

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Year 1888

**WATAUGA COUNTY**  
1938 POPULATION, 12,228  
Leading agricultural and tourist area. Livestock, dairying and truck farming of paramount importance. Blue Ridge Parkway traverses county, and together with Blowing Rock, one of the principal summer resorts of Eastern America.

**BOONE**  
1938 POPULATION, 1,564  
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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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 1951.

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## KING STREET

BY  
ROB RIVERS

"WHAT IS this passing scene?  
A peevish April day!  
A little sun, a little rain,  
And then night sweeps along  
the plain,  
And all things fade away."  
APRIL COMES FORTH, in her usual temperamental style, and brings sunshine and showers, and warmth and chill breezes. . . . Frolicsome and fitful, she supplies the first dandelions, and "Easter flowers" and willow buds, with their silent promise to the hill people that the dainty pastels of the tender leaves will be along soon, and that the grasses will become greener and that the bare trees of the forest will live again. . . . There will be other frosts, some chill rains, as winter dies. . . . but spring is in the air, and the first warm zephyrs displace the grim memories of snow and ice and fuel bills, and cold ears, and freezing toes.

AND APRIL 1 is observed as all fool's day, a custom about the origin of which there are many theories but few facts. . . . A day when it seems all right to lie a bit, as an "April fool", and when the youngsters contrive many ways of having fun at the expense of their playmates or their elders. . . . The kiddies, it seems, inherit all the stunts of their ancestors, without the benefit of teaching, and as if by instinct, place about the same size stone in a paper bag as they did in our youth, knowing full well the first passerby will kick the thing. . . . And the wallet with the string attached yanked from the grasp of the finder. . . . the same old tricks handed down through all the years. . . . And there is laughter and gaiety and a good time as April whimsically trips on to the stage with the daffodils, the bluebirds, the chill showers and the warming breezes, and the assurance of fairer and happier days.

ALFRED ADAMS, local banker, was dubbed the biggest liar in the community, at the conclusion of a contest conducted at the Merchants Association banquet, and voiced a surprised sort of pride that he was able to garner the coveted honor in the face of such spirited opposition. "Being only an amateur," says Alfred, "I had no idea of winning the contest over such veterans of prevarication as Clyde Greene, Watt Gragg and Raleigh Cottrell. . . . When called upon, I merely stated, that being a deacon in the church, of course precluded my being careless with the truth, and that further, in my capacity as banker, I couldn't, out of respect to the ethics of the profession, ever lie, not even a little bit. . . . and bingo! . . . I was the winner, then and there. . . ."

SOME DAYS LATER Alfred had finished a pretty hard day down at the bank, and had sought the restful solace of his home in the country, when the phone rang and a prospective signer-on-the-dotted-line, talked and talked, and pleaded and promised, even until the biscuits were beginning to get cold, and finally the chagrined banker was able to hang up. . . . Placing his feet under the dining table he mused over the interview, brought into question a few things the fellow at the other end had said and, asked his wife, "who do you suppose is the biggest liar in the county?" . . . There was a slight pause. . . . "I wouldn't know of a certainty" came a quiet answer, "I only know who got the prize!"

JOHN W. HODGES being congratulated by his friends Monday on the occasion of his 85th birthday. . . . "Sheriff" Hodges, a veteran merchant, former sheriff, register of deeds and assemblyman, retired from active business pursuits several years ago, and enjoys the associations with his

## Parkway Opening Date Postponed Indefinitely



**BUILDING AND LOAN OFFICERS**—H. Grady Farthing, President of the Watauga Building and Loan Association, and W. H. Gragg, secretary, who were re-elected by unanimous vote of the board of directors at their meeting last week. The Board also re-elected A. W. Smith vice-president of the Association, and Mrs. Mabel Brown, bookkeeper.



The three choral groups of Appalachian High School will present their annual Spring concert Friday, April 6th at 7:30 p. m. in the high school auditorium. The program will consist of numbers sung by the high school choir, the Boys' Glee Club, the Girls' Glee Club, and several small ensembles.

