

**BOONE**  
1950 POPULATION 2,973  
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.

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Year 1888

1950 POPULATION 18,341  
**WATAUGA COUNTY**  
Leading agricultural and tourist area. Livestock, dairying and truck farming of paramount importance. Blue Ridge Parkway traverses county and touches Blowing Rock, one of the principal summer resorts of Eastern America.

VOL. LXV.— NO. 20. BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1952. FIVE CENTS PER COPY

## Health Department Says City Water Unsafe; Mayor Winkler Cites State Laboratory O.K.

### KING STREET BY ROB RIVERS

#### VISITING A LOST GRACE

Annual church visitation took place in the community Sunday afternoon under the sponsorship of the Ministerial Association. Large number of "teams" made the rounds of the community, talked with the folks and spent a pleasant few minutes at each stop. Like the old days, when every Sunday afternoon or evening, and week day for that matter, one had company. Folks used to like to bring their knitting, and talk of all the happenings in the neighborhood, especially on long winter nights, when the wood crackled merrily on the hearth, and there were baskets of apples and plenty of chestnuts, and the capacity to enjoy relatively simple pleasures. No, we don't want to go back—not that at all, we've tried to keep our sights trained along the road ahead, but there are a few things we'd like to retrieve from that other day, and one is visiting. The machine age has cut into the custom world without end. Folks just can't quite seem to find time to drop in for a few minutes with their best friends, and if they do, most likely all hands will sit in stony silence, watching the tv show, coming back to reality when the shadows fall, and a furtive glance at the watch indicates it's time to go.

#### DON'T UNDERSTAND, MAYBE

And some of the newcomers to the community don't quite understand how come we don't call, and why it is that with all the talk and neighborliness along the street, they never bring it into the living rooms of those who have moved in. We know of no better way to promote the community than for the folks to extend a bit more of a glad hand to those who come here. A heap of visitin' is a mighty good thing for the happiness of the town as well as for the general morale of the folks. The church people are to be commended on the visitation program. Love of the Lord is tied right closely to love of one's fellow-man!

#### HATS, AND FEATHERS AND FRUIT

Another thing the current high speed h-bomb age has done, is to spoil the scenery on Milady's hat. Bonnets seldom come up for discussion, except at Easter time, but with the milliner's affection for those little things—berets, or something, one just don't quite get the bang out of a hall full of ladies as in the old days. Back a few years ago, when big pigeons, and Paradise birds, and huge plumes were common, a lad wouldn't want a better time than to go to some public gathering and watch the hats. Then there were the fruit basket effects—the bunches of pink and yellow grapes, the luscious-looking cherries and wild plums, and flowers of endless variety. We used to marvel at these creations—wonder how they could make fruit look even better than it is, where they bagged the bird that lent the plume, and reckon how much the big one cost. Then there was the hat pin, which reached out on both sides to a precarious length, and its fancy hilt. These little things are pretty, don't mistake it, but we can't help but look with longing at the days of the groceries and the big plumes and long spears which featured the gay bonnets of another era!

#### USEFUL CAREER

In the death of William Carter, for many years caretaker at the courthouse, a long tenure and a useful career has been

### New Highway Postoffice Will Start Charlotte Run December 1

Postmaster John E. Brown, Jr. has been advised by T. J. Cheek, district superintendent, Postal Transportation Service, Greensboro, that Charlotte to Boone Highway Post Office service is scheduled to start on Monday, December 1, in line with Mr. Brown's continuing requests for improved mail service to the south. Mail service in the direction of Lenoir, interrupted during the construction of the Lenoir-Blowing Rock highway, had never been fully reinstated, and this new service will bring to two the direct highway postoffice routes serving this city from the main north south lines of the Southern Railway, and intervening points. The new schedule will operate seven days weekly. The new schedule will leave Charlotte at 2:30 a. m. and arrive in Boone at 9:30 a. m., via Rock Hill, S. C., Gastonia, Newton, Hickory, Lenoir, Blowing Rock, and other points. Leaving Boone at 1:30 p. m. the highway postoffice will arrive in Charlotte at 6:30 p. m. The total distance to be covered between Boone and Charlotte will be one hundred and fifty-five miles. Postmaster Brown expresses pleasure this new mail service is to be established, which will provide speedier mail service to the southern points. The Boone and Greensboro Highway Postoffice, will continue its daily except Sunday schedules.

