

—Staff Photos by Joe Minor

INTERESTED VISITORS AT IRC—In top photo, Foreman Robert Bumbaugh exhibits and explains the use of one of the precision resistors manufactured in Department 12 to a group of interested visitors last Saturday as the International Resistance Company held "open house" at its Boone plant. The young lady who is seated at the winding machine and endeavoring to go on with her work is Mrs. Genevieve Snyder. In lower photo, another group of sightseers pauses at the refreshment stands provided for the occasion, before proceeding on their tour of the plant.

1200 Attend IRC Open House; 153 People Are Now Employed

The public got its first look at the inside operation of Watauga's newest industry last Saturday when the International Resistance Company held "open house" at its plant on the southern outskirts of Boone. About 1200 Watauga County people responded to the company's invitation to visit the plant between the hours of 10 a. m. and 4 p. m., said Fred M. Gragg of Boone, personnel manager. The visitors were taken on guided tours of the factory by key personnel of the company, who explained details in the manufacture of five basic lines of electronic resistors to the various groups. The resistors, with many variations within each basic line, are used in radio and television sets, all types of electrical appliances and electronic devices. The Boone plant, which began operations in January of this year, shipped 1 1/2 million resistors to all parts of the free world during the first half of 1954, said John S. Kane, plant manager. One hundred and fifty-three persons are now at work at the factory, only eight of whom, including Mr. Kane, were sent down from Philadelphia, headquarters of the company's factory (continued on page two)

Registration Books To Open Saturday For Last Time

The registration books will be open one more day, next Saturday, for the registration of voters for the November 2 general election. Saturday of next week, October 30, will be observed as challenge day. Registrations are reported as very light throughout the county, so far. Boone township registrar, Howard Cottrell, states that there have been about fifty registrations and transfers here since the books opened. Those who are not registered and who are otherwise qualified to vote, must register next Saturday in order to participate in the election. The Supreme Court will hear arguments beginning Dec. 6 on decrees to enforce its ruling against segregation in the public schools.



IRC CAFETERIA—The modern cafeteria at International Resistance Company was installed and completely facilitated by the company, and is operated by and for the benefit of the North Carolina Commission for the Blind.—Photo Palmer's Photo Shop.

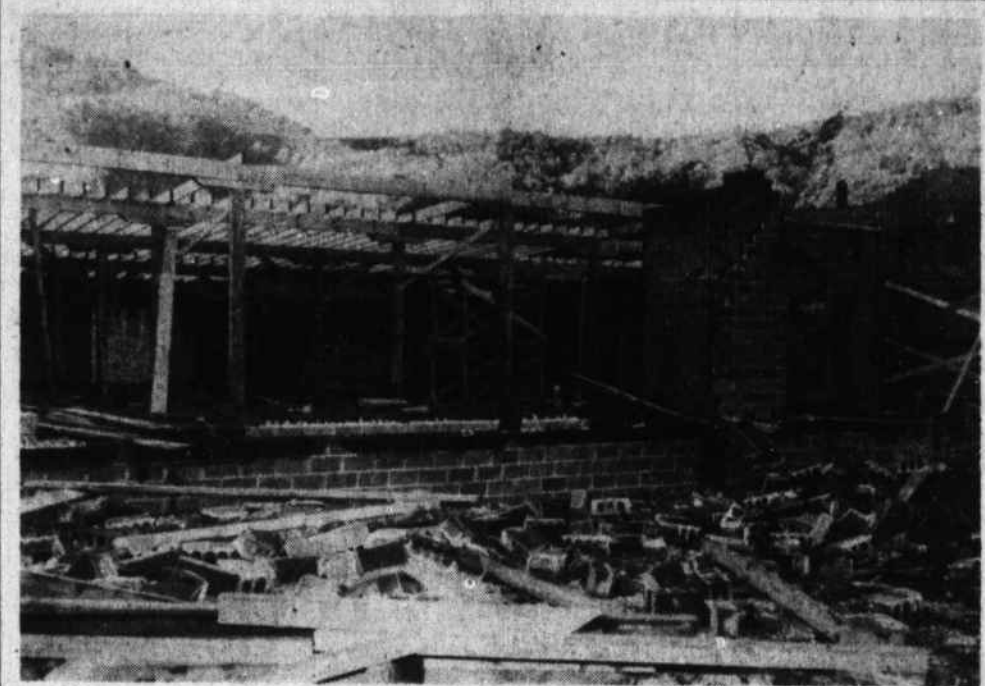
Sheriff Of Alleghany Is Killed

Sheriff Porter Collins, of Alleghany county, a brother to Bryan Collins, former Watauga county farm agent, was shot and killed early Tuesday morning when he went to the home of Virgil Richardson to serve papers. News reaching Boone is to the effect that Richardson was wanted for skipping a bond, and when accosted by the Sheriff in his home, asked that he be allowed to go upstairs for his shoes. The Sheriff acquiesced, and followed his prisoner upstairs. Richardson, it is related, seized his shotgun rather than the shoes and fired, the official dying instantly. Richardson, 22 years old, reportedly escaped in a blue Chevrolet pickup, and the State Highway patrol and county officers were on the lookout for him. He is described as 6 feet tall, weighs 210 pounds, and walks with a limp. Both legs had been broken in an automobile accident. Police Chief Richardson of Boone, a former Sheriff of Alleghany county, who supplied the Democrat with information, says that he had often arrested the slayer of the Sheriff during his tenure.

