

A Backward Glance

If you like to read of the early days in Boone turn to page four for "Our Early Files", items of sixty, thirty-nine and fifteen years ago.

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

Date	High	Low	% Hum.	Wind
Feb. 7	43	28	40	—
Feb. 8	55	25	43	04
Feb. 9	53	34	44	—
Feb. 10	52	35	42	75
Feb. 11	45	35	33	12
Feb. 12	38	24	36	06
Feb. 13	39	24	34	—

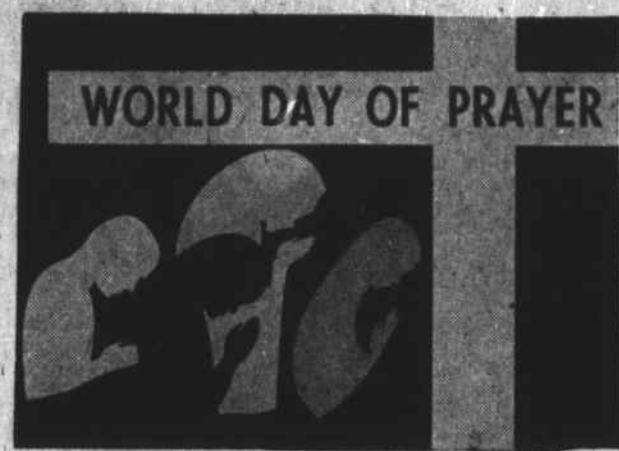
VOLUME LXVIII—NO. 33

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1956

12 PAGES—TWO SECTIONS

Civic Projects For Year Suggested To Chamber

By V. G. ROLLINS
The Boone Chamber of Commerce entertained suggestions and received quite a few—from members on projects to be undertaken this year, at its first regular monthly luncheon meeting of 1956, held at noon Tuesday.



World Day Of Prayer To Be Observed Friday

A day of prayer begun by a small group of U. S. women seventy years ago will be marked by millions of Christians around the globe in services dedicated to world peace and understanding. On Friday, the World Day of Prayer will be observed in more than 20,000 U. S. communities and in more than 134 other countries on almost every continent and island.

Boone Postal Receipts Hit New High In '55

Postal receipts at the Boone Postoffice have again reached an all-time record high, Lyle B. Cook, acting postmaster, says. Postal receipts for the calendar year ending December 31, 1955, were \$54,991.90 as compared to \$49,672.77 for the same period in 1954. This is an increase of \$5,319.13 over the calendar year 1954 and an increase of approximately \$20,000 over the five year period from 1950.

Civil Defense Plan Is Mapped

A meeting of representatives from various club groups was held Wednesday evening, February 8th, at the Gateway Restaurant, to discuss the local need of a Civil Defense Program to cover all of Watauga County. Mr. C. R. Nicholson, Deputy Director of the State Bureau of Civil Defense, met with the group showing a film "Time Of Disaster" and gave an enlightening talk about the probable risks and needs in our area. Further discussion by club groups was encouraged as a follow-up of this meeting.

Retail Sales In Watauga In 1955 Break Records

44,000 Enroll In Colleges

The current enrollment in North Carolina colleges stood at about 44,000 students at the end of last year, states a recent report prepared for the White House Conference on Education. Currently, the enrollment is slowly mounting and is a continuation of a trend begun in 1952. Between 1948 and 1952 the number was on a decline—from an all-time peak of 48,000 down to 42,000—due to the graduation of students studying under World War II's GI Bill of Rights.



Harmon Chosen Queen; Hulon, Maid Of Honor

In a campus wide election held last week, the May Queen and attendants for this year's festivities were chosen. Miss Carolyn Harmon, a business education major from Lincolnton, was selected May Queen. Her maid of honor will be Teresa Hulon, a senior from Lakeview, S. C. Teresa is a grammar grade education major.

