



**NEW CHAMBER LEADERS.**—The Boone Chamber of Commerce installed its officers and directors for the coming year at the annual Ladies' Night meeting Friday. Left to right are G. C. Greene, Jr., outgoing president; Jerry Coe, director; Harold Rice, director; W. Ralph Winkler, director and honorary vice-president; O. K. Richardson, second vice-president; James P. Marsh, treasurer; Herman W. Wilcox, director; Glenn R. Andrews, president; Mrs. Joyanne Wood, secretary; Stanley A. Harris, manager; and Richard Morhauser, director. One of the three newly-elected directors, Grant Greene, was not present.

## Doughton Speaks As C of C Installs New Slate Officers

By V. G. ROLLINS  
The Boone Chamber of Commerce heard an address by the Hon. J. K. Doughton of Sparta, member of the state legislature from Alleghany County, at its annual Ladies Night and installation of officers meeting Friday night in the cafeteria of the Elementary School. President G. C. Greene, Jr., presided.

Meeting jointly with the Chamber was the Boone Rotary Club, which postponed its regular meeting on Thursday night.

The dinner was prepared and served by the Rev. E. A. Dillard and his staff of Hebron Colony at Shulls Mills.

Following recommendations of the nominating committee, reported by Chairman Jerry Coe, L. E. Tuckwiller, county agent, conducted installation ceremonies for the following officers: Glenn R. Andrews, president; J. V. Caudill, first vice-president; O. K. Richardson, second vice-president; and James P. Marsh, treasurer.

New directors installed were Richard Morhauser, Harold Rice, and Grant Greene.

Stanley A. Harris was re-appointed as manager, and Mrs. Joyanne Wood as secretary.

Elected as honorary vice-presidents were Dr. W. H. Plemmons, president of Appalachian State Teachers College, W. Ralph Winkler, and Clyde R. Greene.

Treasurer Alfred T. Adams read the financial report, showing a balance on hand at the beginning of the year of \$832.49, receipts of \$3,577.94, expenditures of \$4,165.72, and a balance on hand at the end of the year of \$244.71.

In the president's report, President Greene cited the following accomplishments during the year:

With help of ladies' organizations, ministers, and other groups and individuals, several unsightly vacant lots in town were cleaned up and beautified.

Helped town officials get bonds voted for a more adequate water supply.

Joined the Western North Carolina Highlands Associations to help promote the area as a tourist attraction.

Participated in a nationwide advertising program by the Colgate.

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**FISHING CHAMP.**—Watt H. Gragg presents a handsome trophy to O. K. Richardson at the annual Chamber of Commerce meeting Friday night. The trophy, forwarded by the Morehead City Chamber of Commerce, was awarded to Mr. Richardson by the "Fabulous Fishermen of Morehead City" for pulling in the largest Spanish mackerel of the season at the seacoast resort. The mackerel which brought the prize was taken the last week in September and weighed just four and a quarter ounces under four pounds.—Staff photo by Joe Minor.

## Preachers And Deacons Meet

The Three Forks Baptist Association, composed of 45 churches, held its annual school for ministers and deacons last week, under the leadership of the Rev. Hoyt Robinson, in cooperation with the Rev. Guy S. Cain, missionary in the northwest area for the Baptist State Convention.

Sessions were held for preachers each morning, Monday through Thursday, at the First Baptist Church of Boone, said the pastor, the Rev. L. H. Hollingsworth, and for deacons in various churches

throughout the county in the evenings. These meetings were held at the Shulls Mills, Meat Camp, Middle Fork, Bethel, Mabel, Mount Vernon, and Rutherford churches.

Speakers at both the preachers' and deacons' classes included the Rev. Vernon Sparrow, minister of education of the First Baptist Church of Lenoir; the Rev. Earl Pearson, associational missionary, Caldwell Association; the Rev. Mr. Cain; Dr. Earl Bradley, secretary

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## Mrs. Bob Church Takes Honors In Christmas Decorations Contest

Mrs. Bob Church won top honors in the Christmas Decorations Contest for the best unified outdoor display. A color scheme of blue, white and silver was carried out on the door, lighted tree and carolers under a lampost, highlighted by Rudolph the reindeer with a twinkling nose, pulling a sleigh.

Second place in this division went to O. K. Richardson for an outdoor tree lighted with all-white light, with white reindeer under a window in the background.

Other winning entries were judged as follows:

Best decorated window—1st, Miss Elizabeth Lord; 2nd, Coaker Triplett; honorable mention, Bill Bingham.

Most attractive door—1st, Mrs. Bob Church; 2nd, Jack Norris; honorable mention, Mrs. Mamie

Trivette, Jimmy Winkler, Bill Bingham, Dr. Hadley Wilson.

Best outside display—1st, Ralph Buchanan, Creche scene; 2nd, Charlie Wilcox, Santa and reindeer mounting the roof; honorable mention, Dr. Hadley Wilson, replicas of their children grouped around a tree.

