



NEW CORPORATION.—These men were instrumental in forming a development corporation in Watauga county, which according to spokesmen for the organization, will eventually mean the spending of one-half to three-fourths of a million dollars in the area. Those pictured are, left to right, John W. Fisher, Jr., president; Louis G. Burger, vice-president; Thomas G. Hilderbrandt, secretary; Raymond G. Williams, who was owner of the property to be developed; and Louis H. Smith, local attorney, who aided in the transactions necessary for forming the corporation.—Staff photo by Joe Minor.

## New Corporation Will Develop Property In Blowing Rock Area

### KING STREET

BY  
ROB RIVERS

**TOBACCO SELLS WELL**  
Burley is bringing good money on the Boone market, and during the past few days streams of trucks, pickups, and jalopies of every sort have been flowing into town, carrying their cargoes of the golden weed, which has grown well this year on the slopes and in the black soil of the creek bottoms. . . Farmers who have been calling at the Democrat office to renew their subscriptions, and pass the time of day, tell us they have been getting prices which are highly satisfactory to them, and seem uniformly happy. . . The receipts from the burley crops are beginning to be felt in the channels of retail trade, and most of the merchants believe there will be a big Christmas trade—bigger maybe than a year ago.

**AGED COUPLE MARKET WEED**  
Mr. A. B. Culler, a fine citizen who lives on the Rich Mountain tells of his good luck with tobacco this year. . . Mr. Culler who is 79, and Mrs. Culler who is 72 set out seven-tenths of an acre, marketed 2,090 pounds and received a warehouse check for \$1016.50. . . Mr. and Mrs. Culler did all the work incident to the production of the fine crop, except they had to have a little hired help about cutting and placing the heavy stalks on sticks to cure out. . . And Mr. Culler said he'd have received more but he held back a few hands for home use. . . A good many people in Watauga still use their tobacco directly from the curing barns, without the benefit of factory processing. . . General known as "homemade tobacco", the leaf is usually fashioned into a twist when in the proper case, and either used as chewing or sliced off for smoking tobacco. . . W. R. Lovill, who loved the positive taste and aroma of the twist, always spoke of it as "Girl of the West."

**SIGNS OF THE YULE**  
And since the opening of the Christmas shopping season traditionally coincides with the opening of the burley tobacco market, there are signs of Santa Claus all about the town. . . We were glad when the big plastic Santas took their places in the scheme of decorations above the Street. . . We are strong on Santa Claus—we argue for the old guy with the whiskers and the jelly-like belly and the pack of toys and the reindeers, and the Democrat publishes some of the letters the children write to the old man of the frigid north. . . Some of the children give us copies, and then of course we gather a few from Santa, but we like em, and they are a valuable part of Christmas newspapers. . . But these Santa Claus helpers who appear in the department stores and on the television are a trifle over-

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## Marching Band To Give Show At Elks Bowl

The A. S. T. C. marching band will present a Christmas Show for their part of the half-time activities at the Elks Bowl game next Saturday, December 11 in Raleigh. The band will leave by bus early Saturday morning and return late that night. The band has been very busy this past Fall having presented eight different shows at football games both here in Boone and away. On Thanksgiving day the band went to the Burley Bowl in Johnson City, Tenn. and participated in the parade in the morning and the half-time show at the game. The Elks Bowl game will be the last show for the marching band and the concert season will take over their activities the rest of the year.

The concert band will present a Christmas program for the college students on December 20th featuring "Twas the Night Before Christmas," a narration with band accompaniment. This program will be more on the popular side than the more serious and will include such numbers as "White Christmas," "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer", "Frosty the Snowman" and "Winter Wonderland." All students are invited to hear the program which will be given in the college auditorium on December 20th at 10:00 a. m.