## Watauga Appeals Board Proposed; Brown Would Divert Meter Receipts

Raleigh Bureau Citizen-Times  
Raleigh, April 3—A bill to create a board of appeals and tax equalization for Watauga County was introduced in the House today by Rep. Wade E. Brown.

The five member tax board would be named as follows: One member by the governing body of Boone, one by the board of county commissioners, one by the governing body of Blowing Rock, and two by the County Board of Education. Of the last two, one would be a resident of the county living east of Boone and the other would be a resident of the section west of Boone. The appointments would be made for two-year terms beginning on or before June 1. The board would have authority to consider appeals (Continued on page eight)

Blowing Rock, and two by the County Board of Education. Of the last two, one would be a resident of the county living east of Boone and the other would be a resident of the section west of Boone. The appointments would be made for two-year terms beginning on or before June 1. The board would have authority to consider appeals (Continued on page eight)

## Dollar Day Sales To Begin On Thursday

The annual Dollar Day sales events will get under way in the community Thursday and continue through Monday and a large number of the retailers of the community are taking part in the big merchandising event, and offering special prices and other inducements for the occasion.

Dollar days are being conducted under the auspices of the trade promotion committee of the Merchants Association, Frank Newton, chairman, and the Democrat today carries a number of advertisements in line with the post-Easter promotion, to which particular attention is directed. The home merchants have large stocks at this time, and no effort is being spared to give the very best of service and the lowest possible prices during dollar days. Everyone is invited to visit Boone during that period, and save by trading at home.

## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO MAP FUTURE EDUCATIONAL PLANS

During the first two weeks in April students at Appalachian High School will be making their future educational plans. This planning will involve students selecting their high school courses for next year and for the remainder of the time that they will spend at Appalachian High School. The selection of courses will be made with regard to their long range objectives for post-school years. This planning of courses will entail a study of the curriculum offered at Appalachian High School, a study of entrance requirements for certain colleges, and a study of the prerequisites for different vocations and professions. High school students will have conferences with the homeroom sponsors, classroom teachers, members of the counseling department, and their parents.

At the end of this week students will take home their registration blanks for the purpose of discussing their plans with their parents. Parents are being urged to take time to discuss with their children the subjects the children should take next year and the remainder of the time they will be in high school. **Wide Choice Of Subjects** Other than the required subjects in English, social studies, mathematics, science, and phy-

## State Garage Here Robbed; Man Caught

Mecklenburg County police reported Tuesday that they had apprehended Walter C. Lee, address not given, and charged him with the robbery of the State Garage in Boone Monday night. Ten or 12 tires, a battery, tools, and gas were taken from the building, according to information released by R. B. Parker, local highway patrolman. Most of this has been recovered. Entrance was gained to the building by forcing of a window. Law enforcement officers believe that at least two persons were involved in the robbery, but so far only Lee has been caught.

## Parkway Civic Group Names Officers.

By JOE MINOR  
Formal opening of the Blue Ridge Parkway was postponed indefinitely Saturday at a meeting here of the Blue Ridge Parkway Associated Chambers of Commerce. The official opening of the Parkway had been planned for last summer, but was postponed when the principal dedication speaker, President Harry S. Truman, announced he would be unable to attend because of the pending Korean conflict. Representatives of Chambers of Commerce from Virginia and North Carolina, and others interested in the development and promotion of the scenic route were present at the meeting. They included: Mrs. Genie Bohler, Morganton; A. S. Roschell, Jr., Roanoke, Va.; Sam F. Weems, Roanoke; Forrest F. Jones, Lenoir; Ralph Grant, Asheville; Mike Grabill, Galax, Va.; Don Shoemaker, Asheville; M. Camak, Henderson; Walter Wessels, Banner Elk; James Cornwell, Spruce Pine; Mr. and Mrs. William Fulton, Blowing Rock; G. Glen Nichols, Sparta; Capt. and Mrs. Rooney, (Continued on page six)

