

KING STREET BY ROB RIVERS

OLD SHOW HOUSE REOPENS

The Pastime Theatre, Boone's first movie house, has been reopened by a son of its founder, A. E. Hamby, Jr. . . . The up-town theater has been fully remodeled and redecored, and the improvement adds greatly to the sightliness of the block . . .



ANCIENT COURT SCENE—A special jury which tried the homicide case in which Luther Banner was charged with slaying of a Mr. Cline of Banner Elk, at the April term of Watauga Superior Court in 1908.

Democrat the old picture and identifies the last three on the right standing, as Roby Wilson, F. M. Thomas, and J. H. Wallace. Seated, fourth from the left, is Joe S. Winkler of Boone.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Tourists begin to frequent the highways of the region in increasing numbers as the balmy breezes of spring arrive with the first blossoms . . . High School Seniors proudly displaying copies of their yearbooks, and having them autographed by all their friends, to provide priceless mementos for the years ahead . . .

Winkler Makes Monthly Report Road Improvement

Raleigh.—W. Ralph Winkler, Commissioner of the Eleventh State Highway Division, said this week that 5.1 miles of roads had been improved in his division during March.

In Ashe, the 16 foot wide road from county road near Ashe Hospital for 0.3 miles to Pell Bowers resident. Two 12 foot wide roads, and their lengths, were graded and graveled: from US 221 near Wade Bare residence northward to Waugh Place, 0.7 mile; and from Horse Creek Church near Joe Hampton residence to Osborne School, 0.3 mile.

In Caldwell, State forces re-graded, drained and surfaced the County Road (Mulberry Creek) for 1.2 miles. The old road was 16 feet wide, the new one is 20 feet wide.

In Watauga, State forces graded and stone surfaced three 12 foot wide roads, and their lengths: Winebarger Road, 0.4 mile; Rush Bridge Road (Beaver Dam), 0.5 mile; and county road near Rominger, 0.4 mile.

Auto License Office To Close

The drivers' license office will be closed Friday April 16, from 8:30 till 1 p. m., it is announced by license examiner W. R. Stansberry. Mr. Stansberry will be in attendance at a driver examiner meeting in Asheville.

Music, Art Contest Set For Thursday

The annual music and art contest sponsored by the Boone Worthwhile Woman's Club for school children of Watauga County will be held in the First Baptist Church Thursday at 2 p. m.

Davis Sees Brighter Days For This Area



PFC. AVERY E. HARMON

Last Rites Held For Pfc. Harmon; Succumbs In Korea

Funeral services were held Tuesday, April 6, at the Brushy Fork Baptist Church for Pfc. Avery E. Harmon, 20, who died February 28 while on duty with the U. S. Army in Korea.

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Chester Davis, member of the editorial board of the Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel, told the Boone Chamber of Commerce Tuesday that the Northwest North Carolina Development Association is beginning to function, and outlined its goals, as guest speaker at the Chamber's monthly luncheon meeting.

The association, organized last fall on a regional basis comprising a nine-county area, has a four-point program of development, he said, covering Industry, Agriculture, Community Development, and Travel & Recreation.

In discussing the Agriculture division, Mr. Davis said northwest North Carolina farmers failed to plant 4800 acres of their tobacco allotment last year, which represented a loss of about \$5 million in income.

He said there is a great need for a regional meat processing plant to keep pace with the area's rapidly growing beef production.

The Community Development program offers a challenge to every community in the area to sponsor local improvements, said Mr. Davis, and to organize its people at the community level.

Filing Date For Weed Growers 15th

The closing date for filing 1954 Burley tobacco combinations and divisions is May 15. All applications should be filed with the County ASC Committee before this date.

Easter Sunrise Service To Be Held At Daniel Boone Theatre

Antique Autos To Make Tour To Boone

Winston-Salem, N. C. April 12.—North Carolina's antique automobile owners will take to the hills this summer in a 300-mile exhibition tour from Laurinburg to Boone.

