

BOONE
1950 POPULATION 2,873
The educational center of Western
North Carolina. Home of Appalachian
State Teachers College, which attracts
hundreds of students annually from
all parts of the nation. Modern busi-
ness district. A good place to live.

SIXTY-SIXTH YEAR—NO. 32

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1954

14 PAGES—2 SECTIONS

KING STREET

BY
ROB RIVERS

FIRST RED-BREAST

Albert Farthing reports seeing the first robin just ahead of the spring-like weather of the first of the week . . . Monday Mrs. Ruby Ellis reported hearing the notes of five different kinds of birds in the few steps from the Democrat office to the Water Street corner . . . So with shirt-sleeve weather has come the song of the birds and a glad relief from the "ground hog weather" which had been holding forth . . . And the wise men of the hills stroke their beards and vow they never saw such a warm day this time of the year . . . When its downright cold, and our teeth chatter, and one can't quite tell whether the mercury is in the tube at all, 'cause he can't find his specs . . . we all proclaim that never have we seen such severe cold in these parts . . . Carl Goerch in the State magazine has this to say on the ever-present subject of the weather:

THAT'S WHAT THEY SAY . . . ALL 'CEPT THE WEATHER MAN

"We've been hearing the usual arguments during the last month or so about the severity of winters as compared with those fifteen, twenty or thirty years ago.

"Everyone seem to agree that the winters of long ago were much more severe. Everyone, that is, except weather bureau people. They claim that the last decade, compared with any previous decade, shows very little difference in the mean temperature.

"Yes, the mercury may have gone down to 5 degrees above zero in 1907, or there may have been a spell of below-freezing weather for two weeks in 1910, but when you average up the weather for a ten-year period, you'll find the figure to be just about the same.

"Thus far, however, we've found no one who will agree with that statement, except those who keep the actual statistics."

FAMILIAR FIGURE ABSENT FROM STREET

We miss seeing Edwin N. Hahn moving along the street, and smiling at the folks he met . . . When the venerable citizen moved away into the lengthening shadows, he left us with the memory of a kind old gentleman, who loved the Lord and the little folks He made so many of . . . Even after Mr. Hahn was grievously afflicted, and his faculties were impaired, he walked far and near over the countryside, ministering to the sick, and bringing a word of encouragement or a bit of money, if needed . . . He was a familiar figure in the halls of the local hospital, where he went on regular schedules to shake hands with the patients, talk to the relatives, and sometimes to shed a tear when the pale horse stood at the door . . . In religious endeavor, Mr. Hahn lent his full support, and contributed generously to his church . . . His personal wants were simple, and he found contentment in contributing to the welfare of those who hadn't found the going easy . . . He liked an orderly society, moving along in the fear of the Lord, and in civic affairs was always among those who were promoting the progress of the town and county . . . As his health failed however, his activities were confined more and more to serving his fellowman.

A SLIDING SCALE

Mr. Hahn was one of the town's most successful Mayors, and his administration was one of progress and accomplishment . . . In those days the lads "look to drinkin'" on a larger scale than appears to be the case now . . . And a lot of the boys got drunk, some fought along the sidewalks "of a Saturday" and there was quite often a crimson spout on the pavement, where the loser lay . . . In an effort to meet the situation Mr. Hahn cracked down on simple drunkenness, for he reasoned, the fist fights and other acts of violence



TO PRESENT RECITAL—James Rooker and Walton Cole (above), professors of piano at Appalachian State Teachers College, will present a duo-piano recital on Friday, February 19, in the Fine Arts Auditorium at eight o'clock. The public is invited to attend.

Hardy Resigns Horn Position

William M. Hardy, general manager of Horn in the West, Boone outdoor drama, has resigned his position, effective February 28. The resignation came in a letter to Dr. D. J. Whitener, executive vice-president of the Southern Appalachian Historical Association.

For the present, Dr. Whitener said, the work usually done by the general manager will be carried on by the Board of Directors of the Association. The duties will be handled largely through the various committees of the

March Of Dimes Fund Now \$5,040

Mrs. Ralph Tugman, chairman of Watauga County's 1954 March of Dimes campaign, stated yesterday that she was able to report to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Inc., that this county had contributed over \$5,000.00 to fight polio in the campaign just finished.

