

KING STREET. BY ROB RIVERS

ORGANIZATIONS . . . AND A WORD FOR AN ANCIENT PACK

A few years ago, a prominent local politician and civic leader said to us: "The trouble with Boone is—it's over-organized and over-politicked." . . . The trite sentence stuck in our mind, as true a statement as was ever made on this street of ours . . . There are politicians, conniving here and there, and for every politician there are a few organizations, but Greer Hodges refreshes our memory on one institution which he vows will never grow old, and never lose a member, unless maybe it is by the undertaker route . . . The organization known as the Royal Society of Yellow Dogs was founded in this locality more than thirty years ago . . . It is unique, in that there are no dues, no civic programs, no benefits, no speeches, no dinners, no cold mashed taters or evasive peas, and one don't have to be particularly well recommended to enjoy the fellowship of the mangy mongrels, whose color, while used often in derision, is after all, just a shade lighter than the pure gold which goes through the fire undefiled . . . We recall, way back, when E. S. Coffey walked out on the porch of his law office, and yelled 'cross the creek to us . . . We went and found we were to be initiated into the mystic order of the nasty-colored perps . . . Ranged around the dingy office were F. A. Linney, Squire Jim Bryan, W. R. Gragg, and maybe a few others, and somewhere we still have that card, with the yellow dog rampant, and the certificate of membership signed by W. R. Gragg and Cheese Wilson.

IN THE YELLOWING JOURNAL of the order, it is learned that Cheese Wilson was Chief Cur, W. R. Gragg, was the custodian of the license tag, W. D. Farthing the leader of the Mongrels, and A. E. South, the Custodian of the Bone . . . Through all the years, the Yellow Dogs, not the canines, but the organization, has flourished . . . growing slowly but surely, and one never has to run when he sees a Dog ambulating toward him, with his eye on a telephone pole . . . He's not going to ask for funds or give you heck for not attending a meeting, he's just moseying on, living the full life without aggravating the folks . . . At any rate, the Yellow Dogs is alive again . . . J. C. Goodnight, Rev. Mr. Hollingsworth and Mark Hodges have recently received the mystic word, and the ancient signs . . . applications are being received for membership amongst the muddy-colored mongrels.

STRICTLY PICAYUNE

Jimmy Cook, runs his fingers through his hair, looks out at the snow storm, and says: "I wish that old ground hog hadn't stuck his head out!" . . . Days lengthen to the point late workers may go home in daylight . . . Auto passers by dragging string of tin cans, and carrying "just married" sign, as old ladies smile at the newlyweds . . . Big glass falls from second story window and lands unbroken . . . Raymond Farthing, veteran of the Naval Service, doing Recruiting duty at Lenoir office . . .

TO WHICH PARTY DO YOU HOLD?

In a neighborhood where party politics has been the main order of business since the Civil War, newcomers are always quickly catalogued as to political preference, and there's always been the man who'd saunter up to a brand new citizen, and put him right on the spot . . . We have discovered a smoother way of finding out . . . The guy is a Republican or a Democrat depending upon whether he says it's a "leveling-off" or a "recession" . . . So all one has to do to promote his political poll might be to ask "How's it going?"

Retail coffee sales have dropped while tea sales have risen almost 100 per cent in some shops.

Farm Meetings Will Be Held, Starting Monday

POLIO DRIVE NETS \$4,814

The March of Dimes campaign in Watauga County has collected \$4,814.08, in the 1954 campaign, according to figures released Tuesday by Mrs. Ralph Tugman, chairman of the current drive. A talent show by the college faculty last Thursday raised \$75.76 of this amount. Mrs. Tugman said. Mrs. Tugman expressed her appreciation for those who have helped make this year's campaign so successful. She said, "We are still hoping to reach the \$5,000.00 mark, and anyone who has a donation may contact the March of Dimes headquarters at Town Hall and the money will be gladly accepted."

Joe Davis Dies In Globe, Ariz.

Joe Davis, 49, of Globe, Arizona, died Saturday night at his home, following a long illness. Mr. Davis was a native of Ashe county and a brother of Mrs. Joseph Winkler of Boone. Burial was in Phoenix, Arizona Monday. Surviving brothers and sister, in addition to Mrs. Winkler are: W. H. Davis, Fairfax, Va.; Bob Davis, West Jefferson; Glenn Davis, Akron, Ohio; Mrs. G. H. Scott, Todd; Mrs. Ralph Gillespie, Reidsville.