600 Give Aid To Blood Bank

On Friday and Saturday last week some 600 persons came by to have their blood typed and were given cards showing them to be official members of the bank, according to Mrs. Lawrence Owsley, blood bank co-ordinator. The small building next to Stallings Jewelers was crowded all the while with people waiting their turn, she said. Miss Sue Coffey, medical technologist at Watauga Hospital, stated that her files revealed that all blood types known today were recorded. Of particular interest was the discovery of several people having a rare blood type found in less than 4% of the population of the United States. Due to the overwhelming response given by the people of this county, Mrs. Owsley said, an additional typing will be conducted all day on November 5 and until noon November 6. This will be done in the same location as before. The sponsors of the bank wish to extend appreciation to the following for their active support and interest: Stallings Jewelers, Radio Station WATA, the Watauga Democrat, the Appalachian Theatre, Ayers Electric Shop, and New River Power and Light Company. The local IRC plant paid for the cost of typing serum used on their employees and was subscribed to 100% by the employees.

Tennessee Officials Outline Plans For Construction Of 603



—Staff Photo by Joe Minor

HAZEL WAS HERE—Moderately strong winds from Hurricane Hazel reached over the mountains into Boone last Friday as the season's worst blow roared up the eastern seaboard leaving death and destruction in its wake. Severest damage here was inflicted upon the new Watauga FCX building now under construction on South Water Street as the front wall of the uncompleted structure was blown down. Manager Gales S. Scroggs estimated the damage at \$800 to \$1,000. The only other casualties observed here as a result of the storm were several television aerials and a number of trees.

Highways 421, 19E Also In Plans Of Tenn. Leaders

Tennessee Highway officials meeting last Wednesday with North Carolina officials, and other interested citizens, outlined long-range plans for future improvement of three highway routes crossing the Carolina-Tennessee State line in this section.

Highway Commissioner W. M. Leach of Nashville laid the proposal before a two-state meeting at the Gateway Cafe called to discuss the development of better tourist routes in the area.

He said Highways 603, 421 and 19E are all slated for future improvements on the Tennessee side of the state line as rapidly as money becomes available for the projects.

North Carolina highway authorities in turn outlined plans now in the making for improving U. S. 421 on the Tar Heel side of the line.

As outlined, the Tennessee plan would:

1. Develop a new and more direct route between the end of NC 603 at the state line and Elizabethton and Johnson City.
2. Improve Highway 421, particularly between the state border and Mountain City, Tenn., en route to the Bristol area.
3. Improve sections of Highway 19E between Elizabethton, Tenn., and the state line near Elk Park, N. C. and provide for a new four-lane bridge over Doe River on that route.

"We realize," Mr. Leach said, "that we can't build a wall around Tennessee. We must have more and better roads to handle the increased interstate traffic."

He said he hadn't realized until today's trip "how abruptly" Highway 603 ends at the state line.

James Council of North Wilkesboro, Eleventh Division engineer, outlined what North Carolina has already done and is planning on its side of the border.

He reported that Highway 603 has already been improved through Vilas and Sugar Grove to the state line and pointed to planned improvement of an 11-mile stretch on Highway 421 between North Wilkesboro and Deep Gap which will cut the distance by four miles or more. A contract for six miles of that road was let Tuesday and the other five miles will be let soon, he said.

Division Commissioner Ralph Winkler of Boone, who introduced Mr. Leach, also discussed long-range plans for improvement of Highway 421 east of North Wilkesboro as an attractive tourist route.

The Tennessee delegation included Highway Engineer W. E. Dunlap of Knoxville, Marvin Kreiger, president of the Johnson City Chamber of Commerce, and a number of road contractors and other businessmen.

Herman Wilcox, Boone Chamber of Commerce president, Stanley Harris, manager of the Merchants Association, City Attorney Wade Brown and several others spoke briefly in stressing the importance of the future interstate highway system.

Robt. Williams Dies In Allendale

Special to the Democrat Allendale, S. C.—Robert Wilson Williams, 75, died at his home in Allendale Monday at 3 p. m. after a long illness. Funeral services were scheduled to be held Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the Swallow Savannah Cemetery with the Rev. R. C. Johnson, pastor of the Allendale Baptist Church, officiating.

