

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Year 1868

WATAUGA COUNTY
1880 POPULATION 18,341
Leading agricultural and tourist area. Live stock, dairy and truck raising of paramount importance. Blue Ridge Parkway traverses county, and touches Blowing Rock, one of the principal summer resorts of Eastern America.

BOONE
1880 POPULATION 2,873
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.

VOL. LXIV—NO. 32

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1952.

FIVE CENTS PER COPY

KING STREET BY ROB RIVERS

GROUND HOG DAY dawned murky, and while we thought Old Sol's radiant face was obscured all day, some of the folks say he peeked from behind a cloud along about midday, giving the ground hog a chance to see his shadow, and an excuse for high-tailing it into his den, to live out the six weeks of frigid weather, which the groundhogs vow, will come, if sun shines on the hog on the second day of February . . . There's not as much talk of the ground hog in relation to the weather, or in relation to anything else, as there was a few years ago, but we mountain men, with all our pretensions toward latter day culture, peek at the sky more or less anxiously on the day they say the pig uses for his prognostications . . . But, one of our chums allows: "Can't understand it . . . Why God would have made the rich black earth, and warmed it with the breath of the sun . . . why He made all the beasts and the fowls, and the fishes in the seas, and made man himself, and set the universe in motion . . . and then turned over six weeks of the weather to a pesky groundhog . . . It don't add up!"

BUT DOWN AT BERT ELLIS' Store, we hear, the question was in the air, and a shopper decried the whistle pig theory. "There's nothing to it," he vowed. Bert was said to have averred, "Rob Rivers believes in ground hog day . . . Depends on an Almanac with the picture of the ground hog on it, and makes his plans by the outcome of groundhog day." . . . The doubtful one is said to have faced about, changed his reasoning and "jined" us on the spot . . . And there's a pal . . . another one to be remembered at Christmas time!

HERE AND THERE: Julius Hubbard, veteran North Wilkesboro editor, calls at the Democrat office, and offers his congratulations to the local journal on its continuing program of expansion and improvement . . . The high praise of the neighbor below the ridge is appreciated . . . Mrs. Will Hayes, fast surviving member of the family of the late W. W. D. Edmisten, transacts business at the Democrat office, and visits pleasantly . . . She left us a two dollar bill, and we wonder why they're considered unlucky, and why those who handle them invariably tear off a corner to stymie the jinx . . . Itinerant preacher, exhorting mightily to a considerable crowd, which turned its collective back on the sermonizer when a couple of Tom cats set to fighting back toward the rear of the lot . . . Week-end downpour damaged the Globe road, so that Lenoir traffic, which normally comes that way, had to retrace to Lenoir, and come to Boone via North Wilkesboro . . . Ernest Hicks, called here on account of the illness of his mother, reports on the "Watauga settlement" of Ohio . . . Bank tellers invariably turn the bills all the same way . . . The photod of Jefferson, or Lincoln, or whoever it is, has to be topside . . . Best information we were able to get on this painstaking practice, through our favorite wicket, was "They just look nicer thata way!" Lawns take on greenish look as warm rains sink deeper into the sod, and home gardeners take a look at their plots and finger the lithographed pages of the seed catalogs . . . Dr. B. B. Dougherty, who taught us a good many things a long time ago, visits with us, and talks of the friends of yore, and of the future of the land, and of the bright prospects for the continued rapid growth of Appalachian College, which had its inception in the minds of the Dougherty Brothers more than fifty years ago.

PURLOINED PHILOSOPHY
To err is human, but if the eraser wears out ahead of the pencil you are overdoing the thing.
You don't have to stay awake nights to be a success . . . Just stay awake days!—Southern Cotton Oil Co., Bulletin.
In 1950, more than three-fourths of all farms in North Carolina were without tractors.



QUEEN LEAVES—Western North Carolina Burley Tobacco Queen Doris Perry of Watauga County got a warm send-off as she prepared to board the plane at Asheville that took her to a Daytona Beach, Fla., vacation. Left to right Myron C. Peterson of the sponsoring Asheville Merchants Association; Mrs. J. W. Hoyle, who is accompanying the queen; Miss Perry; Grady Byrd, chairman of the Tobacco Promotion Committee of the Association; Mrs. Crystal Sorrells, Association secretary; L. Roy Phillips of the Association, and D. H. Tackwiler County Agent announced this week.

State Orchestra Clinic To Be Held In Boone

Drama Group Raises Goal Of Over \$50,000

The Southern Appalachian Historical Association Monday evening passed the \$50,000 goal mark, in its efforts to raise funds for the production of Kermit Hunter's "Horn in the West," but Stanley A. Harris, chairman of the finance committee, says more money is urgently needed, and he wants everyone who can to purchase bonds in the Association and thus contribute to the production of the outdoor drama.

Waddell To Speak At C. Of C. Meet



WILLIAM S. WADDELL, William S. Waddell, publisher of the Elizabeth Star, Elizabethton, Tenn., will be the guest speaker at the Chamber of Commerce meeting Tuesday, February 12, at 12 o'clock. All members and friends are urged by Manager Stanley A. Harris to attend.

Edward Hagaman Is Found Dead

Edward Boone Hagaman, 59, prominent citizen of Laurel Creek township, was found dead in bed at the ancestral Hagaman home near Windy Gap, Saturday. He was last seen in the neighborhood Wednesday. Due to the fact that his Thursday newspaper remained on the porch, it is assumed that he died sometime Wednesday or Wednesday night. His death is attributed to a heart attack.

