

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Year 1868

WATAUGA COUNTY
Leading agricultural and tourist area. Livestock raising and truck raising of turkeys and portulaca. Blue Ridge Parkway traverses county, and "Smoking Blowing Rock" one of the principal Summer resorts of Eastern America.

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.

VOI. LXIII — NO. 1 BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JULY 6, 1950 FIVE CENTS



This L-shaped dormitory will house 180 Appalachian State Teachers College co-eds.

ASTC BUILDING PLANS EXPAND AS GIRL'S DORM BIDS RELEASED

Music and Art Building Now Under Construction with Other Structures Considered For Immediate Future.

The building program at Appalachian State Teachers College at Boone is "coming along rapidly," Bernard Dougherty, business manager of the college, said this week.

He reported that: The \$300,000 music and arts building, now under construction, will be completed by the end of the year and readied for use during the Spring term.

Bids on a girls dormitory have been let and construction is set to begin within a few days.

Plans for a more-than-\$400,000 boys dormitory have been drawn up and are now being reviewed by the State Budget Bureau in Raleigh.

Northrup and O'Brien of Winston-Salem are the architects.

These three buildings, Mr. Dougherty said, are part of an expansion program begun over a year ago. So far a \$100,000 laundry and general service building has been constructed. Future plans call for a \$750,000 gymnasium, a \$100,000 athletic field, faculty apartments and an addition to the library.

The music and arts building, being built by R. K. Stewart and Son of High Point, will contain band and orchestra rooms, music practice rooms, art studios, a craft shop and a large auditorium.

The two departments have been in make-shift quarters since a fire destroyed the old fine arts building four years ago. A \$304,929 general contract for the construction of a dormitory for 180 coeds was awarded Friday of last week to L. B. Gallimore of Greensboro. The electrical work will be done by the Shell Electrical Company of Statesville for \$14,500. The Monarch Elevator and Machine Company of Greensboro will furnish an elevator for \$5,647. The plumbing and heating contracts will be let on a later date.

The building will take about a year to complete. It will be a three-story "L"-shaped structure, with the outer edge of each wing measuring 167 feet and the width of each wing being 44 feet.

The masonry will be of solid brick with limestone trim. A large hooded porch will lead to the main entrance.

Colorful Parades, Pageantry Feature Holiday Celebration



PAGEANT PRINCIPALS—Top photo shows the smartly-stepping Elizabeth High School Band, one of four bands featured in the opening day parade of the Echoes of the Blue Ridge celebration. Pictured below is the family of Daniel Boone as portrayed in the Echoes pageant by Watauga citizens. Reading from left to right: Betty Swain, Buster Oaks, Ann Cottrell, Kent Brown (Daniel Boone), Rachel Rominger, Mrs. Louise DeLima (Mrs. Daniel Boone), and Mark Hodges.

Five-Day Celebration Comes To an End Tuesday Night With Final Showing of Pageant; Choo-Choo on Hand to Crown Miss Moose Queen.

By SPUD WHITENER

History-conscious Wataugans and recreation-seeking tourists crowded Boone streets and taxed business facilities throughout the week-end and into this week, then went their respective ways as another 4th of July and another Echoes of the Blue Ridge came to a close.

Thousands of curious and interested onlookers gathered to witness the opening day parade on Friday, which featured four bands, numerous floats, beauty queen nominees, and costumed members of the Echoes cast. A capacity crowd was also on hand to witness with enthusiasm the opening performance of the nine-episode pageant on the Appalachian athletic field. Included in the audience were a number of distinguished state civic leaders who a few hours before had attended a testimonial dinner given in honor of Dr. B. B. Dougherty at the Gateway Cafe and who had heard him nominated as the "North Carolinian of the half century."

Agricultural Parade Draws Interest

Saturday brought a second parade that emphasized the agricultural resources of Watauga county and attracted an overflowing throng to see the livestock exhibits and farm machinery demonstrations. Another Echoes performance followed in the evening, and again the cast played to a capacity house.

The pageant was not presented on Sunday or Monday, but the celebration carried on with an educational address by Dr. Henry H. Hill on Sunday afternoon in which he paid tribute to Dr. Dougherty as a prestige builder for education. A circus night was held Monday featuring Herman Joseph, former Ringling Brothers and Barnum Bailey clown. Officer Pressley's dog show shared the spotlight. The climax of the evening came, however, with the Coronation Ball, at which All-American Charley Justice crowned Miss Rebecca Moose Queen of the Blue Ridge.

