

Date	High	Low	Wind	Clouds
March 6	71	53	40	48
March 7	72	51	35	48
March 8	42	19	35	7
March 9	53	21	47	7
March 10	56	24	47	01
March 11	58	38	53	19
March 12	56	32	53	19

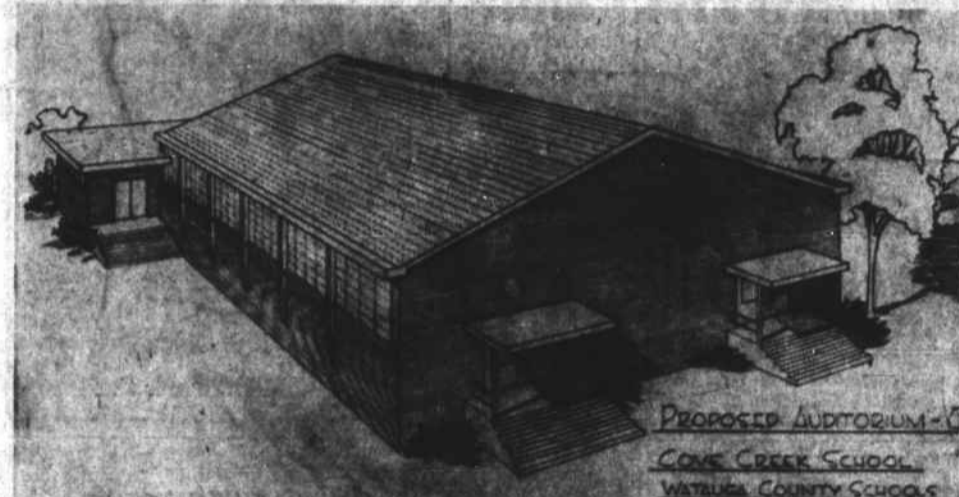
*trace of snow.

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.

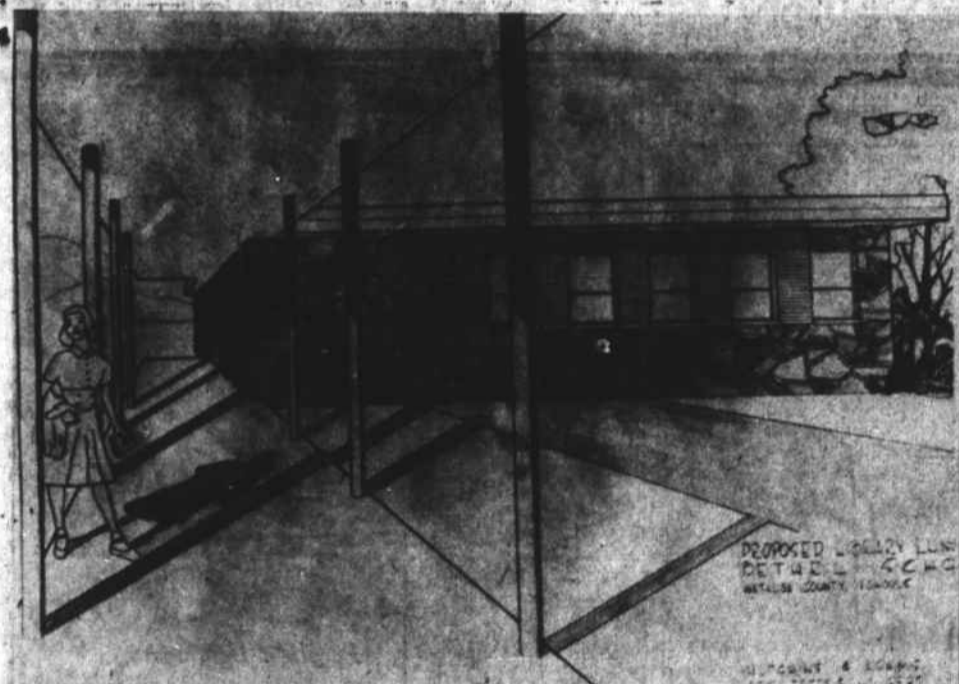
Proposed New School Buildings



PROPOSED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BLOWING ROCK, N. CAROLINA. HUTCHINS & ADAMS ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS, STATE STREET, N. C.



