

## Drought Playing Havoc With Watauga Crops

### KING STREET

BY  
ROB RIVERS

#### THE SMOKE CLEARS

Back from Chicago, where the big and the little, the politically powerful, the men of small stature and little influence, the city bosses, the mountain pre-nt leaders, the college lads, the girls and the women, gathered to place the jodphurs on the donkey's jockey, and tighten the cinch for the November Presidential sweepstakes . . . The convention, which featured considerable of the fireworks for which the majority party is noted, was, for the most part, conducted with rare ability and dispatch, and the professionals are inclined to believe that the organization of Jefferson, of Jackson, of Wilson, of Roosevelt, of Truman and of Adlai is in better shape to go before the people, that there is more of unity and less of bitterness, than there has been for many years . . . Adlai, the unwilling candidate, the brilliant orator and statesman of a famous family, dating back to Iredell county, North Carolina, ancestry, is the best candidate the Democrats could offer the nation . . . Diametrically opposite the Truman, Roosevelt campaign tactics, the Governor of Illinois is injecting a note of confidence, of humility and of unquestioned competence into a campaign, which a relatively few short weeks ago, appeared to be verging on the brink of despair.

#### THE LITTLE FOLKS

Eight years ago, deponent journeyed to Chicago, during the bitter days of the great war and sat in on the fourth nomination of Roosevelt . . . At that time it seemed to many folks here and far-away that there would be a change; we shared the belief that the people might give the call to the young, aggressive governor of New York, who seemed to be the direct opposite to the party which had been labeled as old and tired and broken . . . We set out to find out, when we arrived in the windy city, how the folks felt, and we found that the cab drivers, the bellmen, the waitresses, the cops on the beat, the small business operators, the railroad men, wanted to re-elect the New Deal, and on our return we predicted the election of Roosevelt . . . We talked to the same sort of folks this year—hundreds of them, ranging from district committeemen, through ward wardens to college kids, who labeled themselves independent, and found that these people—the "little folks," are still for the nominees of the party and the program, which they say has brought prosperity and hope and purpose to the masses of the people . . . That's what they say, and we submit this for whatever the reader may think it's worth.

#### CONVENTION BREVITIES

Our disappointment in the convention hall, which seems cramped, as compared to Chicago stadium . . . Our pleasant visits with W. T. Payne, Jr., of Sugar Grove, an army lieutenant, who is engaged in special assignments in Chicago . . . We are grateful to our young friend for his many courtesies . . . The classic address of Stevenson, for whom we voted all three times, to the apparent disgust of most of the delegation, who chose the bitter-ender role . . . The song-fests led by noted vocalists, and Phil Regan putting on the arousing "Don't Take It Away." . . . Jim Farley, acknowledging our greeting with a warm handshake—hasn't changed a bit . . . Pleasant meeting with D'Alessandro, Mayor of Baltimore . . . Averill Harriman most pleasant as we passed in reception line . . . Wanted Boone accurately located . . . His charming wife . . . Shaking with Nancy K. and

### Jake Caudill Retail Prexy



J. V. CAUDILL

J. V. Caudill was elected president of the Boone and Watauga County Merchants Association at a meeting of the board of directors last Friday. He succeeded O. K. Richardson. Alfred T. Adams was named vice president, succeeding Roy A. Ruffy, and Mrs. Roberta B. Ray, was re-elected secretary-treasurer. The new board of directors, which was elected three days previously at the annual business meeting of the association, includes the following: M. R. Mad-dux, Dewitt Barnett, J. R. Craven, J. C. Cline, D. L. Wilcox, J. V. Caudill, A. T. Adams, Raleigh Cottrell, and Perry Greene. The retiring president and vice president also were retained on the board of directors.

### Cattlemen Hit By Arid Season

The continuing dry weather in Watauga county, which is playing havoc with cabbage and other growing crops, is supplanting the lush clover of the pasture land with seared, sparse grasses, and forcing cattle on the market, it was learned from farmers the first of the week.

While the effects of the dry weather on growing crops and the resultant damage to the economy of the county, is not to be minimized, the cattlemen bring the most depressing stories of loss of income.

