

KING STREET BY ROB RIVERS

HERE AND THERE

Juvenile delinquents make raid on Parkway Co. . . . Manager Paul Coffey reflecting on the fact that the lads didn't take a great deal of stuff, said, "they didn't have the heart . . . prices too high!" . . . The apartment of Mr. Shoaf, evangelist of the Church of Christ was ransacked the same day of the hardware store robbery. . . . The pilferers were presumably looking for currency as drawers were searched . . . Nothing was missing . . . What to do with these juveniles presents a problem to enforcement officers, and to society in general . . . Postoffice and bank observe Washington's birthday . . . otherwise wouldn't many of us think about it being another anniversary for the first President, who, maybe is better known by his cherry tree tradition than by his fathering the country . . . And of course every school child has heard of Washington tossing the silver dollar across the Potomac, or the Rappahannock, maybe it was . . . And we always think of former President Truman's remark: "There's an argument as to whether the coin used was a dollar or a dime . . . And my understanding is that the river in question was not the Potomac at all, but the Rappahannock . . . But knowing quite a bit about the acquisitiveness of the Father of our country, I don't believe he chanced unhanding either coin over either river."

BETTER PLANT THE BURLEY

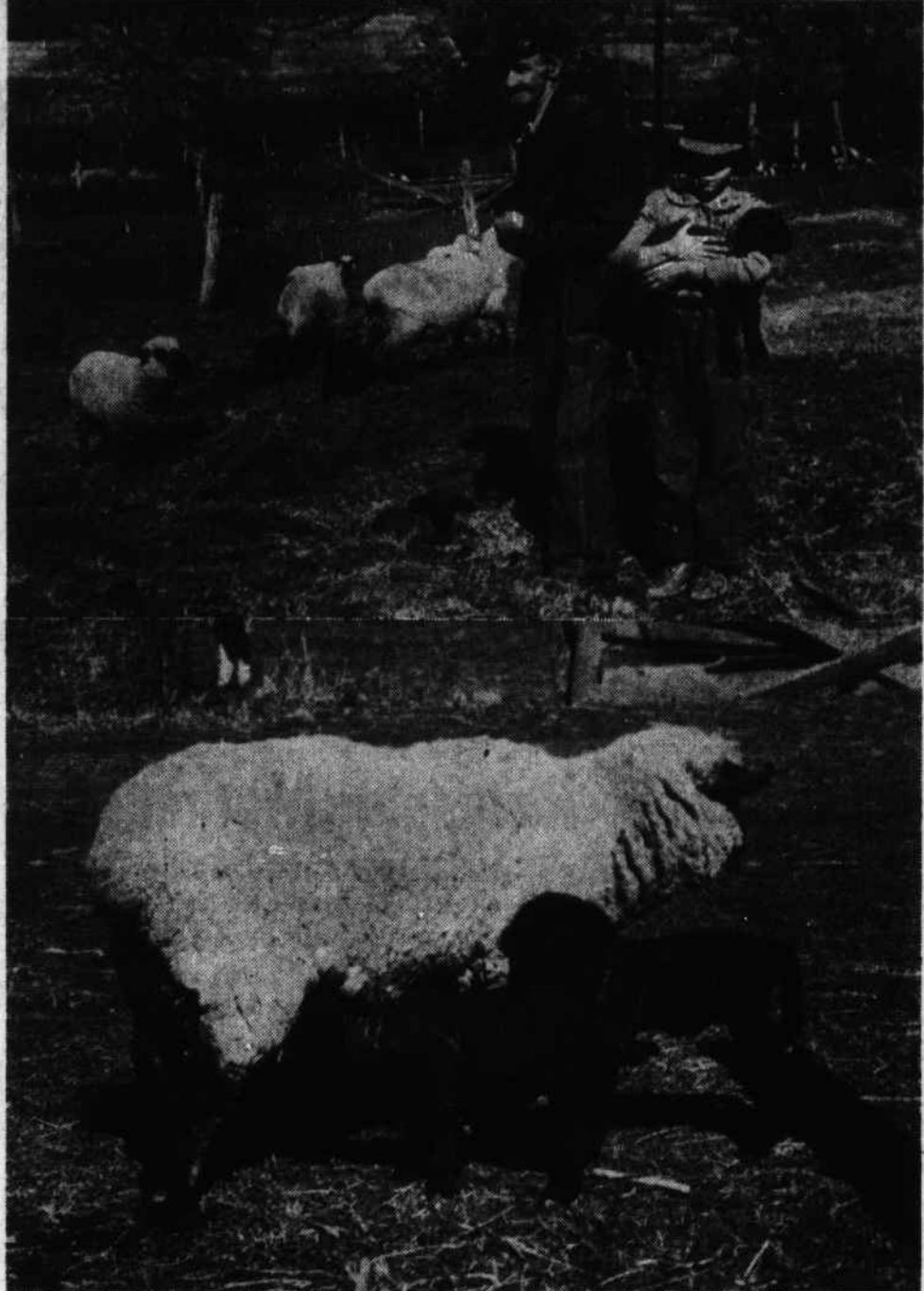
Mr. R. C. Coleman was in town the other day, stressing the fact that the farmers ought to get their tobacco beds out in good shape, and have plenty of plants for their entire acreage quotas. . . . And from our knowledge of the farm situation here last year, we believe that many of our farmers were saved by the tobacco money, when cattle prices, and cheap taters and cabbage brought distress to the area . . . The price of the weed held up!

