

KING STREET BY ROB RIVERS

"THE HUNTER IS HOME FROM THE HILL"

An increasingly large number of Boone and Watauga county people are enjoying deer hunting—a sport which was revived a few years ago through the co-operative State-Federal program, and news is that more Nimrods brought home the buckskins than in any previous year. . . . Frank Teague of Rich Mountain knocked down a 150-pounder the other day down on the South side of the Mountain, and fetched this corner a nice package of venison. . . . D. B. Ragan of Route 2, is back from Canton, Pa., in the vicinity of which town he bagged a 190-pound buck on his first day out, and he too thought of us, and brought us a generous portion of the tasty flesh. . . . We thank these two gentlemen for their kindness, and our holiday board will have added appeal due to the unerring aim of our friends.

THE LAWS WERE POSTED

Speaking of hunting, we are reminded of the days when one bagged a rabbit occasionally alongside King in what is now the business district, in spite of the city ordinance . . . which set forth that no firearms should be used within the town. . . . There was a proviso, however, that in case one wanted to fell a steer in the barlot or convert a pig into pork, he could fire his rifle without fear of the disfavor of the "town marsh." . . . Incidentally in those days, the laws of the town appeared in a frame down in the Coffey Hotel porch, so that all strangers within the gates might read and conform.

VALUABLE PUBLICITY

Motor car manufacturers, through their various magazines, are contributing immensely to the dissemination of information about this land of ours, and we always enjoy reading the publications. . . . We were particularly interested in the November-December edition of the Lincoln-Mercury Times, which carried a color photograph of the Robert Shipley barn and silo at Villas, taken from a photograph by Frank J. Miller of Hickory. . . . The photograph was taken in wintertime, and the backdrop of the mountain range, white with snow, is silhouetted against a cloudless sky. . . . The neatly painted barn, and the well-kept premises speak well for the modern agricultural trend in Watauga. . . . Such publicity is bound to enure to the benefit of the region.

BURLEY . . . AND SMOKES

Burley is selling well on the Boone market, and farmers, who hadn't fared so well with cattle, and with potatoes, and stuff are gratified that their burley tobacco is bringing good money, and the proceeds of the sales are going to strengthen the local economy, no end. . . . Meditating on the market in general, and smoking specifically, a bystander recalled some of the tobacco products we'd all but forgotten. . . . Sovereign Cigarettes, with the red crown on a yellow paperboard package. Strollers, Reno, Piedmont. One-Eleven, and Indian Girl were some of the cigarettes of other days recalled, and we remember the Cubes, medicated smoking of some sort, for bad colds and stuff, which were legal for the youngsters. . . . They tasted a little better than the rabbit tobacco and corn silk cigs we'd fashioned with such painstaking care down behind the old barn. . . . And those who went in for chewin' could always find Brown's Mule, or Schnapps plug at any general store in the land. . . . And smoking tobacco, Mae Queen, Annie Bellum, Bull Durham and Stud, in generous cloth bags, with wrappers for free, supplied the makin's in those days when coin was rare.

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Mrs. Mont Glover, one of the many who are concerned over the growing commercialization of Christmas, visits pleasantly with the Democrat and leaves us a little booklet, containing "The Rector's Prayer in Anticipation of Christmas," by Rev. Robert R. Brown, which we quote: "O God, our Heavenly Father, assist us in our endeavors to en-

College Choir To Render 'Messiah'



The fifty-five voice choir of Appalachian State Teachers College, under the direction of Virginia Wary Linney will be heard in its twelfth annual presentation of the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah, Sunday evening, December 13 at eight o'clock in the First Baptist Church of Boone.

Soloists for the performance will be Miss Alene Queen and Miss Marie Vaughn, sopranos; Miss Catherine Ray and Miss Gloria Gattis, Contraltos; Jerry Hill, Tenor; and Robert Gilley, Bass.

Assisting at the organ will be Mr. James Rooker of the college piano department, and Miss Frances Sisk and Miss Beth Eggers at the piano.

The public is invited to attend.

