

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT
Published Every Thursday by
RIVERS PRINTING COMPANY
BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA

R. C. RIVERS, JR. Publisher

An Independent Weekly Newspaper
Established in 1889 and published for 45 years by
the late Robert C. Rivers, Sr.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

In Watauga County	Outside Watauga County
One Year \$2.00	One Year \$2.50
Six Months 1.50	Six Months 1.75
Four Months 1.00	Four Months 1.25

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS
In requesting change of address, it is important to mention the OLD, as well as the NEW address.

Entered at the postoffice at Boone, N. C., as second class mail matter, under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

"The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first objective should be to keep that right, and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without government, I should not hesitate a moment to choose the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive these papers and be capable of reading them." — Thomas Jefferson.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 1954

Blue Ridge consumers. Based on the returns it is reported that 3,279 consumers have coffee makers, 1,777 have electric heaters, 1,300 have electric freezers, 2,278 have electric heating pads, 2,584 have electric mixers, 4,205 have electric ranges, 3,192 have vacuum cleaners, 3,480 have electric water pumps, 2,983 have television, 2,452 have waffle irons, 9,746 have electric washers, and 10,489 have electric refrigerators. In addition, there are a good many rural customers with other electric equipment, such as farm chore motors, brooding machines, feed grinders, hay cutters, and many others. These figures will be greatly augmented when those who expect to buy will have bought their equipment. For instance, 1,300 have electric freezers and 905 expect to buy; 2,988 have television and 1,235 expect to buy; 3,192 have water heaters and 845 expect to buy, and so on for the other equipment."

STRETCH'S SKETCHES
by
"STRETCH" ROLLINS



It's A Great Game

The biennial season of "pointing with pride" by the incumbents, "viewing with alarm" by the challengers, and "looking at the record" (but not too closely, please) is upon us once more, as many public office holders prepare to defend their titles in the political arena.

Between now and primary time (which in most cases marks the end of the season for this state) contestants will woo the populace via the air lanes, the newspapers, posters, handbills, and in person, in an all-out effort to gain the decision.

It's the season when a politician is not so interested in what the voters stand for as in what they'll fall for. And incidentally, the seemingly forthright statement, "I'm running on my record," by an office holder seeking reelection, doesn't always nor necessarily carry as much weight as he would like us to believe. After all, what else has he got to run on?

Reminiscent of the baby-kissing, back-slapping, hand-shaking politician of yesteryear is a piece by the late Will Rogers, published in May, 1926, and containing the lament of a candidate for governor of Rogers' home state, Oklahoma:

"I kissed 6,000 babies, helped 42 voters thresh wheat, shook hands with everybody in the state, smoked 3,000 sacks of Bull Durham, cut 22 cords of wood, helped brand 8,000 calves, sprayed 4,000 of them, was sprinkled eight times in Methodist churches, totally immersed in cold water in muddy creeks three times by the Baptists, went to confession in every Catholic town, paid dues to eleven synagogues, joined the Holy-Rollers, listened to 800 Kiwanis, Lions, and Rotary speeches, bought a sheet and pillowcase in every Ku Klux Klan in the state—and then I was defeated!"

Then there was the Senator, who, when asked if he thought he influenced public opinion, replied: "No, public opinion is like a mule I once owned. In order to keep up the appearance of being the driver, I had to watch where he was going and follow closely."

It's a great game, is politics. Requires skill, stamina, and above all, a thick hide. But everybody can play.

Baptists In White House; Error Cited

The State magazine says only one Baptist has been President of the country. We don't know whether Warren G. Harding or Harry S. Truman is referred to, since our book shows that both were members of the Baptist Church.

Interestingly enough, one Congregationalist, Calvin Coolidge, occupied the White House, Garfield was the lone member of the Disciples of Christ, while the Episcopalian Church takes the top billing, and lists nine of its members as having been President. They are: Washington, Madison, Monroe, William Henry Harrison, Tyler, Taylor, Pierce, Arthur, and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Hoover is the sole Quaker in the list of top executives. There were four Methodists: Polk, Johnson, Grant, McKinley; six Presbyterians: Jackson, Buchanan, Cleveland, Benjamin Harrison, Wilson, Eisenhower. Van Buren and Theodore Roosevelt were allied with Reformed Dutch, while John Adams, John Quincy Adams, Fillmore and Taft were Unitarians.

Jefferson and Lincoln did not claim church membership, but Jefferson leaned to the Unitarian belief. Hayes attended the Methodist Church but never joined.

Our Early Files

Sixty Years Ago
Items from the Democrat of April 19, 1894.