## Johnson Will Speak to C. of C.

Mr. Bob Johnson, of Elizabethton, Tenn., will be the principal speaker at the Chamber of Commerce luncheon to be held at the Gateway Cafe next Tuesday at 1 o'clock, according to an announcement made by Mr. H. W. Wilcox, president of the organization. Mr. Johnson is a leading business man of Carter county, a State elections commissioner, and an influential figure in the civic life of his city. Mr. Mast Ward, son of the late Floyd and Mrs. Ward, will also be a guest of the Chamber of Commerce. The paint-up, clean-up campaign will be discussed, and final plans made for this worthy activity. A full attendance of the membership is desired. Call Chamber of Commerce office for reservations.

## Dr. Michal Attends Health Institute

Dr. Mary B. H. Michal, District Health Officer, is attending The Institute on Health of Children of School Age, arranged in cooperation with the State Board of Health, at Chapel Hill April 3-4. Designed for health officers, the institute is a result of their expressed desire for a better understanding of health promotion among school age children and of their role in such programs. Dr. Myron E. Wegman, professor of pediatrics, Louisiana State University Medical college, will be the principal speaker at the sessions. Group discussions of priorities in health appraisal will feature the Tuesday afternoon session.

## 90-YEAR-OLDS TO CELEBRATE SOON

Prof. W. L. Winkler states that letters are being mailed out to residents of Watauga who have reached the age of 90, so that arrangements may be completed for the big day with them here on Thursday April 26. The oldesters are asked to fill in the blanks and return the letters at once. Any 90 year old person who has not received one of the letters, should let Mr. Winkler know, so that one may be mailed to them.

## April Will Feature War On Cancer Over Country

April is devoted to an intensive educational and fund-raising crusade against cancer. President Truman has proclaimed it Cancer Control Month and called for a sustained drive against the disease that last year killed an estimated 210,000 Americans. Why is cancer singled out for such an intensive attack in which physicians, researchers and the public unite? Because so many thousands of lives—perhaps half of those who develop the disease—can be saved.

## Choral Groups To Present Concerts Friday Evening

The three choral groups of Appalachian High School will present their annual Spring concert Friday, April 6th at 7:30 p. m. in the high school auditorium. The program will consist of numbers sung by the high school choir, the Boys' Glee Club, the Girls' Glee Club, and several small ensembles. Mrs. Elsie H. D. Erneston is completing her third year as director of the groups. The public is cordially invited to attend. The choral groups have continued to grow over the past years, until over eighty students are now participating in them. The Girls' Glee Club has a membership of fifty-four, while the Boys' Glee Club has thirty members. These two groups meet only for one forty-five minute period each week. The choir consists of twenty-seven members, selected from the glee clubs, and meets as a regular class each day. This group, in addition to the regular singing activities, also receives instruction in the fundamentals of music, and music appreciation. These groups have participated in the district contests each year, and have received no rating lower than excellent. This year, due to the deep snow, they were unable to attend, but in the light of the fine showing the groups have made in the past, are being permitted to send a representative group to the State Festival Chorus in Greensboro on April 12th. The choral groups have given several public performances this year: Thanksgiving and Christmas programs for the high school student body; radio broadcasts; church services and the Good Friday Union Service. The students have done excellent work this year, and it is hoped that families and friends will come, hear, and enjoy the concert Friday night.

## Local Students On Honor Roll

The honor roll for the winter quarter at Appalachian State Teachers college has just been released by Registrar H. R. Eggers. The honor roll is composed of those students who make an average grade of "B" with no grades below "C". Students from Watauga county who achieved academic distinction are as follows: William Alexander, and Guy Lail, Shulls Mills; Harold Songer, Sherwood; and the following pupil assistants at the Blackburn School in Catawba County on Tuesday, April 3, at a regular meeting of the pupil assistants of Catawba County. This is the third time this year that library science students of Appalachian have been asked to present programs for district or regional meetings. Students taking part in the program were Yeta Forbis, Virginia Buff, Joan Wheeling, Betty Jo Henderson, and Millicent Elkins. Miss Eunice Query of the library science faculty accompanied the students.