Dry weather last year, they say, depleted the fall pastures to such an extent that they failed to recover to normal during the current grazing season, and with only a few weeks left of the growing season, many of these breeders see little hope of additional sustained grazing this fall. Another early feeding season, coupled with short hay crops, bodes no good for the beef cattle and dairy men.

Already, it is learned, hay is being hauled into the area from northern points, and farmers say they are beginning to sell their cattle many weeks ahead of normal sales time, to avoid further drifting.

One cattleman told of a ten cent drop in the price of fat heifers on a Virginia market last week, and said loads of cattle were being bought and taken to Pennsylvania and other states unaffected by the dry weather.

As this is written temperatures remain in the high eighties without promise of rain.

### Mason Bliss Is Club Speaker; Gives Horn Data

Bob Beachley, program chairman, presented Mr. Mason Bliss, business manager of "Horn in the West" as the speaker of the evening at the last regular meeting of the Boone Rotary Club. Mr. Mason gave the club some statistics concerning the first 22 days of performance of the drama. He indicated that the drama was enjoying more success than had been anticipated, ranking second only to Cherokee as the leader of the eight large out-door dramas. Some interesting points brought out by Mr. Bliss were that to date there have been no faintings or other casualties in the audiences. Their huge parking lot can be emptied after a performance in only eight minutes. That the management has incorporated special facilities to handle those in wheel chairs so that the performance may be viewed by them in comfort.

Visiting Rotarians from other clubs were: Mr. Tom Miller of Oswego, New York; Mr. Bob Crook of Meridian, Mississippi; Mr. John O. Goodwin of Blowing Rock; Mr. Wm. M. Fulton of Blowing Rock; Mr. Charnelle Campbell of Hastings, Florida; Mr. Gilbert L. Lyan of DeLand, Florida; Mr. H. J. Stroehmann of Williamsport, Pennsylvania; Mr. C. A. Hodshon of Dunedin, Florida; and Mr. E. J. Harrell of Hawkinsville, Georgia.

Dr. Len Hagaman brought as his guest his brother Hugh Hagaman and Stanley Harris brought Mr. Paul Campbell of Detroit, Michigan, as his guest.

### Bell Phone Co. Wants Rate Raise

The Southern Bell Telephone Company last week filed an application with the North Carolina Utilities Commission asking an adjustment in rates to offset the effects of a general wage increase just approved by the Wage Stabilization Board retroactive to June 8.

The amount of additional annual gross revenue sought is approximately \$800,000. North Carolina Manager Harvey G. Booth pointed out the amount being requested is only the specific cost incurred in connection with the increased wages applicable to intra-state operations, negotiated through collective bargaining.

### Health Clinics Are Being Held

Regular Clinics are being held by the health department as follows:

In Boone Diagnostic Clinic every Monday morning 8:30 a. m. to 12:00 noon. Immunization Clinic every Friday afternoon, 2:00 p. m. to 4:00 p. m. Mothers and Infants Clinic second Monday afternoon every month.

In Blowing Rock Diagnostic Clinic every Friday morning 9:00 a. m. to 11:00 a. m.

The next clinic will be held August 11 1:00 p. m. to 4:00 p. m.

### Vesper Services At Horn Theatre

Vesper service at the Daniel Boone Theatre at 5:00 p. m. Music under the direction of Hoyt Safrin with James Grawel at the organ. Scripture and prayer by Pastor H. C. Linn. Vesper meditation, "God's Great Cathedral," by Pastor E. F. Troutman.

## Annual Tour of Watauga Farms To Begin Monday and Be Concluded on August 15

The annual tour of demonstration farmers and their farms will begin Monday and continue through Friday, August 15, according to an announcement by L. E. Tuckwiller, county agent. There are 23 farms included in the tour and the purpose of the tour is to select "the best unit test demonstration farmer." Business people, as well as farmers, are urged to go on these tours so that a really representative farmer may be selected.