According to Mrs. Tugman, the exact figure was \$5,040.62, which is believed to be a record for the county.

Mrs. Tugman said that \$1,701.32 was collected by the schools of the county and the college here, the Mother's March accounted for \$214.17, churches and various organizations gave \$472.32, and special events such as the Quartet Singing, the Forty-Nighters' President's Ball, Wishing Well at the Gateway Cafe, Talent Show and others accounted for \$721.97.

The balance of the \$5,000.00 came from response to letters sent out, special contributions, coin boxes and other means of collection, Mrs. Tugman said.



DR. PETER B. EVERETT, above, of Appalachian High School faculty, received his degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Iowa State University on February 8. His major is in Physical Education. Dr. and Mrs. Everett and their three children reside on Faculty Row.

Ask Bids 421, Foscoe Highway

Work will proceed on the construction of 421 west of Boone, after all, the Highway Commission has called for bids on the construction of 2.695 miles of grading, paving and structures from a point three miles northwest of Boone to Sugar Grove.

Also bids are asked on grading and paving 3.39 miles from the Avery county line northeast to a point about 1,000 feet southwest to Foscoe. This is a part of the Boone to Linville project.

The letting of these sections is expected to take place February 23.

Coin Boxes To Aid Heart Fund Placed Locally

Red heart-shaped coin boxes, numbering 30, have made their annual appearance in Boone in connection with the 1954 Heart Fund campaign sponsored by the Boone Heart Association, it was announced this week by Jackie Jones, fund chairman.

The plastic receptacles are in the principal public places in Boone, where they will remain through the month of February.

Mr. Jones expressed hope that local management will cooperate fully with volunteers who are distributing the coin boxes, giving the plastic hearts a preferred position as near as possible to cash registers. He added: "These receptacles should serve as a constant reminder to all that we should open our hearts when we open our purses. They are designed not only to receive change but bills as well."

Local Campaign Goal is \$300.00

The drive is being aided by the Men's "A" Club of ASTC, and the Student Council of Appalachian High School.

Applications for employment during the summer at Horn in the West, which normally would go to the general manager, should be addressed at present to Dr. D. J. Whitener, executive vice-president.

The matter of securing a general manager is now under consideration by the Board of Directors. Various investigations are being made, but no decision is in the immediate offing, Dr. Whitener said.

Graduate Class On Four Day Trip North Carolina

A graduate class in North Carolina history at Appalachian State Teachers college is now on a four-day trip covering the state, for the purpose of visiting and learning more about North Carolina.

Joseph Cox Dies At Walter Reed

Joseph W. Cox, 31, died February 6 at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D. C., where he had undergone surgery early in January. Burial was in the Arlington National cemetery on February 10.

He was a native of Watauga county, having spent most of his boyhood in the Todd community.

Mr. Cox, who was parts and service manager of Brown and Graham Motor Company in Boone, served in the U. S. Army eleven years. He was engaged in both the European and Pacific theaters during World War II.

Survivors include his mother, Mrs. Mae Cox, Elkton, Md.; four brothers, Roy B. of Wilmington, Del.; Sam of Philadelphia, Pa.; Tom of DeLand, Fla.; David L. of Elkton, Md.; two sisters, Mrs. Margaret Shelton and Miss Evelyn Cox, also of Elkton.

John Gentry Dies Thursday

John Roby Gentry, colored resident of 22 Church Street, died February 11 at the home of R. G. Hatten. He was 78 years of age.

Funeral services were held at 11 a. m. February 14, at the Minionite Brethren Church, conducted by the Rev. Ronda Horton and the Rev. Sam Brown. Burial was in the family cemetery at Fleetwood.

Heart Fund Dance Set For Friday Evening

An old-fashioned barn dance will be staged at the Appalachian High School gymnasium Friday, February 19, at 8 p. m. The dance is being sponsored by the Student Council in cooperation with Mr. Jackie Jones, director of the Heart Fund drive on the college campus.

Everyone attending the dance is being encouraged to wear square dance costumes, jeans and square dance dresses, to be in keeping with the "barnloft" decorations and the "hillbilly" music. The music will be provided by the College Hillbillies, a well-known group of square-musicians. Square dances, cake

Building And Loan Names Slate Directors; Assets Gain \$540,432

Youths Rob Local Store In Daytime

The Parkway Hardware Company on King Street was robbed of merchandise valued at about \$75 Sunday. The culprits were apprehended and the loot recovered Monday by Sheriff Earl Cook and his deputies.

