

## KING STREET BY ROB RIVERS

### "THE SEA FLOWS DOWN KING STREET"

Thus read the big bold headline, and underneath were pictures of flooded buildings, of apartment dwellers being taken from buildings in boats, and of general destruction and desolation. The lead story started off: "Handbags and fancy goods from a shattered shop on the waterfront went floating down King Street and Love Lane, in the swirling flood water. . . . No, you didn't miss a copy of the Democrat, and the sea didn't move in. . . . The quotes are from a copy of the Isle of Thane Gazette, an English newspaper, which came to us through the courtesy of Attorney Louis H. Smith, whose son, M-Sgt. Louis H. Smith, Jr., sent it direct from the flooded areas of the British Isles, where he is presently in residence. . . . The Smiths had been hearing of the terrible disaster, when the sea overswept large parts of Britain and broke through the seawalls and over the European countryside, and were greatly relieved to get papers and letters telling of the safety of their son and his family. . . . And we enjoyed the papers too, and the views along that other King Street, which hasn't fared as well as ours. . . . And we like the precise English which these British journalists use and the meticulous coverage of the every-day events, and of course, there are ads on page one, in the style of the long ago.

## Town Council Votes To Aid Recreation Project

At a meeting of the Town Council on Thursday night, February 19, the recreation program was discussed and on the basis of this discussion it was decided to continue the full support of the recreation program. Last year was the first year that the town council had backed the city recreation program and it was felt that the program was highly successful for certain age groups. Efforts are going to be made during the coming year to expand the program to take in all age groups.

**Jack Groce To Direct Program**

The Recreation Committee, composed of Rev. J. T. Shackford, chairman, Herbert Wey, Gail Clay

and R. W. "Red" Watkins, have elected Jack Groce to direct the program during the summer months. Mr. Groce is well known for his outstanding athletic ability. He is a candidate for graduation from Appalachian State Teachers College in the spring with majors in physical education, health, and recreation. Mr. Groce is now doing his student teaching at the high school and is well liked by the high school students.

On the recommendation of the Town Council Coach "Red" Watkins has been added to the Recreation Committee which will administer the recreation program.

Mr. Watkins has agreed to give supervisory assistance to Mr. Groce by allowing his class in recreation to help out in the supervision of the various play areas. Because of this additional assistance Mr. Groce will be able to keep several different play areas going at the same time.

The Recreation Committee asks that any parent interested in the recreation program and who has a suggestion to make concerning this program to send their recommendations to any member of the Recreation Committee.

The Recreation Committee is very grateful to the members of (Continued on page seven)

## Watauga Farms Carry Out Soil Conservation Plans

During 1952, soil and water conservation practices were carried out under the Agricultural Conservation Program on 1716 farms in Watauga County, reports Dwight Cable, chairman of the County PMA Committee. This approximately 67% of the total farms in the county.

Assistance was geared to the most needed conservation on the individual farms and, as in other years, every farmer was given an opportunity to participate. Chairman Cable points out. The superphosphate, potash and basic S slag practice was selected by the most farmers as the one most needed. This practice was carried out on 1424 farms. Other conservation practices which received major encouragement were: Lime, permanent pasture and winter cover crops. "In all of these practices, ACP assistance covered only a part of the total cost," Mr. Cable comments. "As a result of the conservation work done in 1952, the farms of Watauga county are now in better condition to help meet production needs of today and to continue to produce for the greater needs of the future."

## Building And Loan Is Growing Rapidly

### Abner Wilson Smith Succumbs At Age 75; Funeral Held Monday

Abner Wilson Smith, 75, former Boone postmaster, Court Clerk and Legislator, died in Watauga Hospital early Sunday morning from a brief illness.

Funeral services were conducted Monday at 2 o'clock from the First Baptist Church, by the pastor, Rev. L. H. Hollingsworth. He was assisted in the rites by Rev. C. A. Foss, Jr., of the Advent Christian Church. The Veterans of Foreign Wars conducted graveside services in Mountlawn Memorial Park.



A. W. SMITH

Mr. Smith was born in Watauga county, a son of the late Bennett Smith and Mrs. Smith of the Silverstone neighborhood. In his early adult life he taught school for a time, and was a rural mail carrier from Zionville.

He enlisted in the army for service in the Spanish American war, returned home and re-enlisted for the Philippine insurrection, and saw service there until the end of the conflict.