### Burley Growers Asked To Vote On Quota Plan

Growers of Burley tobacco of Watauga county were urged today by Dwight Cable, Chairman of the County PMA Committee to take part in the referendum Saturday, November 22 on marketing quotas for Burley tobacco. "Vote any way you choose", Mr. Cable said, "but, be sure to vote." "Congress has made it possible," he said, "for farmers to have marketing quotas and it is up to them to decide by voting in the referendum. Marketing quotas make it possible for growers to obtain fair prices for their tobacco by providing a method of adjusting supply to demand." If quotas are approved, individual farm acreage allotments for 1953 will be about 10 percent less than the 1952 allotment for any farm which has produced up to 75 percent of its allotted acreage in any one of the past three years. Public Law No. 528,82d, Congress, provides that the farm acreage allotment for Burley tobacco for any year shall not be less than the smallest of (1) the allotment established for the farm for the immediately preceding year (2) seven-tenths acre, or (3) 25 percent of the cropland, provided that no allotment of one

### Doughton Lauded; Bust Veteran Solon Is Given

Sparta, Nov. 15.—"If I were to select the ideal member of Congress, without hesitancy my choice would be my friend and yours, Robert Lee Doughton," Senator Clyde R. Hoey told the hundreds of friends who gathered at the courthouse in Sparta this afternoon to pay tribute to Alleghany County's most distinguished citizen at the unveiling of the bronze statue done by Miss Katherine Sater of Washington, D. C. Hoey praised Doughton for his

### Mrs. Wiley Swift Dies On Friday; Funeral Sunday

Mrs. Wiley H. Swift, 75, died Friday morning at her home, in Montezuma. Mrs. Swift had suffered from a heart condition for ten years. Funeral services were conducted from the late residence Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock and burial was in the Montezuma cemetery. Mrs. Swift is survived by five children, Wiley H. Swift, Montezuma; Thomas W. Swift, Winston-Salem; David Swift, Valdese, Mrs. Peter Olney, Saylesville, R. I.; and Miss Bulus Swift of Montezuma. Mr. Swift died several years ago. Born February 22, 1877, the deceased was the former Miss Bulus Bagby, daughter of the late Rev. W. M. Bagby and Fannie Robinson Bagby. After graduation from what is now Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, she taught in Watauga County, where she was married to Wiley H. Swift of Sherwood. They lived in Greensboro until 1931. Mrs. Swift was always active in community and civic affairs. She was State president of the North Carolina Congress of Parents and Teachers in 1927. She was a member of the North Carolina

ability, character, courage and loyalty.

"This great man has rendered such outstanding service that the people have long recognized it and that is why he has been returned to Congress longer than any other North Carolinian and longer than any other man except the late Congressman Sabbath," Senator Hoey said, and pointed out that the confidence the people had in him was a tribute to his greatness. He said he knew of no man with courage surpassing that of Congressman Doughton who has served as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee longer than any other man. He said that the loyalty of his many friends was a tribute to his own loyalty. He not only cited his record in the national politics but as a man who has served his community, county, state and the world.

The courthouse was filled to overflowing for the ceremony which was presided over by R. Floyd Crouse, county attorney and long time chairman of the Democratic Party of Alleghany. Ed Darr Jr., president of the Young Democrats, presented Senator Hoey. The bronze bust mounted on Mt. Airy granite was accepted for the county by Mr. Crouse. The ceremony inside the courthouse was concluded by an expression of thanks and appreciation by Congressman Doughton who was deeply moved by the occasion.

The crowd of more than one thousand persons gathered on the courthouse lawn where the Appalachian band of Boone played the National Anthem and the bust was unveiled by Tommy Doughton of Sparta, a grandson of Congressman Doughton. In addition to friends throughout the district there were a number of the state officials present for the impressive ceremony.