Sheriff Cook said the thieves entered the store at about 2:30 Sunday afternoon by breaking a rear window, and got away with a couple of guns, some ammunition, and a hunting knife.

Fingerprints taken by an agent of the State Bureau of investigation were inconclusive, but two boys under sixteen years of age were loitering in the vicinity near the time of the robbery. One of them confessed when apprehended by the sheriff in Stony Fork Township on Monday, and led officers to an abandoned brick building in Boone and another cache outside of town where the stolen goods were hidden. All of the goods were recovered except a box of shells, which the boys said they "shot up."

Their names were withheld by Sheriff Cook, due to the fact that they are juveniles, and because Paul A. Coffey, owner of the store, did not desire to ask for an indictment.

Eggers To Head Annual Red Cross Fund Campaign



S. C. Eggers, Boone civic and religious leader, has been named chairman of the Red Cross roll call campaign which will take place in March.

Mr. Eggers says he will appoint committees and recruit other workers within the next few days.

Former Representative in the Legislature, Mr. Eggers has long been active in public affairs. He is president of the Boone Farm Loan Association and Secretary-Treasurer of the Tobacco Board of Trade.

Walter Story Taken By Death

By MRS. LUCILE LETT
Mr. Walter I. Story died at his home in Foscoe on Friday, Feb. 12, at the age of 61.

Funeral services were held on Sunday afternoon at Clark's Creek Baptist church with Rev. Carl Triplett of Chlowie, Va., and Rev. Raymond Hendrix of Boone officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery with Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home in charge.

Survivors include the widow, Mrs. Ada Taylor Story; two sons, Paul of Foscoe and Clyde of Washington, D. C.; Miss Georgia Story of Bristol, Tenn.; two sisters, Mrs. Rhonda Ruppert of Blowing Rock and Mrs. Cora Ruppert of Balm; two brothers, Leonard of Lynchburg, Ky., and Charlie of Foscoe; and 12 grandchildren.



TOWN OFFICIALS FOR HOUR—Scouts of Troop 109, in Boone, pose for a picture just before taking over the duties of the Town offices last Thursday afternoon. They are, front row, left to right: Bobby Yoder, Jerry McCracken, Ford King, King Triplett, Bobby Agle, and Raymond Smith; second row: Butch Parker, Joe Minor, Billy Miller, Reid Cottrell, Tad Buckland, Charles Harmon, Jimmy Goodnight, and Johnny Shackford.—Photo by Paul Weston Studio.

Scouts Take Over City In Program Of Week

The highlight of the scout week observance came Thursday afternoon, when city officials of Boone surrendered their offices to local Scouts. Bobby Yoder acted as Scout Mayor, and other positions were taken by the following Boone Scouts: Billy Miller, town clerk; Jerry McCracken, chief of police; Bobby Agle and Charles Arnold, patrolmen; Ford King, fire chief; and Tad Buckland, head of the water department. The young officials checked parking meters, arrested jay walkers,

Parkway Survey Near Blowing Rock Finished

Plans and surveys for construction of a three-mile link in the Blue Ridge Parkway near Blowing Rock were reported this week as nearing completion.

J. Carlisle Crouch of Roanoke, Va., assistant parkway superintendent, said it was hoped that the section could be let to contract and work started this construction season.

The link would be between two previously completed sections of the Parkway and would run between Sandy Flat and U. S. 321. The link would run through the Moses H. Cone Memorial Park.

The work would include grading, laying a crushed stone base and building an overpass.

No new sections will be built in

Fire Department Answers Alarms

The local Fire Department investigated two alarms early Monday afternoon, the first being a grass fire on Ray Hill, east of Boone and across from the Watauga Produce Company. Three haystacks were destroyed by the blaze, said Fire Chief Howard Cottrell.

At about the same time, a car caught fire in a junk yard in the west end of town, but was extinguished before any damage was done.

Weather

Boone's weather this week was mild throughout, and almost spring-like on the 10th and 11th, even though temperatures varied from 57 down to 5 above. There was only a trace of precipitation.