PROPOSED AUDITORIUM—COVE CREEK SCHOOL, WATAUGA COUNTY SCHOOLS



PROPOSED CAFETERIA, LIBRARY, CLASSROOMS, BETHEL, WATAUGA COUNTY SCHOOLS

Charity Patients, Other Factors Listed As Problems At Hospital

Chamber to Push Four '56 Projects

The Boone Chamber of Commerce will concentrate its efforts on four principal projects during the current year, it was announced Tuesday at the monthly luncheon meeting.

Hugh Hagaman, who presented the committee's report, said this does not mean that the more than a score of other projects suggested at the February meeting will be forgotten, but it would be virtually impossible to push all of them to a conclusion this year.

The projects designated to receive priority were:

1. A United Fund, to provide for one increased donation covering the various fund drives usually conducted separately. An organizational meeting on this will be held at the courthouse at 7 p. m. Monday, March 26, he said.
2. Cleaning up and beautifying the town. Concrete plans are already being formulated for this project on a continuing basis.
3. Building a community center. With the prospects for an armory, which would solve this problem, still quite dim, Mr. Hagaman said independent plans were going forward for a locally-financed community building.
4. The enlargement of city water and sewer system for emergencies and future needs. A mass meeting will be called in the near future, with all interested persons asked to attend and express opinions.

The meeting was unusually well-attended, with several members having returned from Florida vacations, including former president H. W. Wilcox, who reported that he had been "spreading the word about Boone" down south.

Guests also included members of various woman's clubs, garden and demonstration clubs throughout the county.



BOONE BOYS—TRI-COUNTY CHAMPS—A victory over Beaver Creek from Ashe county, gave Appalachian High School boys the Tri-County Tournament championship. The boys are, left to right, first row: B. M. Miller, Bobby Brendell, Phil Templeton, assistant coach Harold Lakey, head coach Leroy Rogers, Charles Michael and Fred Gragg; back row: manager Cecil Tester, Jack Creed, Johnny Green, Bobby Watkins, Bobby Wilcox, Bill Gragg, and Keith Phillips, manager.—Photo by J. A. "Rabbit" Moretz



ALLEGHANY GIRLS WIN—Tri-County Tournament winners in the girls' division, who defeated Blowing Rock lassies in the finals are from Piney Creek. They are, left to right, first row: Katy Busic, Becky Grubb, Duane Jones, Betty Jones, Shirley Delp and Jean Rutherford; back row: Susie Hill, Carole Williams, Pinky Bledsoe, Gaynell Baugus, Virginia Collins, Hilda Parsons and coach Evelyn Mitchell.—Photo by J. A. "Rabbit" Moretz

Dr. Owsley Makes Frank Appraisal Local Situation

By V. G. ROLLINS
The Boone Chamber of Commerce was told Tuesday that Watauga Hospital is operating at a loss, and that if the financial structure of the institution is not revised, "the day will not be long off when there will be no hospital here."

Dr. Lawrence H. Owsley, resident surgeon, who addressed the March meeting of the Chamber, attributed the situation in which the hospital finds itself to (1) a net loss on indigent, or charity, patients, and (2) a lack of public understanding and sympathy.

He pointed out that indigent, or non-paying patients make up 10 per cent of the total hospital days, and the current deficit is 10.9 per cent of a year's income.

Both Dr. Owsley and Wade E. Brown, chairman of the hospital's operations committee, who also spoke on the subject, suggested that the county should pay the full cost of hospitalization for those persons who are receiving public assistance.

"If we could get pay for the charity patients," Mr. Brown said, "we could wipe out the deficit." Dr. Owsley said the financial difficulties of the hospital are quite a handicap, but the lack of public understanding and sympathy, manifest in many ways, is far worse.

The full text of Dr. Owsley's speech follows:

"I shall first refresh your mind as to what the Watauga Hospital, Inc., means to Boone and Watauga county, and for that matter, a larger territory and many people outside of Watauga County.

