

KING STREET BY ROB RIVERS

5.9 Miles Road Are Finished During Month

W. Ralph Winkler, Commissioner of the Eleventh State Highway Division, today said that 5.9 miles of road work had been completed in his division during May.

In Ashe County State forces graded and graveled two roads, and their lengths: Roaring Fork Road to Bryan Davis, residence, 1.5 miles; and Ebernezer Road near George Long residence toward parkway, 0.5 mile. The first improvement is 12 feet wide, the second is ten feet wide.

In Caldwell County, State forces rebuilt Blue Creek Road for two miles by widening and laying six inches of crushed stone surface. The first mile is 16 feet wide; the second is 24 feet wide.

In Watauga, two 16-foot wide county roads, and their lengths, were graded and stoned: Winkler Creek Road, 1.1 miles; and Green Hill Road connecting to parkway, 0.5 mile.

In Wilkes County, State forces finished laying traffic-bound macadam and bituminous surface treatment on the approaches to the bridge over the Yadkin River. The pavement is 22 feet wide, and the improvement is 0.2 mile in length.

Ashe, Caldwell, Watauga, and Wilkes counties are in the Eleventh State Highway Division along with Alleghany, Avery, Surry, and Yadkin counties. Division headquarters are in North Wilkesboro. J. H. Council is division engineer.



ROUTE 421 STRAIGHTENED—Work on Highway 421, between Vilas and Sugar Grove, is being pushed to an early completion. When the road is finished several dangerous curves will be eliminated on the Ocean to the Great Lakes highway. Shown above in top picture is heavy machinery moving dirt from a 17-foot cut and carrying it to a fill (bottom photo) several hundred yards away where it is being packed and leveled over a culvert.—Staff photos by Joe Minor.

WATAUGA NIGHT AT THE HORN

Rehearsals are going steadily forward on Horn in the West and the local outdoor drama will observe "Watauga Night" Friday night June 25th. It is the hope of the management that the theatre will be filled to overflowing with Watauga people, many of whom have not yet seen the drama of Daniel Boone's time, and today's announcement is made of cash prizes to be given those who convey the most Wataugas to the opening performance. The Horn, as the drama is commonly known, has been wholeheartedly accepted around Boone, where most of the folks have seen it one or more times, but it is felt that there are hundreds of people over the county who will look upon the colorful production for the first time when the season opens, come Friday week.

AN ECONOMIC BOON

The Horn, it is to be pointed out to the local folks, is a great stimulus to the welfare of the community and the county. Conservative estimates have it that visitors to the drama spent a million dollars in the county the first two seasons, and indications are that more than half a million will pour into the tills of the business men of Boone and the residents of the surrounding country this year as a direct result of the Horn. Indirectly we all share in this fresh revenue which is pumped into the bloodstream of local commerce yearly. Business men, professional men, farmers and all, benefit in the long run, and...

THERE'S ANOTHER ANGLE

to the outdoor drama, which is presented professionally in the highest outdoor theatre in the land, and that is the subject matter of the production—the struggle for freedom on the part of the folks who carved out a niche for themselves in these hills in the seventeenth-seventies, cast off the authority of the Crown and set about making their livin', speaking their minds and communing with the Lord as they saw fit. The Horn dwells forcefully on the leaders in this fight against the wilderness, the Indians and colonial authority. In this day, when the American system is being threatened from without by the most sinister conspiracy in the world's history; when little men within are gouging away at the structure of human dignity and freedom, while the normal processes of government are being diverted at their pleasure; when an atomic and hydrogen war could conceivably wipe out our civilization. In these times, it will be helpful to view the Horn, and to refresh our memories, and reevaluate our inheritance, and renew our faith in the system which has been developed in the last great bastion of freedom and of human dignity. Y'all come, Friday night week!

FOLKS WE SEE

Johnny Beall, who found Howard's Creek and built him a summer home there, after chasing about over all sections of the country for a good many months looking for a place, arrived the other day. Mr. Beall fetches the Democrat a two-year-old coconut palm, with the nut still appended to the roots, and allows as how if we can keep the plant the right temperature and otherwise petted, we should have some king size nuts in another quarter of a century. At any rate, the plant is a novelty and we're going to try to keep it going for a while. A bystander asked Mr. Beall, how come all the folks who sauntered around under the coconut trees didn't get killed. "Just lucky, I suppose." Spud Whitener, the Mrs., and Frank Jones up from Florida, where all have parts in the Horn. Joe Conderman, former resident of Boone, comes up from Miami on a short visit. And a lot more folks we know showing up for the summer.