Max.	Min.	6 p. m.	Date
33	16	28	Feb. 7
34	16	30	Feb. 8
45	5	43	Feb. 9
57	28	52	Feb. 10
52	41	42	Feb. 11
42	13	21	Feb. 12
40	14	35	Feb. 13

Precipitation:
Feb. 7—Trace of snow.
Feb. 12—Trace.

Plans Are Made For Basketball Tournaments

Mr. S. F. Horton of Sugar Grove, member of the Class A district committee attended a meeting of the committee in Statesville Monday, when the sectional and district basketball tournaments were set up.

Twenty-two schools qualified in the sectional tournament which will be played March 5 and 6. Group one will play at Appalachian State Teachers College gym; group two in Concord Recreational Center, Concord; group three, Pfeiffer Junior College, Meisenheimer; group four, North Davidson School, Davidson.

The winner and runner-up at each sectional tournament will qualify for the district tournament March 10, 11, 12, 13 at Concord Recreational Center.

Pairings for the Appalachian Tourney are:
Boone-Blowing Rock, March 5, 7 o'clock, Appalachian College gym.
Mocksville, Cove Creek March 5, 8 o'clock at Appalachian College gym.
The winners will meet at the same place on the evening of March 6 for the final round.

Secretary Foresees Good 1954

The stockholders of the Watauga Building and Loan Association met Monday, elected a board of directors, and heard Secretary W. H. Gragg present a report of record progress by the Association during 1953.

Guy W. Hunt, prominent Boone merchant and former city councilman was elected as a new member of the board of directors, succeeding A. W. Smith, deceased. Hold-over members of the board who were re-elected, are: H. G. Farthing, C. M. Critcher, W. H. Gragg, Walter H. Greene, H. P. Holshouser, Howard Mast, Dr. W. M. Matheson, R. C. Rivers, Jr.

Assets \$2,144,362

Secretary Gragg pointed out that at the beginning of the year 1953 assets of the Association were \$1,603,950.30. Assets at the close of the year were \$2,144,362.34. This represents a growth of \$540,432.04, or 33.74 per cent for the year, and may be a record increase for the State.

Continuing, the Secretary's report showed that \$50,267.55 in dividends was distributed during 1953, representing the 922 savings accounts in force. The dividends were at the current rate of 3%. The number of savings accounts rose by 263 during the year.

Home loans in the amount of \$968,482.71 were issued throughout the year, with \$301,567.81 devoted to new construction. The Association helped make possible the purchase of 63 homes. One hundred and three loans were made for new construction, 63 for refinancing of loans, and 185 improvement loans. Outstanding loans now total \$1,818,373.

The reserves, says Mr. Gragg, total \$117,506.99, which is a reserve ratio of 4.74 per cent to total assets. Each account is insured up to \$10,000.

Continued Prosperity Seen
"The lesson of 1953," Mr. Gragg said, "is that savings and loan associations must continue to grow and expand, in order that they may be equipped to do the bulk of the home financing in the United States and thereby bring more stability to the home mortgage market."

He predicted that 1954 will be "another good year, with continued, if less spectacular, prosperity."

Examinations Postal Workers Are Announced

The U. S. Civil Service Commission, Atlanta, Ga., announces an open competitive examination for indefinite or permanent appointment to the positions of Substitute Clerk, Substitute Carrier and Special Delivery Messenger in the Boone, N. C., Postoffice.

Applications will be accepted from persons who reside within the delivery of the Postoffice named or who are bona fide patrons of such office. Persons employed in the Postoffice will be considered bona fide patrons of the office.

The beginning basic rate of pay for substitute clerks and substitute carriers is \$1,615 and for special delivery messengers \$1,565 per hour. Applicants must have reached their eighteenth birthday but must not have passed their fiftieth birthday on the date of filing applications. These age limits do not apply to persons entitled to Veterans' Preference.

Necessary forms and further information may be obtained from the information representative at the Boone postoffice, or from the Fifth U. S. Civil Service Regional Office, 5 Forsyth Street, N. W., Atlanta, Ga.

Corporations that publicly report their dividend payments paid out \$8,546,000.00 in 1953—two and a half per cent more than in 1952, according to the Commerce Department.