Democrats Select Three For County Elections Board

Raleigh Cottrell, Major J. H. Thomas and W. G. Hartzog received the highest number of votes for membership on the county board of elections at a meeting of the County Democratic Executive Committee held last Wednesday. Cottrell and Thomas each received 11 votes, Hartzog 9, Custer Wallace received 8 and C. D. McNeil 5.

Student Recital Set For Monday

The music department of Appalachian College will present a group of students in recital Monday evening February 20th at the Fine Arts Building auditorium. The following students will appear in vocal and instrumental numbers:

Four Alleged Robbers Taken At Blowing Rock

Lenoir—Feb. 10—A chase by State Highway Patrol Sgt. Frank Kennerly and Caldwell District Forester Ranger E. P. Simmons, plus the assistance of other officers and bloodhounds from Caldwell and Watauga State Prison Camps, led to the capture of four alleged armed robbers near Blowing Rock early this morning. The four men, all from West Jefferson, were accused of holding up a service station proprietor at Crossnore at 10 p. m. Thursday and making off with \$150 to \$200 in cash.

Northwestern Bank Gains 37 Places In Rank

New York—The Northwestern Bank of North Wilkesboro, which reported deposits of \$45,359,216 on December 31st, gained 37 places in its standing among the 500 largest banks in the United States during 1955, according to figures released by Clinton B. Axford, editor of American Banker.

James Proffit Succumbs Sunday

James Franklin Proffit, 61, died Sunday, February 12, at his home on Route 2, Boone. Funeral services were held at 2 p. m. Monday, February 13, at the Meat Camp Baptist Church, with the Rev. Paul Phipps and the Rev. R. C. Eggers officiating at the rites. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Colonel Ward Rites Are Held

William Colonel Ward, 78, died Tuesday, February 7, at his home in Boone, following an extended illness. Funeral services were held at 3 p. m. Wednesday, February 8, at the Liberty Methodist Church, conducted by the Rev. E. F. Troutman, and burial was in the church cemetery.

E. C. Luttrell Taken By Death

Mr. E. C. Luttrell, brother of Mr. Mack Luttrell of Boone, and a resident of Montezuma, died last Wednesday at Crossnore Hospital, following a long illness. He was 80 years old. Funeral services were held Friday at the Montezuma Methodist Church, Rev. Arthur Sanders and Rev. Collins Benfield, pastor of the church, conducted the rites. Burial was in the Newland cemetery.

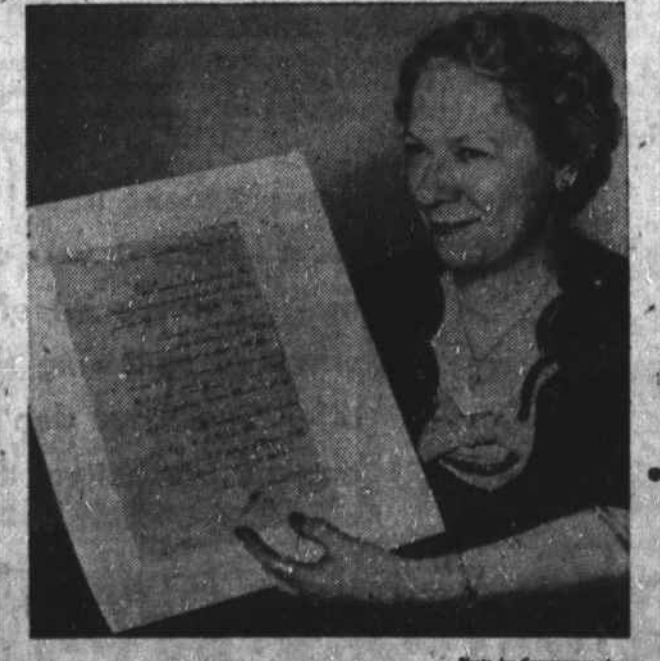


Photo by Cameron, Inc.
"THE JUST PRIDE OF PATRIOTISM"—Miss Gertrude S. Carraway, of North Carolina, President General, National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, urges nationwide observance of American History Month to fortify the country against the spread of Communism. She is showing one of George Washington's letters owned by the D. A. R.