## Soil Supervisor Vote Continued

Balloting for the election of a supervisor for the Watauga Soil Conservation District will continue throughout the week of December 6-11. The person elected will serve on the board for a three year period. D. F. Greene, one of the three members of the present board of supervisors has been renominated by regular petition. Any voter desiring to vote for someone else can write the candidates name on the ballot. Ballot boxes are located at the following places: Sands Service Station, Valle Crucis Postoffice, Clyde Perry's Store, Wilson and Sherwood Store, Deep Gap Postoffice, Fred Brown's Store, ASC Office, FCX Store, and Owen Little's Store.

## "The Messiah" To Be Broadcast By Appalachian Choir

Mrs. Virginia Wary Linney announced this week that the annual broadcast of the Christmas portion of Handel's "The Messiah," made by the Appalachian College Choir, will be given at 4:30 to 5 p. m., Monday, December 13. The broadcast will be carried over the Mutual Broadcasting System and station WATA in Boone. Mrs. Linney invites all who will to listen, and says that the popularity of the presentation is increasing, and the broadcast will be aired as far as the West Coast by Mutual.

## Surveys Damage Hazel Hurricane

W. C. Greene of Laxon has been in Norfolk, Va., for the past five weeks as special insurance inspector of the damage done to property by hurricane Hazel. Mr. Greene says he has noted very little major damage in his area, but that hundreds of structures are damaged to a minor degree.

# New Slate Of Watauga County Officers Sworn In



BURLEY BIDS.—The chant of the tobacco auctioneer was heard last week on Boone's Burley Market. The above picture was taken by Joe Minor, staff photographer, last week in Mountain Burley Warehouse No. 3, shortly after the sale opened. A good supply of tobacco was on hand, and from the bids heard from the several buyers who were on hand, the weed was commanding a good price.

## Over Million Pounds Burley Sold For Average Of \$54.02

### Outlook Meeting Set For Friday

Mr. C. R. Pugh, Mr. C. Lebeau, specialists in agricultural economics, and Miss Jo Earp, extension specialist in foods and nutrition, will bring the report at the Agricultural Outlook Conference in Boone on Friday, December 10. The conference will be held in the county courthouse starting at 9:30 a. m. All farm people and people who do business with farm people are invited to attend. This will likely be one of the most important meetings of the year for farm people as these specialists will be able to tell us about the supply of farm products on hand at present and the expected supply for the next year or longer.

### Decorations Contest Slated

Final plans have been made by the Junior Womens Club for the Christmas home decoration contest which is cosponsored by the Home and Garden department of the Worthwhile Club and the Blue Ridge Garden Club. First and second prizes of \$5.00 and \$3.00 will be given for the best window, door and lawn displays. Also the best over-all decorative theme will be chosen. All those who wish to enter the contest are asked to have their project completed by Saturday December 18th. Judging will take place Sunday night December 19 between the hours of 7:00-10:00 p. m. and lights must be left on during this time. A list of winners will appear in the Democrat so that everyone will have a chance to see the winning displays during the holidays.

Talbot urges higher wages for Air Force personnel.

The Boone Burley Tobacco Market opened the 1954-55 selling season Wednesday, December 1, and sold 347,500 pounds of tobacco for an average price of \$54.75 per hundred pounds on opening day. The market has held auctions three days, Wednesday and Friday of last week, and Monday of this week, and has sold 1,035,564 pounds of burley tobacco and paid out \$559,411.87 to growers for an average for the first three selling days of \$54.02, according to figures released by R. C. Coleman, operator of the Mountain Burley and Farmers Burley warehouses here. The top price paid on the market so far has been \$69.40, while many farmers have received prices

near that figure for their best grades, it was reported. There are seven buyers, including the house, competing for tobacco on the Boone market this year. This is a "healthy situation," Mr. Coleman said, because "more competition means higher prices for the growers." On Monday, tobacco was seen on the floor of Mountain Burley Warehouse No. 1 from Virginia, Tennessee, and the following North Carolina counties in addition to Watauga: Avery, Ashe, Alleghany, Mitchell, and Yancey. The market will hold auctions three days a week through December 20, and will resume after the Christmas holidays on January 5.

