

## KING STREET

BY ROB RIVERS

**BRIEF RAINY MORNING SESSION** with Richard Colvard down at the bridge, while we were enroute to the Democrat office to do our usual shift, and Mr. Colvard was heading down Boone Creek to examine some muskrat sets. "Watch out," said he, "for the smoke on February 1... for, shore as shootin' upon its conduct depends whether or not there will be fruit this year, or 'fruit and apples' as Noah Bentley might say."

We gathered that if the smoke goes straight up there'd be apples and stuff of the sort, but if it hovers down near the ground and back fires a bit down the chimney, the fruit trees will be bare. We are likewise reminded that come Friday, another Groundhog Day will be observed, and woe be to the folks, so legend says, if the whistle pig sees his shadow and retreats, for there'll be six more weeks of the worst weather you ever saw, no doubt about it. Seriously, of course, the folks don't actually believe any such thing, but a mountain man always feels just a little more secure if groundhog day dawns gray, and the sun stays hidden behind the clouds.

**MISS OLLIE REESE** of Zionville, one of our best friends, pays us an appreciated visit Monday, and leaves a big jar of tasty apple butter from her own pantry, as well as a generous quantity of apple jelly, which we are enjoying, and for which Mrs. Reese has the sincere thanks, both of this corner, and the folks at home.

**FRANK NEWTON**, calls us into his department store to show us the public lounge he is establishing on the mezzanine floor, to give shoppers in the community a place to rest and read and relax during their visits to town. The merchandise formerly displayed on the mezzanine, has been removed to the fourth floor of the store, new furniture has been installed, and a space about 20 by 25 feet has been provided for the use of visitors. A table with magazines is in the center of the space and one can rest and relax in quietude and comfort. Rufus Colvard some time ago established a lounge in his Colvard Chevrolet building, but Newton's we believe, is the first department store to make a move of this kind.

**WE FELICITATE FRANK** on his thoughtfulness. From time to time throughout the years, the Watauga Democrat has hammered on the theme that folks can't find many comforts and conveniences "for free" when they come to visit this educational and shopping center of the Northwest. The problem of finding a drink of water or a place to sit for a few minutes, to say nothing of our old "comfort station" theme has, little as you may think of it, been of more than passing moment to a lot of fine folks who make the cash registers jingle hereabout. If other businessmen would make provisions, even on a limited scale for the comfort and convenience of their visitors, a vast amount of good will would be created. These little things can often contribute more to the well-being of the community, and its prosperity than the search for the big projects, which are all too often impossible of attainment, on the face of them.

**ARTHUR KRANTZ**, one of the new-comers to the Street, who came down from Detroit to buy the Boone Trail Cafe, nurtures a happy outlook. The other day the sky was murky, a heavy drizzle filled the air, which was decidedly "from the east." The weather man had come forth with dire predictions of snow and freeze and sleet and stuff. Things didn't look at all good as we ambled up to Arthur's coffee bar. We managed a "tolerably" cheery greeting, as Arthur shook with us, and allowed: "Fine day, isn't it? Flowers goin' to bloom soon, bird's singing, everything on the up and up, would seem!" And his smile spread, and (Continued on page four)



**CHANGING TIMES**... After Italy's liberation, the government outlawed war toys. This year, with Italy in a rearmament program, shelves of toy shops are crowded with toy weapons.

## Mrs. Ben W. Farthing Meets Tragic Death

### Valle Crucis Woman Is Drowned At Home Sunday.

Mrs. Dixie Glenn Farthing, wife of Ben W. Farthing of Valle Crucis, was drowned late Sunday when she fell into a fish pond near her home.

She was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Glenn of Sugar Grove.

Survivors, in addition to her husband, are:

Daughters, Miss Frances Farthing of Concord, N. C.; Mrs. Ralph Church of Vilas; and Miss Dixie Rae Farthing of Woman's College, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N. C.; sons: Raymond, U. S. Navy; Wheeler, Knoxville, Tenn.; Louis, U. S. Navy; Baxter, Sugar Grove; and Ben, A. State College, Raleigh; brothers: Prof. A. G. Glenn, Smithfield, N. C.; Dr. R. O. Glenn, Mountain City, Tenn.; Dr. E. T. Glenn, Boone; Edwin L. (Ned) Glenn, Sugar Grove; sisters: Mrs. J. H. Thomas, Valle Crucis; Mrs. R. A. Farthing, Valle Crucis; Mrs. Clyde Tester, Matney; Mrs. Orris Trivette, Beech Creek; Mrs. Doughton Green, Vilas.