Weed Sales Pass Million Pounds In First Week

The Boone Tobacco Market sold the maximum poundage allowed on each sales day last week for a total of 1,020,038 pounds, and distributed \$543,093.03 to the farmers for an average price of \$53.45 per hundred. The market opened Monday, November 30.

Sales of 297,000 pounds on Monday of this week for a slightly higher average of \$54.25 brought the total to 1,317,038 pounds.

"In view of the quality of the burley, we think this is the best price ever paid in this territory by at least ten or twenty percent," said Stanley A. Harris, supervisor of sales. "Prospects are good for another capacity sale at Mountain Burley Warehouse No. 1 on Wednesday," he added.

R. C. Coleman, President of Mountain Burley Tobacco Warehouse Co., which operates in Boone and Mountain City says, "The quality of tobacco is disappointing in that it is nothing like as good a crop as was first reported, but when the quality is considered the price has been far above any previous year." Mr. Coleman was asked what are the things that farmers could do to get a better price. Mr. Coleman said, "The first thing is to grade more carefully. What we call pawpaw tobacco, is tobacco that cures light like flue cured, and pawpaw leaves, is frequently mixed in the better grade of tobacco. That reduces the price materially. Almost every crop has some pawpaw tobacco, and if

possible it should be kept separate from the nice golden brown, which is the center leaf on the stalk and brings the highest price," Mr. Coleman said that another thing is to watch carefully and keep the tobacco dry. If it is in too high case the price will go down. If your tobacco is too wet, try to get it dry before you bring it to the warehouse.

It seems now as though any tobacco delivered before noon will be sold the same day it is delivered. Sales in Boone are on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9 o'clock. Listen to Happy Sam over station WATA in Boone at 12:15, Monday through Friday.

\$50.00 is given away each Monday morning just before the sales start at Boone. This is given by the Merchants Association. Farmers are urged to be sure to get their tickets when their tobacco is weighed. Tickets not selected for the Monday prizes will go into the general basket for prizes on Christmas Eve, when the Merchants Association will give away some \$500.00. Get tickets at all stores for Saturday afternoon gifts and Christmas Eve gifts.

Rites Held For William Woodie

West Jefferson, Dec. 7.—William Vance Woodie, 65, a former police chief of West Jefferson, died at his home here yesterday morning.

Mr. Woodie was the foreman of the Joint Lumber Company in North Wilkesboro for a number of years, and later was engaged in the mercantile business there. He moved here 37 years ago and was a merchant until his retirement a few years ago. At one time he was chief of police here. He was an active member of West Jefferson Methodist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Delphia Woodie; and seven children, Ed H. Woodie, E. O. Woodie and M. C. Woodie of West Jefferson, Mrs. Elzina Lyle of Tampa, Fla., L. E. Woodie of Buford, S. C., Mrs. H. W. Wilcox of Boone, and Glenn C. Woodie of Winston-Salem.

Funeral services will be conducted at the home at 2 p. m. Wednesday by the Rev. Wilson Nesbitt and the Rev. Rexford Campbell. Burial will be in West Jefferson Cemetery.

Chandler Is New Local Patrolman

State Highway Patrolman J. R. Chandler, of Asheville, came to Boone Thursday, where he will be located, succeeding Patrolman R. C. Buckner, resigned.

Officer Chandler, served with the patrol from September 1947 to August 1953, since which time he has held a position with the Burke county Sheriff's office.

Mr. and Mrs. Chandler have two daughters, eleven and seven years old.

Roger B. Parker Given Promotion

Roger B. Parker, who has been supervisor of the Charlotte weighing station since it began operating in September, 1952, recently accepted a promotion as inspector with the license and theft division of the Motor Vehicles Department. His territory covers five Piedmont counties with headquarters in Troy, N. C.

Inspector Parker was formerly with the State Highway Patrol and was stationed in Boone for five years.

STORE SALES

Department store sales during the week ended November 21 dropped two per cent compared with a similar week in 1952, according to the Federal Reserve Board.

Cash Gifts Awarded By Boone Retailers

Four people of Watauga county were awarded cash gifts by the Merchants Association on the square Saturday afternoon, and four farmers received awards at the Warehouse Monday morning.