Hade Sherrill Dies In Lenoir; Was Related Here

W. H. (Hade) Sherrill, 85, brother of the late Mrs. Alice Cook of Boone, a retired Washington, D. C. restaurant and bakery owner, died at a Lenoir hospital June 6, from an extended illness.

A native of Caldwell county, Mr. Sherrill went to Washington about 35 years ago as secretary to Congressman R. L. Dougherty. In addition to operating a large restaurant, he also owned a bakery and considerable business property in Washington.

He was a son of the late Rev. George Durham Sherrill and Elizabeth Payne Sherrill, and was a member of an early Caldwell family. His father was the first pastor and one of the founders of the Tabernacle Advent Christian Church at Lenoir.

Mr. Sherrill had been a member of Hibriten Masonic Lodge in Lenoir for 51 years. He was also a Scottish rite Mason and a Shriner.

Funeral services were held at the home of a daughter, Mrs. J. Frank Maynard in Lenoir June 6 at 10 a. m.

Burial with Masonic honors was in Bellevue cemetery.

Surviving, in addition to the daughter are the widow, Mrs. Annie Evelyn Large Sherrill, six grandchildren, ten great grandchildren. Among the surviving nephews are Caldwell county Sheriff George D. Greer and Watauga county Sheriff Earl Cook.

Those from Boone attending

Watauga Night Will Be Opening 'Horn' Feature

The successful outdoor drama, Horn in the West, will open its third season here at the Daniel Boone Theatre Friday night, June 25, to what is hoped by the producers will be a capacity house.

To aid in accomplishing this

end, the Southern Appalachian Historical Association, which produces the play, has designated and proclaimed opening night as Watauga County Night, and has issued a special appeal to all residents of Watauga County who can possibly do so to be

present and help fill the theatre.

Cash prizes totalling \$50.00 are being offered to those bringing the largest number of people in one vehicle on that night. To the person who brings the largest group will go a prize of \$25.00; second largest, \$15.00; and third largest, \$10.00.

The association, a chartered, non-profit organization formed in 1951 to produce the drama and to build this area into a section of wide tourist trade, points out that the production aids the economy of Boone and Watauga County in many ways in addition to affording summer time employment to large numbers of local people.

A full page announcement of the association elsewhere in this issue states: "It would be impossible to say just how much money Horn in the West brings into this area. By a very conservative estimate (far below the national average) the people who attend the drama will leave \$10.00 per person if they spend the night. If our attendance figures run as well as they have for the past two years, this will mean some \$500,000 in a twelve-week period. Each of us gains from the tourist dollar. The farmer will have a better market for his products if the people come to the mountains, employment increases, each person who comes will send someone else to our fine country. Therefore, the tourist dollars are spread to all the people of our county."

"Let's fill the Daniel Boone Theatre with an overflow crowd on the 25th of June, and show that we are backing this great drama," the announcement concludes.

Elementary School To Open Summer Term

The Appalachian Elementary School will open Monday, June 21 at 8:45 a. m. and will run for

a period of eight weeks. First graders who plan to attend should be present the first day in order to enroll and must be six years old by October 15, 1954. There will be a fee of two dollars for the term, and all text books will be furnished. Pupils who have completed the seventh grade and feel the need for extra work in the skills should attend the seventh grade this summer instead of the eighth grade.

Buses will come to the school each morning from Cove Creek, Meat Camp, Stony Fork, Bamboo, Blowing Rock, and Shulls Mills.

During the summer, school will open at 8:45 a. m. and will close at 12:30 p. m. Each grade in the Elementary School will have an opportunity to swim twice a week, and each child will bring his swimsuit, soap, and towel.

The child must be enrolled in the summer school in order to take swimming. Mrs. Nan Graeber, Physical Education teacher at the Elementary School, will be the swimming instructor.

The prospective enrollment is 300, the largest in the history of the Elementary School during the summer session.

Members of the faculty for the summer school come from some of the best school systems in America. They include the following:

Grade 1—Mrs. Grace M. Council, Boone, N. C.