The funeral was conducted Wednesday at Valle Crucis Methodist Church, the Rev. Ralph Miller, pastor, in charge, with interment in Valle Crucis Methodist cemetery.

Pallbearers, all nephews of the deceased, were Ray, Glenn, Barton, Van, and Dick Farthing, Wilson Hodges, H. W. Mast, Jr., Houston Mast, Tommie Green, and Hubert Thomas.

## Mrs. Sarah James Is Dead at 87

Mrs. Sarah Henson James, 87 years old, who lived to see six generations of her family, died at the home of a son, Smith James, at Valle Crucis Thursday, following an extended illness.

Funeral services were held Saturday at Piney Grove Baptist Church at Rominger, by Rev. W. C. Payne, and burial was in the nearby cemetery.

Mrs. James, who was the widow of Joseph Manuel James, is survived by six sons and five daughters: Roby, Bill James, Elizabethon, Tenn.; Willard James, Lenoir; Smith James, Vilas; Dewey, Dave James, Valle Crucis; Mrs. Leonard Moody, South Dakota; Mrs. Harrison Presnell, Bluff, N. C.; Mrs. John Cornett, Vilas; Mrs. Raymond Cornett, Trade, Tenn.; Mrs. Boyd Harmon, Sugar Grove. There are 85 grandchildren, 135 great grandchildren and 11 great-great grandchildren.

Mrs. James had been a member of Antioch Baptist Church for 75 years.

**JUNIOR ORDER MEETING**  
A meeting of Daniel Boone Council, Junior Order, will be held at the hall of the organization Monday evening at 7:30. All members are urged to attend.

High heels on man's shoes yield \$200,000 in illegal diamonds.



STANLEY A. HARRIS

## Harris Is Prexy Of Civic Groups

Stanley A. Harris was re-elected manager of the Boone Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants Association at a joint meeting of the boards of directors of the two organizations held recently.

Mr. Harris, who has been connected with the two organizations for more than two years, had offered his resignation, but the directors persuaded him to continue his work along civic lines. It is explained that Mr. Harris is serving the Chamber of Commerce without salary, and on the basis of actual expenses.

Both groups of directors pledged him their complete backing in his future activities.

## Burning Permit Being Required

County Forest Ranger Ernest C. Hodges wishes to call to the attention of all persons, who plan to burn brush or debris this spring, to the North Carolina brush burning permit law.

This law is a part of the North Carolina general statutes and states that it is unlawful for any person to start a fire in any woodlands under the protection of the Department of Conservation and Development's Forestry Division, or within 500 feet of such an area, between the first day of February and the first day of June, without first getting a permit to do so.

Ranger Hodges states, "This law was passed to protect your timber from careless brush burners. It gives the forest service a check on who is burning and when they are burning." Ranger Hodges urges everyone, who intends to burn brush, to help prevent forest fires by getting his permit from any district forest warden or from one of the following issuing agents:

Ivan Farthing, Bethel; Hoy, and Mast, Store, Valle Crucis; Vilas Service Station, Vilas; County Agents Office, Boone; W. S. Collins, Boone; Worth Greene, Stony Fork; Mrs. Collins, Boone Fork.

Remember only you can prevent forest fires!

## BAND READIES SELF FOR MID WINTER PLAY

High School Musicians Rehearse for Concert.

The Appalachian High School Band has been rehearsing for the past two weeks for their annual mid-winter concert. The concert will be given in the high school auditorium Thursday evening, February 8th at 7:30 p. m.

An interesting program is being arranged including two solos by Martha Council and Harry Farthing. These two band members were two of the four students who represented Appalachian High school at the All State Band Clinic held recently on the campus of Appalachian State Teachers College. Guy Hunt, Jr., another participant in the clinic, and Bobby Cooke will take solo parts in two of the especially prepared numbers for the concert.

The high school band now has a membership of 46. There are 23 additional students taking beginners work this year and about 20 of these students will be eligible for admission into the senior high band next year.

There will be no admission charge for the concert. The public is cordially invited.

## DEMOS FAIL TO SLATE TICKET

Ashe Postpones Nominating Meeting.

The Ashe county Democratic executive committee met in West Jefferson last Saturday for the purpose of choosing a candidate to run for the State Senate, but adjourned to February 5th, without having taken action in the matter.

A new Senator to replace W. B. Reeves of West Jefferson, who died January 5, will be elected from the 29th District—Ashe, Alleghany and Watauga—in a special election on February 17.

The Ashe Democratic committee was without its chairman Saturday, since State Representative Todd Gentry was in Raleigh. Secretary Paul Weaver presided at the meeting.

It is Ashe county's time to furnish the Senator from the district.