J. C. Horton is spoken of as a suitable man for the Legislature, also the names of Sheriff Baird, A. J. Fletcher and others are mentioned.

United States Commissioner W. L. Bryan, Deputy Collector R. L. Council and Deputy Marshal Colvard are attending Federal court in Statesville this week.

Benjamin Green of Blowing Rock, has proven himself the champion fox hunter of the country. He writes that he killed six red foxes last Monday.

There will be an important meeting of the stockholders of the Boone and Blowing Rock turnpike company held in Boone Saturday the 21st inst.

Democratic absenteeism continues and it is shameful for members of Congress to act in such a way. Their constituents ought and will retire them to private life.

It is sad news to us all to hear of the death of Senator Vance. Perhaps no man was so beloved by the people of North Carolina as was Zebulon Baird Vance. Judge Armfield is the man the Western part of the State would be pleased with as Senator Vance's successor.

Benefits Of REA Shown In Tabulation

The North Carolina Rural Electrification Authority states that Watauga county now has 672.26 miles of rural electric lines in the county, serving 3,305 consumers, or one-sixth of the entire population of the county.

In the political discussions which have taken place around the social and economic reforms of the past twenty years, the good, clean, hard grain of progress has all too often been left unnoticed by those who are wont to stir about in the chaff of political expediency.

The REA is a shining example of something definite which has been done for the country in general, and specifically for Watauga county. Electricity has brought added convenience to our rural people, doing away with a lot of drudgery, and supplanting conveniences and comforts undreamed of a few years ago. The markets for electric appliances and gadgets of every sort has been immeasurably widened, contributing mightily to the economic well-being of the country.

The State REA report gives some figures about appliances owned by members of the Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation, which serves Watauga and other counties. Copied from the University News Letter, the report says:

Questionnaires were mailed to 12,710

Thirty-Nine Years Ago

Mr. and Mrs. Yancey Moore of Lenoir, were guests at the Critcher house Monday night. Mr. Moore is one of the owners of the Blowing Rock Automobile Line.

Mr. David R. Shearer has surveyed and located the line for the electric plant at the A. T. S. Cards will soon be out announcing contracts. Those wishing electric lights in their homes and business places can have them.

Mr. A. E. Hamby and Miss Mildred Critcher of New River, were married at the Blair Hotel Sunday afternoon, Prof. Downum officiating.

The marriage of Mr. Jack Johnson and Miss Hattie Swift on Thursday the 15th came as a surprise to their many friends. They were united in marriage by the Rev. Mr. Walters.

Never before in the history of Charlotte has the city been stirred so profoundly and universally as by the death of Mrs. Stonewall Jackson. She was the city's most cherished citizen, and no occasion was complete without her benign presence.



Miss Cora Pearl Jeffcoat announces the engagement of Lois Virginia Townsend of Boone, North Carolina, to A-1c Bobby Joe McSwain of Shelby, North Carolina. A summer wedding is being planned. —Photo Palmer's Photo Shop.



Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Miller of Deep Gap announce the engagement of their daughter, Sara Elizabeth, to A-3c Guy W. Hunt, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Hunt of Boone. The wedding will be an event of June.—Photo Palmer's Photo Shop.

Birthday Dinner

All the sons and daughters of Finley P. Hodges met at his home Sunday, April 11, for a surprise birthday dinner. All were present, except one son, Robert D., who is a student at State College.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Howard Wilfong and children, Gay, Barbara and Randy, of Charlotte; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Dixon, Linda and Beth, Boone; Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Hodges and son, Leon, Boone; Mr. and Mrs. Burkett Younce, Route 2, Boone.

GET READY FOR SAFE DRIVING



DRIVE IN TODAY FOR A Spring Check-Up

It's time for us to look your car over, drain and refill with the proper oils, lubricate, clean it up and get it ready for a spring and summer of Smo-o-oth driving!

TRIPLETT'S Texaco Service
At Two Locations
E. KING ST - BLOWING ROCK ROAD

Local Affairs

Dean and Mrs. J. D. Rankin and Mr. E. J. Abernathy visited relatives and friends in Statesville, Salisbury, and China Grove on Sunday.

Visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Hodges Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Ed Clay and Wayne of Charlotte; Mr. and Mrs. Alton Cooke of Cleveland, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hartley and daughter, Jane, of Bristol, Tenn.; Mr. J. D. Cooke of Boone; Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Cooke and son, Bobby, of Perkinsville; and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Dixon and daughters, Linda and Beth.