Saturday afternoon W. W. Austin received \$20.00, Edsel Greene received \$15.00, Dewey Isaacs received \$5.00. \$10.00 winners name is not known. Monday morning at the warehouse C. H. McGuire received \$20.00, W. G. Rutherford received \$15.00, Jason Putnam received \$10.00. Name of the \$5.00 is also not known.

Any of the above people who were not present should call at the Merchant's Association office in the Watauga Building and Loan Building and get their money.

Be sure to get your tickets at the warehouse and your favorite store, so that next Saturday afternoon and Monday morning you will be eligible for a cash gift,

Luther Wilson Taken By Death

Luther Alexander Wilson of Reece died at the Watauga Hospital on December 6 at the age of 54. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, December 8, at the Beaver Dam Baptist Church.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Ina Wilson, of Reece; one son, James, of Reece; seven daughters, Mrs. Dare Harrison, of Lenoir, Mrs. Ella Mae Tester, of Blowing Rock, Martha Ann, Betty Sue, Marilou, Alma Ruth and Ina Jean Wilson, all of Reece; one brother, William Wilson, of Reece; and one sister, Mrs. Spm Dugger, of Campbellville, Ky.

Results Forensic Tournney Are Tabulated

Lenoir Rhyne College walked away with individual scoring honors in the 13th annual Appalachian Mountain Forensic Tournament which was held Thursday, Friday and Saturday, but all seven colleges participating took home with them some of the awards that were presented.

The tournament, which was sponsored by Pi Kappa Delta, Appalachian State Teachers College chapter, was directed by Mr. Leo K. Pritchett, Appalachian's coach of debating. Awards were not presented to teams, but were given to individuals on the basis of achievement. Those winning the various events are as follows:

In men's debating: John Smart and William Bolick, both of Lenoir Rhyne, tied for first place; Fred Ramseur and Harlan Creech of Lenoir Rhyne, Bill Jones of Carson-Newman, tied for second place; and David Wright, Lenoir Rhyne, Doyle Casteel, Carson-Newman, and David Knigely, Carson-Newman, tied for third place.

In women's debating the winners were Joanne Aldridge, ASTC, first place; Mary Ann Wolfe of Lenoir Rhyne, and Jo Ann Brooks of Maryville tied for second; and Ann Cline and Alice Setzler, both of Lenoir Rhyne, tied for third.

In men's oratory, Johnny Byrd of Milligan was first, and David Pittman of Mars Hill second. In women's oratory, Roberta McBryde, Mars Hill, was first, and Joanne Aldridge, ASTC, first; Ann Cline, Lenoir Rhyne, second;

Local Telephone Building Is Soon To Be Completed

Spencer Is Speaker At Annual Grid Banquet; Athletes Praised

VIRGIL G. ROLLINS
Frank Spencer, sports editor of the Winston-Salem Journal, praised All-State Halfback Shirley Gabriel of Appalachian State Teachers College as the "finest backfield man in the state of North Carolina" Tuesday in an address to the Boone Chamber of Commerce and their guests, the coaching staff, managers and varsity football team of the college. He was introduced by Earnard Dougherty, Appalachian State business manager.

Spencer said it was his pleasure and privilege to recommend Gabriel for All-State, Little All-America, and as the best athlete in the state this year. He added

that Gabriel received the votes of all participating North Carolina sports writers for a berth on the Little All-American team.

He told the assembled players that if they will learn all football careers they will have something that will stand them in good stead in later life. Former athletes are leaders in any community, he continued, because they have that driving, competitive spirit and the desire to win that characterizes success on the football field.

Gabriel spoke earlier in the meeting and modestly gave a lion's share of the credit for his exploits on the gridiron to the linemen and other backs who opened the holes and did the downfield blocking.

Opening the meeting on a keynote of teamwork between the town and the college, President H. W. Wilcox introduced head coach E. C. Duggins, who in turn expressed appreciation for that cooperation and the successful effort of the Chamber of Commerce in their recent city-wide project to provide funds to send the college band to the Tampa, Fla., game.

Attorney Wade Brown also spoke briefly, and pointed out the fact that the school and the town are working more closely together than ever before.