The Sparta Woman's Club was in charge of the arrangements and the presentation of the bronze bust was made possible through contributions of friends.

acre or less shall be reduced more than one-tenth of an acre in any one year. There will be a small acreage for adjustment of old farm allotments, and for establishing allotments on farms on which no tobacco has been grown in the past five years. Every person who has an interest in the 1952 crop of Burley tobacco as owner, tenant, or share cropper is entitled to vote in the referendum, but no person is entitled to more than one vote regardless of the acreage of tobacco he grows. Mr. Cable said, "I believe it (Continued on page six)

### Phillips Child, 6, Dies In Tragic Auto Accident

A corner's jury rendered a verdict of "unavoidable" Friday morning after listening to testimony in the death of Barbara Ann Phillips.

The six-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Phillips, Route 1, Deep Gap, was killed instantly Wednesday morning, November 12, on the Gap Creek road about one mile from the Highway 421 intersection as she ran out of a side road directly into the path of an automobile driven by George Perry Greene, Boone contractor. The car was proceeding north from Highway 421.

Witnesses at the inquest said Barbara Ann had been waiting on the opposite (west) side of the Gap Creek road with other children for a school bus, but had gone across the road and into a side road, know as the Hegg Greene road, to meet a friend who was coming to join them. She was struck as she ran back across the road, it was said. It was brought

### Church Visiting Day Is Observed

The gorgeous fall weather last Sunday lent itself well to the combined efforts of the Boone Ministerial Association and lay persons in the third annual town-wide visitation day. The project was under the direction of the Ministerial Association in cooperation with nation-wide emphasis of Religion-in-American-Life-Month.

Members of the ASTC Religious Council participated by taking care of the visitation on the campus in the dormitories. Teams of townspeople were assigned to sections of the city with the desire that every home in the community be visited during the afternoon.

The Ministerial Association thanks each person who helped make this event the success it was.



The next Governor of North Carolina, William B. Umstead, sets an example for the State in the fight against tuberculosis by buying Christmas Seals from the 1952 State Christmas Seal Sale Chairman, Dr. Hollis Edens.

### Mayor Asks Citizens To Buy Health Stickers

Because the Alleghany Ashe, Watauga Tuberculosis Association is "dedicated to the life-saving work of combating tuberculosis in this city," Mayor Gordon H. Winkler today urged every resident to support the association's 1952 Christmas Seal Sale. Proceeds from the sale of Christmas Seals will finance the organization's year-round tuberculosis control program, including case finding (X-ray), health education and rehabilitation. Christmas Seal Sale begins Nov. 17 and ends Dec. 25. The Mayor officially approved the forthcoming campaign today by signing a 1952 Christmas Seal Proclamation in his offices in City Hall in Boone. In signing the proclamation the Mayor told (Continued on page six)

### Health Officer, Mayor Give Out Statements

Charging "contamination of the city water supply by the use of water from an unapproved source," the district health department, in a release broadcast over radio station WATA Monday evening, warned that "the use of the city water for drinking purposes is unsafe, and that all water for drinking should be boiled at least five minutes," causing a considerable furore in the community. The Democrat, which had also been given the release by Dr. Mary B. H. Michal, district health officer, immediately called Mayor Gordon H. Winkler, who stated that the water supply had been tested regularly and was pronounced all right by the State. However, the water in question was withdrawn from the municipal supply.

Mayor Winkler called the State Laboratory of Hygiene Tuesday morning, regarding a sample of water taken last Friday, and was advised that there was no contamination. The water had been chlorinated, the Mayor added, in expressing appreciation to the health department for "being on its toes" in behalf of the public welfare.

#### The Warning Statement

The board of health statement, signed by Dr. Michal, follows: "Due to the contamination of the city water supply by the use of water from an unapproved source added to the reservoir, it is warned by the Health Department that the use of the city water for drinking purposes is not safe, and that all water for drinking should be boiled at least five minutes. When the supply has been made safe the public will be notified."

#### The Mayor's Statement

Following is the statement on the water situation which Mayor Winkler gave the Democrat:

"In line with the action of the Health Department, we have withdrawn the questioned water supply from the city system. This auxiliary supply was called on two months ago, and had regularly been tested by the State Laboratory of Hygiene, State Board of Health, Raleigh. A sample taken Friday, November 14, shows no contamination, according to the official report.