Children and grandchildren spending Easter with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Cooke, were Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hartley and daughter, Jane, Bristol, Tenn.; Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Clay and sons, Wayne and Joe, Charlotte; Mr. and Mrs. Alton Cooke, Cleveland, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Cooke and son, Bobby, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Cooke, Boone. Others calling during the day were Mr. and Mrs. Finley Hodges, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Dixon and daughters, Linda and Beth, and Mrs. C. L. Hodges.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph M. Greer and Mrs. Ina Hon, sister of Mrs. Greer, of San Bernardino, Calif. arrived here Sunday for a visit with Mr. Greer's mother, Mrs. Polly Greer and other relatives. Others visiting in the Greer home recently were Mrs. John Adams, Mrs. Arthur Adams and son, Johnny, and Miss Mae Younce, Kingsport, Tenn.; Mrs. Earl Madron and daughter, Helen, Neva, Tenn.; Mrs. Don Campbell, Mrs. Freida Wilson and son, David, Thomasville, N. C.; Mrs. Mona Norris and Mrs. Ivan Farthing of Beaver Dam; and Mrs. Alice Greer of Zionville.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. William C. Surrey announce the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth Jane, at the Watauga Hospital April 14.

BOONE DRUG CO.

Your Prescription Store
PROMPT SERVICE

Three Registered Pharmacists:
G. K. Moore, W. R. Richardson,
O. K. Richardson

Store Hours: 8:30 A. M. to 9:30 P. M.
Sundays: 2:00 P. M. to 6 P. M.
If Needed after Store Hours,
Dial AM 4-3819 or AM 4-3959
The REXALL Store


HOW TO RELIEVE SKIN ITCH. IN 15 MINUTES.

If not pleased, your 40c back at any drug store. ITCH-NE-NOT has mild anesthetic to ease itch in minutes; has keratolytic, antiseptic action that sloughs off queer skin to KILL GERMS AND FUNGUS ON CONTACT. Fine for eczema, ringworm, foot itch, other surface rashes. Today at Boone Drug Co.

Complete Line of
STAR BRAND
All Leather
SHOES
FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY
HUNT'S
DEPT. STORE
Boone, N. C.



We Present a New Agent
W. M. (BILL) WILSON
has been added to the Farm Bureau insurance agency force in this area. He is prepared to help you with all your insurance needs.



Farm Bureau
Life Insurance Co.
Mutual Fire Insurance Co.
Mutual Automobile Insurance Co.
Home Office—Columbus, Ohio

Mr. W. M. (Bill) Wilson
Telephone AM 4-8642
404 W. King Street

LOW PRICED
for bigger savings!



A better deal for the man at the wheel with new

DODGE
"Job-Rated" TRUCKS

5 minutes behind the wheel will prove Dodge trucks a better deal! See or phone us now!

Despite the highest values in history, Dodge trucks are still priced with the very lowest! And look at all of these advantages: Lower loading heights • Most comfortable cabs • Best visibility of any truck • Sharpest turning of all • Widest power choice, new V-8's and famous 6's. It all adds up to a better deal... come in for a test drive and see for yourself.

BROWN & GRAHAM MOTOR CO., INC.
815 E. Main Street — Boone, N. C.

You've had a chance to size up the 1954 automobiles. You've read about, heard about all the claims for economy, performance, acceleration, endurance, roominess and ride. Now you're set to compare the facts, weigh the record.

New '54 DODGE Clinches What it Claims!



Dodge Royal V-8 Four-Door Sedan

Dodge backs up promise with proof! You get outstanding economy, proved in the Mobilgas Economy Run. You get record-breaking performance proved on the Bonneville Salt Flats. You get history-making endurance proved in the most grueling official AAA tests. If you like proved value, come see how much more Dodge offers.

DEPENDABLE '54 DODGE

PROVED America's Great Economy Eight—Dodge is the first car to combine racing performance with top economy. Dodge proved its excellent mileage in the Mobilgas Economy Run.	PROVED America's Outstanding Performer—On the Bonneville Salt Flats, Dodge shattered every record in its class for performance to demonstrate reserve-power-for-safety.
PROVED America's Top Endurance Car—in official AAA tests, the '54 Dodge traveled farther and faster than any other American car. Here's glowing proof of Dodge dependability.	PROVED America's Greatest Road Car—As a final tribute to its unmatched road qualities, the '54 Dodge was selected as Official Pace Car for the Indianapolis 500-Mile Race.

Here's the Record No. Other Car Can Match

Brown & Graham Motor Co., Inc.
E. KING STREET
BOONE, N. C.