



WATAUGA DEMOCRAT.



WATAUGA COUNTY

Farming and Tourist Region. First in Carolina in Sheep Production.

1950 Population 18,341

BOONE

The Educational Center of Western North Carolina.

1950 Population 2,973

An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Year Eighteen Eighty-Eight

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1954

TWO SECTIONS—10 PAGES



FROM THE OLD ALBUM . . . A snow removal project in front of the Critcher Hotel in January 1920. From left to right are pictured Byron McBride, Archie Qualls, and a McDougald lad from Georgia who fixed cars at the Highland Motor Co. In the driver's seat are Miss Jennie Critcher and Russell D. Hodges, and standing immediately behind them is Howard Cottrell. Joe C. Cook is shown next, while John Critcher is astride the near horse

and Edgar Cook on the other one. The team of big horses belonged to Burton K. Barrs, and his name appears in the brass letters on the collar pads. He was founder of the Bank of Boone and some banks in Ashe county, and came here from Boston. The identity of the photographer is not known, but the picture comes to the Democrat through the courtesy of Edgar Cook.

National Guard Unit Assured For Boone; Armory Foreseen

Mayor, C. Of C. President Given Official Word

A national guard unit is to be activated in Boone at an early date, following a series of conferences between local officials, civic leaders and guard officers, and prospects are that adequate armory facilities will be built later.

Mayor Gordon H. Winkler and Stanley A. Harris, Chamber of Commerce president, made the announcement, after receiving word from Lieut-Col. Roy W. Forehand, commanding officer of the 112th Field Artillery Battalion of the North Carolina National Guard. Authority for the establishment of the Boone unit came through Col. Forehand from the office of State Adjutant General John Hall Manning.

The unit will start with two officers and twenty-five men and will grow to three officers and fifty men.

To Select Officers

Captain Garland W. Swanson, of Lenoir, a member of Col. Forehand's staff, is expected in Boone today to complete local arrangements and select the officers for the local unit.

At a meeting some time ago a committee of five was appointed to handle details locally. Mr. Grady Moretz, a member of the town board of aldermen, was appointed to represent the town of Boone, and to serve as chairman of the committee; Attorney Wade E. Brown was appointed to represent the Lions Club, Hugh Hagaman of the Trailway Cleaners represents the Merchants Association; Edwin Dougherty of Appalachian College represents the Chamber of Commerce and the American Legion; Wayne Richardson of Boone Drug Co., represents the Rotary Club.

Discuss Housing

A meeting of the committee was held last Thursday afternoon for the purpose of discussing temporary housing for the guard unit. A meeting hall must be provided which is large enough for some drunks, and contain office space and storage facilities for equipment.

It is said that if the unit is successfully operated that an armory adequate for its needs will be constructed. The committee is assisting Capt. Swanson in setting up temporary quarters and locating a site for the armory.

The Start of Promotion

The possibility that Boone might secure a guard unit was made known by Lieut. Boyd Dougherty, of this city, the first of September. Local officials and civic leaders were quick to develop an active local interest in the proposal. Many communities were seeking the small number of units which were to be established, and no time was lost in developing local sentiment.

Lieut. Dougherty pointed out at the time that guard personnel would be available for emergency duty in case of fire, flood or other disaster, and that a guard armory would eventually be constructed, which could be used for certain community purposes.

It is further understood that the guard will appeal strongly to the youngsters. Those who enlist before they are 18½, it is understood, are draft exempt, are building ratings for their two-hour weekly service, their uniforms are supplied and they have two weeks at summer camp with pay. They may continue their college careers at Appalachian.

President Eisenhower has announced that he would name George V. Allen, the Ambassador to India, as Assistant Secretary of State for Near-Eastern, South Asian and African affairs. Mr. Allen will succeed Henry A. Byroad, who will become Ambassador to Egypt, replacing Jefferson Caffery, who is retiring.

Burley Sales To Be Resumed On January 5

Auctions on the Boone burley market will be resumed January 5th, and sales will continue as long as there is tobacco left to be sold.

More than 100,000 pounds of weed were on the local floors Tuesday and receipts are continuing brisk. Officials stated that a considerable amount of burley remains to be marketed throughout the belt, and expect the favorable prices which were paid before Christmas, as to continue into the new year. Farmers are asked to bring their tobacco in for a sale any sale day. There is plenty of room.