## Harris Elected C Of C Prexy; Wilcox Quits

Stanley A. Harris was named President and manager of the Boone Chamber of Commerce at the meeting held Monday, succeeding Herman W. Wilcox, who had held the office for sixteen years, and who asked to be relieved of active duties with the organization. Out of appreciation for Mr. Wilcox's service to the Chamber and to the town, he was named "President Emeritus" of the Chamber for the coming year. Mr. Wilcox has labored consistently for the welfare of the community during his tenure, it was pointed out, and his efforts in behalf of the tobacco market, the Watauga Centennial, "Horn in the West", the new telephone building and dial service, and the electronics plant served particular praise. Other officers elected at the meeting Monday were: Clyde Grene, first vice-president. Wade E. Brown, second vice-

president. Alfred Adams, treasurer. Joy Ann Wood, secretary. New members of the board elected for a three year term are: G. C. Greene, Jr., L. T. Tatum, Paul A. Coffey. The following are hold-over members of the board: (Continued on page three)

### Civil Defense Mass Meeting Set For Tonight

The civil defense mass meeting will be held tonight (Wednesday) at the Demonstration School auditorium at 7:30. All citizens are urged to attend this community mass meeting, and get some idea of the importance of cooperating in the civil defense effort. Authorities on the subject will be present and entertainment features have been prepared for the occasion.

## Democrats Take Over Affairs; Walsh Chairman

Seven recently-elected Democrats took their oaths Monday and assumed the responsibilities of the local government. The officials are: Austin E. South, Clerk of the Superior Court. Ernest M. Hodges, Sheriff. Richard E. Kelley, Coroner. W. R. Vines, Surveyor. Arlie P. Walsh, J. D. Shoemaker and George Wilson, Commissioners. Dr. H. B. Perry, elected to the State Senate and S. J. Barnes, elected to the House, will be sworn into office when the Legislature convenes the first of the year. They are both Democrats. Board Organizes The Board of Commissioners organized by electing Arlie P. Walsh, chairman of the board. Edgar Brown was named county accountant and tax supervisor. H. M. Hamilton was named tax collector, Wade E. Brown county attorney and George Smitherman, Janitor. The board provided space on the first floor for the office of Sheriff Hodges, and following congratulations from Chairman Paul A. Coffey and other members of the old board, adjourned until next Monday, pending the completion of an audit of the books.

## Mrs. Campbell Taken By Death

Mrs. Mary "Callie" Campbell, age 77 of Vilas, Route 1, died Nov. 27 at her home in Vilas. Funeral services were held at the Union Baptist Church Monday at 2 p. m. by the Rev. Roby Eggers, Rev. C. O. Vance, Rev. E. O. Gore and Rev. Morris Cooper. Burial was in the church cemetery. The husband survives with five sons and two daughters: Pearl, Earle, Raymond and Brady, all of Vilas, Graydon of Mabel, Rhonda Campbell of Lenoir and Clayton Campbell of Condon, Oregon. Also two sisters and two brothers survive.

## Mountaineers Have Six on All-Conference Team

The Mountaineers of Appalachian College placed six players on the All-North State Conference football selections for this season. East Carolina followed in second place with five, and Elon was third with four players. Lenoir Rhyme, who did not take a conference game this season, had three players selected to the team by the coaches of the North State Conference. Players selected from Appalachian were Ned Pennell, Rick Lippard, Ben Quinn, Colon Nifong, Bob Jones, and Jim Ollis. Three All-State Three Mountaineers have also been named to the North Carolina All-State squad. They are Pennell, Ollis, and Quinn. The Mountaineers will close out their football activity for the year on Saturday, December 11, when they meet Newberry College in the Elks Bowl game at Raleigh.



A. E. SOUTH  
Clerk Superior Court



ERNEST HODGES  
Sheriff



W. R. VINES  
Surveyor



R. E. KELLEY  
Coroner



ARLIE W. WALSH  
Commissioner



GEORGE A. WILSON  
Commissioner



J. D. SHOEMAKER  
Commissioner