

KING STREET

BY
ROB RIVERS

END OF ANCIENT STRUCTURE

The other night as the old building near the courthouse was consumed by flames, the glow of the fire brightened a page of local history for us, and caused us to take a glance back through such printed records as there are which touch on the early days in Boone. The house which was uninhabited, and which burned like tinder, was the one story el, or kitchen portion of the Sheriff Jack Horton house, one of the first frame structures to be erected, way back when the village was young. The structure, formerly a big house with a large basement, and steep steps on the King Street side, had been torn away, and only the one room remained of what was once a proud structure. Our own recollection carries us back to when the house was good. Mrs. Jennie Critcher reminds us that her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Blackburn lived in the Horton house, when they first moved to Boone more than sixty years ago. In our day the place was inhabited by John Earp, Polly Grimes, Mun Horton and various other families, both white and colored.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OLD

The Horton house, according to historian Arthur, was one of the first houses built here. The frame was cut and put together by Jacob Cook at Cook's Gap in 1850, it is related, when Sheriff Jack Horton bought it, and moved it to Boone. Elected Sheriff in 1852 Horton moved to Boone and occupied the house, the last portion of which lost its fight with time last week. Arthur also relates that Sheriff Horton had a store house, where the courthouse now stands, where merchandise was sold, and where a harness and saddlery shop was operated. The Horton tan yard was conducted over on what was later the Blackburn land, where the earthen mounds gave evidence of the ancient tanning vats. Incidentally Jack Horton was the second sheriff of Watauga county, succeeding Michael Cook, who was named when the county was created in 1843. Horton served from 1852 to 1856, and was succeeded by D. C. McCanless.

THOMAS GREER HOUSE

Other Boone buildings, which link the present with the distant past include the Thomas Greer house, where Mr. and Mrs. Granville Norris live, and which was built of logs about 1865. The Ransom Hayes house, later owned by Judge Greene and now by Jack Hodges, is also a landmark. Hayes kept boarders before the Civil war and before the Coffey brothers came and opened their hostelry. Rev. J. W. Hall, a Baptist preacher, was one of the early day carpenters and in the seventies, it seems, went to Tennessee, where he learned to frame dwellings and other houses by nailing the uprights to the sills, instead of mortising and tenoning them, as had been the practice. Returning to Boone he built the W. C. Coffey house by the new method, and also the Coffey tenant house which stood where the Rob Riverses now live. At any rate, when the flames lapped up the last claspboard on the Sheriff Horton house, the monetary loss was about plumb zero, but we grew pensive and maybe a mite sad as another tie with the day of our ancestors was loosed. Few timbers remain here which were mortised in the early days of Watauga county, before the Civil War flared, and a new era began.

WEARERS OF THE GREEN

Folks in this locality haven't been particularly fond of the Irish, as such. Our politicians have cussed the lads from Erin who have had successes in building up city machines, no end. We rant at their faith—their church, and their priests, and one would assume we want little to do with the sons of the old sod. But come March, the same folks who don't like the politicians, the policemen and the priests, search high and wide till they come by a green necktie or something to wear on St. Patrick's Day!

Local Musical Units Get Highest Ratings

Tryouts For "Horn" Are Set For Week End

Tryouts for the outdoor drama, "Horn in the West" will be conducted in the Daniel Boone Theatre Saturday and Sunday, March 21 and 22, it was announced by Director Kai Jurgensen of the Carolina Playmaker staff. These tryouts have been planned especially for residents of Boone and the area adjacent to Watauga county. Jurgensen stated that a number of parts were open in the drama for men, women and children. He emphasized that any persons trying for speaking roles should have a clear, strong voice capable of being heard and understood in the large open air theatre.

Derrick Speaks On Care Local Shrubs And Trees

Dr. Ray Derrick, of the Appalachian State Teachers College faculty, addressed the regular monthly luncheon meeting of the Boone Chamber of Commerce Tuesday, March 10, at noon in the Gateway Restaurant. His subject was the preservation of our local shrubs and trees. Introduced by President Herman W. Wilcox, Dr. Derrick was the guest of Mrs. B. W. Stallings, chairman of the Year Round Clean-up campaign and sponsor of Tuesday's program.