N. F. Keiger, Jr. of Winston-Salem said yesterday that the state chapter of the Horseless Carriage Club of America will head for the mountains instead of the sea in its third annual antique auto tour.

Mr. Keiger, a member of the state board, said the tour will begin July 15 at Laurinburg and travel through Rockingham, Monroe, Charlotte and Hickory. The antique autos are scheduled to arrive in Boone on July 17.

Approximately 50 antique automobiles, ranging from 1904 to 1929 models, are expected to attempt the mountain trip.

The Horseless Carriage Club made its 300-mile tour last year from Laurinburg, through Raleigh and Wilmington, to Windy Hill Beach, S. C. A similar trip was made by a different route in 1952 from the state club's

Judge Pless Will Preside At Spring Court Session

Hon. J. W. Pless, Jr., will preside at the spring term of Watauga Superior Court, which convenes next Monday for the trial of criminal cases.

About 160 cases are to be tried most of which involve the commission of misdemeanors. Perry Greer, is still being sought as the principal offender in a rape case, in which a 15 year old Caldwell county girl is involved.

Sixteen Men Comprise April Quota For Army

Sixteen men comprise Watauga's April quota under the selective service act. They are: Volunteers: Robert C. Thomas, Isaacs M. Greene, Joseph W. McConnell, Henry P. Yates, Bobby E. Miller.

Regular inductees: George A. Presnell, Glenn A. Reese, Samuel D. Ellison, Thomas B. Cooke, Joe K. Holman, Max R. Potter, Rufus A. Earp, Robert L. McGuire, Thomas R. Warren, James M. Presnell, Shelton J. Hammons.

President Eisenhower has urged expansion of international trade as the best insurance against statism.

Cp. Hayes Killed In Action

Corporal Louie R. Hayes, who was reported missing in action in Korea July 25, 1950, has been officially declared dead by the War Department.

According to information received by the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roby Hayes of Sugar Grove, he died en route to a prison camp in North Korea October 20, 1950.

Corporal Hayes, better known as Russell Hayes by his many friends and relatives, was fatally injured while bravely serving his country in action with an infantry division.



TRUMAN CRITCHER

Critcher Files Candidacy For Clerk Of Court

Truman Critcher of Blowing Rock has filed his candidacy for the Republican nomination for the office of Clerk of the Superior Court, subject to the action of the Republican primary of May 29th.

Mr. Critcher is a son of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Critcher and is a student at Appalachian State Teachers College, where he will graduate next summer.

Watauga Leads In Ratio Hospital Births

Watauga and Haywood top North Carolina's 100 counties in the ratio of hospital births. On the basis of statistics for the calendar year 1952, 98.55 per cent of Watauga's 414 live births and 98.32 of Haywood's 776 were in hospitals.

The ratio for the state was 70.4 per cent and for the nation 88 per cent.

In Buncombe, 2,577 (88.98 per cent) of the 2,742 live births were in hospitals; the other 102 were attended by midwives. Of the 2,416 white births, 97.51 were in hospitals.

Statistics for other Western North Carolina counties: Avery 91 per cent of 34 births in hospitals, Burke 94.83 per cent of 1,026, Cherokee 89 per cent of 399, Clay 59 per cent of 105, Graham 95.87 of 162, Henderson 92.89 of 732, Jackson 76.48 of 387, McDowell 92.18 of 512, Macon, 63.68 of 358, Madison 72.03 of 422, Mitchell 86.29 of 321, Polk 84.4 of 218, Rutherford 68 per cent of 1038, Swain 2 of 258, Transylvania 77.54 of 374, and Yancey 80.67 of 326.

Business Houses To Close Doors On Easter Monday

A majority of Boone business places, including the Northwestern Bank, will observe Easter Monday, April 19, as a holiday by remaining closed all day in accordance with a recommendation by the Merchants Association.