Final Parade Held Wednesday

The third and final parade of the five-day celebration was staged on Tuesday, Boy Scout units adding a colorful and patriotic touch to the observance of the 4th. This spirit carried over into the evening performance of the pageant when various high school groups staged a "Parade of Nations" prior to the opening curtain of the final Echoes showing.

The highlight of the entire celebration was, of course, the Ec-

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KING STREET BY ROB RIVERS

County Library Service Poses Unique Problem

By SPUD WHITENER

Tucked away in a remote corner of the county building a potentially fertile educational seed-ground lies almost fallow—the county library, Watauga county's one public source of instructive and recreational reading now opens its doors only twice each week, from 2 p. m. till 5 p. m., on Friday and Saturday.

The situation is of an unusual nature according to Mrs. R. H. Harmon, county library board chairman, money is plentiful for the purchase of new books, and the State provides a highly trained librarian, Mrs. Jarman Cooper, on those two afternoons; but—and the catch—to the county falls the task of providing an assistant librarian and paying that person a sufficiently large salary to keep the library doors ajar.

The county has not seen fit to make such an appropriation; so far only \$60.00 per month is provided for all library purposes beyond those covered by State expenditure. From this amount must be paid a driver's salary for the bookmobile as well as the assistant librarian's salary, both of which are combined in the person of Mrs. Mary Brown, who two days per week chauffeurs and issues books from the library on wheels and on the other two repeats the operation from her post in the county building.

Bookmobile Draws Crowds

Mrs. Brown tells a fascinating story of the role played by the bookmobile in the lives of the rural folk of Watauga county, of the eager way in which they cluster about its stops, of the

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Talent Contests Featured By REA

The Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation has announced the opening of talent contests beginning August 12 to provide entertainment for its district and annual meetings.

All members of the corporation and their families are eligible to compete for cash awards, group and individual, entries being accepted in both vocal and instrumental music, dancing and other forms of entertainment.

The district meetings will be held in Sparta, August 12, Jefferson, August 19, Boone August 26, with prizes of \$25, \$15, and \$10 to be awarded for first, second, and third prizes, respectively.

The annual meeting is scheduled for September 9 in Lenoir, with the prizes to be increased to \$50, \$30, and \$20.

Interested persons are urged to get in touch either with E. L. Allred, the Cooperative's Electrification advisor in Lenoir, or the local district office.

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—Photo Palmer's Studio MRS. J. C. FOX, R. N.

Mrs. Fox Starts Health Work Here

Mrs. J. C. Fox, R. N., has now begun duties with the Watauga county health department, replacing Mrs. Opal B. Clawson, who recently resigned from that position.

Mrs. Fox received her nurse's training at Rowan Memorial Hospital, Salisbury, with public health orientation in the Rowan county health department. She received psychiatric training at Dix Hill, Raleigh, and training in pediatrics from the Baltimore City hospital.

Since graduation Mrs. Fox has worked in the Richard Baker hospital in Hickory, in the Dr. Sedberry hospital, Wrightsville Beach, and the Blowing Rock clinic. She and Mr. Fox will make their home in the Fox apartments on Locust street.

Kephart Camp Opens 29th Year

Camp Yonahlossee, located between Blowing Rock and Boone on the Shulls Mill road, has just opened for its 29th season according to Dr. and Mrs. A. P. Kephart, owners and directors.

This summer camp, consisting of some thirty-five buildings, now has an enrollment of 132 girl campers coming from 12 states and the District of Columbia, all scheduled to remain for a period of eight weeks. They will be under the guidance of a staff of 32 counselors and 12 service persons, all working toward an overall growth in the personality and character of the campers.

Camp Yonahlossee is fortunate in having 50% of its total enrollment being campers who are returning for their second, third, fourth, or more seasons. The remaining 50% of the campers are beginning their first season. Of the total enrollment, 65% of the campers are from North Carolina, and the balance are from 11 other states and Washington, D. C.

The qualifications for Camp Yonahlossee's counselors are higher than in most private camps. The majority of the counselors are college graduates, and all are salaried, none being accepted because of his ability to enroll campers. Seven counselors are assigned to instruction in handicrafts, two to horseback riding, three to water sports, three to music, and usually one counselor to the remaining some seventeen other activities.

A new feature of Camp Yonahlossee this year is a swimming pool with heat control, designed to provide an opportunity for instruction and enjoyment. This pool is needed as a supplement to the private lake because of

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Merchants Plan Annual Dinner

The annual dinner of the Merchants' Association of Boone and Watauga County will be held Tuesday night, July 11, at Camp Yonahlossee, with both members and wives invited to attend.