Wrestling Tourney Is Set For March

By RUSSELL McDONALD
Plans for the 1956 Carolina's AAU Wrestling Tournament are progressing very well, according to an announcement from Appalachian wrestling coach, R. W. Watkins chairman of the event. The tournament is set for Boone and the Appalachian campus on March 9 and 10.

Benson Burley Cut Proposals Killed

The Senate and House Agriculture committees last week approved bills to erase cuts in tobacco quotas as efforts went forward to speed final congressional approval. Both committees unanimously approved bills to wipe out quota cuts ordered by Secretary of Agriculture Benson for burley, dark air-cured and dark fired tobacco. The House committee also approved a bill to cancel a cut in quotas for Maryland type tobacco. The Senate committee delayed action on Maryland quotas because a bill to restore that cut had not been introduced in the Senate.

December Trade 30 Per Cent Over '54 Figure

Watauga county retail stores did over 30 per cent more business last December than in the same period in 1954, it is revealed by the Boone Merchants Association, which has just received the official State report on retail trade in the area. The report further indicates that business activity in Watauga showed an increase every month during 1955, and the total of the year is about 25 per cent above 1954. The Merchants Association calls attention to a survey recently made by the Asheville Citizen, indicating the buying capacity of each county in Western North Carolina and the amount of money spent within the county itself.

Heart Fund Gifts To Be Received By Mail

Collections of contributions to fight against heart disease through the Heart Fund for Heart Sunday, February 26, will be conducted by mail instead of by a house-to-house canvass as originally planned, it was announced this week by Dr. William M. Smith, chairman of the 1956 Heart Fund campaign in Watauga County. Marking the climax and high point of the month-long drive, letters containing informative literature on diseases of the heart and respiratory system, together with return envelopes addressed to Mrs. John-G. Martin, Heart Sunday chairman, will be mailed so as to reach addresses not later than Saturday, February 25.

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Watauga county stores, according to the report, sold a larger proportion than any other county except Buncombe, meaning that a great many people from other counties trade in Asheville. Merchants Association officials point out that a more aggressive advertising campaign was carried on in the local newspaper and through other mediums of publicity than ever before during the month of December. The increased amount of retail advertising was apparent through the year, but there was a heavy concentration by the Association and by the individual merchants at year's end, when the trade figures zoomed to new records. The Merchants Association is very proud of the record of business activity in the past year, and of the fact that "Watauga county people are realizing more and more that they can get the best deal at home."

Dr. Smith urges that everyone receiving one of these letters enclose a contribution either in cash or check, and drop it in the mail promptly, as no house-to-house solicitation will be made. He pointed out that the size of the gift is entirely up to the contributor, and all donations large and small will be gratefully received. Posters urging all residents of this community to support the fight against heart disease vigorously, went up this week in store windows and other public places throughout the city. "It is hoped," said Dr. Smith, "that an overwhelming majority of our citizens will respond to this appeal in the war against diseases of the heart and blood vessels, which, in this and virtually every other American community, are responsible for roughly half of all deaths."

For the first time in history, college enrollment this year is expected to pass the 3,000,000 mark. Fall enrollment surveys showed 2,721,000 students in institutions of higher learning, including junior colleges. Expected additional enrollment during the academic year would raise the number by another quarter million or so. The total this year is 8.8 per cent more than the previous high of 2,500,000 in the fall of 1954. A "poor man's radar" has been developed for airplanes.

It is expected that some seventy wrestlers will take part in the two-day affair. Teams have already been entered by Camp LeJeune Marine Base, East Carolina, N. C.

Sen. Butler (R-Md) later introduced legislation to restore the Maryland cut. Throughout committee discussion the bills have been referred to as emergency legislation and indications were that every method possible will be used to speed up a final vote. Senate action probably will come first. There it is likely that passage of the bills by unanimous consent will be requested. Under that procedure they could be passed at any time but a single objection could halt action.