Grade 1—Mrs. Sarah W. Sadler, Greenville, S. C.

Grade 2—Miss Lou Ann Jones, Dallas, Texas.

Grade 2—Miss Fannie Lee Pruitt, Taylorsville, N. C.

Grade 3—Miss Mildred Dobbins, Denton, Texas.

Grade 4—Miss Florence Boror, Farmland, Indiana.

Grade 5—Mrs. Hele Grayum, Seattle, Washington.

Grade 6—Miss Dorothy Leggett, Decatur, Illinois.

Grade 7—Miss Mildred Hodges, Denton, Texas.

The meeting was adjourned with the traditional Lions toast.

Graff; and Jack Thomas, lion tamer, succeeding A. E. Hamby.

Two new directors were also installed for a two-year term (1954-56), R. D. Hodges, Jr., and James Winkler, succeeding J. E. Holshouser and Frank Payne, who served the 1952-54 term. Other directors are J. R. Melton and Edwin Dougherty (1953-55).

The meeting was called to order by President Pritchett, followed by the Lions song, led by Marvin Pickard, the invocation by Rev. Joseph T. Shackford, and a welcome and introduction of guests by President Pritchett.

After the Lions and Lionesses had partaken of a sumptuous repast prepared and served by the Ranch Motel staff, Lion Gordon Winkler presided at the presentation of perfect attendance and recognition awards to various members of the club.

College Registration Establishes New Record

Watauga Tax Rate Is Set At 90 Cents For '54

The Watauga County property tax rate for the year 1954 is 90 cents per \$100 valuation, it is learned from the statement of the budget adopted by the county commissioners May 6, and released through the Democrat today.

The 1953 tax rate was 80 cents. The levy is designed to raise \$187,718.10, which together with tax penalties, license fees, State and Federal grants, and other income will bring total receipts for the fiscal year to \$469,356.

The largest items of income next to the levy on land and personal property is that involving State and Federal grants under the old age assistance program. This figure amounts to \$103,630. Grants for aid to dependent children is another large item and amounts to \$88,920.

The largest expenditure listed is for bonds, notes and interest and amounts to \$119,040; aid to dependent children amounts to \$99,840; general fund expenses \$73,000 and school expenditures \$72,561.86.

The complete details of the budget may be found in an advertisement appearing in the Democrat today.



ERNEST M. HODGES

E. M. Hodges Is Candidate For Sheriff's Post

Mr. Ernest M. Hodges, resident of Boone, R. F. D. 3, is an announced candidate for the Democratic nomination for Sheriff of Watauga county, subject to the action of the Democratic county convention.

Mr. Hodges, a native of the Adams neighborhood, served with the armed forces in the Mexican expedition in 1916. He also served in 1917 and 1918 in the first world war, and was wounded in action in that conflict.

Mr. Hodges was employed by the State Highway Commission for a number of years, and was postmaster at Adams, N. C. for eleven years.

Clerk-Carrier Exam Is Noted

The establishment of a register for the position of substitute clerk-carrier at the Post Office, Boone is still open until further notice.

From the list of eligibles in this examination, certification will be made to fill vacancies in substitute clerk and substitute carrier positions and occasionally in regular clerk and carrier positions.

Appointments to these positions will be probational, unless otherwise limited, for persons who have not reached or passed their 70th birthday when they enter on duty. Probational appointments become permanent after employees have satisfactorily completed a 1-year probationary period. Persons who are 70 or older on the day they enter on duty will be given temporary appointments for not to exceed one year.

Summer Band To Start Training On Next Monday

The A. S. T. C. Summer Band will start rehearsals on Monday June 21 at 4:00 p. m. in the band room of the Fine Arts Building. Rehearsals thereafter will be held every Monday and Wednesday from 4:00 to 5:00 p. m. All students attending the college and the high school this summer are invited to participate in addition to the students and townspeople not attending the summer school. As in the past the band will be made up of a good many visiting band directors from this state and from surrounding states.

"If you play a band instrument and enjoy playing in a band, come down to the Music Building on June 21 at 4:00 and join the band," said band director William G. Spencer, in making the announcement. "As in the past summers, this band will present an outdoor concert about every two weeks in the evening, so be looking for the announcement of the first concert."