Principal speaker for the event will be J. J. Ray, Executive Vice-President of the North Carolina Dairyman's Association. A prominent guest will be Mr. Thompson Greenwood, secretary of the North Carolina Merchants' Association. A special program has been prepared by the Yonahlossee campers.

The dinner closes a successful year for the association, during which its name has been changed from the Boone Merchants' Association to Merchants' Association of Boone and Watauga County, and its enrollment enlarged from a membership of 32 to more than 100.

Prospective business matters for the meeting include a report by the nominating committee chairman, B. W. Stallings, and an election of directors to serve for the coming year.

Radiologist Engaged By Watauga Hospital

Officials of Watauga hospital have announced that Dr. L. W. Oehlbeck, radiologist, has been engaged to offer his services once a week on Wednesday afternoon, at the hospital here.

Dr. Oehlbeck heads the X-ray department of the Grace hospital at Morganton and is known throughout medical circles of North Carolina for his outstanding work in his field. "We are pleased to offer this service to the people of Watauga county as it is further proof that Watauga hospital continues to grow" one official said.

Miss Moose Is Crowned At Gala Coronation Ball



—Photo Palmer's Studio REBECCA MOOSE

Clyde Elliott Taken By Death

Marvin Clyde Elliott, 54, resident of Vilas, died at Grace Hospital, Banner Elk, Sunday, following a heart attack.

Funeral services were conducted at the Willowdale Baptist Church Tuesday at 2 p. m. Rev. Mr. Painter and Rev. Mr. Vance were in charge of the rites and burial was in the Howell cemetery at Vilas.

The widow, Mrs. Ada Eggers Elliott survives, with six sons and two daughters: Don, Ben, Carlton, David Elliot, Vilas; Burt Elliott, Deep Water, Mo.; Susie Gragg, Lenoir; Mrs. Blanche Icard, Hudson. There are three brothers and one sister: Wiley Elliott, Los Angeles; Waido Elliott, Potege, Idaho; Thomas Elliott, Cleveland; Miss Cordelia Elliott, Vilas; Mrs. Beulah Coleman, Cleveland. The mother, Mrs. Louise Elliott, of Vilas, also survives.

600-FOOT PLUNGE KILLS 3

Glendale, Calif.—Three retired school teachers, who were returning from a bird hike in the mountains, lost their lives when their car plunged 600 feet from the highway into canyon. Traffic on the mountain highway was blocked for several hours while officers, rangers and civilians brought the victims out of the canyon with ropes.

Young Democrats To See Active Month

Young Democratic clubs of Watauga county are off to an active month according to early indications.

The Watauga and Shawnee-YDC will meet and later enjoy refreshments at the Valle Crucis school, Friday, July 7, at 7:30 p. m. The Stony Fork and Elk YDC will have a similar gathering at Deep Gap school, Monday, July 10, at 8 p. m. while the Boone and New River YDC will meet at the county courthouse, Saturday, July 8, at 8 p. m.

English Institute Planned at College

The annual English Institute sponsored by the Department of English at A. S. T. C. will be held in room 16 of the Administration building on Thursday and Friday, July 6 and 7, from 3:30 until 5:00 p. m.

Speakers will include Miss Lillian Trawick, teacher of speech at Florida State University, Mrs. Fred Gragg of the Appalachian Demonstration schools and Dr. J. Wilson McCutchan, head of the department of English at Queens college. Questions of moment to high school teachers of English and related subjects are to be discussed and teachers in this area are cordially invited to attend.

All-Star Baseball Game Scheduled

An all-star baseball game, featuring outstanding players from the ten members of the Watauga County Baseball League, will be played at College Field, Wednesday afternoon, July 12, at 2:30.

East will meet West in an annual contest that in the past has drawn throngs of interested spectators. Players from Mabel, Ben Ward's, Rominger, Core Creek, and Valle Crucis will make the western squad, challenging a picked aggregation from Blowing Rock, Bamboo, New River, Shulls Mills and Matny.

Individual team managers are asked to be on hand at the field by 1 p. m. in order to make final arrangements for the game.

Last Rites Held For Mrs. McNeil

Funeral services were held Saturday, July 1, at Rutherford Baptist Church for Mrs. Addie Brown McNeil. She died after a lengthy illness at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Collis Austin, of Winkler's Creek on June 29.

Services were conducted by the Rev. Raymond Hendrix and Rev. W. C. Payne. She is survived by three sons, C. D. McNeil, W. C. McNeil, and Arthur McNeil, all of Rutherford, and two daughters, Mrs. Mollie Carroll of Rutherford and Mrs. Rosie Austin of Boone.