

Strong Ties Bind College To Churches

By EARLEEN G. PRITCHETT
 Because it is the home of Appalachian State Teachers College, the Town of Boone is referred to often as a college town. It might well be called also a church town, for within its limited bounds there are nine active church groups, and the people of Boone traditionally are interested church-goers and interested in the work of their churches.

Here may be found the Boone Methodist Church with the Rev. Joseph T. Shackford as minister; the First Baptist Church with the Rev. L. H. Hollingsworth; the James I. Vance Memorial Presby-

terian Church with the Rev. J. K. Parker, Jr.; St. Luke's Episcopal Church with the Rev. Thomas Seitz; Grace Lutheran Church with the Rev. Edwin F. Troutman; the Advent Christian Church with the Rev. Charlie A. Foss; the Catholic Church with the Rev. William G. Wellein; the Christian Church; and the Independent Church.

Appalachian State Teachers College students and faculty members have always been an active and integral part of the work of the Boone churches. Many students are members of the Boone churches while attend-

Mrs. Zona Hughes Is Given State Recognition

Asheville.—Mrs. Zona Hughes, an Avery county teacher who taught continuously for 57 years, all within 10 miles of her birthplace, has been chosen as North Carolina's "Honor Teacher." She was honored at the 89th Annual Teachers Convention held this past week.



MRS. ZONA HUGHES

Mrs. Hughes, known as "Aunt Zona" to her colleagues and numerous former pupils, has been teaching continuously for 57 years in the public schools of Avery County, and all within 10 miles of her birthplace.

At present, she is fourth grade teacher in Riverside School, a 13-teacher elementary school in lower Avery County near the Mitchell County line. She was born September 24, 1876, near the school and previously taught in the one and two-teacher schools which were replaced by the present consolidated school.

"Aunt Zona" lives with her husband near the school. They have one daughter, Mrs. Helen Hughes Wiseman, who also teaches at Riverside.

Mrs. Hughes was selected as honor teacher because of her record as the State's active teacher with the longest continuous record.

As guest of the Asheville Mer-

chants Association while attending the teacher's meeting, Mrs. Hughes stayed at the Battery Park Hotel. The Vanderbilt Hotel had her as their guest for meals. Flowers, gifts and a tour of Biltmore House and Gardens were included in the courtesies extended to Mrs. Hughes.

More than 2500 teachers and school officials attended the convention which ended Saturday.

The Wesley Fellowship, the Methodist student organization on the campus, is an outstanding member of the North Carolina Methodist Student Conference. Each year it sends delegates to conventions, retreats, and state meetings. Weekly meetings are held, and a paper, "The Challenge," is published during the school year. The president is Robert Nelson of Mooresville; secretary Betty Holt of Asheville; and treasurer Bobby Snead of Laurinburg. The Methodist Student Secretary is Marvin Culbreth.

The Westminster Fellowship offers Presbyterian students an opportunity to work and play together. The club sponsors programs, holds weekly meetings, and carries on many projects. The president is Sue Evelyn Atwell of China Grove; vice-president Don Harris of Asheville; and secretary Pat Beville of Brown Summit. Mrs. A. R. Smith, wife of a college professor, is advisor to the

Fellowship.

The Lutheran Student Association is made up of Lutheran students on the campus and in the town of Boone. Sunday evening meetings are held, and special programs are arranged on occasion. The president is Bessie Barringer of Granite Quarry, and vice-president is Ben Pink of Faith.

The Canterbury Club is for all Episcopal students. Like the other church-affiliated groups, the club offers fellowship in varied forms. Meetings are held weekly at the Chapel of St. Luke, which is located adjoining the campus.

Administratively, the college aspires to a full and a deep life for all its students and faculty members. It believes that the churches of Boone and the religious organizations on the campus are helpful means to such an end, and it encourages the fullest participation on the part of all its college personnel in these activities.

debating, Appalachian's teams will enter other events. At Frederickburg they will participate in oratory, extempore, impromptu, and poetry reading. At Kalamazoo they will enter oratory, extempore, and discussion.

The women's debating teams of Appalachian, including Misses Aldridge and Hardin, Hope Dyson of Taylorsville and Jean Hopkins of Beaufort, won top honors at the South Atlantic Forensic Tournament held recently in Hickory by winning eleven debates and losing three.

Debating and public speaking are given major emphasis at Appalachian State Teachers College. A chapter of Pi Kappa Delta, the national forensic fraternity, is located here. Dr. D. J. Whitener, head of the social studies department, is faculty advisor to Pi Kappa Delta, and Dean J. D. Rankin is honorary advisor.