College President Gets Appreciated Gift



Dr. B. B. Dougherty, president of Appalachian State Teachers College, is shown here receiving his most-appreciated Christmas gift. It is a check for \$992.00 for the college endowment fund, contributed by members of the Watauga unit of the North Carolina Education Association of which Andy Dickerson of Boone is president.

The money was raised by John Howell, principal of the Appalachi-

an elementary school, who was appointed to this professional project by Mr. Dickerson. Every school in the county contributed.

One janitor gave \$5.00 so that he could be represented. The colored teachers from Watauga Consolidated School wrote: "We are happy to contribute to Dr. Dougherty's endowment fund."

Mr. Howell said that additional contributions will be made before

the end of the school year. He is also giving Dr. Dougherty a roster containing the name of every contributor to the fund. Dr. Dougherty has been interested in raising the endowment fund of the college to the extent that last year he agreed to match any funds that were contributed by the college faculty.

KING STREET

BY ROB RIVERS

MOUNTAIN SPEECH

Used to be that the Watauga Democrat, more specifically Bob Rivers, the first, would get madder'n the traditional "wet hen" when somebody, somewhere, "wrote a piece" about mountain speech . . . Long since, however, such articles have been more in the form of praise of the mountain people than of jst . . . Fact is, many of the sayings came from sources of English literature, and often can be traced to Shakespearean plays . . . Really, we're a lot closer to the King's English than are the folks in some other sections of the country . . . At any rate we like the following written by Edward Garner in the Winston-Salem Journal:

THE SOUTHERN highlander has never been surpassed in colorful speech.

The old ear-catching word, the apt phrase and the evocative expression are, like many of the earth's treasures, rarer now, and seldom heard. But they are far from extinct, and any contact with people of the more remote sections will bring one or more to light.

When a man of the mountains has eaten all he desires, he may refuse more food by saying, "I can't come it."

No one seems to know the origin of this expression, but it is still heard.

The highest compliment a mountaineer can pay the food he is eating is to say, "This eats right where you hold it."

There is a tendency in the mountains, as elsewhere, to imitate Romans when in Rome.

A minister was having dinner with a mountain family, who had a son not noted for any docile, lamb-like qualities. At length the meal was about over.

The minister was asked to partake further of the fried chicken, but assured the wife that he "had eaten plenty, and was satisfied." The son was asked to have more, but replied that he "had eaten plenty, and was sanctified."

The father peered over his steel-rimmed spectacles at his offspring, and remarked, "I'm shore pleased to hear it."

WHEN AN argument develops to the stage where personal combat is favored, one of the contenders is sometimes heard to say, "If you're feeling froggy, jump." In most instances the other lets it be known that his feelings approximate those of a frog, and he lands on his opponent like "a shower of rain."

"A pretty fur piece" doesn't re-

County Farm Agent Gives Annual Report

Summary of the highlights of the County Agents annual report: The Watauga Hereford Breeders sold fifty-two and one-half lots in the twelfth annual sale for \$8,585.00.

The Watauga Hereford Breeders sold fifteen bulls in the second bull sale for an average of \$142.00 per head.

In 1954 Watauga county beef cattle farmers purchased forty-five registered bulls.

Commercial beef cattle producers in Watauga, Avery and Wilkes counties sold 288 calves in the fourth annual Boone Feeder Calf sale for \$22,103.

Four Watauga county 4-H and FFA boys participated in the first annual calf scramble at the Dixie Classic Fair in Winston-Salem and secured three calves.

The Watauga Wool Pool sold 28,919 pounds of wool for \$17,446.87.

The Watauga Lamb Pool sold 2,491 lambs and sheep for \$37,334.00.

The Watauga county purebred Hampshire sheep breeders sold registered sheep in all the sales sponsored by the N. C. Purebred Sheep Breeders Association.

The purebred sheep breeders sold twenty-one rams in the Boone sale for a total of \$1,115.00.

Commercial sheep producers purchased thirty-two registered Hampshire rams in 1954.

Ten commercial sheep producers in Watauga county with an average of 19.4 ewes per flock, produced an average of 23.2 lambs per flock, which were valued at \$451.66. The average income, per ewe was \$27.41.