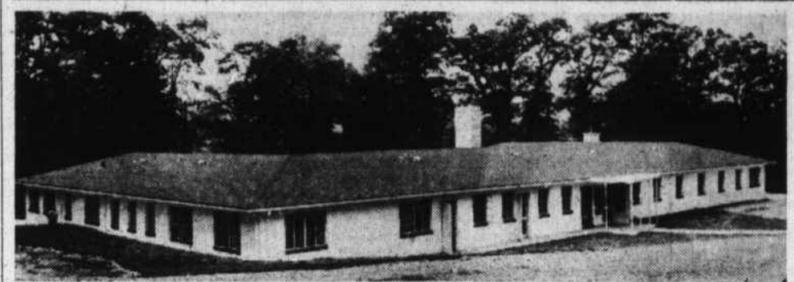
Each day a vote will be taken to determine the "best" farm

visited. On Friday, the 15th, the four "best" farms will be re-visited and then the best of the group will be selected as "the best unit test demonstration farmer."

The schedule of visits, is listed so that those who will make plans to attend.

On Monday, August 4, the tours will begin at Cove Creek High School at 9 a. m. From there they will go directly to Lawrence Wilson's (I. B. Wilson) farm in Zionville. From there they go to Ned Glenn's farm, Sugar Grove;

## Telephone Membership Nears County Goal of 300



OPENED SUNDAY—The new 20-bed Blowing Rock Hospital, which was dedicated Sunday afternoon, with Dr. H. E. Spence of Duke University Divinity School as master of ceremonies. (Story on page 1, second section.)—Photo by Palmer's Photo Shop.

## Blowing Rock Horse Show Begins Friday With Record List of Entries

### Rev. Mr. Canipe To Hold Revival



DR. J. C. CANIPE

Dr. J. C. Canipe, a former pastor of the First Baptist Church in Boone and now serving as secretary of Evangelism for the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, will speak in revival services at the Cove Creek Baptist Church. The evangelistic meetings will begin on Sunday morning August 3 and will continue through August 10. Mr. Canipe will be speaking in the morning and evening worship services of the church on August 3 and 10 and each evening through the week at 7:30. Meetings for prayer and testimony will be held at various homes in the Cove Creek community each afternoon at 1:30.

### License Bureau Days Are Changed

W. R. Stansberry, drivers license examiner, has announced that the license office in the courthouse will be open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of each week, instead of Thursday and Friday only, as heretofore. All motor vehicle operators in Watauga County are asked to check their licenses, either in the lower or upper right hand corner, for the expiration date.

Driver's license renewal may be applied for from sixty days prior to thirty days after expiration date, said Mr. Stansberry.

By MRS. LUCILE LETT

Blowing Rock. — The Blowing Rock Horse Show, the oldest annual horse show in the country, is about to begin its twenty-ninth show.

There will be one show on Friday, August 1, at 2 p. m., two on Saturday at 10 a. m. and 2 p. m., and one on Sunday at 2 p. m. Also featured on Friday will be the exhibitors party at 7 p. m. to which all parties entering horses are invited. This will be followed by a buffet dinner and street dance, the latter beginning at 9 p. m.

Saturday noon will feature the Horse Show Breakfast in the Mayview Manor Hotel dining room and that night at 9 o'clock in the ball room of the same hotel will be the annual horse show ball.

Mr. L. M. Tate, manager, anticipates more horses this year than ever before and announces the

following divisions which will participate in the show: 3-gaited, 5-gaited, roadsters, hunters, jumpers, walking horses, ponies, and equitation.

This year 30 new box stalls are being erected, which will bring to 141 the total permanent stalls.

There will be 115 boxes, 6 chairs each, and a grandstand which can accommodate 700 persons. There are 30 tack rooms with complete facilities for grooms to remain near their charges.

On the main grounds is a complete outside course for hunters and jumpers which consists of 17 jumps, 2 figure 8s, natural ditch, post and rail, chicken coops, aikens with natural boards.

Two prominent judges will be on hand for the show this year. Vernon C. Cartey, Toronto, Canada, will be judge for hunter, jumper and equitation. Mr. Car-

(Continued on page six)

## Democrats Planning Speaking Campaign

Chicago, July 25.—The Democratic high command decided yesterday to throw a "Big Four" speaking team into the fall presidential campaign.

It will be headed by President Harry S. Truman and Adlai Stevenson, the presidential nominee. Democratic National Chairman Frank E. McKinney told reporters that Truman advised him that "I am at your disposal." Mr. McKinney said the other two will be Vice-President Alben Barkley and Senator John Sparkman of Alabama, the Democratic vice-presidential nominee.

Mr. McKinney said he hoped to open the campaign on Labor Day and have a "short hard-hitting campaign of no more than 60 days."

