

KING STREET

BY
ROB RIVERS

ROAD THROUGH DEEP GAP

D. L. Wellborn, 82 years old, resident of Stony Fork township, is anxious to know who built the first public road through Deep Gap . . . Mr. Wellborn's understanding is that Daniel Boone blazed a trail through Cook's Gap or maybe Deep Gap in 1772 or 1773, but we share his uncertainty about how the doughty frontiersman traveled when he strayed from the banks of the Yadkin . . . Mr. Wellborn says his father settled in the Deep Gap section about 1848, and reared his family there . . . When the elder Wellborn came to Watauga an old road had been abandoned and a newer one was in use . . . At any rate, if anyone can supply Mr. Wellborn with information on these early roadways he would be grateful.

CAN SPEAK CALMLY. NOW

Since Boone's antique telephone system has been discarded in favor of the new, one can be heard perfectly . . . Heretofore, it was advisable, as a general rule, to speak fairly clearly, and loudly . . . The telephones have changed, but a good many of the subscribers have not and one jumps from his chair when a caller yells into one of these perfect sound-conveying instruments . . . At any rate we can now simmer down, and still be heard at the other end of the line!

WE DON'T KNOW!

The paper said the other day something about "rebel yells" bouncing off the rafters at some sort of political gathering, and a reader wants to know of us what is a rebel yell, anyway . . . And we must confess we've never been familiar with this sound, which is so strongly identified with the followers of Lee and Jackson . . . We attended the old soldier's reunions as a child, ate with them when a group spent the night, heard the stories of the fighting at Bull Run, Chickamauga and Manassas . . . Wondered how come most all the veterans were officers . . . When the gay parade was held, we kids would line up behind the long files of Confederates and march through the town while the fife and drums resounded with Sallie Gooden and Dixie . . . We are direct descendants of the rebels, have never been completely reconstructed, but what's a rebel yell? . . . And honestly, long as we've been part and parcel of the land of the Confederacy, we just don't know what the heck a rebel yell is . . . believe it or not!

A RUN FOR THE STETSON

The guy was running down the road yelling . . . It was snowing and blowing, and we couldn't hear what he was saying . . . Finally deduced that maybe a car had skidded from the road, and help was needed . . . We nearly reached the racing figure when he reached his goal . . . His hat had blown from the cab of his truck, and he'd wanted someone to "head it off!" . . . Nothing is more exasperating or calculated to limber one up better than a race after a fedora caught in a fifty mile gale.

REFLECTIONS ON YOUTH

Youngsters parked along the street in broad daylight, sneaking a kiss now and then, and looking down the street through the rose-tinted lenses of youth . . . Passerby vows the girls and boys have forsaken the conventions so cherished by their fathers and that they're well on the road to destruction . . . Some of them could be . . . But the complainant has probably forgotten the antics in the buggy along the lonesome mountain road, before there was traffic . . . And the kids of yesterday aren't saying much about the chicken stew which were so popular a few years ago . . . (the chickens being lifted off the roof of a neighbor) . . . And the theft of melons in the summer time from the premises of the lowlands . . . and the prohibition parties with the home brew and the white mule and stuff . . . Nope the kids who're petting a bit along the street in plain view, and dancing in the presence of their staid elders aren't such unruly youngsters . . . They would have been called sissies in papa's day.

Cove Creek Wins Tri-County Tourney; Takes 64 In A Row



Completing their second regular basketball season without defeat, the Cove Creek High School Red Raiders climaxed what may be a State record by defeating Blowing Rock handily in the finals of the Tri-County Tournament Tuesday night of last week. Saturday they won the district play-off

from Blowing Rock, and will compete in the Class A district play-off at Concord. The Raiders closed the season with twenty-six victories this year, to run their regular season consecutive string to 64. Pictured are members of Coach John Bingham's invincible team. Left to right, front row: Jim Swift, Bill Ban-

ner, Ted Greene, Marion Combs, George Mast, Jim West. Back row: Charlie Love, Joe McNeil, Houston Younce, Douglas Henson, John Banner and Bobby Henson. Absent when this picture was made is Clay Verne Greene, who has been a big factor in their success.—Photo by Rabbit Moretz.

Boone Negro, Held For Theft, Admits Wielding Arson Torch



TELEPHONE CHAIRMAN DIALS—H. Grady Farthing, chairman of the telephone committee of the Boone Chamber of Commerce, makes an early call over the new dial system from the business office of the company on East King Street, shortly after the changeover was effected last Wednesday. Looking on is Stanley A. Harris, who is a member of the Chambers' rural telephone committee.—Staff photo by Joe Minor.