Clyde Greene To Aid In Taft Race

David S. Ingalls, National Campaign Manager for Senator Robert A. Taft, announced this week the appointment of Clyde Greene, Boone, along with six other Republicans, to constitute a Taft Committee in North Carolina. Others named were Frank C. Patton, Morganton, chairman; John L. Morehead, Charlotte; John A. Wilkinson, Washington; W. C. Meekins, Asheville; Buford Henderson, Winston-Salem; and Clifford Frazier, Greensboro.

Nationally Known Figures To Attend Clinic Which Will Be Attended By Members Of Every Orchestra In State.

On Friday and Saturday, February 15th and 16th, the North Carolina All-State High School Orchestra will hold its annual clinic and concert of the campus of Appalachian State Teachers College in the fine new Music and Art building. This building recently served as the site for the Western Division of the All-State Band Clinic. Approximately 100 of the finest high school orchestra musicians in the State will make up the personnel of this youth orchestra. Mr. Paul Painter, Director of the Music Extension Division of the University of Illinois, and a nationally known figure in orchestral circles, will conduct the orchestra in rehearsal and concert. Every high school orchestra in the State of North Carolina will be represented in the clinic, including those from Winston-Salem (Reynolds High), Greensboro, High Point, Salisbury, Kannapolis, and Charlotte (Myers Park, Central, Technical, and Harding High).

President's Ball Here On Saturday

Ed Waugh's Orchestra will provide the music for the President's ball, which is to be held at the High School gymnasium Saturday, February 9 at 8:30. The dance is being given by the Forty Nighters, local dance club, and the proceeds will go to the March of Dimes fund. The admission will be \$1.00 per person.

W. C. Greer Quits Hardware Store

Mr. W. C. Greer, vice-president of the Farmers Hardware & Supply Co., since the business was founded on January 10, 1925, has sold his stock in the firm, and has retired from all business activities. Mr. Greer's stock was purchased by Clyde Greene, Cecil Greene, Turner Storie and R. D. Hodges, Jr.

Lions Club, Rotary To Play Basketball

The Lions Club and the Rotary Club will play a basketball game at the Appalachian High School gymnasium Thursday at 7:30 p. m. All proceeds will be given to the March of Dimes fund, and the admission will be fifty cents per person.

Harris Thanks Fiscal Campaign Workers

Stanley A. Harris, chairman of the finance committee of the Southern Historical Association has asked the Democrat to express his appreciation to every one who worked in the financial campaign and to everyone who bought bonds. Mr. Harris said, "It is a grand demonstration of what Boone can do when our people really get down to business and try. We passed the goal we set of \$50,000 but there is still a great many people who should have been interested enough to buy bonds, who have not done so. There are three groups in particular who should invest in bonds. Every person in Boone who has rooms to rent will probably increase the possibility of renting that room, be it a single

Norfolk & Western Asked To Build Line To Boone

Produce Growers To Hear Experts At All-Day Meet

Growers of produce for sale in Watauga County will have a chance to hear specialists in their respective fields of research and vegetable disease control at an all-day meeting the Boone Courthouse Friday, February 15, beginning at 9:30 a. m. L. E. Tuckwiler County Agent announced this week.



WHERE CHILDREN WERE HURT—Two views of the crash in which five school children were hurt as the bus in which they were riding slipped on the ice and crashed into a tractor. Neither of the children was critically injured. Top photo by Palmer's Photo Service. Bottom photo was snapped by Patrolman R. B. Parker, who investigated the accident.

High School Band To Play In Concert

The Appalachian High School and Junior High School Bands, under the direction of Roy R. Blanton, Jr. will present a concert on Sunday afternoon February 10th at 2:00 p. m. at the college auditorium. Mr. Blanton will be assisted by Miss Agnes Baldwin, a senior music student of A. S. T. C. who is doing her student teaching in instrumental music.

Tax Listing Is Extended To 15th

The Board of Commissioners of Watauga county has extended the time for listing personal property for taxes until February 15, it was announced Tuesday by Clyde R. Greene, chairman, who states that during the intervening period, all personal property, including dogs and polls must be listed at the tax supervisor's office in the courthouse.

Federal Men To Aid Tax Payers

Notice has been issued that a deputy collector of Internal Revenue will be at the Postoffice in Boone February 13, 14, and 15, from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m., for the purpose of giving advice and assistance to those wanting help in preparing their 1951 Federal income reports.

Richardson Is New Farm Agent

W. C. Richardson, former assistant county agent who was recently released from active duty with the army, assumed the duties of assistant county agent effective February 1st. Mr. Richardson will have charge of the 4-H club program and will assist with other agricultural extension activities in the county.

Scout Supper To Aid Building Fund

A supper will be held at the Methodist Church Friday evening and the proceeds for the sale of tickets will be used for financing the addition to the Boy Scout Hut, used by Boone's three Scout troops.

Girls Scouts Are Organized Here

An Intermediate Girl Scout troop has been organized in Boone and is now registered with the national headquarters. It is being sponsored by the Methodist Church and is under the capable leadership of Mrs. R. M. Hopkins and Mrs. R. W. Thomas.

Jane Williams, 12, Dies Wednesday

Jane Williams, 12, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Williams, of Boone, R. F. D. 2, died at Watauga Hospital last Wednesday, following a long illness with a heart ailment.

Estel Wagner Buys Murray Esso Place

Mr. Estel Wagner has purchased from Mr. Bill Murray, the Murray Esso Servicenter, at Howard and Hardin Streets, and Mr. Harold Fabs has been employed as manager.

March Of Dimes To Last Through 9th

The March of Dimes campaign has been extended through the current week, and Jack Idol, campaign director is highly pleased with the receipts which are coming in, and asks that reports be made as rapidly as possible.

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