UNWANTED PUBLICITY

Used to be that readers of a county newspaper often took violent issue with the publisher over something that appeared in print—and fact is, they still do on occasions . . . And most always the innocent looking little item which caused the trouble got by unnoticed . . . All newspapers have a store of fillers, to be used in all the little odd spaces that appear in the making up of a newspaper page . . . We had a bunch of these items, including some things we knew as "Golden Gleams" short poetry and prose verses from the literature of the ages . . . One of these little ditties by John Milton crept into print one day, and a fellow came by to get satisfaction . . . His name was Milton, he said, and he'd been quoted without leave, and had a sort of hankering we'd got him in trouble with some of his folks, who'd think he, "was printing something to have a patch of fun outen them." . . . We assured the fellow that the Milton we had in mind was a fellow long gone, who did a bit of dabble with a pen back maybe in the seventeenth century, and that the thing was only used to fill a hole . . . we didn't know for a certainty what was meant by the lines . . . He eased off a little, and some of the color went out from around his collar band . . . "I know, I was afeared that a brother in law of mine would think I wrote it, to get something on him!" . . . We read the lines again: "Him thus intent Ithuriel with his spear Touch'd lightly; for no falsehood can endure Touch of celestial temper." . . . Do ythink my folks'd lay the writin' to me," he said . . . We looked again at the visitor, and again scanned the classic lines . . . "Nope, don't think they would . . . shorely not!"

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

The hustle and bustle down at the new school, where the aim is to deliver the completed elementary plant to the folks by mid-summer . . . Excavations going forward on the new gym close by the site of the old Dougherty mill (which should have been preserved) . . . The nurses home, recently occupied down at the hospital . . . The old oak tree up on Queen Street on the old court house square. (Continued on page four)



"THE ANIMAL WITH THE GOLDEN HOOF"—Shown above holding part of their lamb crop are Mr. Roby T. Greer and his daughter, Ann. The lambs are about 48 hours old. Bottom photo shows ewe with twin lambs, a common sight on the farms of Watauga county at this time of year. Mr. Greer has been in the sheep business throughout his farming career and believes them to be the best cash producer, according to the investment.—Staff photos by Joe Minor.

Lambing Time In State's Top Sheep-Producing County

Weather

By DR. ARNOLD VAN PELT

Spring weather continued in Boone this week, with temperatures reaching a high of 67 on Monday, and maximum recordings being for the most part in the 50's and 60'. High velocity winds, nothing drastically new for Boone, but especially strong on Wednesday, collapsed the thermometer shelter; but even though the shelter is not at its correct height, temperatures will probably not be significantly in error. Prominent in the weather of the week was the rainfall on Saturday, totalling 4.31 inches, making a little over five inches for the week.

