12th grade, 3446 votes.

Appalachian High — Shirley Mast, 10th grade, 700 votes.

Blowing Rock High — Martha Herring, 11th grade, returns incomplete.

From the group two queens, one for the grammar grades and one from the high schools, will be selected to be the Lions club queen. The winner in each group will be given a complete new outfit of clothing.

Proceeds of the queen voting and the talent show will be used to carry on the work of the local Lions club among the blind people and their aid to children and grown people needing glasses.

Cove Creek 4-H Club To Present Program

The Cove Creek 4-H clubs are planning a very interesting program for the 13th of April at the Cove Creek High school at 7:30 p. m.

Other schools in the county have been asked to take part on the program. Those who have accepted the invitation are Appalachian and Bethel High schools. The program consists of a one act comedy, given by Cove Creek senior 4-H Club, A dialogue, special music, and other numbers of interest. The Elementary school has several very interesting things to present. Applachian will have a quartet and Bethel senior club will do some tumbling, and a sheep shearing demonstration will be put on by Clint Reese, the National Sheep Shearing Champion for 1950.

President tells officials to ignore loyalty subpoenas.

Water, First Aid Courses Are Given

The Physical Education department of Appalachian State Teachers college will conduct a water safety course and first aid course for instructors beginning April 17 and continuing through April 22. The water safety course will be held from 7:00 to 11 a. m. in the college pool. The first aid course will be held from 3:30 to 5:30 p. m. in the Men's Gym.

All persons holding a senior life saving card in good standing and having attended the preliminary course may enter the water safety course. Those holding a standard first aid card in force may take the instructors course in first aid.

For information on these courses contact Coach R. W. Watkins at the college gym.

Mr. Ellis Fysal, special field representative of the American Red Cross, will conduct these courses at the college.

Cub Scout Pack To Hold Meeting

Cub Pack No. 41 of the Scout organization will meet Monday night at 7:30 o'clock, in the Presbyterian church. All boys from ages 8 to 11 who are interested in joining are urged to attend. Parents are invited to attend with their boys. An interesting program has been planned.

Election Board Lists Registrars, Judges

At the organization meeting of the Watauga County Board of Elections held Saturday, registrars and judges of election were named for the general election of this year, and R. T. Greer was named chairman of the Board.

Lester Carroll and Clyde R. Greene are the new members of the Board, and the former was named secretary to the organization.

It was voted that primary and general election registration books would be consolidated by copying the names rather than by holding a new registration. The choice was left with the local board in a law passed by the last Legislature.

In the absence of a state-wide Republican contest, only Democratic officials will participate in holding the May primary, and another Democratic judge will be named later for primary duty only, it was said.

Following are the names of the election officials, the first in each instance being the registrar, the second the Democratic judge and the last the Republican judge:

Bald Mountain township: Jerry B. Ragan, Fred Holman, Leslie Norris.

Beaver Dam: Clayton Vines, Orville Hagaman, Spencer Warren.

Blowing Rock: D. W. Wooten, W. C. Lentz, Fred Hartley.

Blue Ridge: Marion Coffey, R. G. Cook, George Keller.

Boone: Howard Cottrell, J. C. McConnell, Perry Greene.

Brushy Fork: Martin Herman, Dallas Hodges, Ralph Wilson.

Cove Creek: Ralph Williams, Bert Mast, D. E. Church.

Elk: Clay Hodges, Gordie Triplett, V. C. Cox.

Laurel Creek: J. L. Shull, Mrs. Dare Strother, E. D. Fannon.

Meat Camp: John Clawson, J. D. Winebarger, Clint Lewis.

Meat Camp no. 2: Horace Moretz, Ronda Ragan, Wade Moretz.

New River: Grady Greer, Jack Edmisten, W. C. Carroll.

North Fork: W. C. South, Sam South, Jack Wallace.

Shawneehaw: Fate Townsend, Dale Michael, Henry Michael.

Stony Fork: Max Hardin, C. D. McNeil, F. L. Wilcox.

Watauga: Richard Olsen, Arlie Hodges, Stanford Coffey.

OVER TWO THOUSAND GATHER AT SUNRISE EASTER EVENT

The Easter sunrise service at Blowing Rock's lovely Cone estate was attended by a crowd estimated at between 2,000 and 2,500 persons. This was the first of what is hoped will become an annual traditional Easter service for this area.