The National Chairman was

among the Democratic chiefs who met with Governor Stevenson Sunday to chart the strategy of the coming campaign, designed to lead the Democrats to victory in the November election.

Goals of the Sunday huddles appeared to be:

1. Keep the South solidly in the Democratic column.  
2. Woo the important farm vote which in 1948 tipped the scales in favor of President Truman.  
3. Win the labor vote of the industrial centers.

Mrs. India Edwards, vice chairman of the Democratic National Committee, whose name was placed before the delegates at their convention last week, for vice-president, also conferred with Governor Stevenson. She said she discussed the campaign strategy "as it affects women."

## Foreign Leaders On Tour Watauga Farm

A group of 35 foreign agricultural workers, economists and business leaders were visitors to Watauga county and Tom Ward's

farm in Valle Crucis Monday afternoon. The foreigners are in this country learning American ways of farm management and care and are taking a study course at N. C. State College, touring various farms in the State for practical experience.

Mr. Ward's farm was the only farm visited in this vicinity, and was selected because of the outstanding progress the Ward family has made with the assistance of Farmers Home Administration, State College Extension Service, Production Marketing Administration, Soil Conservation Service, and Tennessee Valley Authority. Local farm management men accompanying the group to Mr. Ward's farm and explaining the mountain way of farming included J. B. Robinson, FHA supervisor; Howard J. Williams, Soil Conservation Service technician; and L. E. Tuckwiller, county agent.

State leaders with the group (Continued on page six)

### Rural Phones May Soon Be Secured

When 45 more members are signed up in Watauga County by the Skyline Telephone Membership Corporation, actual work will proceed to fulfill the promise of the corporation of providing telephone service for Watauga, Ashe, and Alleghany counties. This news was released by E. P. Holmes, writer, lecturer, and REA telephone worker, Tuesday as he continued to contact rural Wataugans for telephone subscriptions.

Mr. Holmes explained that Watauga had a goal of 300 subscribers, Ashe County 600, and Alleghany 300, before application can be made for a loan to help finance the cooperative. When these 45 members in this county are signed up, the application will be filed.

The proposed telephone system will use dial sets with an automatic exchange. The phones will ring only when the number called is dialed. No one will be bothered with another subscriber's calls.

Mr. Holmes requested those rural folks who have not signed up to contact him or the county agent's office immediately so the goal may be reached in the next couple of weeks. He has been in the county two weeks. When he started work here about the middle of July 100 members were needed. Fifty-five of those have been secured.

"This is an opportunity for dial telephones which the rural people of Western North Carolina cannot afford to miss. The Skyline Membership Corporation will be a great asset to Western North Carolina as it will tie three counties to the outside world by telephone," Mr. Holmes explained as he urged people to do all they could in getting ready for this communications system.

### Trout Streams Are Being Closed

Trout streams in the Mt. Mitchell and Daniel Boone management area are closed now, due to low waters, according to Clyde P. Patton, executive director of the Wildlife Resources Commission in Raleigh.

The trout season in Watauga County officially closes one hour after sundown Thursday, July 31, according to the District 7 Supervisor, Walter Edmisten.

### Supper Is Given By Watauga Post

A supper will be given Tuesday, August 5 at 7:30 p. m., by the Watauga Post of the American Legion at the Legion Hut, for Legionnaires and their wives. The gathering will be entertained by string music, and a brief business session will follow the supper.

### Samuel Jones Dies At Age 61

Samuel Cleveland Jones died at the age of 61 on Thursday, July 24, at his home on Boone Route 3. He had been in declining health for several years.

Funeral services were held Saturday, July 26, at 2 p. m., at the Oak Grove Baptist Church, conducted by the Rev. C. O. Vance. Burial was in the family cemetery at Clifton, N. C. Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Nancy Jones, and the following brothers and sister: Bryant Jones, Fruchis, N. C.; Lester Jones, Clifton, N. C.; Bob Jones, Richmond, Va.; Elmer Jones, Apple Grove, N. C.; Charlie Jones, Clifton, N. C.; and Mrs. Vertie Graybeal, Fig. N. C.

Offshore procurement orders for military equipment placed with friendly nations for arming NATO countries totaled \$684,000,000 in the last fiscal year.