Max.	Min.	6 p.m.	Date
63	28	57	Feb. 14
67	30	55	Feb. 15
57	48	53	Feb. 16
53	28	29	Feb. 17
48	19	38	Feb. 18
51	24	43	Feb. 19
48	36	48	Feb. 20
52	39	43	Feb. 21

Precipitation:
Feb. 17—.53 in.
Feb. 18—T. T. Snow.
Feb. 20—.17 in.
Feb. 21—4.31 in.

The sale of surplus American food to the Soviet Union or its satellites has been banned.

Lambing time is harvest time for sheep producers and nearly 500 farmers in Watauga county are in the midst of harvesting their sheep crops.

Mr. L. E. Tuckwiller, Watauga county agent, said that Watauga county leads the state in number and value of sheep produced. He said the county boasted 4,500 breeding ewes in 1949, and sold more than \$80,000.00 worth of lambs and wool for that year. Since then the number of breeding ewes has increased to about 5,500 and the farmers of the county realize about \$125,000.00 income from the crop.

With these figures in mind, it is easy to see why such slogans as "Sheep are the animals with the golden hoof," "Sheep will pay the mortgage," "Good sheep do not die in debt," and others are coined.

Mr. Sam Buchanan, Extension Animal Husbandry Specialist, told farmers at the Livestock School last Tuesday that "Watauga farmers could double the sheep on the farms in the county and still not have enough sheep." It is best, however, not to put too many sheep on any one farm, usually about one ewe and lamb per acre of pasture land being the best.

Out of approximately 2,600 farms in Watauga county 500, or nearly a fifth, have one or more breeding ewes on them.

Farmers are busy now seeing that the lambs get the proper start in their lives. During the cold weather many farmers stay up at nights to make sure that the lambs, when born, get the proper attention. Careful feeding, housing, and management at this time will mean more dollars in the pocket when the lambs are sold, the county agent stressed.

Mr. Roby T. Greer, who has around 30 ewes, told the Democrat last week that he stayed up all one night seeing that the new born lambs were dry and were fed by their mothers, to give them the right start in life. After that very little attention is needed to make sheep pay off.

He readily admitted that sheep will show a profit quicker than any other livestock production he knows of. He should know, if anyone does, because he has raised sheep all his life.

Mr. Greer had several ewes with their offspring grazing around the barn to show that his efforts were not in vain. Some of the ewes had one lamb following them, while others had twins at their sides.

About the only problems confronting sheep producers, Mr. Tuckwiller said, are good fences, protection from dogs and other animals, and control of internal and external parasites.

The sheep feed requirement is (Continued on page two)

Work Rushed On Elementary School; Ready For Plaster

Work has progressed at a splendid rate on the new elementary school building. The entire building is almost ready for plaster, although there is still some additional plumbing to be installed. A sewer line to connect with the main line near the north goal of the football stadium was under construction last week, and Friday was approximately two-thirds completed. Work moved along rapidly on the line, and traffic was interrupted for only a short time on Appalachian street.

The contractor planned to start plastering on the third floor last week, but had to wait when a moisture test disclosed an excessive amount of dampness, Mr. Howell said. Plastering was expected to start Monday. The cafeteria is the most nearly completed portion of the new building.

The floor in the playroom and in the gymnasium will be of tile construction, with designs for

games laid right in the tile with colored blocks. Designs will be provided for volleyball, basketball, shuffleboard and hop-scotch.

Health Examinations

Dr. Michal and Miss Holder, of the county board of health, last Friday examined all the first grade children who did not receive complete physical examinations at the pre-school clinic last year. (Continued on page 4, 2nd section)

Vandals Raid High School; Attempt To Burn Building

Tuesday Last Day To Receive Postmaster Bids

Tuesday, March 2 is the last day applications will be accepted by the U. S. Civil Service Commission for the postmaster position in Boone.

According to an announcement by the Commission in Washington, D. C., the number of applications received so far has not been sufficient for adequate competition. The current examination was announced under new qualifications standards recently agreed upon by the Post Office Department and the Civil Service Commission. Officials of both of these agencies hope that the new examinations will attract a larger number of well-qualified applicants than has been obtained in the past.