Coach Duggins introduced the following coaches, managers, and players who were present at Tuesday's luncheon meeting at the Gateway Restaurant:

Coaches: Francis Hoover, Bob Broome, and Preston Mull. Assistant Coach John Kirk was unable to attend because of classroom duties.

Managers: Jack Parks, Bunk Carpenter, and Jake Hord.

Players: Mac Smith, Joe Eller Ben Quinn, Jack Pennell, R. E. Cummings, Morris Branch, Mack Maynes, Bob Jones, Colon Nifong, Harold Lakey, Buck Hall, Ned Pennell, Charles Taylor, Don Hiatt, Jim Ollis, Junior Groce, Aubrey Elam, Jim Kiser, Joe Garwood, Paul Wellborn, and Shirley Gabriel.

School assignments prevented the attendance of Bobby Joe Baker, Jim Martin, John Gamble, Bob Clendenin, Ray Triplett, and a former Appalachian backfield great, Jack Groce.

Project To Cost Over \$200,000

Southern Bell's new building, located at 709 E. King Street, is about 90% complete, it was announced by Mr. H. M. Inabinet, group manager for the telephone company. Good progress is being made on the erection of the \$31,000.00 building and will soon be ready for the installation of the dial central office equipment valued at \$173,000.00, the telephone manager stated.

Dial telephone sets have been installed in subscriber's homes and business prior to the completion of the new system, but the present telephones will continue to operate under the manual method until the entire dial system is completed and placed in service. The company would like to be advised of any case where the dial set has not been installed, by calling 9000 and leaving telephone number. Mr. Inabinet said that until the conversion is completed, any manipulation of the dial might serve to impair the present service.

The dial system is scheduled to be cut over at noon March 3, 1954. Mr. Inabinet stated that the improvement and expansion of telephone service in Boone is another step forward in Southern Bell's program of providing more and better telephone service.

Bright Lights To Enhance Festive Yule Atmosphere

Daily colored Christmas lights and decorations will soon lend their overhead beauty to enhance the festive Yuletide atmosphere of Boone provided by the many attractive window displays and decorations of the individual stores.

Workmen began installing the lights along the main business thoroughfares Tuesday, and the job is expected to be completed and the switch thrown before the end of the week.

Homer Brown Is Library Director In Wilkes-Watauga

Homer Brown of Boone has been appointed district library director for the Watauga-Wilkes area. He will begin his new duties immediately.

Mr. Brown retired from the Navy in 1944 as a chief petty officer after 20 years of service. He then entered Appalachian State Teachers College and was graduated in 1951 with a B. S. Degree in Library Science. He received his master's degree in 1952.

He has been Watauga County librarian for the past year.

Mr. Brown and Clyde Eggers of Boone were recently named co-chairmen of a committee appointed by the Southern Appalachian Historical Association to write a history of Watauga County.

He married Miss Mable Bingham, daughter of the late Edward Bingham, Boone attorney. He is a brother of Mrs. A. L. Cooke of Boone.

RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION
During the first ten months of 1953, spending for nonfarm residential construction declined about ten per cent. The total number of housing units started during the year is estimated to be about 1,100, about the same as in 1952 and 1951.

Watauga Farmers Seek To Save Soil, Water

Watauga County farmers are cooperating with the Federal Government in an effort to conserve our soil and water resources, according to Dwight Cable, chairman, County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation committee (formerly the Production and Marketing Administration, PMA) On November 6, the initial closing date for farmers to request Federal cost-sharing under the 1954 Agricultural Conservation Program, 1,200 Watauga County farmers had indicated their intention to cooperate in the

program. These farms requested \$168,000 Federal assistance, according to Mr. Cable.

The county was allocated only \$43,920 to be used in sharing with the farmer part of the cost of carrying out needed conservation practices.

Mr. Cable points out that the establishment of legumes and grass vegetative cover as a part of land-use adjustments and initiating systematic crop rotations is an important part of the 1954 Agriculture Conservation Program. Eleven hundred and sixty-five farmers in the county requested cost-sharing for 8,570 acres for the establishment of permanent protective cover. Federal cost-sharing on seed, lime, and commercial fertilizers essential to such establishment is provided for in the program. Mr. Cable says that farmers have requested cost-sharing for more earth moving practices than any previous year.