**Elected To Assembly**

Mr. Smith was a leader in the Republican party in Watauga county, and was elected to the Legislature in 1914, and served one term in Raleigh. He was Clerk of the Superior Court of Watauga county from 1919 to 1926, and Boone postmaster from 1928 to 1933. He was deputy United States Marshal for a short period.

Mr. Smith had been one of the leading figures in the Watauga Building and Loan Association. He was director and vice-presi-

### Stockholders Elect Directors At Annual Meet

The stockholders of the Watauga Building and Loan Association met last Friday, named a board of directors and heard a glowing report of the growth of the Association from W. H. Gragg, secretary and treasurer of the Association.

Re-elected to serve on the board of directors were: H. G. Farthing, A. W. Smith, W. H. Gragg, C. M. Critcher, W. H. Greene, H. P. Holshouse, Howard Mast, Dr. W. M. Matheson, Rob Rivers. The officers of the Association will be named at a meeting of the directors to be held Wednesday evening.

President H. G. Farthing, presided over the meeting, and called upon Secretary Gragg for a report of the past year's activities. Mr. Gragg presented figures to show that the assets of the Association are now \$1,803,950.30, a growth of \$400,000 during the year, or 40 per cent. Incidentally, the average growth of all Building and Loans in the State last year was 20 per cent.

A total of 353 loans were made last year including 111 construction loans in the amount of \$291,242.17; 63 purchase loans, \$211,925.59; 59 refinancing loans, \$176,110.07; 120 other loans, \$136,093.63. Total amount of loans was \$815,370.87.

Mr. Gragg called attention to the fact that the contingent reserve fund is now \$75,726.79. This fund is made of funds set aside as an unencumbered balance to protect the stockholders against any possible losses.

The average of all loans, it is shown, is \$2,000. The amount paid out on full stock and optional saving shares dividends was \$37,470.78.

There are now 1700 stockholders. The optional savings shares in force total \$932,115.11; the full paid stock \$595,475.00; for a total of \$1,527,590.11.

Included in the assets of \$1,803,950.30, are the following items: Cash \$103,475.59, State and Government Bonds \$70,000, Stock in the Federal Home Loan Bank \$20,000, mortgage loans \$1,366,718.87, share loans \$10,204, advances for taxes and insurance \$114.56, office furniture \$2,980.13, building \$30,457.15.

The general opinion expressed by the stockholders and directors was that 1953 was expected to be another good year for the Building and Loan.

## Cash, Goods Missing In Drug Store Robbery

Thieves entered Carolina Pharmacy by breaking the front door glass some time Sunday night and made off with cash and merchandise valued at about \$200,

according to a report by Chief G. D. Richardson, of the Boone police force.

A town employee, Carl Teague, discovered the broken glass at

about six o'clock Monday morning and notified Chief Richardson, who began an immediate investigation. John B. Edwards, of the State Bureau of Investigation, was called in from Elkin to assist.

Two suspects were lodged in jail within eight hours of the discovery of the crime, said Chief Richardson, and what is believed to be a part of the loot recovered. Fingerprints taken at the scene have been sent to Raleigh along with those of the suspects, and a report is expected within the next twenty-four hours, he said.

Dr. C. H. Mock, proprietor of the pharmacy, listed as missing: About \$104.00 in cash taken from the registers, five watches, several cigarette lighters, two or three fountain pens, and an undetermined number of miscellaneous items.

Each of the suspects had what is believed by police to be one of the missing cigarette lighters in his possession when apprehended. Their names are being withheld pending completion of the investigation, said Chief Richardson.

## County-Wide Series Services Are Slated

The annual Three Forks Baptist associational revival and preachers' school will be held in the Boone Baptist Church beginning Sunday, March 1, and continuing through Friday, March 6. Services will be held each evening at 7:30, with the Rev. H. B. Anderson of Durham bringing the messages.

The preachers' school will be under the direction of the Rev. J. C. Pipes, Baptist missionary to Western North Carolina. He will be assisted by Rev. Mr. Anderson, the Rev. Guy S. Cain, and the Rev. L. H. Hollingsworth. Sessions will be held at 9:45 each morning, Monday through Friday, and are expected to close at 2:30 p. m.

Rev. Mr. Pipes will teach "New Testament Doctrines", Rev. Mr. Cain will discuss problems of the pastor, and Rev. Mr. Hollingsworth will give an exposition of the Book of James in the New Testament.