Application forms and further information on the examination are available in the post office. The forms must be filed by the deadline with the Civil Service Commission in Washington, D. C.

New Phone Office Opens Thursday

Mr. H. M. Inabinet, manager of Southern Bell, announced that the new business office will be opened Thursday, February 25. He stated that Mrs. Jessie Warman will be in charge, and will be glad to take care of the subscriber's accounts, installation and changes of telephone numbers.

The office will be open for business from 8:30 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. Monday through Friday, except lunch period. There is a depository in the lobby of the building where payments may be deposited while the office is closed.

Mrs. Brinkman Taken By Death

Mrs. G. C. Brinkman, widow of the late Rev. Mr. Brinkman, former pastor of the Boone Methodist Church, died in the Methodist Home in Charlotte Monday at the age of 85.

Mrs. Brinkman had lived in the home since its establishment many years ago.

Funeral details were not immediately available. Mrs. Jeff Stanbury, niece of deceased, left for Charlotte, immediately when the news of Mrs. Brinkman's death came.

The Brinkmans lived in Boone for four years, and left more than thirty years ago. The present Methodist Church building, was erected during their tenure here.

Cage Tourney Starts Tuesday At Cove Creek

The second annual Watauga county junior varsity boys and girls basketball tournament will be held at Cove Creek beginning with two games on Tuesday afternoon March 2 and then following with two more games Tuesday night. The finals will be held on Thursday night. The pairings are as follows:

Girls, Cove Creek vs. Bethel, Tuesday 1:00 p. m.; Appalachian vs. Blowing Rock at 7:00 p. m. In the boys bracket Appalachian meets Bethel at 2:00 and Cove Creek and Blowing Rock meet at 8:00 Tuesday night.

Frank Baird Home Burned

The home of Frank Baird, resident of the Matney neighborhood, was completely destroyed by fire, it was learned Monday. Nothing was salvaged from the building, it is said.

Chinese Nationalist planes drop leaflets on Shanghai.

GOP Convention Set For Next Saturday

The Republican party of Watauga County will hold a county convention in the courthouse at Boone at 2 p. m. Saturday, February 26, E. D. Cook, chairman of the Watauga County Republican Executive Committee, has announced.

The purpose of the convention is to elect a county chairman, two vice-chairmen, secretary, treasurer, and other members of the

county executive committee; to elect delegates and alternates to the Senatorial, Congressional, and State conventions; and to transact such other business as might properly come before the convention.

All precinct chairmen have been notified to call meetings of their respective precincts at 2 p. m. Friday, February 26, Chairman Cook said.

New Telephone Book Is Being Distributed Here

A new telephone directory, which contains a classified section for the first time, is being distributed in Boone this week. The classified section lists, alphabetically under appropriate headings, the names, addresses and telephone numbers of business and professional telephone subscribers in the city. The directory

also includes many new and changed numbers and other helpful information.

Approximately 1200 new directories have been delivered to homes and offices, according to H. M. Inabinet, group manager for the Southern Bell Telephone Company.

The new directory has a green cover, which makes it easily distinguishable from the old grey-covered telephone book.

The new classified section, printed on yellow pages just as in other cities, is a convenient source of useful business information. It will provide telephone users with a comprehensive and convenient guide arranged to render a "Where to Buy it" reference service for the public, Mr. Inabinet pointed out.

Mr. Inabinet asks that telephone users refer to the new directory to obtain numbers they desire to call. Looking up the number helps avoid the possibility of getting a wrong number, and frequently saves time for calling party as well as the party who might be called in error. "Information" should be called only when the desired number is not listed in the directory.

Lions Make Awards At Boone Meeting

The Boone Lions Club presented perfect attendance awards at its semi-monthly meeting, held Tuesday night at the Daniel Boone Hotel, to the following members. The awards were presented by Lion Richard E. Kelley.

One-year awards went to Lions W. W. Chester, Raleigh Cottrell, Fred Gragg, Frank Payne, Joe Shackford, and J. H. Workman.

Five-year awards were presented to Lions R. D. Hodges, Sr., R. D. Hodges, Jr., Jack Mock, Leo K. Pritchett, Lee Reynolds, and J. H. Workman.