Easter Monday will not be a holiday at the post office, however, said Acting Postmaster Lyle Cook. Regular hours will be observed, he said.

Town and county offices will also be open as usual, due to the fact that the spring term of Watauga Superior Court convenes Monday, April 19.

Stores which normally close Wednesday afternoon are remaining open all day Wednesday, April 14, before Easter, but will be closed as usual Wednesday afternoon, April 21.

Weather

By DR. ARNOLD VAN PELT. Temperatures this week were milder than last, with a high of 75. Intermittent showers occurred almost every day.

Table with 4 columns: Max, Min, 6 p.m., Date. Rows for April 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

Precipitation: April 7—0.47 in.; April 8—0.11 in.; April 9—0.05 in.; April 10—0.01 in.; April 11—0.05 in.

Ministerial Group Sponsors Union Service

The climax of the Holy Week observance will be reached in Boone with the Easter Sunrise Service, which will be held in the Daniel Boone Theatre Sunday morning at 8:15, under the sponsorship of the Boone Ministerial Association.

The Rev. J. K. Parker, Jr., is general chairman for the event, which will be presided over by the Rev. C. A. Foss.

The High School Band will participate, and a Community Choir, composed of members of the choirs of the different churches of the town, will be directed by Mrs. Virginia Wary Linney, of Appalachian State Teachers College.

The volunteer members of the choir should assemble together with band members at the Methodist Church from 5 to 5:30 a.m. Coffee and doughnuts are to be served at the Methodist Church at 5 o'clock.

Following is the program for the union service: Prelude, by the Appalachian High School Band.

Choir sings "Low in the Grave He Lay." Rev. Parker announces "Christ the Lord Is Risen!" with the congregation joining in. Choir sings "Up from the Grave He Arose."

Congregation, led by Rev. Mr. Foss, sings "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!" Interlude of Band music. Scripture reading by the Revs. Rex West and Mr. Parker.

Responsive reading led by the Rev. Edwin F. Troutman. Prayer, led by the Rev. C. O. Vance.

Easter meditation by the Rev. L. H. Hollingsworth. Congregation sings "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name." Benediction, led by the Rev. J. T. Shackford.

Postlude by the band.

Jones L. Storie Taken By Death

Jones L. Storie, 62, died at his home on Oak Street at about 6:30 a. m. Tuesday, April 13. He had been in failing health for several years, and seriously ill for the past two weeks.

Mr. Storie was born in Caldwell County, but came to Boone at the age of 14, and had been a resident of this city since that time.

Surviving in addition to his widow are two sons, James Storie, Blowing Rock, and Jones L. Storie, Jr., on duty with the U. S. Navy at Pearl Harbor; three brothers, H. S. Storie, Boone; Josh Storie, Lenoir, Route 1; and Jesse Storie, New York City; two sisters, Mrs. Arkie Hampton, Blowing Rock, Route 1; and Mrs. Guass Teams, Banner Elk, Route 1.

Funeral arrangements are being delayed, pending the arrival of Jones L. Storie, Jr., from Pearl Harbor.

Miss Geer One Of Leaders At Wake Forest

Wake Forest.—Eleanor Geer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rex Geer of 110 Carolina Avenue, Boone, has been selected as one of the 10 outstanding seniors in this year's graduating class at Wake Forest College.

A biology major, Miss Geer is a member of Tassels, women's leadership organization, and Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. She is treasurer of the Women's Government Association and a veteran of College Theater work. She also has worked on the staffs of the student radio station and annual.

New Paintings Of First Good Friday



As the Lenten season draws to a close, the great drama of Holy Week is recalled by Christians everywhere. The day of the crucifixion—Good Friday—is especially revered and the events of the dark day stand out sharply in the pattern of the Holy Week scenes.

Christians of all faiths will be interested in the announcement of the new religious masterpieces painted by the American artist, Ben Stahl, and depicting the journey of Jesus from Pilate's house to Calvary's hill.

Ebbing military morale spurs the resignations of officers.