Rev. Mr. Hagaman Taken By Death; Funeral Thursday

The Rev. John Stephens Hagaman of Zionville died at his home on March 11 following an extended illness. He entered the ministry about seven years ago and was pastor of the Watauga Baptist Church at Foscoe and the Doe Ridge Baptist Church in the Rich Mountain community until illness forced his retirement from the active ministry a year ago. He was 50 years of age. Funeral services were held March 12 at the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, with the Rev. Bynum Triplett, the Rev. Rex West, and the Rev. E. O. Gore officiating at the rites. Burial was in the Pleasant Grove cemetery. Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Nellie Hagaman; six sons, Royce, James, Jerry, David, Jack, and Terry Hagaman; four daughters, Betty, Peggy, Janice, and Barbara Hagaman, all of Vilas; three brothers, Charlie Hagaman, Hickory, David and Fred Hagaman, Vilas; and three sisters, Mrs. C. B. Reese of Reese, Mrs. Laura Hagaman and Miss Vera Hagaman, both of Vilas.

New Clothing Store To Open

A new business establishment is scheduled to open its doors in Boone on Saturday of this week for the sale of men's clothing and accessories. Operating as Hatris & Wagoner, the latest addition to the city's business district will be located in half of the building formerly occupied by the Craven Furniture Company on East King Street. The building, which was gutted along with others in the block in the big Christmas Day fire, has been completely remodeled to house two shops, and is now ready for occupancy. W. H. (Bill) Harris and Grady L. Wagoner, operators of the new enterprise, are natives of Elkin, and have conducted a similar business in that city for the past five years. They state that they have been in the men's clothing business since 1933, and that their motto is "top quality merchandise at the lowest possible margin of profit." One or both of the owners will be on hand in the store until a permanent manager, preferably a local man, is engaged, they said, adding that they will continue to operate the Elkin store.

The Girls Glee Club and Choral Ensemble of Appalachian High School received a Superior rating in the State Choral contest last Wednesday at Appalachian State Teachers College.

The two Choral groups directed by Miss Helen Cole are the first Choral groups at Appalachian to receive the highest rating in the Choral contest. The Appalachian Glee Club was the only Girls Glee Club to win a superior rating, and the Appalachian Choral Ensemble, along with Hickory Junior High, Marion, and Morganton were the only schools to win a superior rating in the mixed Chorus division.

In the Senior High Piano contest Miss Beth Eggers and Jody Shackford, representing the high school, both won a superior rating and will represent the high school at the State contest in Greensboro, April 21st. Beth and Jody are pupils of Mr. Walton Cole.

In the Junior Division of the Piano contest, Mary Van Noppen, a pupil of Mrs. R. L. Tait, won an Excellent rating and Mary Sue Moretz, a pupil of Miss Esther Boone, won an Excellent rating. The Appalachian High School Band under the direction of Roy Blanton won an Excellent rating and will represent the high school at the State contest in Greensboro, April 21. This is the third year that the band has received a top rating. Of the thirteen bands that participated in the contest Appalachian, Newton, Conover, Marion, and Lenoir Junior High will be eligible to participate in the State contest in April.

Fourth Sunday Singing Is Slated

The 4th Sunday Singing will be held at Perkinsville Baptist Church on March 22, beginning at 1:30 p. m. Everyone is invited. Downy mildew disease has been one of the most serious threats to North Carolina's 7,000-acre cucumber crop.

Noted Hypnotist To Be On Lyceum Series

Howard Klein, recognized as America's foremost hypnotist, will present a program at eight o'clock next Thursday, March 26, in the auditorium at Appalachian State Teachers college, under the sponsorship of the college lyceum series. His program is called, "An Evening of Hypnotism." The public is invited without charge. The program is described as one of delightful entertainment. Klein, who is regarded as a master of hypnotism, has won the unsolicited attention of many important periodicals, including Life, American, Readers Digest, Time, Collier's, Parade, and others. From coast to coast the untainted praise for his performances is uniform from critics and the general public alike. He has appeared before audiences all over the country. During World War II Klein was credited with rendering valuable service to his country when he hypnotized a German submarine captain to the point that the captain revealed the secret of how the German Navy obtained valuable advance information on sailings from American ports. Before joining the Army Medical Corps, Klein had collaborated as a professional hypnotist with dentists, oculists, and obstetricians. Psychologists had also used him to treat nervous affections. The public is invited to this highly entertaining program in the college auditorium the evening of Thursday, March 26.