County Council 4-H Clubs Meets

The Watauga 4-H County Council met Saturday, February 6, at 10:00 a. m. in the Legion Hut. Doss Keller, president called the meeting to order. Bill Austin, secretary read the minutes of last meeting. Ann Farthing, vice-president led the group in 4-H pledge and motto. John Ralph Buchanan led the group in singing America with Evelyn Matheson at the piano. Doss Keller spoke briefly on importance of keeping good records. W. C. Richardson showed to the group the belt buckle Glenn Reese received for placing third in the National Sheep Shearing Contest. The meeting was then adjourned for recreation. After playing several games Paul Brookshire and W. C. Richardson led the group in some folk games and folk dances. Everyone guessed the number of grains of corn in a pint jar. Bill Austin won the prize for guessing the closest number. Industry is urged to emphasize peacetime production.

Edwin N. Hahn, Former Mayor, Taken By Death



EDWIN N. HAHN

Edwin N. Hahn, former Mayor of Boone, and veteran Justice of the Peace, died at his home Wednesday of last week, after an extended period of failing health. He was 81.

Funeral services were held at the Boone Methodist Church Thursday, with the pastor, Rev. J. T. Shackford officiating. Graveside rites were conducted in Mountlawn Memorial Park by members of Snow Lodge, No. 363, A. F. & A. M.

He is survived by the widow, Mrs. Blanche Hahn; a son, Eric Hahn, Amarillo, Texas; two daughters, Mrs. Richard Brown of Winston-Salem, and Mrs. Wade M. Jackson of Boone. There is one sister, Mrs. Bertha Patton of Hickory, and five grandchildren. Mr. Hahn came to Boone from Gastonia over thirty years ago, and had been one of the leaders in the business and religious life of the community. A progressive citizen, Mr. Hahn was a former mayor of the town and under his administration the first appreciable widening of East King Street was accomplished. He had been engaged in the lumber business, the ice manufacturing business, and had been a steward in the Boone Methodist Church for more than a quarter of a century.

Mrs. D. E. Hartley Dies On Friday

Mrs. D. E. Hartley, died at her home in Cashocton, Ohio last Friday, following a long period of declining health. Funeral service and interment were held Monday in Cashocton. Mrs. Hartley was a native of Watauga county, and a resident of Boone for many years.



JAVA JUMPS TO DIME A CUP—Reflecting the consistent rise of coffee prices when purchased in the bag, practically all Boone restaurants have lifted the price for a cup of the popular beverage (when ordered without food) to 10 cents, after holding the line at 5 cents until last week. Shown above is Howard Culler of Boone, as he sipped a 10c cup in the Boone Trail Restaurant. Local restaurateurs report no noticeable consumer decline since the price was advanced. (P. S.—The newspaper Mr. Culler is reading still costs a nickel.)—Staff photo by Joe Minor.

J. Edgar Young, Former Sheriff, Succumbs Friday

By MRS. LUCILE LETT
J. Edgar Young, aged 74, died at the home of a son in Blowing Rock Friday, Feb. 5, after a prolonged illness.

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the little Reformed church near the Young home with Rev. Carlton Cox officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery. Greer Funeral Home of Lenoir was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Young, a retired farmer at the time of his death, was a former sheriff of Watauga county, serving six years. Surviving are two daughters: Mrs. Leona Hartley of Blowing Rock and Mrs. Mary Ford of Lenoir Rt. 8; four sons: Fred, James, and Roy of Blowing Rock and J. Edgar, Jr. of St. Petersburg, Fla. There are 27 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

Sixteen Men Go For February Draft Quota

The Selective Service Board has notified sixteen men to fill the February quota for Watauga County. They will report to the Charlotte induction station on February 25.

They are: Earl Pope, Reese; Garine Lester Woodring, RFD, Boone; Sherdon Junior Presnell, Sugar Grove; James N. Presnell, Beech Creek; Howard O. Jones, Shulls Mill; Charles R. Gentry, Laxon; Ralph M. Hodges, Boone; Lawrence Everett Phillips, Boone; Kenneth O. Hayes, Triplett; John Weldon Main, Todd; Clinton Clifford Baird and Clyde James Eggers, Jr., Banner Elk; Harold Edward Norris and Gordon Cecil Eggers, Mabel; Wayne Maynard Tate, Blowing Rock; Billy Clint Townsend, Valle Crucis; and Robert Forest Nichols, Deep Gap. Earl Pope, Garine Lester Woodring and Sherdon Junior Presnell are selective service volunteers.