"Contrary to general belief, the water has been chlorinated at all times, and the source which has brought the local health department action was approved by the State department for emergency use some years ago. I have no disposition to argue this matter with the Department, for within myself I can't know whether or not there is pollution. I have to rely on the laboratory tests which are made monthly. The water supply is good, according to their reports.

"At the time the Watauga Democrat contacted me, I hadn't been contacted by Dr. Michal, regarding the city water.

"I appreciate the department's anxiety for the safety of the people of the community, and we shall continue our efforts in behalf of a better water supply. Last week I conferred with a Health Department engineer relative to our proposed new filter plant, and we shall continue our efforts along this line.

"We want to thank the Watauga Democrat for giving us this opportunity of being heard in a matter of such vital concern."



BAXTER CANNON HOWELL, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Y. Howell of Vilas, who died in New Haven, Conn. November 9.

### Former Boone Pipe Maker Dies In New York

David P. Levietes, formerly of Boone, died November 3, at his home at Kew Gardens, N. Y., he has been learned here. He was buried November 5 in Emanuel Cemetery, Weathersfield. Mr. Levietes came to Boone during the last world war and established a smoking pipe manufacturing plant. Using the native rhododendron and laurel roots for the pipe bowls, with a patented fireproofing, he was able to deliver a product quite in line with that made from the European briar. Another plant was established at Sparta, and later the Boone plant was moved there. Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Eliza Jones Levietes and two sons, Haney Jonas and Paul Edward Levietes, of New York.

### Rites Are Held For Mrs. Henson

Funeral services were held Friday, November 14, at the Forest Grove Baptist Church for Mrs. Callie Henson, who died at her home in Reese on November 11 following a brief illness. She was 68 years of age. The Rev. Carl Wilson, assisted by the Rev. Barney Oliver, officiated at the rites, and burial was in the church cemetery. She is survived by the following sons and daughters: Laney Henson, Smith Henson, and Dana Henson, all of Reese; Herman Henson, with the U. S. Army in Japan; Bryce Henson, Glade Springs, Va.; Mrs. Parlee Younce and Mrs. Ethel Norris, both of Mabel; and Mrs. Dora Earp of Reese.

### Nurse's Home Campaign Gets Enthusiastic Boost

Mounting enthusiasm is seen in the campaign being conducted here for funds for the proposed nurses' home at Watauga Hospital, and those in charge state that contributions have been received from 56 individuals and firms in amounts ranging from \$5 to \$1,000. Dr. G. K. Moose is chairman of the hospital board of trustees, while Stanley A. Harris is chairman of the building committee. Mr. Harris says: "This is the first finance campaign I have been connected with, where so many have been solicited without a single turn-down, and many of the contributions are very liberal."

The advance gift campaign will be continued through this week and next and the general (Continued on page six)

### Watauga Man, Gone Week, Found In N. Y.

Sheriff E. D. Cook told the Democrat yesterday that Granville Townsend, who disappeared from his home in Valle Crucis November 11, had been located at Bellevue Hospital, New York, where he had been a patient since November 13. Sheriff Cook was expecting other information from hospital authorities later.

Townsend, son of Mr. and Mrs. Manly Townsend of Valle Crucis, has been the object of a widespread search throughout Watauga county and other sections of North Carolina and adjoining states. No prior news had been heard from him. Sheriff Cook, Civil Air Patrol

### Clinic To Be Held Next Friday

The regular Orthopedic Clinic will be held at the Health Department in Jefferson on Friday, November 21, between 8:00 a. m. and 12 noon.

### Medical Group Names Officers

At the recent meeting of the Ashe-Watauga County Medical Society, held in West Jefferson, the following officers were elected: Dr. C. E. Miller, Jefferson, president; Dr. Lawrence H. Owsley, Boone, vice-president; and Dr. Mary B. H. Michal, Boone, secretary-treasurer.

#### RETAIL FOOD INDEX

The retail food index declined one-tenth of one per cent between October 15th and 27th, the third straight half-month period to show a decline. Lower prices for meats, poultry and fish were responsible for the decline.