Nineteen lambs were shown by club members from Watauga county in the Tri-County Lamb Show held in Boone. Royce Hagaman showed the reserve champion lamb.

Dudley Norris, 15 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Norris, Sugar Grove, was declared the N. C. State 4-H Sheep Shearer when he out sheared eighteen other

contestants Saturday, May 8, at the Experiment Station at Statesville. Glenn Reese, son of Mr. and Mrs. Asa L. Reese, placed third in the National 4-H Sheep Shearing contest held in Chicago Friday, December 4, 1953.

Watauga county swine producers purchased three registered boars in 1954.

Hiram Brooks, a unit demonstration farmer, started a dairy production demonstration project in 1954.

Three dairy farmers from Watauga county consigned heifers to

(Continued on page two)

Rites Held For Jacob Isenhour

Jacob Isenhour, 82 years of age, died Christmas day at the home of a son, Frank Isenhour, at Zionville. Mr. Isenhour had been in ill health for some time.

Funeral services were held on Monday at the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, with the Rev. R. C. Eggers officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Survivors, beside the son, included a daughter, Mrs. Leonard Cannon, of Beech Creek, a brother, Carrol Isenhour, Zionville, and 13 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

Good Business Reported Here

Boone merchants, generally speaking, report good Christmas business. Some say that the 1954 trade established a record.

At any rate the town was filled with shoppers as Christmas day drew near, parking space was practically unobtainable, and the sidewalks were jammed with the hurrying crowds.

Most of the stores remained closed Monday as well as Christmas day.

New Telephone Rates For City Are Now In Effect

New telephone rates for Boone were announced last week by Mr. H. M. Inabinet of Lenoir, manager for the Southern Bell Telephone Co.

The rates which became effective December 21 are as follows: Business, 1 party, \$8.50 month; business, 2 party, \$7.25; business, 4 party, \$6.25; business, 8 party, \$4.00.

Residential, 1 party \$3.75, 2 party \$3.10, 4 party \$2.65, 8 party \$2.65.

Mr. Inabinet says there are

small increases in miscellaneous equipment and intrastate calls. He states that in 1946 the company had invested in each telephone the sum of \$203. By 1954 this amount had risen to \$319.00. He states that since 1946 the company has spent \$131,582,000 in the expansion and improvement of service in the state. In Boone \$104,000 was spent in 1954, modernizing the equipment. There are now 1361 phones here, as against 344 in 1946, which adds further to the benefit of each subscriber.

Mrs. Rollins Dies On Sunday

Mrs. Leona Gaston Rollins, 77, died suddenly at the home of a son, Mr. Virgil G. Rollins, and Mrs. Rollins Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

She had been in poor health for several years, and had recently been a patient at Watauga Hospital. However, she had been improved, and her death was unexpected.

Mrs. Rollins, who was a native of Greenville, S. C., was a widow of the late Rev. George W. Rollins, a well-known North Carolina Baptist preacher. The family had lived at Globe, N. C., during Rev. Mr. Rollins' pastorate there, and he had preached in Blowing Rock and other points in this vicinity. She had been in Boone with her son and daughter-in-law since October.

Funeral services were held at the Warsaw Baptist Church, Warsaw, N. C., Tuesday at 3 o'clock, by the Rev. G. Vann Stephens, a former pastor of the church. Burial was in Pinecrest cemetery there.

Surviving are two sons, Virgil G. Rollins, of Boone, and Glenn Rollins of Warsaw. There is one brother, C. E. Gaston of Willow Grove, Pa., and a sister, Mrs. Maude G. Lineberger, of Chester, S. C.

Funeral Held For Mrs. Hardin

Mrs. Chanie Elizabeth Hardin, resident of the Laxon neighborhood, died at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Blain Clawson last Thursday, following a long period of failing health. She was 87 years of age.

Funeral services were held at the Laurel Spring Baptist Church Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. Raymond Hendrix and Rev. Rexford Campbell, of West Jefferson, conducted the rites, and burial was in the Brown cemetery.