Weather

Although temperatures in the first days of the week were mild, reaching 50 degrees, those beginning Wednesday remained in the 20's and 30's. Precipitation was mostly light snows, from Wednesday to Friday; but even though light, the snow was enough to become packed into ice on the roads Thursday.

Max.	Min.	6 p. m.	Date
36	22	31	Jan. 31
49	22	39	Feb. 1
50	35	45	Feb. 2
45	32	33	Feb. 3
33	25	28	Feb. 4
32	29	28	Feb. 5
34	26	29	Feb. 6

Precipitation:
Jan. 31—T snow.
Feb. 2—0.01 in.; T snow.
Feb. 4—T; T snow.
Feb. 6—0.02 in.; T snow.

January was mild, the highest temperature reaching 60 degrees, the lowest 1 above. The rain and melted snow totaled 5.50 inches, with a high of 1.59 inches on the 22nd; most of this precipitation fell in consecutive showers from the 20th to the 23rd. Snow and sleet totaled 1.8 inches, with a high of 1.0 inches on the 23rd.

State Tax Man To Come On 19th

A representative of the State Department of Revenue will be at the courthouse in Boone Friday February 19, and Friday February 26, for the purpose of assisting taxpayers with filing their 1953 State income tax returns.

Examination For City Postmaster Is Slated

An examination for Postmaster at Boone, N. C., \$5370 a year, under revised and more exacting eligibility requirements agreed upon by the U. S. Civil Service Commission and the Post Office Department will be open for receipt of applications until March 2, 1954, the Commission announced today.

"The Commission is taking all possible steps through special publicity to civic and other community organizations to encourage well qualified persons to apply for the examination," the announcement said. Competitors for the postmaster vacancy in this city must have at least 2 years of experience showing that they have the ability to conduct and manage the community's postal business efficiently and to supervise employees so that customers are satisfied with the service. Competitors must show that they can deal with the public agreeably and effectively and that they are reliable citizens who would command the respect and confidence of patrons of the post office. Applicants must take a written test. Those who pass will be assigned final ratings on the basis of this test and on their experience, ability, and character. There is a 1-year residence requirement and applicants must be at least 25 years of age and must not have passed their sixty-third birthday. Complete information about the examination requirements and instructions for filing applications may be obtained at the Boone post office.

Dial Telephone Service Starts In Town March 3



SNOW TIME TO TAKE CHANCES—A typical street scene during last Thursday's heavy snowfall was the one enacted above by Hoyle Hayes, of the Todd & Higgins Ezzo Service on King Street, as the roving camera caught him down in the snow in the act of putting chains on a local motorist's car.—Staff photo by Joe Minor.

Dead Baby Found At College Is Unknown

The body of an infant girl found in the garbage chute of East Hall, on Appalachian College campus last week, brought about an investigation by the State Bureau of Investigation, which hopes to locate the mother, and a statement by College officials, clearing the students in connection with the case. The body of the premature child was found late Monday afternoon. It was perfectly formed, but weighed only two pounds. Apparently it had lived after birth. SBI efforts to find the parent and determine the cause of the baby's death haven't been successful.

The College Statement

The college administration gave the Democrat the following prepared statement Tuesday: "The baby was found on Monday afternoon, February 1, in the trash room in East Hall. The man who hauls the trash off reported it to the college administration. A conference of the college officials was held and it was decided to call for the coroner, Mr. Richard Kelly, the coroner, 'came down' to the campus and joined the conference, and he called in Dr. J. B. Hagaman, Jr. Investigation showed that no student in East Hall had been absent from class except two or three who had been confined to their rooms with flu. In the

meantime, the young women of the dormitories wanted to clear themselves.

"President B. B. Dougherty went to Raleigh to have a conference with the Attorney General and with the State Bureau of Investigation. The Attorney General advised that no one should be denied an examination and that no one should be compelled to have one. The young women in the dormitories requested a physical examination and it was given by Dr. Hagaman.

"Every room in every dormitory on the campus was examined. There was not even a suspicion.

"Where the child came from no one knows. The State Bureau of Investigation representatives are still here working on it. Perhaps they will have something to report a little later on.