Those receiving ten-year perfect attendance awards were Lions R. H. Harmon, Edwin S. Dougherty, G. K. Moose, Guy Hunt, Paul A. Coffey, A. R. Smith, T. M. Greer, Wade E. Brown, and Gordon H. Winkler.

Ten-year Monarch Chevrons went to Lions C. W. Crawford and A. R. Smith; and a fifteen-year Monarch Chevron was presented to Lion Edwin S. Dougherty.

Annual Tri-County Basketball Tournament Begins Here Today

The annual Tri-County high school basketball tournament will begin Thursday afternoon, Feb. 25, at the Appalachian State College gymnasium at 3 p. m.

The finals in both boys and girls divisions are set for Monday night, March 1.

Teams from Watauga, Ashe, Alleghany and Avery counties will participate in the play.

The schedule for the opening round (all boys) games on Thursday follows:

3 p. m.—Lansing vs. Boone; 4—Jeffersons vs. Riverview; 7—Blowing Rock vs. Piney Creek;

Daring Raid On School Property During Downpour

Unknown vandals entered the Appalachian High School building Saturday night, stole a case of vanilla extract from the cafeteria, staged a beer party, and made an unsuccessful attempt to set the building on fire, it was revealed Monday by Dr. J. R. Shaffer, principal.

Dr. Shaffer says that local and State officers have been notified of the robbery and arson attempt. Wiremen who had been working in the attic of the school the end of the week, and again Monday, found a pile of waste paper which had been fired in a half-hearted attempt to set the place on fire. With the terrific downpour of rain Saturday, it is unlikely that the flames would have been discovered in time to save the building, if the attempt had been successful.

While the building was thoroughly ransacked, only the case of vanilla was missing, and its value was placed at \$10.

Building Was Locked

Dr. Shaffer says that Mr. Rogers, a member of the faculty, saw to it that all doors to the building were locked at 12:30 Saturday night, following the Crossnore basketball game. Sunday Mr. Isaacs, the janitor, found the outside doors open, classrooms, cafeteria and other rooms unlocked.

The principal says one window of his office was unlocked, and believes maybe entrance was effected there, and the keys taken from the office.

In the cafeteria were found eight empty beer cans and some empty vanilla bottles. Since the imbibers were using the beer with the 50% vanilla, Dr. Shaffer believes the vandals were out of the juvenile class, at least as regards tipping.

He hopes that the identity of the marauders may be established when fingerprints are taken.

Farm Meeting To Feature Talks On Fertilizer

A meeting of farmers, fertilizer dealers and agricultural workers will be held in the Grand jury room of the courthouse in Boone at 7:30 Thursday night, February 25. The purpose of the meeting is to study fertilizer recommendations from the Experiment Station, soil testing laboratory, and plant breeders so that the farmer may save money on his fertilizer needs.

Dr. E. R. Collins, in charge of Agronomy Extension has been invited to attend, also all fertilizer company representatives, who have dealers in the county.

Farmers who would like to save money on fertilizer will be welcome and invited to join in the discussion.

A set of slides will be used to illustrate the fertilizer recommendations.

Those receiving ten-year perfect attendance awards were Lions R. H. Harmon, Edwin S. Dougherty, G. K. Moose, Guy Hunt, Paul A. Coffey, A. R. Smith, T. M. Greer, Wade E. Brown, and Gordon H. Winkler.

Ten-year Monarch Chevrons went to Lions C. W. Crawford and A. R. Smith; and a fifteen-year Monarch Chevron was presented to Lion Edwin S. Dougherty.

Annual Tri-County Basketball Tournament Begins Here Today

The annual Tri-County high school basketball tournament will begin Thursday afternoon, Feb. 25, at the Appalachian State College gymnasium at 3 p. m.

The finals in both boys and girls divisions are set for Monday night, March 1.

Teams from Watauga, Ashe, Alleghany and Avery counties will participate in the play.

The schedule for the opening round (all boys) games on Thursday follows:

3 p. m.—Lansing vs. Boone; 4—Jeffersons vs. Riverview; 7—Blowing Rock vs. Piney Creek;