The program was directed by Rev. Oscar Harris of Blowing Rock and committees from Blowing Rock and Boone. Churches from the entire county participated. Music was supplied by the Appalachian College band and choirs from the various churches participating. Musical accompaniment for the choirs was provided by an electric organ furnished by Mr. Paul Weston of Todd.

The weather favored the service. The morning was clear and the sunrise was a thing of beauty and inspiration for all. The site of the service provided an ideal setting for such an observance.

The program was broadcast, and persons who tuned in their radios reported that the reception was clear.

Special commendation was given to the members of the State Highway Patrol and the Park Commission for the manner in which the crowd was directed and parked. The entire procedure of bringing the participants in and directing them from the grounds was handled smoothly.

Dairy Meeting Is Slated Here

A dairy meeting of special interest to all dairy farmers will be held at the County Courthouse, in Boone, Wednesday, April 19, beginning at 7:30 p. m., L. E. Tuckwiller, county agent, announced this week.

Mr. F. R. Farnham, Extension Dairy Specialist, will discuss "Production of Quality Milk."

Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Perdue from Coble's Plant, will discuss market trends and outlook.

John Brown, Extension Dairy Specialist, has been invited to discuss artificial breeding.

A question period will be held.

Mr. Tuckwiller expressed the hope that all dairy farmers will make a special effort to attend this meeting. There may be very little that can be done about the price of milk or a possible surplus problem, but we should know how the milk is used.

The milk produced in Watauga County is good quality milk, and we want to keep it that way, the county agent said.

School Slated For Salesfolk

A school of salesmanship is to be conducted by the Boone Merchants Association, starting April 24th, which may last for two weeks or longer, depending upon the interest shown in the courses.

The classes will be held daily at 9 o'clock at the Skyline Restaurant, and will be in charge of Miss Della R. Putman, who is sent here by the State Merchants Association. The school will be open to all employees of merchants association members here, and will feature courses in selling, courtesy, etc. No charge is made in connection with the school.

Wildfire Danger Is Seen In Plant Beds

Burley tobacco plant beds should be treated to control wildfire soon after the plants come through the ground, County Agent L. E. Tuckwiller warned this week. In 1949 this disease did great damage to tobacco plant beds. That serious loss can be prevented, with a simple treatment that does not cost much.

The treatment is as follows:

4 pounds Blue stone
3 pounds Hydrated Lime
50 gallons water

Mix Blue stone in wooden or earthen vessel with just enough water to disolve the powder. Mix lime in separate vessel with small amount of water. Stir Bluestone mixture into barrel containing approximately 30 gallons of water; then add lime mixture into same barrel. Add enough water to make 50 gallons and keep mixture thoroughly stirred. Sprinkle on tobacco bed through canvass. Do a thorough job. Repeat application in 8 to 10 days. Mix a fresh batch for each application.

CANCER CRUSADE SEEKS TO RAISE $300 IN WATAUGA

The 1950 Cancer Crusade will seek to raise $300.00 in this county to finance expanded programs of local service and education, and research on a nation-wide scale.

The announcement by Mr. J. Paul Winkler, local campaign chairman of the American Cancer Society, pointed out that the national goal this year is $14,565,000.

"We must make an extra effort this year to raise our share of this money," he said. "Efforts of past years must be exceeded to maintain the progress we have made toward controlling cancer."

"Some of the nation's foremost scientists have found new clues to cancer," the chairman said, "which open up avenues of attack previously closed to cancer researchers."

Mr. Winkler said there is now hope in scientific circles that new and successful means of treating cancer with chemical compounds will be developed.

"But even without new scientific discoveries," he pointed out, "it is now possible, through early detection and prompt treatment, to save at least a third of the 200,000 who are dying from cancer each year. One out of five now living will have cancer. One out of eight will die of it. That is too many.

"About 67,000 Americans are being cured of cancer yearly," the chairman said. "An equal number of lives could be saved if enough people learn the cancer danger signals and see their doc-

(continued on page ten)

Citizens Asked To Aid Census

Stanley A. Harris, Chamber of Commerce secretary, is urging residents of the community to see to it that they are enumerated during the Federal census now in progress.

It is believed that the city now contains four thousand people, and every effort is being made to aid the enumerators in getting an actual count of the people of the community.

The census was to have been finished this week in urban areas, but it hasn't been officially stated whether or not the workers will be able to complete their work during the allotted period.