Survivors include three sons, Warren Wilson Williams of Boone, N. C., Robert McDonald Williams of Charleston, S. C., and Bernard Eugene Williams of Atlanta, Ga., a daughter, Mrs. J. G. Hagaman of Lenoir, N. C., two sisters, Mrs. W. W. Priester and Mrs. Vascoe Whately of Allendale, and ten grandchildren.

Alexander To Speak At Blowing Rock Rally

Congressman Hugh Alexander will be the principal speaker at a Democratic political rally to be held at Blowing Rock Thursday evening, October 21, at 7:30, at



HUGH Q. ALEXANDER the High School building. The rally will feature a dinner meeting to be held at 6:30.

Chairman Frank Baird also announces that county-wide rally will be held at the courthouse in Boone at 7:30 p. m. Tuesday October 26th, at which time prominent speakers will be present.

All candidates for county office will be present at both these meetings and a full attendance of all those interested is requested.

W. D. Hampton Dies At Age 86

William David Hampton, of East King Street, Boone, died Saturday, October 16, at the Watauga Hospital. He was 86 years of age.

Funeral services were held at 11 a. m. Monday, October 18, at the Boone Baptist Church, conducted by the Rev. L. H. Hollingsworth.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Delphina Hampton; a daughter, Mrs. Charles Rogers, Boone; two sisters, Mrs. Eliza Triplett, of Triplett, and Mrs. Mary Brown,

Rural Mail Carriers Are To Gather In Boone Next June

The North Carolina Rural Mail Carriers Association will hold its annual convention in Boone next June, it is announced by H. W. Wilcox, Chamber of Commerce president.

The organization has 1400 members in the State, and the convention is being held here on invitation of Clyde Winebarger of Boone, secretary-treasurer of the Association for ten years.

Mr. Winebarger says there will be at least four hundred in attendance with their wives. Housing, program, entertainment and other details will be announced later.

Mrs. Clyde Winebarger is president of the Ladies Auxiliary.

G. O. P. In Ninth Asks Federal Election Help

Winston-Salem, Oct. 19—A GOP spokesman confirmed reports last night that Republican forces in the state's Ninth District have asked the Justice Department to be on the lookout for possible voting irregularities in the area Nov. 2.

Ivan O. Harrah, the district director of organization, disclosed that the request had been sent directly to Attorney General Herbert Brownell, with copies to District Attorneys E. M. Stanley of the Middle District and James M. Baley of the Western District.

He said the request was based on the fact that candidates for federal as well as county and state officers will be on the ballot.

Questioned on the report, a Justice Department spokesman in Washington said he had not yet seen the letter but that it would probably come to his attention as a member of the federal civil rights branch of the department.

He said the department could act only on the basis of a formal complaint that a crime has been committed.

Harrah pointed out that a "school of politics" is already being conducted by GOP State Secretary Clyde R. Grene of Boone in each district county to acquaint all precinct and election officials of legal requirements and privileges.

The school was started last week and will wind up late this week.



IRC OFFICE—Shown above is a portion of the spacious offices of the International Resistance Company's Boone plant. Private offices (not shown) are occupied by Plant Manager John S. Kane, Personnel Manager Fred M. Gragg, and other key personnel.—Photo Palmer's Photo Shop.

KING STREET
BY
ROB RIVERS

THE CHANGING TIMES

Rain came Friday... A good bit of rain, with a sprinkling of snow, to bring smiles to the faces of those who had gazed long at the baked soil and the withering plants. It was a good rain, and Saturday night some more came down and the football crowds were chilled by the snow-laden downfall... Continued cloudy skies bring promise of more precipitation, and speaking of rain, an old timer might be described as one who lived in the day when prayer meetings were regularly held when the corn leaves spindled, and the cabbages wilted, and there was no pressure in the faucets, and the wells and the springs ran dry... It used to be common practice,

AND WE RECALL

a time when it was specially dry... The products of the soil had quit growing, the water courses had come to be dry runs, and nary a cloud was wafted across the wide blue dome of infinity... The dirt roads were inches deep in dust, the cattle were nigh to starvation, and the folks had about reached the end of their resources... They had a big meeting down at the Methodist church, a meeting of supplication for rain... And we reckon the folks didn't have much more faith then than now, for next day the preacher, a devout soul, came into the Democrat office and referred to the down-pour which came following the prayer meeting. "You know," saith the man of the cloth, "I woke up about 2 o'clock and was surprised to hear the rain-drops hitting the roof."

BEWARE THE UGLY WORDS

It's maybe happened to you—such things as this: A group of fellows were engaged in a sort-of gossiping session, and one fellow really had the dope. He knew which one of the neighbors was "stepping out" on the missus, and just how late the fellow had been coming home Saturday nights. (continued on page four)