## Causey Makes Good at Tenn. U.

The Department of Health and Physical Education of the University of Tennessee reports that Mr. Glenn Causey, a graduate of Appalachian State Teachers College in the class of 1950 is making a most outstanding record as a graduate assistant in health and physical education.

The thirty-five graduate students in health and physical education at the University of Tennessee have completed undergraduate work from leading colleges and universities throughout the nation. Mr. Causey is to be congratulated on his achievement in such a group.

While at Appalachian Mr. Causey was a major in Health and Physical Education. During his four years at Appalachian Mr. Causey attained numerous honors standing high in his academic work, being a varsity athlete, a student leader and a member of various campus organizations.

## HOME CLUBS TO SLATE OFFICERS

New officers will be elected at the first quarterly meeting of the Watauga County Home Demonstration clubs. The meeting will be held in the office of Mrs. Betty M. Edwards, Home Demonstration agent, on Friday, February 2, at 2:00 p. m.

Other important business to be discussed includes the District Federation meeting to be held in Boone in May, and federation dues.

Cows that have been clipped produce cleaner milk, say dairy specialists of State College.

# Gala Ball, County Sing Feature Polio Campaign

## TAX LISTING IS EXTENDED

Commissioners Extend Listing To 17th.

The tax-listing period in Watauga county has been extended to Saturday, February 17, it is revealed by S. C. Eggers, county Tax Supervisor, who says that the commissioners have granted the extra time for the convenience of the taxpayers who have thus far been unable to list.

All tax books from the various townships are to be returned to the courthouse, and citizens may list there.

A penalty of 10 per cent is provided by State law for failure to list property for taxation within the prescribed time, says Mr. Eggers.

## Lincoln Day Dinner Is Set

An estimated 500 North Carolina Republicans will gather in Winston-Salem Saturday for a joint Young Republican annual convention and G. O. P. Lincoln Day Dinner.

Highlighting the event will be addresses by Senator Owen Brewster of Maine, former Governor and now a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Representative B. Carroll Reece of Tennessee, chairman in 1946-48 of the Republican National Committee.

Senator Brewster's address will be broadcast at 8 p. m. on station WSJS, and Representative Reece's address at 3:30 p. m. Great interest is expected to center on several tight races for posts in the State Young Republican organization, particularly for president and vice-president.

Regarded as top contenders for nominations for national committeeman and committeewoman are Worth Little of Albemarle and Mrs. Anne K. Hickman of Winston-Salem. Both are to date the only announced candidates for these influential posts.

Mr. Little, Clerk of Stanly County Superior Court, is immediate past president of North Carolina Young Republicans. Mrs. Hickman seeks re-election to the national committeewoman post.

Announced or likely candidates for president of the State organization are Charlie Frank Benbow Jr. of Winston-Salem, W. E. Stevens Jr. of Lenoir and W. E. Cobb of Morganton, the incumbent president.

## Dog Owners Are Warned by Chief

Chief of Police Walter Johnson calls the attention of the people to the nuisance occasioned in the community by the ravages of bands of stray dogs, and insists that those with dogs who value their pets, keep them confined, otherwise it would appear that the canines will have to be destroyed.

Chief Johnson says many householders are reporting the killings of chickens by the dogs and other property damage is noted. Official notice is given that drastic action will be taken if dogs continue to run at large in the city.

## Craven Talks To Son in Scotland

Mr. J. R. Craven of Boone talked by telephone to a son, Rev. John W. Craven, in Edinburgh, Scotland, last week.

Mr. Craven, anxious about the welfare of his son in the influenza epidemic sweeping the British Isles, got prompt connection with London and had his son on the wire in a few minutes. Rev. Mr. Craven is a student at Edinburgh University, where he is working toward his Ph.D. degree.



**"STRENGTHEN LIBERTY"**  
41st Anniversary 1951  
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

OFFICIAL POSTER MARKING THE 41ST BIRTHDAY

## President To Open Scout Week Tuesday

## VOCALISTS TO ATTEND CLINIC

High School Choir Members To Participate.

Members of the Appalachian High School Choir who will attend the North Carolina (Western Division) Choral Clinic are as follows:

Beth Eggers and Betsy Hughes, sopranos; Orlando Brown and Neva Ann Norris, altos; Joe Edmisten and Jimmy Johnson, tenors; Dixon Qualls and Jerry Troutman, basses.

The group will leave Boone Friday morning, attend several rehearsals that day and Saturday, and participate in the concert to be given at 7:30 at Mars Hill College. The clinic will be under the direction of Mr. Charles Bryan of George Peabody College.