First of all, it is a hospital that is fully approved by the Joint Commission made up of the American College of Surgeons, the American Hospital Association and the American Medical Association. The hospital has been measured according to stringent, exacting standards and found to be worthy of full approval. In the informal off-the-record words of Dr. Peter Ward, our inspector, it was described as a superior hospital. This means that the physical plant, maintenance and equipment is up to standard. The medical staff is organized. The members of the medical staff are competent in their respective fields. Staff work and medical records are well-organized and adequately executed. The laboratory, the X-ray department, the pathology service, the dietary department, the nursing staff and the business office are all worthy of approval.

More than that, the policies of the hospital in regard to patient care, its attitude toward charity as well as full pay patients, and even the morale of its various employees are all commendable. The hospital was provisionally approved in 1946 and at the time of the next inspection in 1952, the year (continued on page 3, 2nd section)

Walter Hampton Funeral Monday

Statesville — Walter Hampton, 67, retired farmer, died Saturday at his home in the Central School community after two months' illness.

A native of Watauga county, Mr. Hampton was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jordan Hampton. He lived near Boone until he moved to Iredell county about a year ago.

Funeral services were held Monday at 2:30 at Mount Vernon Baptist Church in the old home neighborhood, and burial was in Mountlawn Memorial Park, Boone, N. C.

The survivors include the widow, the former Miss Claudia Elrod; a daughter, Mrs. Vance Cook of Statesville, Route 2; four brothers, Arkie and Lindley Hampton of Blowing Rock and Augustus Hampton of Boone; three sisters, Mrs. J. W. Johnson, Elizabethton, Tenn.; Mrs. Ellis Storie, Boone; Mrs. Connie Wheeler of Blowing Rock. There are two grandchildren.

Watauga Board Submitted Elkland Proposal Jan. 9th

By V. G. ROLLINS

A school situation involving Ashe and Watauga Counties, which has been simmering for several years, appeared near some sort of solution when the Ashe County board of education moved last week to go ahead with construction of a new grammar school at Elkland, near the Watauga line.

The new school has been in the talking stage for the past three years, with Ashe hoping for a joint financing program with Watauga, said A. B. Hurt, superintendent of Ashe schools.

"The Watauga board before the present one turned us down flatly," Mr. Hurt said. "Now, the new board says it may go along with us."

Whatever the Watauga decision, the construction of the school will begin no later than April 15, the Ashe superintendent added.

About 200 pupils now attend the old school (at Todd), which Mr. Hurt termed "a firetrap and unfit for use as a school." Only 35 of these are residents of Watauga county.

Watauga's Proposal
W. Guy Angell, superintendent of Watauga schools, said a proposal stating Watauga's position in the matter was submitted to the Ashe County board on January 9, 1956, with the provision that would be binding for sixty days, and requested the Ashe board to review the proposal and notify the Watauga board of their decision.

The sixty days expired on March 8, Mr. Angell said, and no reply has yet been received from the Ashe County board.

The proposal submitted by the Watauga board was as follows: "In view of the deplorable state of Elkland School at Todd, and in

view of the fact that the schools in Watauga County are congested, and in view of the fact that Todd is a recognized community with a long established school, this board would be in favor of constructing

a new school in the vicinity of Todd provided the following conditions are agreed upon.

"1. The school be of standard construction and approved by the State Division of School planning.

"2. Provided this school be a joint county effort financed by Ashe and Watauga Counties on a share proportionate to the enrollment of the present Todd school as determined by the residence of the students during the first three months of the 1955-56 school year.

"3. Provided that this school construction is approved by the county board of commissioners for county funds involved in this project.

"4. Provided that this unit be administered jointly by the two counties and that each county have at least one representative on the school committee.

"5. That maintenance cost be borne jointly by the two counties in proportion to the number of children represented from each county as determined by the county school boards.

"6. This provision shall be binding upon this board for the next 60 days, during which time it is requested that the county school board of Ashe review this proposal and notify the Watauga County School Board of their decision."

The Ashe board has reportedly drawn up a resolution to send to the State Board of Education to determine if the state will furnish any funds.