Surviving are four sons and five daughters: Edgar B. Hardin, Route 1, Boone; Henry L. Hardin, Temperance, Mich.; James F. Hardin, Fleetwood; W. Leonard Hardin, Jacksonville, N. C.; Dr. J. Ella Hardin, Durham; Mrs. C. R. Triplett, North Wilkesboro; Miss Minnie L. Hardin, Mrs. C. D. Mitchell, Erie Mich.; Mrs. Addie Clawson, Route 1, Boone. There is one sister, Mrs. Harriet Clawson, Route 2, Boone. There are 35 grandchildren and 40 great grandchildren. Her husband died Dec. 6, 1907.

Mrs. Hardin, who was well-known and highly esteemed in this section, was one of the oldest members of the Laurel Springs Baptist Church, having joined more than 80 years ago. She took an active interest in the church.

Prior to her death, the nine sons and daughters were all with her, for the first time in 30 years.

Roger Babson Forecasts Better Business For The New Year

By ROGER W. BABSON

GENERAL BUSINESS. Despite wails from some quarters, 1954 saw a drop in the average Physical Volume of Business of only 5% from the record year 1953. 1955 could see a rise of about the same amount. Certainly, the direction of business until mid-1955 will be upward.

BUSINESS WILL WAKE UP. During 1954 many businessmen rediscovered the meaning of the word "competition." Sales will continue to be made only with real effort in most lines.

CONSUMPTION OUTLOOK. Consumption in a number of lines has been proceeding at a more rapid rate than has production. I forecast a better record in early 1955 for both steel and automobiles.

TEXTILE INDUSTRY. Textile industry operated at extremely low levels throughout most of 1954. I forecast that the textile and coal industries will be in a recovery phase after their long stay in the doldrums.

PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION. I forecast that home building and general construction will be some-

what lower in 1955 than in 1954, but this important industry should still operate at high levels next year.

PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION. I forecast that public construction will increase during 1955. This should mean a rise in the output of cement.

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY. This industry has been suffering from a decline in demand, but should now improve. Government-sponsored planting curtailment and crop loans have reduced free supplies, and may make for higher agricultural prices later in 1955.

ARMAMENT INDUSTRY. The armament industry will still be one of the main floors beneath the economy. The electrical and chemical industries will move at a rate close to that of 1954.

OTHER INDUSTRIES. I am somewhat optimistic on clothing, aircraft manufacturing, air-line transportation, office equipment, electricity output, petroleum production, natural gas, and shoes. I am also fairly bullish on rubber, paper, electrical equipment, certain types of building, and non-ferrous metals.

March Of Dimes Campaign To Start Here January 3

Mr. R. D. Hodges, Jr., Watauga County Chairman for the Infantile Paralysis Committee, states that the 1955 March of Dimes campaign will begin January 3, and continue through the month.

Mrs. E. F. Coe and Mrs. W. C. Richardson have been selected as co-directors of the campaign. Mrs.

O. K. Richardson will be in charge of the coin collectors, and Mr. Howard Cottrell is chairman of the March of Dimes ball, which will be held the latter part of January.

Mr. G. C. Greenes is treasurer and Mrs. Rob Rivers publicity chairman.

WEATHER CONDITIONS. It is foolish for me to attempt to forecast rains, droughts, frosts, etc., for any special section. However, taking the nation as a whole, I look for better weather in 1955.

RETAIL SALES. I forecast that

(Continued on page six.)

Veterans Aid Needy Ones

The Veterans of Foreign Wars and Watauga Post American Legion, working together, provided Christmas cheer for a lot of people through their annual effort in behalf of the needy.

Paul Younce, Commander of the VFW Post, says that fourteen families were helped with gifts. These included substantial amounts of food, clothing and toys.

Hampton Rites Held Thursday

Funeral services were held last Thursday for Russell Hampton, contractor, of Blowing Rock, at the Mt. Vernon Baptist Church. Mr. Hampton died at his home on Blowing Rock Route 1, Tuesday morning following a long illness. Officiating ministers were the Revs. Roby Eggers, Barney Oliver, and Will Cook.

Survivors include the widow, two sons, Wendell and J. R., of Blowing Rock Route 1; four daughters, Mrs. Dean Trivett, Mrs. Stuart Thornton, Portsmouth, Va., Mrs. Sam Shepherd, Alexandria, Va., and Miss Verdola Hampton of the home.