"This announcement by the college administration has been delayed, with the hope that they could have something definite to report."

Canadian newsprint production last year set a record.

Scott Plunks Down Fee For Primary Battle

Raleigh, Feb. 8—Former Gov. W. Kerr Scott today made official his announcement that he will run for the U. S. Senate by paying a \$250 filing fee as a candidate in the May 29 Democratic primary.

He told newsmen who watched while he filed at the State Board of Elections that he will try to work out this week his selection of a campaign manager.

"We will move along as fast as we can," he said. "I've got to get busy toting water to put out fires," he added with a chuckle.

Scott was accompanied by Ben Roney of Rocky Mount, who served as his administrative assistant while Scott was governor. Mrs. Mary M. McCord, a clerk in the board of elections office, accepted the two 100-dollar bills, two 20s, and one 10 as Scott counted them off.

"It takes three cows if they are dry, and about two and a half if they are fresh to pay the filing fee," the dairy farmer quipped. The fee covers the short term from the November election to Jan. 1, and the regular 6-year term beginning Jan. 1.

Scott announced last Saturday he would seek the post now held by Sen. Alton A. Lennon, who was appointed by Gov. Umstead to fill the vacancy left by the death of Sen. Willis M. Smith of

Inabinet Speaks To Tuesday Meet Commerece Group

The new dial telephone system will be placed into service here at noon on March 3, 1954, H. M. Inabinet of Lenoir, group manager of the Southern Bell Telephone Company, announced Tuesday at the February meeting of the Chamber of Commerce.

Introduced by H. Grady Farthing, chairman of the Chamber's telephone committee, Mr. Inabinet explained the use of the new phones, showed a film devoted to the same subject, and traced the 59-year history and growth of telephones in Watauga County since 1895, when the Watauga Telephone Company was formed by the late J. C. Mast, of Sugar Grove.

In 1900, he said, the first switchboard was placed in the home of Mrs. Mattie Toppins, with Mrs. Toppins serving as operator, in the present location of the Qualls Beauty Shop on East King Street. Later it was moved to a building owned by R. M. Greene next to the Greene Inn. Mr. Greene now lives in Greensboro.

In 1918 the company was purchased by the late Elmo Matherly, and in turn was sold to a group of citizens in Watauga County, including Dr. H. B. Perry of Boone, and the late W. Y. Farthing of Sugar Grove. Then it passed into the hands of a group from Lenoir and Hickory.

About 1923 the switchboard was moved over the People's Bank and Trust Company, where Hunt's Department Store is now located, and Mrs. Jessie McGuire, now retired, became the operator. In 1928 Southern Bell purchased the exchange, and the switchboard with 125 stations connected was moved to its present location on Grand Boulevard. A new brick building has now been erected on East King Street to house the dial equipment and local offices of the company.

At the time of the "cutover" on March 3, there will be 1200 telephones in Watauga County, Mr. Inabinet said. He attributed the consistent gains through the years to the continual expansion of business in the county, and expressed appreciation on behalf of the company to the Chamber of Commerce and all others for their cooperation.

In the absence of President H. W. Wilcox, Russell D. Hodges, first vice president, presided at Tuesday's luncheon meeting in the Gateway Cafe.

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Scarlet Fever Cases Are Fewer

There has been a lull in the number of cases of scarlet fever being reported in the county. All Mabel school children present were given prophylactic treatment last Thursday and Friday. Only scattered cases have occurred on other sections, and no alarm is felt at the present time. The public is urged to keep sick children home from school. Severe sore throats with a temperature, with or without rash, should receive medical care and be isolated as scarlet fever. If treated, a case is released from quarantine in 1 week; if not treated in 2 weeks. Contacts under 16 years or a school child treated preventively may be released in 3 days; but not treated, not released until 1 week after the patient is released from quarantine. Parents and teachers should report directly to the Health Department cases not seen by a private physician.

Broader aid to Latin-America becomes U. S. "policy."



W. KERR SCOTT

Raleigh. Although Lennon has not yet officially filed, he has announced he will run. In addition to Scott, two political newcomers are already in the race. They are Henry L. Sprinkle of Greensboro and W. M. Bostic of Cary.

Scott said setting up a statewide campaign headquarters here probably will wait until after Saturday's Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner. He already is busy with visits, and speeches around the state, he added.