Watauga Beef Cattle Producers Are Making Plans For Feeder Calf Sale; The Rules Given

1. The Watauga county beef cattle producers met at the County Courthouse Tuesday night, March 10, to make plans and rules for the 1953 Boone Feeder Calf Sale, to be held Monday, October 5.
2. Mr. J. S. Buchanan, Extension Animal Husbandry Specialist, and Mr. H. D. Quisenberry, Live-stock Marketing Specialist, N. C. Department of Agriculture, spoke to the group on livestock marketing.
3. The following committee, selected to carry out the plans of the sale, was elected: A. W. Greene, Henry Taylor, Ed Love, Charles Trivette, R. G. Shipley.
4. The following rules for the sale were adopted:
 1. Only calves of strictly beef breeding will be accepted for the sale; both steer and heifer calves will be included.
 2. Calves sold through the sale must be accepted by the sales committee prior to the date of sale.
 3. Calves will be sorted into official grades at the market on date of sale by an official grader and will be sold in lots of such size as is deemed advisable by the sales committee.
 4. Actual sales management, advertising, and other details of the sale will be left entirely to the sales committee.
 5. Producers will agree to have their calves mixed with those of other producers according to grade and sex, but lots will be made up of calves of approximately equal weights, and each producer's calves will be weighed and the producer will be paid according to the weight of his calves in the lot.
 6. All calves entered in the sale must be vaccinated for Blackleg, and vaccinated for Hemorrhagic Septicemia (shipping fever) before September 25.
 7. All bull calves must be castrated and completely healed before sale date or they will not be sold, and all horned calves must be dehorned and completely healed before sale date or they will not be sold.
 8. At the time calves are entered for the sale each producer will be required to sign an agreement, and to advance 50 cents per head on estimated number of calves to be entered, such amount to be used for advertising and incidental expenses. If no calves are on hand on the date of sale, this amount will be forfeited by the producer, however, if the number consigned varies from the number delivered, an adjustment will be made. The producers agree to have all additional sale expenses deducted from his check. It is understood that the total sale expense will not exceed three dollars (\$3.00) per head.
 9. No yearling cattle or calves under 300 pounds in weight will be accepted.
 10. Calves grading below medium will not be sold.
 11. No other cattle will be sold at the market on the date of the sale except feeder calves accepted for the sale.
 12. A closing date for consignments will be September 1.
 13. Calves which, in the judgment of the sales committee, do not meet the qualifications of the sale may be rejected on the date of the sale.
 14. All animals entering the sale ring must be sold. No consignors will have a "No Sale" privilege.
 15. Each producer will be required to bring his cattle to the market to be weighed and graded by 10:00 a. m. the date of the sale.
 16. The sale will start promptly at 1:00 p. m.
 9. No yearling cattle or calves

Unit Test Farmers To Hold Meeting In Boone Friday

The Unit Test Demonstration farm families of Watauga county will meet at the Legion Hut in Boone on Friday at 10:00 a. m. Mr. L. E. Tuckwiller, county agent, announced Monday. Dr. C. B. Ratchford, Mr. W. B. Collins, and Miss Mamie Whisnant will be present to answer questions about the unit test demonstration farm program. Questions on pasture improvement, corn production, alfalfa production and other crop production will be discussed. The farm people raise themselves will receive special attention, County Agent Tuckwiller said. It is hoped that all demonstration farmers and their wives will attend.

Jack Groce To Conduct Survey On Recreation

Recreation Director Jack Groce is making plans to distribute a questionnaire on summer recreation interests in the community, it was announced this week by the Boone Recreation Committee. The questionnaire will have three aims: (1) To determine the actual potential of community participation; (2) to discover the areas of greatest recreational need and popularity; (3) and to learn the hours of availability of participants. After this "who, what, and when" has been learned, it is felt a more adequate program can be planned. The questionnaire will be distributed through the Demonstration and High Schools, and the Watauga Democrat. Parents are asked to be prepared to fill in the blanks and assist their children in its intelligent completion.

Catholics Buy Property Here For New Church

The Catholic Church has purchased property on Blowing Rock Road, at Highland Avenue, on which a church will be built in the near future, it is learned from Rev. William G. Wellein, of North Wilkesboro, who has been ministering to the Catholic congregations in Boone and Blowing Rock since last June. The lot, which has a frontage of 275 feet on Blowing Rock Road and which extends south on Highland Avenue for a distance of about 260 feet, was bought by the Most Reverend Vincent S. Waters, Bishop of Raleigh, through Tri-County Realty Co. Definite building plans have not been made, but it is stated that the building will be similar in design to the Church of the Epiphany in Blowing Rock and will be of sufficient size to take care of members of the local congregation as well as the large numbers of visiting Catholics present during the summer months.

Ministers Planning For Easter Services



MISS MABEL BRISTER, center, librarian at Appalachian High School, is seen lending aid to Dr. Herbert Wey, left, principal, and Mayor Gordon Winkler, as they sharpen their wits for the spelling bee which will be held March 27, under the auspices of the Band Parents Association.