Picnic June 18

The annual "Horn in the West" picnic will be held Friday, June 18, at 5:00 p. m., at the Daniel Boone Theatre picnic grounds. Everyone interested in the drama is urged to come and bring enough food of their choice for their family and four additional people.

IRC Plans New Product: Seven To Get Promotions In Local Factory

The addition of a new product to be manufactured at International Resistance Company's new plant here will bring promotions to a number of local employees, John S. Kane, plant manager, has announced.

The new product, selenium rectifiers, are used to change current in electronic devices, he said, adding that approximately 50 additional persons will be employed when in full production. The plant expects to begin production of the selenium rectifiers about the middle of August.

The report was made at the June meeting of the Boone Chamber of Commerce held in the dining room of the Daniel Boone Hotel last Tuesday.

Slated to receive promotions at IRC are: Jim Winkler, from quality engineer to electronics engineer. Winkler is now in Philadelphia receiving a month's indoctrina-

tion in the new product. Joe Worth, from mechanical engineer to senior mechanical engineer.

C. P. Calloway, from process investigator to quality engineer. Harry Pugliese of Philadelphia, the only non-Wataugan in the group receiving promotions, is foreman of the PWV product now being manufactured to foreman of selenium rectifiers. He is also taking a month's training in Philadelphia.

Jim Hendricks, from shipper and receiver to PWV foreman. Bill Klutz, from gateman to shipper and receiver.

Bob Hodges, from material handler to maintenance machinist.

In other matters taken up at the meeting, Stanley A. Harris outlined details of the newly organized "Project for Adequate Roads." The group met Monday, June 7, in Elizabethton, Tenn.,

1186 Students Gather For First Summer Session

Registration for the first term of summer school at Appalachian State Teachers College has gone ahead of last year's enrollment, which broke all past records. There are now 1186 students registered, which is 76 ahead of last summer's first term as of the same date.

Beginning on July 5 there are a number of workshop courses beginning which will add to the enrollment for the first term. It is expected that several hundred students from a number of states will be registering for these courses, according to the advance enrollment.

As usual, North Carolina leads the enrollment this year, but the student body comes from all over the Southeast. There are 66 of North Carolina's 100 counties represented, followed in order by Georgia with 32 counties, Florida with 25, and South Carolina with 24. Also represented are eight counties in Virginia and Tennessee, five in Mississippi, three in Alabama, two in West Virginia, and one each in Missouri, Illinois, Maryland, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, Kentucky, Connecticut, and Colombia in Botota, South America.

Although the listing of those who are enrolled in the graduate school is not yet completed, it is known that there are more than 500 in the graduate school, and around 150 colleges and universities whose graduates are at Appalachian for work toward the higher degree.

Twenty-six junior college graduates are registered. Leading in the number of transfer students is Mars Hill College with 29, Gardner-Webb College with 24 and Lees-McRae College with 15. Others sending students to Appalachian included Wingate Junior College with 11, Pfeiffer with seven, Mitchell with six, Anderson (S. C.) with three, Peace with three, and one each from St. Genevieve of the Pines, Tennessee Wesleyan, Stephens (Mo.), Lees (Ky.), St. Mary's, Asheville-Biltmore, Emmanuel, La Grange (Ga.), Brevard, Warren Wilson, Belmont Abbey Junior, Virginia Intermont, David Lipscomb (Tenn.), Sacred Heart, Campbell, Spartanburg (S. C.), and Young Harris (Ga.).

The combination of nationally known master teachers, hundreds of courses to meet a wide variety of needs, a cool summer climate, and a friendly atmosphere are spreading the name of Appalachian State Teachers College over an increasingly larger area, and the student body, both in the regular year and in the summer term, has been growing with each session since the close of World War II.

and elected W. Ralph Winkler of Boone vice-president of the Northwest North Carolina division.

PAR was organized to aid and encourage better roads, and to improve present roads and bridges. The organization has members from Northwest North Carolina, Eastern Tennessee, and Southwest Virginia.

The Chamber also heard a report on Horn in the West from Dr. D. J. Whitener, executive vice-president of the Southern Appalachian Historical Association. Outlook for the summer season, he said, is good.

Baird Dougherty, business manager of Appalachian State Teachers College, discussed new building and improvements at the college, and Coach E. C. Duggins reported that spring football drills have revealed fine prospects for the fall grid season.