There will be approximately one hundred and seventy participants from twenty schools in this section of the state, and the clinic promises to be a worthwhile experience for those taking part in it. The students attending from Appalachian High are under the direction of Elsie H. D. Erneston, and have been chosen from the eighty-three students in the choral groups.

## MRS. WILLIAM CULLER DIES IN CRASH OF AUTO AT LYNCHBURG

Mrs. William Emmett Culler, 45, formerly of Boone, and whose husband is a native of Zionville, Watauga county, died in Lynchburg General Hospital January 17, a few hours after she had been hit by a truck in front of her home on Ward's road, in that city.

Death was caused by multiple fractures and internal injuries. State Trooper T. R. Sexton said the driver of the pickup truck was Winston D. Hoelscher, 42, Route 2, Lynchburg. He was taken before Lawrence Falwell, Campbell county justice of the peace, and bonded to appear on a technical manslaughter charge in Rustburg Trial Justice Court. Sexton said the right front of the truck struck Mrs. Culler. There were short skid marks after she was hit, the trooper said. Mrs. Culler was a native of

## Boone Scouts To Be Participants in Observance.

President Truman will greet 12 outstanding Boy Scouts in the White House on February 6, opening the 41st anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. Boy Scout Week will be observed February 6 to 12 in every part of the nation by more than 2,750,000 boys and adult leaders. "Strengthen Liberty" is the birthday theme.

At "birthday parties" during Boy Scout Week throughout the nation each member will repledge himself to the Scout Oath.

Local Scouts will observe Boy Scout Week with various activities, highlighted by the Scouts taking over the Town of Boone Saturday, February 10. Many churches will honor the Scouts on one Sunday. A Father-Son banquet is being planned. Details of these activities are expected to be released next week for publication.

or Promise. In each community representatives of the churches, schools, government and business will observe the anniversary with (Continued on page two)

## March of Dimes Goes Into Home Stretch With Intensified Activity.

It was announced today by Jim Taylor, director of Watauga March of Dimes, that \$1561.00 had been raised in the current campaign toward the \$3000.000 goal assigned to this county. The Boone Demonstration school was leading as the largest single contributor to the cause. Already the children of the local elementary school have raised in excess of \$350.00.

The girls of New Dorm at the college decided that instead of the usual picture in the annual that they would make this contribution to the March of Dimes. Also, a student committee from the college was named consisting of Jack Park, chairman, and Don Cheek, Don Felton, Mack Haynes, Jack Neal, Bill Cleary and Whitey Propst. This group has been making collections at the local ball games and using every other effort in their all-out drive to raise additional money for the war against polio.

A number of important events are scheduled for this week. On Thursday night, February 1st at the high school auditorium, Ed Waugh and his orchestra will play for the annual President's Ball. Tickets are now on sale at the Farmers Hardware, Boone Drug Company, The College Bookstore, County Headquarters, and of course, at the door on the night of the dance. The chairman of this important social event is Wayne Richardson.

Mrs. Mary Hamby will be in charge of decorations for the affair. On Saturday night at 8:00 p. m. at the courthouse there will be a county-wide singing with eleven quartets of this area participating. All proceeds of this event will go to the March of Dimes. Not only have these public spirited citizens agreed to sing at no cost to the local chapter, but they have also obligated themselves to buy tickets at the regular rate for their admission. Mr. W. H. Gragg has kindly consented to serve as Master of Ceremonies for this song fest. Tickets will be on sale at the door for 50 and 25 cents. Also, the Mile o' Dimes stand will be established again on the streets this Saturday.

## Methodists To Take Dry Pledge

Boone Methodist Church will join with the Methodist Church throughout America to observe Commitment to abstinence from beverage alcohol day on Sunday, February 4.

The occasion is the third annual observance in accordance with the program established by the general conference of the Methodist Church meeting in Boston in May, 1948. The special day is set to fall each year of the Quadrennium on or near the first Sunday in Lent.

For two preceding years, several hundred thousand Methodists over the nation have joined in pledging themselves to total personal abstinence from the use of beverage alcohol. In furtherance of the occasion, a card signifying personal abstinence is provided for individual signers. This year the card is enlarged to cover other phases of the Methodist concern on the entire matter of the beverage alcohol question including the sale of beverage alcohol, its service in the home and at public occasions, and the use of property for the conduct of the traffic.

Commitment cards were distributed to the local congregation on last Sunday by the Pastor and the announcement was made that the observance would be held at the appointed time in the local church, February 4th.

## ALASKAN CONSTRUCTION

A public works construction program in Alaska for the current fiscal year will cost around \$1,992,750, according to Secretary of the Interior Chapman. A major share of the amount will go to construct and equip a five-story, office building in Juneau.