"Some of the farmers who have been given approvals will probably not be able to carry out the practices by the date specified by the county committee and the money set up for these practices will be returned to the county pool," he said. "The county committee has decided that they will accept farmers' requests for cost-sharing throughout the program year, and requests filed will be accepted and given consideration, to the extent available funds permit, at each regular monthly meeting of the committee."

All farmers may file requests with the county committee at the ASC (PMA) office which is located at the county building, Boone. Requests for cost-sharing under the 1954 ACP may be filed during office hours Monday through Friday.

Glenn Reese Third In Sheep Shearing Contest In Chicago

Glenn Reese, son of Mr. and Mrs. Asa L. Reese placed third in the National 4-H Sheep Shearing contest held in Chicago Friday, December 4.

Glenn scored 92.1. The winner Hal Bowen from Indiana scored 92.43. During the preliminaries which were held earlier in the week Glenn was high scorer with a score of 93.65.

Bobby Gene Norris among Watauga county boys scored 88.35 in the preliminaries but did not get in the finals.

Twenty-two 4-H shearers from throughout the United States entered the contest.

The boys were accompanied to Chicago by W. C. Richardson, assistant county agent who is their coach.

Christmas Seal Sale Progresses

The 1953 Christmas Seal campaign, now in its fourth week, is progressing nicely according to Miss Helen Underdown, Seal Sale Chairman.

Miss Underdown would like to take this means of expressing her appreciation and sincere thanks to every person in the county who has in any way contributed to the success of the campaign, and to urge all who have not sent in their contributions, to please do so, that we may be able to reach our goal of \$1,500.00.

Virgil Guire Is Claimed By Death

Virgil D. Guire, 79, prominent religious, civic and educational leader of Lenoir, died suddenly there Saturday, from an attack suffered while driving his car.

Funeral services were held Sunday at 3 o'clock at the First Presbyterian Church of Lenoir.

A member of the Board of Trustees of Appalachian State Teachers College, and a former highway commissioner, Mr. Guire was well known in Watauga, where he had many friends.

Weather

This week began with the lowest temperature recorded this winter, and ended with muddy back yards, produced by rain on the third and fourth.

Temperatures were:

Max.	Min.	6 p.m.	Date
41	6	32	Nov. 29
45	25	36	Nov. 30
42	26	31	Dec. 1
50	13	30	Dec. 2
48	20	40	Dec. 3
52	39	48	Dec. 4
63	36	46	Dec. 5

Precipitation:
Dec. 4—0.48 in.
Dec. 5—0.11 in.

The month of November was mild, and the first nineteen days dry. The highest temperature was 70, recorded on the second; the lowest, 6, recorded on the 29th. The greatest amount of rain occurred on Nov. 23—1.25 inches; the total amount of precipitation was 2.55 inches.

Funds Sought For Orphans Home

Funds are again being sought for the Grandfather Home, Banner Elk, to aid in preparing a Christmas party for the orphans who are being reared there.

Since the children at Grandfather are principally from this immediate section, the people here have been glad to respond heretofore, regardless of other institutions.

Those willing to aid in this work are asked to leave their contributions with Guy Hunt, Rob Rivers, Watt Gagg or Willys Chester within the next few days.

and Mary Jane White, ASTC, third.

Men winners in problem-solving were Harlan Creech, Lenoir Rhyne; David Pittman, Mars Hill; and Gene Christian, East Tennessee, in that order. The women winners were Joanne Aldridge, ASTC, Janie Dennis, Mars Hill, and Ann Cline of Lenoir Rhyne, respectively one, two and three.

In poetry reading the men were David Wright, Lenoir Rhyne, second; and David Pittman, Mars Hill, third. The women were Roberta McBryde, Mars Hill, first; Mary Ann Wolfe, Lenoir Rhyne, second; and Joanne Aldridge, ASTC, third.

The contest in radio newscast—(Continued on page two.)