Rev. Mr. Anderson will preach to the preachers daily at 11:50 a. m., and the general public is cordially invited to attend these services.

The school will adjourn daily at 12:30 for lunch, which will be



H. B. ANDERSON

provided each day by the following churches in the county: Monday, Laurel Springs; Tuesday, Oak Grove; Wednesday, Cove Creek; Thursday, Blowing Rock; and Friday, Perkinsville.

Pastors in the county will lead devotions at the beginning of morning and afternoon sessions each day, and the pastors' school is open to every minister who can come whether or not he is a pastor. Deacons and other laymen in the churches, as well as the general public, also are cordially invited to attend these sessions.

Both the revival and the school are sponsored by the Three Forks Baptist Pastors' Conference and planned under the direction of the Rev. E. O. Gore, president of the conference.

### SCHOOL BOY COMPOSITIONS

We always cherished the schoolboy composition, which started out with, "what a wonderful bird the frog are. . . and which ended, "he ain't got no tall hardly," and are beset with memories of Friday afternoons in the old school house, and recitations, and speech-making and composition-writing, all of which we entered into so freely. . . and knowing something of our interest in a bit of fun at the expense of the kiddies. Dr. Sawyer, comes forth with the following high school production, which came to him from the English Record. (N. Y.) through Time Magazine:

### "THE MAGNA CHARTA"

"On a beautiful evening in August 1582, Queen Elizabeth entered the ancient town of Coventry, and divesting herself of her clothing, mounted a snow-white stallion and rode through the principal streets of the city. On her way she met Sir Walter Raleigh, who, observing her naked condition, threw his cloak about her, crying, 'Honi Soit qui maly pense!' which, being translated, means 'Thy need is greater than mine!' The Queen graciously responded, 'Dieu et mon droit'; translated, means, 'My Gosh, you are right'; This incident is called the Magna Charta."

### HAS READ IT A LONG TIME

Rev. R. C. Eggers, of Zionville, prominent Baptist minister, has read the Democrat more years than he can remember. . . . He recalls that he was born June 30, 1888, and that the first Watauga Democrat came from the press four days later. . . . The popular preacher says that the county paper was on hand in the home as long as he can remember, that he read it as a young man in South Dakota, and that since his marriage it has always been in the home. . . . Rev. Mr. Eggers likes the Democrat, we're glad, and hope that he, and the county newspaper will enjoy many more birthdays together.

### PERKINSVILLE

There is no postoffice in Watauga county named Perkinsville, but the fine suburban neighborhood, just east of the city limits, caught that name from the former publisher of the Watauga Democrat a long time ago. . . . He christened the settlement after L. N. Perkins, of venerable Civil war veteran, whose farm supplied the land for most of the community. . . . But most folks think it's a regular postoffice, and when Rev. J. T. Shackford sent Mrs. J. L. Goodnight a thank-

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## Four Teams To Take Part In "A" Tournament Here

On Thursday, February 26, the sectional tournament for "A" Schools will get underway at the local high school gym in Boone. Four teams will take part in this tournament. At 7:00 o'clock Cove Creek will play Piney Creek of Alleghany County, and at 8:00 o'clock Appalachian High will play Blowing Rock. The winners of these two games will play Friday night at 8:00 o'clock.

The winner and runner up of the sectional tournament will play in the district tournament at Pfeiffer Junior College the following week. The winner of the district tournament will play in the state finals at Winston-Salem on March 12, 13, and 14.

## Woodring Child Fatally Burned At Fresno Home

Betty Ruth Woodring, 6, of Fresno, Ohio, died on February 12th in a Coshocton, Ohio hospital as a result of burns suffered in the home at Fresno, Ohio, the previous day.

The child was burned when a can of kerosene she threw on smoldering embers in a heating stove exploded, enveloping her in flames. The blaze damaged two rooms of the house. The child's mother and other children were at home at the time but were unharmed. Burial was in Fairview cemetery at Fresno.

Betty Ruth was born December 17, 1946 at Boone Route 2, a daughter of Tom C. and Louvinne Trivett Woodring who survive with five brothers and one sister, and her grandfather, Mr. E. C. Woodring, Boone, Route 2.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodring lived on the Howard Creek road, Boone, Route 2, until about eighteen months ago.