## Elkland Students Visit Points Interest Here

Students from the fourth grade of Elkland school at Todd, visited Boone Saturday and spent the day here. Mrs. Elizabeth Austell, teacher, chaperoned them through various places of interest. They visited the Watauga Democrat office, and were shown through the printing plant. Also, they visited Hillside Dairy, Radio Station WATA, campus of Appalachian State Teachers College, and saw a movie at the Appalachian Theatre. Those in the group included: Mrs. Austell, Dan Bledsoe, Earl Lewis, Haskell McGuire, Larry Lowell, Stanley Worley, D. T. Huff, and J Harold Bledsoe.

## Library Workers Go To Charlotte Meeting

Miss Isabel Brister, librarian of Appalachian high school, and five of her high school library assistants attended the annual convention of the North Carolina High School Library Association in Charlotte, March 30 and 31. Nine ASTC students majoring in library science also attended the meeting. They were: Virginia Buff, Betty Sue Hodges, Alice Porter, Yates Forbis, Jewel Key, Suzanne Coffey, Catherine East, Ruth Anne Miller, and Mrs. Ruby C. Dial. They were accompanied by Miss Ila Taylor and Miss Eunice Query.

## Plans Being Made For City Cleanup Effort

### Bloodmobile To Be Here Tuesday

A reminder is given by the American Red Cross that the Bloodmobile will be in Boone April 10-11 for the purpose of procuring blood for army and civilian needs. Anyone wishing to be a blood donor on April 10 please send name and address to RED CROSS, Boone, N. C., and they will be notified when to come to Watauga Hospital. It takes only a few minutes to give blood; all donors will be under the care of doctors and registered nurses, and refreshments will be served by the hospital staff.

### Tentative Schedule of Activities For Two Week City Face-Lifting Period Given

Plans are rapidly taking shape for the annual clean up, paint up, fix up campaign which is to be conducted during the last two weeks of the month, and a complete tentative schedule of activities for the period was released Monday by Charles E. Wilfong, chairman of the publicity committee. The campaign is under the joint sponsorship of the Boone Chamber of Commerce, the Merchants Association, and radio station WATA, and cash prizes will go to the winners in three divisions: Home \$10; business establishment \$10, lot \$10. A colorful parade will feature the campaign, and Mr. H. Grady Farthing has been named motorcade chairman. A minstrel show, which is to raise money for the clean up effort, is to be staged, but the date and time have not been determined.

### Board Appoints School Groups

The Board of Education, in regular session Monday named members of the various school committees of the county for the ensuing term, and the complete list, which includes the holdovers and new appointments follows: Boone district: J. D. Shoemaker, Walter Edmisten, John Farthing. Green Valley: Hamp Clawson, O. G. Winebarger, H. C. Moretz. Deep Gap: W. W. Randall, Howard Stelman, Elster Greene. Blowing Rock: Charlie Icenhour, Shuford Edmisten, W. C. Lentz. Valle Crucis: J. L. Triplett, Arlie Hodges, John Fox, Jr. Cove Creek: M. L. Herman, Dave P. Mast, Tom Lawrence. Belhel: Ben Frank Wilson, Grover Johnson, Ivan Dishman. Mabel: Clay Perry, Lovill South, Bert Mast. Elkland: Glenn Howell. Boone (colored): Ronda Horton, Ude Moore, Rockford Hatton.