Watauga has ample facilities at the Green Valley school, five miles from Todd, to take care of the 35 Watauga pupils involved, if the proposal for a state-approved building on a proportionate share basis is not accepted, Mr. Angell said.

Albert Miller, Rowan County, Runs For House

Salisbury — Albert M. Miller, prominent Rowan county Republican leader, has been nominated by the Ninth District, Republican party, to oppose Rep. Hugh Q. Alexander, Democrat incumbent in the general election in November.

Miller is a farmer-dairyman, chairman of the Rowan County GOP executive committee, a trustee of Lenoir-Rhyne college, and a leading Lutheran layman.

Miller was picked as the Republican candidate for the Congressional office at the Republican State Convention in Durham Saturday.

Open nominations from the floor of the Rowan convention on Friday failed to bring forth a candidate, so a committee was appointed to pick a nominee. The committee had a short session and agreed to name a candidate at the state convention.

Rotary Plans Annual Easter Seal Campaign

Mr. W. W. Chester has been named chairman of the Rotary Club's Easter seal campaign in Watauga county, in line with the program of the club to give every possible aid to crippled children.

Mr. Chester states that for more than a quarter of a century the Crippled Children's Society has been providing care for the crippled and informing the public of their needs, spending Easter Seal dollars responsibly, wisely and well.

Opportunity to contribute by mail will be given. It is hoped that everyone will aid in this campaign.

Boone Leaders Go To Elkin For Meeting On Added Industry

Stanley A. Harris, E. F. Coe, W. R. Winkler, of Boone, and Dr. Walter Keys of Blowing Rock are among those attending the new industry meeting being held in Elkin Thursday.

John W. Hanes, vice-president of Olin Mathieson Company, New York, will be the featured speaker.

The announcement of the industrial meeting was made by Frank F. Willingham, president of Indera Mills Company, Winston-Salem, and chairman of the industry division of the Northwest North Carolina Development Association.

Mr. Hanes will address the gathering of community leaders from the eleven northwest counties, who are meeting for the purpose of learning specific steps which can be taken to bring new payrolls into their communities.

Others on the program for the afternoon meeting are: William F. Marshall, chairman, board of directors, State Planters Bank, Walnut Cove, and president, Northwest North Carolina Development Association; Hugh G. Chatham, president, Chatham Manufacturing Company, Elkin; Chester S. Davis, special writer, Piedmont Publishing Company, Winston-Salem, and board member, Northwest North

Carolina Development Association; W. C. Guthrie, development engineer, State Department of Conservation and Development, Raleigh; and Archie K. Davis, chairman, Board of Directors, Wachovia Bank and Trust Company, Winston-Salem, and board member, Northwest North Carolina Development Association.

"This meeting will be of utmost importance to the communities in the eleven northwest counties because it will place in the hands of their representatives a new industrial brochure designed specifically to sell the area to new industries," said Mr. Willingham.

The meeting will be held from 2:15 to 4:15 p. m., at the Elkin Y. M. C. A.

Mr. Hanes, a native of Winston-Salem and a graduate of Yale University, has led a colorful career in the fields of industry and governmental service.

He has been associated with many large firms throughout the United States. He is a director and chairman of the finance and executive committees of the U. S. Lines Company, Elkin; Chester S. Davis, special writer, Piedmont Publishing Company, Winston-Salem, and board member, Northwest North

United States in 1938, and as under-secretary of that governmental branch the following year.

In 1940, Mr. Hanes was financial vice-president and director of the Olin Industries, Inc., and was president of the Ecusta Paper Corporation, which Olin Industries purchased. He was largely responsible for the merger of Olin Industries and Mathieson Chemical Corporation in 1954, and has retained the titles he assumed in 1949.

Mr. Hanes still owns a large farm in Surry county and spends considerable time there.

Story Hour Is Set At College

Each Saturday morning from 10:15 until 11:00 o'clock, the Elementary Education Department of the college plans to have a story hour. Children ranging in ages six to eight are invited to attend.

The story hour will be held in the Education Building (old elementary school), in room 306.