Grade A milk production in North Carolina increased 7.7 per cent last year, but still lacked 13,000,000 pounds of meeting the State demand.

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The college is, of course, non-sectarian. Its president, its faculty, and its students are religious in the broadest sense, but no church group is given special emphasis. The statement of the college administration with regard to this matter is carried in the college catalogue. It states:

"This institution feels a deep responsibility for the religious welfare of students and endeavors to maintain high ethical and Christian standards. During the assembly period religious exercises are held regularly, and ministers from the different churches of Boone and elsewhere take part in conducting the service from time to time. Each student is encouraged to attend the church of his own choice."

The religious work on the campus is headed up in an organization known as the Religious Council. This is composed of the presidents and one other member of every church-affiliated group, the YMCA and the YWCA. The Council sponsors a Religious Emphasis Week during the year, bringing to the campus outstanding religious leaders and speakers. The president of the Council is Jean Raney, Faith; vice-president, Marilyn Fleming, Yadkinville; secretary-treasurer, Phyllis Lattimore, Ellenboro; and the coordinator is Marvin Culbreth, student secretary for the Methodist Church. The Council also sponsors religious movies for the assembly period, and additional outstanding speakers from time to time during the year.

The Young Men's Christian Association has joined with the Young Women's Christian Association this year in sponsoring a part of freshman orientation week on the campus. They have also jointly sponsored the March of Dimes at the college, and have held weekly devotional meetings in each of the men's dormitories. The YMCA officers include Ray Shrum of Newton, president; Bill Morgan of Laurinburg, vice-president; Richard Zuber of Hickory, secretary-treasurer; and Arville Stanley, Winston-Salem, chaplain. The YMCA had two representatives at the Blue Ridge Assembly Grounds last summer — Ray Shrum and George Grill of Valdese—and hopes to have two others this summer. The president and Wesley Alexander of Concord represent the YMCA on the Religious Council. Dr. John Barden is the faculty sponsor of the group.

The Young Women's Christian Association has a retreat each year to make plans for their year's work. They have a "Big Sister-Little Sister" party for freshmen. Each Thursday morning they sponsor a chapel program for all students of the college, and have a vesper service each Sunday evening for all women students. Social service activities include such things as preparing Thanksgiving baskets for the needy of Boone, Christmas party for unfortunate children, and cards sent to any sick women students on the campus. The president of the YWCA is Doris Rucker of Shelby; the vice-president Frances Osborne of Vannoy; secretary Jean Bullock of Albemarle; and treasurer Jean Bullock of Albemarle. Miss Madeleine McCain is the faculty sponsor.

In addition to these campus-wide organizations, the following church groups are very active on the campus:

The Baptist Student Union is the connecting link between Baptist students and the local Baptist Church. The church provides a Student Center, consisting of an office and a lounge in the First Baptist Church. The president is Talmage Penland of Asheville; social vice-president is Bob Foster of North Wilkesboro; devotional vice-president Betty Young of Asheville; and secretary-treasurer Jean Bullock of Albemarle. The Rev. John Davis is the Baptist Student Secretary.

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College Debaters Go On National Journey

Four young debaters and their faculty member coach left Appalachian State Teachers college Tuesday on a trip that will take in two debating tournaments of national significance.

Those who are making the trip are Professor Leo K. Pritchett, associate professor of social studies and coach of debating at Appalachian; Marion Cox of Whiteville; John Howard of Concord; Joanne Aldridge of Boone; and Jo Ann Hardin of Laxon.

Three days of this week the group will participate in the Strawberry Leaf Tournament which is being held at Martha Washington college in Frederickburg, Maryland, and which

includes colleges from the entire eastern seaboard. Four days of the following week they will be in Kalamazoo, Michigan, at Kalamazoo College, participating in the national tournament of Pi Kappa Delta, the forensic fraternity.

The four debaters from Appalachian will be required to debate both sides of the query, Resolved, That the Congress of the United States should enact a compulsory fair employment practices law. One hour any team may be required to debate the affirmative, and the next hour to debate the negative side of the question.

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General News Brevities

Korea's civilians suffer dire lack of medical care.

India moves to nationalize all her airlines.

Reuther will seek guaranteed annual wage for labor in 1955.

Yugoslav shipyards are booming; 35,000 tons being built.

U. S. ship construction slumps to a 20-month low.

Cotton growers reject cutbacks in planting.

Cheaper cigarettes are seen making a comeback.

Government estimates put this year's wheat crop at 921,000,000 bushels and corn at 3,000,000,000 bushels.

Pravda says the Russians will have to be constantly on the alert as long as "capitalist encirclement" continues.

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