### Tentative Campaign Schedule

Following is a complete tentative schedule of the two-week campaign:  
Saturday, April 14 . . . . . Proclamation by Mayor Gordon Winkler  
Sunday, April 15 . . . . . "Cleanliness Next To Godliness"  
To be stressed in the churches  
Monday, April 16, 2 p. m. . . . . Parade  
With school children carrying products of merchants with Clean Up theme, sign placards indicating where goods may be purchased; officials of Town, automotive and industrial leaders; newspaper, radio station, high school band, college band, Boy Scouts, etc.  
Tuesday, April 17 . . . . . Radio Broadcast  
Wednesday, April 18 . . . . . Speech by Mayor Winkler  
Thursday, April 19 . . . . . Truck available in City for pickup, one week  
Friday, April 20 . . . . . First Inspection Day  
Saturday, April 21 . . . . . Churches to continue Clean Up theme  
Tuesday, April 24 . . . . . School Essay Winners announced (PTA)  
Wednesday, April 25 . . . . . Boy Scout Day  
Thursday . . . . . Report to the People  
Chamber of Commerce Day  
Friday, April 27 . . . . . Final Inspection Day  
Saturday, April 28 . . . . . Awarding of Prizes

### Library Majors Give Program in Catawba

Five students majoring in library science at Appalachian State Teachers college presented a program on school librarianship to a group of high school pupil assistants at the Blackburn School in Catawba County on Tuesday, April 3, at a regular meeting of the pupil assistants of Catawba County. This is the third time this year that library science students of Appalachian have been asked to present programs for district or regional meetings. Students taking part in the program were Yeta Forbis, Virginia Buff, Joan Wheeling, Betty Jo Henderson, and Millicent Elkins. Miss Eunice Query of the library science faculty accompanied the students.

## Red Cross Plea Renewed As Fiscal Campaign Lags

Officially, the Red Cross drive for funds is supposed to be over, but the volunteer workers are going to carry on until the end of this week in an effort to bring the contributions to a higher level. The Rev. J. K. Parker, Jr., chairman of the drive, said Monday, "We have raised a little better than 20% of our quota. I make this appeal to every person in Watauga County. . . . if you haven't already made your contribution to the Red Cross, now's the time. Every contribution, however large or small, is an investment in a better world and a better community. Your donation is insurance against suffering and loss; it helps assure continuation of the work of an agency that is first on the scene

and last to leave when disaster strikes." Mr. Parker expressed the hope that the added week in the drive would bring donations that will help to close the gap between the \$534.25 that has been contributed and the \$2700 that was set as Watauga County's quota. The fish pond in the Gateway Cafe has been a receptacle for spare change tossed in by patrons of the cafe. Mr. Marion owner of the cafe, gave the use of the pond for the month of March to the Red Cross, and when the drive was extended his offer went along for the extra time. Mr. Marion hopes that people will feel free to come in and pitch their dimes and quarters into the pond, whether or not they stay to dine.

### Franklin F. Lawrence Succumbs in Knoxville

Franklin Fuller Lawrence, 45, died April 2 in a Knoxville, Tenn., hospital, where he had been a patient for eight days. Funeral services were conducted April 4 at 2 o'clock at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, at Balm, N. C., and burial was in the church cemetery. Rev. Glenn Gentry and Rev. Phillip Fletcher officiated. The widow, Mrs. Pauline Johnson Lawrence, one son, Bruce Allen Lawrence, survive, with four brothers and five sisters.

### Seitz Will Be Minister to Episcopal Churches

Mr. Thomas Seitz, who will be minister in charge of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Boone, and St. Mary's in Blowing Rock following his graduation in June from Bexley Hall Seminary, visited with friends here last week, en route to his home in Gambier, Ohio. Mr. Seitz had been to Asheville to take portions of his examination prior to being ordained a deacon in the Episcopal ministry. He is a graduate of Kenyon College, and following his graduation from the Seminary will be married to Miss Jan Reece, who will finish Dennison College in June.

### U. S. Senator Byrd Is Blowing Rock Visitor

Senator Harry Byrd, Mr. E. R. Comb and Mr. J. F. Wysor of Richmond, Va. spent Saturday night at Watauga Inn in Blowing Rock. Bad manners held responsible for many automobile injuries.

## City-Wide Dollar Days April 5, 6, 7, and 9 - Trade At Home