Red Cross Campaign Begins Here March 17

March is Red Cross Month the nation over, and Watauga County is no exception, it was stated this week by Mr. M. Eber Hudson, head of the local Red Cross chapter. Mr. Clyde Eggers, chairman of the local Red Cross fund campaign for 1954, announces that he and his committee, Mr. Clyde R. Greene and the Rev. E. F. Troutman, are busy making plans for the county.

An extensive two weeks are

St. Patrick's Ball Saturday

It will be a great day for the Irish Saturday, March 13, at the ASTC Boy's Gymnasium, when the Home Economics Department sponsors the annual St. Patrick's Dance.

Good music by the Kampus Kats of Lenoir Rhyne College, refreshments, and gaiety will be the order of the evening, lasting from 8:45 p. m. until 12:30. The decorations will carry out the theme, "My Wild Irish Rose." Fun is in store for everyone. Students and faculty members may secure free tickets in the cafeteria from Wednesday to Saturday from a student council member.

New Manager For Mayview

Mayview Manor, 200-room resort hotel at Blowing Rock, will open for the 1954 summer season under new management. Richard S. Wright and Lawrence J. Boyle, operators of the Moraine Hotel, a year round resort convention hotel on Lake Michigan near Chicago, have leased Mayview from the owner, T. H. Broyhill of Lenoir. Mayview was operated for the past several seasons by Milton Chapman of Florida.

John Marshall Witherspoon, 25-year-old Boone Negro, has been charged with arson and is being held in Watauga County Jail in lieu of \$10,000 bond in connection with the fire which destroyed the home of Della Horton Saturday night, February 27.

Witherspoon, who was in jail under \$500 bond for robbing the cash drawer of Creed's Cafe of \$23 Monday morning, confessed Friday to Sheriff E. D. Cook and Chief Deputy Wiley Day that he climbed in a back window with some matches and paper and set fire to the Horton house, where he was a roomer. Della Horton was out of town at the time.

He told Sheriff Cook that he had no reason for setting the fire, and was not mad at anyone. Bond was set in the arson case at a hearing Saturday before Justice of the Peace G. M. Watson.

Witherspoon was also a roomer in the home of John and Bessie Jones, aged Negro couple who died in the fire which destroyed their home in July, 1952. Another Boone Negro, Albert Anderson, confessed to setting that fire, and is now serving a life sentence in the state prison.

When the Jones home burned, Witherspoon testified at Anderson's trial that he came home soon after midnight and saw Anderson drunk standing near the house with a can containing kerosene.

Anderson confessed to Sheriff Cook and said he set fire to the Jones couple's home because they were allowing his estranged wife to room there, saying she would "come back to me if they would not allow her to stay there."

Witherspoon was not implicated in the burning of the Jones home at Anderson's trial.

"Horn" Auditions Set For Saturday

Auditions for members of the chorus, men dancers, speaking parts, crowd scenes and children's parts for "Horn in the West" will be held on Saturday, March 13, at 9:00 a. m. The announcement was made here this week by Mr. Gordon Nash, chairman of the audition advisory committee.

The singers will be auditioned for the chorus in the auditorium of the Fine Arts Building on the campus of Appalachian State Teachers College. Dr. Wilton Mason, director of music for the drama, will be at the building to begin the auditions at 9 o'clock. Men dancers will be auditioned in the women's gymnasium on the ASTC campus, also beginning at 9 o'clock. Boys below the age of sixteen will not be auditioned. Auditions for the speaking parts, the crowd scenes, and the children's parts will be held at the Daniel Boone Theatre.

1,561 High School Students To Gather For Area Music Contests

Mayor Winkler Flicks Switch To Start New Phone Operation

The Southern Bell Telephone Company's most modern dial system was placed in service here Wednesday, March 3, when Mayor Gordon H. Winkler pulled the switch to signal the changeover from the old "crank-type" phones at 12 o'clock noon at the new plant on East King Street.

The maze of intricate equipment at the plant set up an immediate and incessant humming, flashing, and clicking, indicating that many subscribers were waiting with receiver to ear and finger poised, ready to start dialing as soon as the dial tone came through.

Dr. B. B. Dougherty, president of Appalachian State Teachers College, completed a call to Governor William B. Umstead at Raleigh from the business office of the plant soon after the new system became operative. He said the Governor remarked during the course of their brief chat that "Watauga County people live longer than anybody else" and that he was looking forward to seeing Dr. Dougherty the next time he came to Raleigh.