### AUTO IDENTIFICATION

Next year's automobiles may be equipped with permanent identification tags, which will be solidly welded into the frames, as a means of thwarting car thieves, if the proper legal adjustments can be completed with the various states.

## Civil Service Positions Open

Civil Service examination for the position of teacher (elementary grades), GS-7, \$4205 per annum, in the Federal government is now open, it was stated by J. W. Norris.

No written test is required. Complete information and application blanks may be obtained from Mr. Norris at the local post office.

Geneva trade group bars special terms for Japan.

## Cove Creek Takes Tri-County Conference Basketball Crown

Appalachian High girls won the Watauga County championship and a claim on the girls' division of the Tri-County Conference and Cove Creek boys grabbed the Tri-County Conference crown with victories in the tournament finals here last Monday night.

Appalachian girls defeated Cove Creek, 41-31, and then the unbeaten Cove Creek boys came on to turn back Jefferson, 44-42, in a thriller to retain their conference crown.

The girls' game was a close battle for the first period with the teams tied at 9-9. But Boone moved out in the second quarter, grabbed the lead and were never headed.

Jeanette Cook and M. Edmiston paced the victory attack for Boone girls while Harmon was the big star for Cove Creek. The guards of both teams played well.

Cove Creek boys went on scoring sprees in the second and third

quarters and then withstood a dazzling Jefferson rally to grab the conference boys' crown.

Jefferson, with Rose and Freeman hitting well, took a 13-1 lead in the first period.

But the Watauga cagers found the range in the second period and moved to a 22-16 lead by rest-time.

Jefferson rallied in the fourth period and outscored Cove Creek, 19-6, but the long lead was too great to overcome.

John and Mark Banner paced the attack for Cove Creek with 16 points each while Greene played well in the floor game.

The all-Watauga girls' team and the all-Tri-County boys all-star team was selected after the close of the tournament.

The all-Watauga girls' team was: Captain, Jeanette Cook of Appalachian High; Teams of Appalachian High; Teams of Appalachian High; Teams of Appalachian High.

## Mental Health Topic Current Workshop

Dr. R. M. Fink, chief consultant in mental hygiene, with the State Department of Public Instruction, will be in Watauga County this week — Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday — to conduct a workshop in mental health education. Participating in the workshop will be teachers representing each school in the county, parents representing all P. T. A. groups, and family life leaders of Home Demonstration Clubs. The sessions will be held on the above dates from 2:00 until 4:00 p. m. in the college administration building.

This workshop, according to Mrs. Dessá Mae Edmisten, supervisor of instruction in the county, is one in a series of nine that is being conducted for teachers and principals this year, dealing with different phases of health education. These workshops have been sponsored by the supervisory department of the Watauga County Board of Education and the Health Education Department of the local health department and under the leadership of Mrs. Edmisten and Miss Madeline McCain.

## Carolina Little Symphony To Present Concert At College

A special concert in Appalachian College auditorium will feature the "Little Symphony" of the North Carolina Symphony with the Appalachian State Teachers College choir, as assisting organization, on March 4, at 8:30 p. m.

The Tar Heel "Symphony of Wheels" is on its eighth annual tour throughout its namesake state and will play here under the auspices of the college concert series. The professional orchestra is conducted by the distinguished Dr. Benjamin F. Swalin, well known in this state as an educator, lecturer, concert violinist and conductor. Mrs. Virginia W. Linney, of the college Music Department, will direct the famed local choir.

Unique in the sense that the North Carolina Symphony is the only major orchestra in this country to receive partial supplement from a state legislature (one-seventh of its budget), the orchestra plays half of its 140 annual concerts free, as an educational service to Tar Heel school youngsters.

Last season, with 140 concerts, the orchestra played for 125,000 North Carolina school children; as well as for over 50,000 adults.

The North Carolina Symphony is divided with two touring orchestras. The "Little Symphony" performs in small communities

and college towns — and is on the road from January 21-March 21; while the Full Symphony tours larger cities in the state, and is on tour from April 9-May 13. Both orchestras are conducted by Dr. Swalin, who reorganized the symphony in 1940.

Dr. Swalin was born in Minneapolis, Minn. After graduation from high school there, he became the youngest member of the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra. Subsequent violin studies with Kneisel and Auer at the Inghite of Musical Art in New York City were complemented by general and theoretical studies. He received several diplomas and

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LITTLE SYMPHONY OF THE NORTH CAROLINA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA