



SINGING SUNDAY—The 30th Annual Singing on the Mountain will be held at the foot of Grandfather Mountain near Linville next Sunday. Ted Malone, famous radio personality and author, top left, will be the featured speaker. The Singing was founded by J. L. Hartley of Linville, top right, who at 83, is still the chairman. Seen at left is Lt. Governor Luther Hodges as he delivered the featured address last year. More than 30,000 took in the day long singing, preaching and family reunion gathering last year.

KING STREET

BY
ROB RIVERS

NO FLAGS... MUCH

Mrs. B. W. Stallings a few years ago conducted a campaign to put a flag in every place of business in the town, so that on special occasions Old Glory would flutter forth from every building along the street... Folks took to the notion with a good deal of enthusiasm, and a lot of flags were bought, complete with staffs, and sidewalk receptacles, but, Mrs. Stallings points out, something has happened to them... She says she felt considerably "put out" when on flag day only two were in evidence—the one at the postoffice, and the one at Stallings Store... Since the Fourth of July will soon be here, it is fitting that the folks look up the flags which no doubt have been carefully stored somewhere, and have them on display for Independence Day... We can think of no time in the history of this comparatively young land when it's more important that the striped symbol of our system be caught by every zephyr that cools the community—in summer-time at least.

OTHER DECORATIONS

Incidentally some of the folks may still have the bunting which was purchased individually by business men, incident to the second presentation of "Echoes of the Blue Ridge" back in 1950... We've lost track of ours, but if those who still have the colorful decorations would bring them out it would make things look good for the Fourth, as well as other special occasions.

PEACH PIE TIME

Peaches are beginning to move in from the lowlands and peach pie, that summertime Southern delicacy is beginning to show up... Whether the standard pie pan is used or the family pie or cobler is made, peach pie is something special, whether or not it is doused with rich cream... Peaches used to grow in profusion in these parts, believe it or not, and the dried fruit was to be found in country stores along with dehydrated apples... But the blight came, and the peaches went away... Last time we knew of any big yield of peaches was when Capt. Lovill planted an orchard above the old Lovill home on the southern slope of the Pinnacle... The Elbertas thrived, and the peaches grew large and luscious and sweet. But after a few years the trees became stunted, failed to yield, and soon died... We note the seedlings around over town where peaches were eaten in other summers... The trees are thrifty until about the time they should bear, and die for want of the proper spray or dust... Likewise, the day seems near when apples can't be grown without (Continued on page seven)

Mountain Sing Set For Sunday

Watt Gragg Is Vice-President B. & L. League



W. H. GRAGG

Mr. W. H. Gragg of Boone, was elected vice-president of the North Carolina Savings and Loan League, at the annual convention held in Virginia Beach last week.

Robert White of Burlington was named President.

Mr. Gragg, who has been Secretary of the Watauga Building & Loan Association for 31 years, will become president of the League next year.

The League represents 176 associations with assets of \$550,000,000.

Accompanying Mr. Gragg to Virginia Beach were H. Grady Farthing and C. M. Critcher, also directors of the Watauga Building and Loan.

Joseph V. Fox, 54, died Thursday, June 17, at his home in the Foscoe community (Banner Elk, Route 1.)

Funeral services were held at 2 p. m. Saturday, June 19, at the Foscoe Christian Church, conducted by the Rev. S. E. Gragg. Rev. Hiram Lester assisted in the services. Burial was in the Foscoe Cemetery.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Bertha Lee Fox; a son, John Lee Fox, Banner Elk, Route 1; four daughters, Mrs. Margaret Shipes, Charleston, S. C., Mrs. Creed Taylor, Miss Betty Sue Fox, and Miss Martha Helen Fox, all of Banner Elk, Route 1; three brothers, Robert Fox, Banner Elk, Route 1, Paul Fox, Elizabeth, Tenn., and Hayden Fox, Oak Ridge, Tenn.; four sisters, Mrs. Russell Teague, Boone, Mrs. A. V. Moody, Banner Elk, Route 1, Mrs. Burgin Gragg, Oak Ridge, Tenn., and Mrs. Hugh Malone, Elizabethton, Tenn.; and three grandchildren.

District Scout Meeting Is Held Last Thursday

The Watauga District Boy Scout Committee met last Thursday at the Gateway restaurant, with Chairman Joe Shackford presiding. Glenn Andrews gave the invocation. Reports were heard from Fred Gragg, camping committee chairman, on the camporee held recently at Tater Hill. One hundred boys participated in the event and 50 adult scouters took part.

Mr. Gragg stated that the scouts were unanimous in their desire for a second camporee which has been tentatively set for July 23-25 at Tater Hill. In light of the scout response, the camporee will be held, he stated, and a committee meeting will be called at an early date. Seven of the nine scout units in the county participated, Mr. Gragg said, and he indicated that there was hope of the remaining two, Cove Creek and Henson's Chapel, will be able to take part in the July event.

Reports were heard from Joe Davenport, scout field executive, on the scout camping going forward at the newly acquired council camp site, Raven Knob Park, near Low Gap. The camping season, he stated, is off to a good start. There will be seven weeks of camp and provision is made for every type of camping at cost ranging from \$2 to \$15 a week. Scout leaders are provided for boys whose troops cannot furnish them. Individual Scouts may attend from any unit, or any other number desiring to come. Four boys from Troop 109 were in camp last week: Joe Minor, Jimmy Goodnight, Tommy Owsley, and Reid Cottrell.

The finance committee reported that the final \$200 from Watauga county on the 1954 budget of Old Hickory Council was being sent in, bringing the total raised and sent in by the county on this year's budget to \$1423. Mr. Shackford stated that this is short of the quota of \$2234, but represents a highly commendable increase over the report at the end of the first canvass of only \$690. Alfred Adams is chairman of the finance committee.

Malcom Neblett Taken By Death

Kenbridge, Va., June 12—Malcolm M. Neblett, 50, president and general manager of the Railway Handle Corporation here for a number of years, died Saturday in a Richmond hospital.

He had been stricken with a heart attack Wednesday.

A native of Lunenburg County, he was a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church and a director of the Bank of Lunenburg.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary Blalock Neblett; one son, William Neblett, of Kenbridge; his mother, Mrs. Susie Hite Neblett, of Kenbridge; three sisters, Miss Anna Neblett, of Williamsburg, and Mrs. A. E. Taylor and Mrs. John Smyth, of Kenbridge, and two brothers, C. D. and W. J. Neblett, of Kenbridge.

A funeral service was held at the residence, with burial in Kenbridge Cemetery.

Deceased was a brother-in-law of Mrs. Dave Mast of Sugar Grove. Mr. and Mrs. Mast and family attended the funeral. Mrs. Mast is remaining in Kenbridge with her sister for a while.



JAMES WINKLER



JOE WORTH



CLIFTON CALLOWAY



JAMES HENDRIX



WILLIAM KLUTZ

WATAUGANS RECEIVE PROMOTIONS AT IRC—Slated to receive promotions in connection with a new product to be manufactured by International Resistance Company's electronics plant here are the above residents of Watauga County, who have been employed at the factory since it began operations early in 1954. James

Winkler will be advanced from quality engineer to electronics engineer; Joe Worth, from mechanical engineer to senior mechanical engineer; Clifton Calloway, from process investigator to quality engineer; James Hendrix, from shipper and receiver to PWW foreman; and William Klutz, from gateman to shipper and receiver.

First Horn Performance Scheduled Friday Night



NED AUSTIN, a Watauga county contribution to HORN IN THE WEST, has more force in the role of Daniel Boone this year. This is his third year in the part of the immortal frontiersman.

"Daniel Boone" Has More Force In Outdoor Drama This Season

By BOB ISBELL

Market Card Is Needed By Local Wheat Growers

Dwight Cable, ASC Committee chairman informs Watauga county farmers that before selling any wheat they will need a marketing card to identify the wheat as penalty free wheat. If the wheat producer does not present the marketing card to the buyer at the time of the sale the buyer is instructed to collect \$1.12 per bushel penalty.

Watauga county wheat farmers who wish to sell wheat can come by their ASC office and pick up a wheat marketing card or a wheat marketing certificate. A receipt must be signed when the card is issued, therefore, it is necessary to visit the ASC office in person. If the operator is unable to visit the county office he may request in writing that his card be mailed to him. If no wheat is to be sold, exchanged, or paid as toll, no card need be obtained.

These wheat marketing cards will also state whether or not the farmer is eligible for price support. Only those farmers who have harvested wheat within the farm wheat allotment and do not owe a wheat penalty on another farm will be eligible for wheat price support.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower recently signed a bill, and from now on, November 11 will be celebrated as Veterans' Day instead of Armistice Day. The idea is to set the holiday as a memorial to honor American service veterans of all wars.

Ned Austin, who was born and reared just a hoot 'n a holler from where Daniel Boone blazed his trail across the great Watauga country, has more authority this season as he portrays the great frontiersman in the outdoor drama, "Horn in the West."

The play, opening its third season here June 25 at the Daniel Boone Theatre, has been revised to give more force to the role of Austin, who gets applause by merely walking onto the stage and announcing, "My name's Boone, Dn'l Boone."

Public sentiment has favored a more prominent part for Boone and his 20th century prototype, Ned Austin, since the drama opened in 1952. The play, however, was never intended to be a story of the empire-builder Boone, the author says.

Hunter explains that Daniel Boone entered the plot mainly as a spiritual force, "as a character to depict the basic driving urge which motivated the settlers in their conquest of the wilderness."

The story is designed to show how early pioneers carried in their hearts a great love for freedom, and how the fire of independence burned more brightly in their minds than it did in many other parts of the country.

To point up this difference, Hunter took an average colonist, a doctor and his family, and showed the traditional loyalties being challenged by the forces of the 1770's in America. He sought to show how one man (a fictional character, Geoffrey Stuart, played by Irvine Smith of Batavia, N. Y.) gradually changed his concepts of government, of religion and of economics.

Boone, therefore, was conceived

ed as a spiritual symbol of the westwardness of man, and, in the words of Hunter, "the instinctive desire of mankind to be moving always westward past known frontiers."

Hunter admits that he purposefully sublimated the character of Boone to some extent in 1952 and 1953, partly because of the play "Thunderland," a life of the pioneer, by Hubert Hayes, a friend of the Horn in the West author. Now that Thunderland is not scheduled this year, it was to be (Continued on page four)

Martin Speaks In Winston-Salem

Dr. J. G. Martin of Boone was one of the featured speakers at the 53rd annual meeting of the North Carolina State Veterinary Medical Association held in Winston-Salem this week.

Dr. Martin spoke to the group on "Hypogonadism of Beef Cattle" and served as moderator for the discussion on this problem.

The meeting was held at the Hotel Robert E. Lee in Winston-Salem June 22-23, and was attended by veterinarians from all sections of North Carolina.

Mrs. Blackburn Is Injured In Fall

Mrs. M. B. Blackburn, aged Boone resident, suffered serious injuries in a fall Friday at the home of a daughter, Mrs. M. P. Critcher.

Mrs. Blackburn suffered compound hip fractures, it is said, and is a patient at Watauga Hospital.

Notables To Attend Opening

Kermit Hunter's "Horn in the West," having played to 100,000 visitors in two years, will open here Friday night for the first performance of what is expected to be the drama's biggest season.

Editors, mayors and Chamber of Commerce executives from five states will be guests of the drama at the initial showing, designated "Watauga Night" by Horn officials. The show will open at 8:15 p. m., at the Daniel Boone Theatre.

Capus M. Waynick, former ambassador to Columbia, will attend the opening performance with his host, Holt McPherson of High Point, and Ted Malone, veteran radio network star, will be a guest Saturday night with his host, Hugh Morton of Linville.

Advance ticket sales and inquiries indicate excellent attendance for the first two nights. Among Saturday evening guests will be a group coming by chartered bus from Florence, S. C., and a camera club visiting from Fayetteville.

Director Kai Jurgensen has announced that rehearsals are more promising at this point than at any corresponding time since the drama opened in 1952. Script changes by the author, he says, have made the production more colorful, more interesting and swifter moving.

"The cast and staff have a certain spirit of enthusiasm and cooperation that I feel will be good for the drama," he said. "They have been quite willing to work long hours, and their labors have shown results in livelier, crispier rehearsals."

Monday night, for the first time since practice began almost two weeks ago, a complete rehearsal was executed, with results termed "gratifying" by the director.

Plans for opening night are moving well ahead of schedule in the "front office" division of the drama. General Manager Carl Fidler said today that residents of Boone and surrounding communities have indicated "complete cooperation" in volunteer help at the theatre grounds. He asked that those persons take special care in welcoming guests and helping them to "feel at home."

Fidler said developments to date indicate the most successful season in the drama's three-year history.

Mrs. Tina Greer Dies Wednesday

Funeral services for Mrs. Tina Harmon Greer, 35, of Winston-Salem, who died Wednesday, June 16, were held at the First Presbyterian Church in Boone at 2 p. m. Friday, June 18.

The Rev. J. K. Parker, pastor of the church, and the Rev. T. C. Bryan of Winston-Salem officiated. Burial was in Mount Lawn Cemetery, with graveside rites by Snow Chapter 220, Order of the Eastern Star.

Mrs. Greer is survived by a son, Richard Greer; a daughter, Elizabeth Greer, both of Winston-Salem; a sister, Mrs. Muriel Glenn, Detroit, Mich.; and a brother, Vilas Harmon, Baltimore, Md.

Rites Held For Marsh Infant

Graveside services were held at 11 a. m. June 21, at Mount Lawn Cemetery for the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Y. Marsh, who died Saturday, June 19.

A good '54 wheat crop is likely to meet Spain's needs.