Mr. C. L. Lott of Charlotte, state manager of Southern Bell who was here for the ceremony, also talked with the Governor, and said Mr. Umstead indicated that he was "mighty proud" of the modern plant in Boone, and well pleased with the large number of new telephone installations throughout the state.

Mr. H. M. Inabinet of Lenoir, the company's group manager who was in charge of installing the new system, said the changeover marked the climax of a lot of planning and work over a period of several months. "The telephone company is anxious," he said, "that the citizens of Watauga County enjoy using their dial telephones, and suggests that they refer to the directory before dialing."

A booklet of instructions has been mailed to all subscribers, and new directories have been delivered listing the new dial numbers, together with instructions for service and emergency calls.

Those present to witness the changeover ceremony also included H. Grady Farthing, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce telephone committee, Wade E. Brown, Clyde R. Greene, Russell D. Hodges, W. R. Winkler, Sahley A. Harris, W. H. Gragg, and Bill Garvey.

Sixteen Apply For P. O. Exams

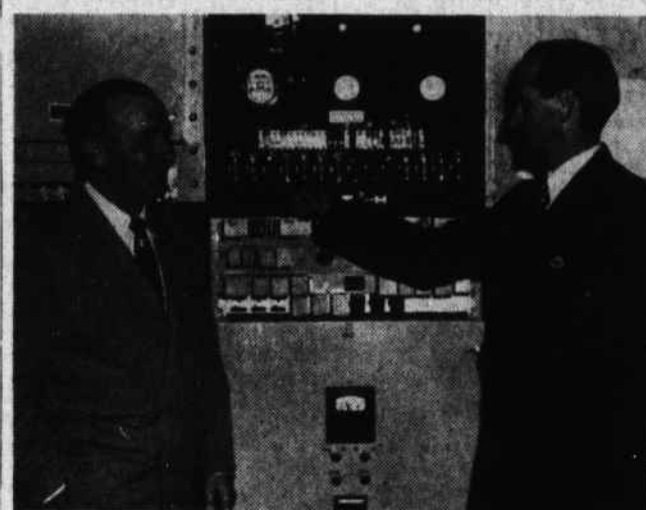
Sixteen local citizens have applied to take examinations for the postmastership in Boone, it is announced by the Civil Service Commission. They are: Lyle B. Cook, Jonathan W. Norris, Bert W. Ellis, Clint W. Cannon, James A. Dugger, James P. Marsh, Ralph L. Beshears, Boyd R. Dougherty, Cloyd S. Bolick, John W. Wellborn, Spencer M. Miller, Morris W. Barnett, J. D. Miller, Walter H. Brown, Jonathan A. Moretz, John D. Marsh.

J. Wilson Norris, local Civil Service representative, says that the date for the examination has not been set.

Lyle B. Cook is acting postmaster.

Tri-State Area To Be Promoted

The scenic Grandfather and Roan Mountain regions of the Blue Ridge mountains of North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia is to be promoted by the Tri-State Highlands Association with headquarters in Johnson City, Tennessee. The area is bounded on the south by the Blue Ridge Parkway, most travelled of all National Park facilities, and includes the Linville Gorge area, now under development by the National Park Service, and the North Carolina Blue Ridge resorts of Linville, Blowing Rock and Boone.



MAYOR SIGNALS USE OF DIAL PHONES—Mayor Gordon H. Winkler, in top photo, pulls the switch at the new Boone plant of the Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company, signalling the changeover to dial telephones at 12 noon last Wednesday, as H. M. Inabinet of Lenoir, group manager for the company, looks on. In bottom photo, Dr. B. B. Dougherty, president of Appalachian State Teachers College, makes the first official call over the new system to Governor William B. Umstead in Raleigh. Standing is Mr. C. L. Lott, state manager of the company.—Photos by Paul Weston.

Appalachian Band To Give Spring Concert

Younce Home Is Razed By Flames

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Olin Younce in the Mabell community was completely destroyed by fire Sunday afternoon. The two-story frame structure burned to the ground in little more than an hour from the time the blaze was discovered, it was reported.

Mr. Younce, who operates a dry cleaning establishment, Hi-Land Cleaners, in Boone, said he was sitting in the living room watching television with his six-year-old son, George, about 2:30 o'clock when he saw smoke coming from under the bedroom door and from the head of the stairs leading up from the living room. Mrs. Younce, together with Mr. Younce's mother, Mrs. Mae Younce who lived with them, and his sister-in-law, Mrs. Margaret Younce who lives nearby, had gone to West Jefferson for the afternoon. A son, Jerry, 15, was also away from home in the neighborhood, and returned to find the fire raging.