Horn Theatre To Be Scene Sunrise Event

The Boone Ministers' Association, led by President Rev. J. K. Parker, Jr., met at the Gateway Restaurant Monday and discussed and furthered plans for the Good Friday services to be held in the Boone churches and the Easter Sunrise Service to be held at the site of the Daniel Boone Theatre. In previous years Boone has participated in the Blue Ridge Sunrise Service held at the Cone Memorial mansion. This year, however, it was decided to have a service in Boone. Invitation was given to the Blowing Rock churches to join in the Boone service, but persons of that community expressed the feeling a service should be retained at Blowing Rock. Accordingly, both communities are working on plans for their own service this year.

Spellers Are Urged To Take Part In 'Bee'

By ROY BLANTON
The town crier calls all spellers for big old-fashioned Spelling Bee, March 27, 7:30 o'clock, Appalachian High School Auditorium—sixth grade to sixty years plus. Come, join the fun and competition.

All librarians report a run on dictionaries, sales on such books are on the upswing. Throughout the county we hear all sorts of comments. Parents are vying with their offspring contending that the three R's they went to school with were the more worthwhile and will entable them to stand up in the "Bee" line longer than their children.

The children are poof-poofing the little red school house way and putting all their eggs in the progressive education basket—and so it goes.

We met two business men on Main Street, each arguing that his secretary would prove to be the superior speller and finally deciding to sponsor the girls and prove the point.

We just heard that the old time custom of holding special review sessions throughout the county, in order for the adults to practice up, might be revived. The members of the Band Parents Association, which is sponsoring the Bee, have been deluged with calls from folks just saying how glad they are to be able to get in on the community fun.

Business houses, doctors, lawyers, and Indian chiefs are getting their contestants lined up—three dollars is the sponsoring fee, but if you can't find a sponsor don't let that stop you, just sponsor yourself.

We wonder if the Lions Club is going to have a run-off to see who the champion Lion speller is—and the Rotary—the B. P. W. and the Woman's Club, for you know individuals, organizations, associations, and schools can all act as sponsors.

Rites Are Held For Mrs. Shell

Mrs. Mary Carolyn Shell, 81, died at her home at Sugar Grove on Saturday, March 14. Funeral services were held March 16 at the Bethel Baptist Church, conducted by the Rev. Ed. Farthing and the Rev. R. C. Eggers. Interment was in the Bethel Cemetery.

She is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Gladys Ward and Mrs. Hazel Harmon, both of Sugar Grove, and Mrs. Fay Atkins of Boone.

Spring Bull Sale To Be Held Here By Local Breeders

The Watauga purebred Hereford breeders will hold a Spring Bull Sale in Boone on Saturday, April 25. The breeders will offer these bulls, at auction so that the farmer may select the bull and also the price that he will pay.

Mr. Max A. Culp, county agent of Caldwell county, helped a local committee select twenty bulls for the sale. The bulls will come from the following purebred herds in Watauga county: Council & Hamilton, Finley P. Hodges and Son, Tom Jackson, Watauga Hereford Farm, D. C. Coffey, Vannoy Brothers, L. A. Henson, E. E. Earp, W. H. Walker, Ed Love, Norris Brothers, Charles L. and Hattie Lewis, B. C. Donnelly, R. G. Shipley, Harry Hamilton, and Barnard Dougherty.

Wrestling Tourney To Be Held At College Friday

The finals of the Intramural Wrestling Tournament will be held at the College gym Friday evening at which time the State High School Champions from Appalachian will wrestle, along with several grapplers from the College. The wrestling program has been planned to help the local Red Cross campaign, no admission will be charged, and the students and public may contribute any amount they wish to the Red Cross. The College Intramurals will start at 7 o'clock, and the exhibitions will follow. A large crowd is expected. Everyone is welcome.

Honor Roll For Winter Quarter Is Given Out

H. R. Eggers, registrar of Appalachian State Teachers college, has just released the honor roll for the winter quarter. A number of Watauga county students are included in this list of academic distinction. They are: From Boone—Joanne Aldridge, sophomore; C. P. Calloway, senior; David Edmisten, senior; Joe Edmisten, sophomore; Harry Farthing, freshman; Nell Norris, senior; Agnes Grace Owsley, senior; Lawrence Phillips, senior; Ruth A. Ray, junior. Blowing Rock—Geneva Coffey, senior; Martha Herring, junior. Vilas—Lottie Stout, sophomore. Laxon—Jo Ann Hardin, junior. Shulls Mills, Eugenia R. Luttrell, senior. Reese, Janice Ray Swift, freshman. Sherwood, Marjorie Ann Mast, sophomore; Florence Songer, senior; Harold Songer, junior; Mary Sue Walsh, freshman. Rominger, Ruby Mast, sophomore. Zionville, Louise Mitchell, freshman. The 1953 Red Cross Roll-Call is "Rolling" along. Keep it rolling—Join To-day.