The television set, a refrigerator, and several chairs were saved, but everything else was destroyed "except the clothes on our backs," Mr. Younce said.

The Younces said they had recently built a new front porch, and had done considerable remodeling inside the house.

The house was partially covered by insurance, but the furniture and other contents were not insured, Mr. Younce said.

Faulty electric wiring is believed to have been the cause of the fire.

The Appalachian High School Band directed by Mr. Roy Blanton and the Junior High School Band, directed by Mr. Don Knowland will present a concert Friday evening March 12, at 7:30, at the music building auditorium.

Both bands will be wearing their new uniforms for the first time. This concert was arranged so that the parents and citizens of Boone could have an opportunity to see the bands perform in their colorful uniforms. The senior band will be wearing a double breasted coat of scarlet red and light grey trousers with a scarlet red stripe. The Junior High Band will wear a navy blue double breasted coat with white pants.

A very interesting program has been arranged including three contest selections the band will play in the district contest March 18. These selections are: Huldigungsarsch by Grieg Dixie Carnival by Wilson, and Dorian Overture by Whitney. Also included on the program will be marches, novelty selections and popular numbers.

The members of both bands would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents, merchants and many friends of the bands for their work and liberal donations in securing the new uniforms.

A reception will be held in the chorus room immediately after the concert and everyone is invited to attend.

Nuclear chemists at the University of California have announced that they have produced in a testing reactor and identified Element 100, as yet unnamed.

13 Counties Are Represented In Area Competition

The Department of Music of Appalachian State Teachers College will play host to 1,561 high school students from thirteen counties in northwest North Carolina on Wednesday and Thursday, March 17th and 18th, when they gather here for the annual district contests.

Glee Clubs, choral groups, bands, and piano students will perform before committees of judges. Judges for the choral groups will be Mr. Elwood Roberts of Mars Hill Junior College; Mrs. Katherine Detmold, supervisor of music of the Winston-Salem city schools and Forrester Whitaker of the Music Education Department of Meredith College, Raleigh. The choral groups will perform on Wednesday.

On Thursday, the twelve bands and twenty-two piano students will perform. The committee of judges for the bands are Mr. Kenneth Moore and Mr. John Satterfield of Davidson College and Mr. David Price of Western Carolina College. The piano judge will be Mr. Phillip Morgan of Womans College, Greensboro.

Both band and choral groups will perform in the auditorium of the Fine Arts Building, and the piano contests will be in the auditorium of the Administration Building.

Bands and piano students receiving superior and excellent ratings will be permitted to go on to Greensboro in April and participate in the state contest. This is the second year that Appalachian State Teachers College has been host to the newly organized contest system which is under supervision of the Music Education Association of North Carolina.

Mr. Gordon Nash, chairman of the Department of Music, is serving as chairman of the contests. He is being assisted by other music faculty members, including Mrs. Virginia Wary Linney and Mr. W. Hoyt Safrit, who are helping with the choral groups; Mr. William Spencer, Mr. Nicholas Erneston, and Mrs. Dorothy E. Kemp, who are helping with the bands; and Mr. James Rooker and Mr. Walton Cole, assisting with the piano students. Various student assistants will help make the contests a success by taking care of registration, refreshment stands, helping the judges, etc.

The twenty high schools which will be represented are as follows:

Appalachian, Cliffside, Drexel, Glen Alpine, Granite Falls, Hickory, Lenoir, Marion, Morganton, Newton-Conover, North Wilkesboro, Spruce Pine, West Yadkin, West Mecklenburg, Wilkes Central, Burnsville, Marion, Lincoln, Valdes, and Forest City.

Weather

March's lion roared this week, and Boone was under snow and suffering high winds. Although many Bonites found up to 7 or 8 inches in their back yards, this observer could record only 3 inches for the initial snowfall.

Max.	Min.	6 p.m.	Date
50	20	22	March 1
43	20	35	March 2
35	20	20	March 4
22	22	21	March 4
27	13	22	March 5
30	11	25	March 6
45	20	40	March 7

*This recording is obviously in error. The temperature here was probably a few degrees above zero.

Precipitation: March 1—3:10 in. 3 in. snow on ground.

March 2—0.01 in.; 4 in. snow on ground.

March 3—0.15 in.; 4 in. snow on ground.

March 4—3 in. snow on ground. March 5—2 in. snow on ground. March 6—2 in. snow on ground. March 7—1 in. snow on ground.

Southeastern farmers have appealed for Federal help as drought again threatens the Dust Bowl.