Most attractive mantle—1st, Mrs. O. K. Richardson; 2nd, Mrs. Dempsey Wilcox; 3rd, Mrs. Jerry Coe.

Children's entries — 1st, the Howard Williams' children for a window display using Christmas cards and lighted candles; 2nd, the Alton Batts' children for a table top Creche scene; 3rd, Clarence Wilson for a decorated outdoor tree.

The contest, which originated four years ago, was judged Sunday night. Co-sponsors of the event

are Junior Woman's Club, Worthwhile Woman's Club, Blue Ridge Garden Club and Gardenerettes.

Mrs. Howard Williams was chairman of the event.

A special classification was added this year in order to mention the following four homes, decorated by members of the Blue Ridge Garden Club for their "Tour of Holiday Homes," but not judged on a competition basis. "The most outstanding" classification included the Frank Paynes, Wayne Richardsons, Jim Councils and J. C. Clines.

Cash awards will be presented to winners of the contest.

Judges were Mrs. B. W. Stallings, Mrs. Ed Qualls, Mrs. Dwight Isenhour, and Mrs. W. C. Richardson.

## Stores To Observe Holidays

A majority of the stores and other business places in Boone will be closed Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25, and Wednesday, December 26, in observance of the Christmas holidays. The Northwestern Bank and the county offices in the courthouse and rock building will also be closed Tuesday and Wednesday, and the offices of the Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants Association will be closed Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the 24th, 25th, and 26th.

The post office windows will be closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day, Tuesday, January 1. However, mail will be received and dispatched as usual on those days, said Acting Postmaster Lyle Cook.

## Gen. Manning To Scan Sites For New Armory

Gen. John Manning, adjutant general of the State of North Carolina, will be in Boone on Wednesday to look over prospective sites for the proposed construction of an armory and community center building, according to an announcement by Stanley A. Harris, manager of the Boone Chamber of Commerce.

Gen. Manning will have lunch at the Daniel Boone Hotel with Howard Cottrell, chairman, and other members of the armory committee, Mr. Harris said.

## Planning Group Is Elected

A planning committee in rural development has been named for Watauga County.

This was done last week at a meeting of the Watauga Rural Development Committee at the courthouse.

Representatives of various fields on the planning committee are:

Business and industry—Glenn R. Andrews; health — Dr. Mary Michal; education—Guy Angell; welfare—Dave Mast; homemaking—Miss Jean Childers; marketing—Mrs. Howard Carlson; agriculture—Howard Williams of the Watauga Soil Conservation office; livestock—Robert G. Shipley, poultry—Dallas Wilson; recreation—Dr. Walter Keys; religion—The Rev. E. H. Lowman.

At the courthouse meeting, reports on the present situation in rural development were given by Miss Jane Street, assistant home agent; Mr. Angell; Mrs. Sarah F. Giles of the State Department of Public Welfare; Wade E. Brown, on recreational facilities; Alfred Adams on county finances; J. B. Robinson, Farmers Home Administration supervisor; the Rev. H. Winters, religious opportunities; health—Dr. Michal.

## Driver Award Is Announced

Chief Glenn Richardson announces this week's winner of the courtesy driving commendation to be Miss Mary Ruth Roark of Reese.

## Oliver Winner Of Chevrolet

Emmet Oliver, Deputy Sheriff, is the winner of the Chevrolet given away by the Junior Chamber of Commerce in connection with their benefit drive for crippled children.

## Health Dept. Closes Monday

The Health Department office will be closed December 24, 25, and 26 for Christmas holidays.

Russian tanks, posted near the Austria-Hungarian frontier, were reported to have fired on Hungarian refugees in an effort to halt their flight westward.

## Local Burley Sales Pass Two Million Pounds Mark



**PAY DAY FOR FARMERS.**—Burley tobacco growers crowd around the pay window at Mountain Burley Warehouse to collect for tobacco sold. Growers appeared pleased with prices, which ranged in the high 60s for most of that sold last week. The market closes for the holidays, Friday, December 21, and re-opens Wednesday, January 2.—Staff photo by Joe C. Minor.

## Interior Officials To Explain Park Tourist Facilities Plan

Raleigh.—U. S. Department of Interior officials have asked for an opportunity to explain plans for tourist facilities on the Blue Ridge Parkway to the State Board of Conservation and Development.

State C&D Director William P. Saunders said National Park Service representatives have been invited to appear at the C&D board's next meeting in Raleigh on January 7 to discuss the subject.

In reply to a resolution adopted by the C&D Board at a meeting in Winston-Salem last October, the Interior Department said plans for overnight lodging and restaurant facilities on the Parkway will not compete with private industry in nearby communities.

The board's resolution called on Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton to direct the National Park Service to stop building tourist facilities "competition with privately owned similar accommodations in nearby communities" until public hearings are held on the need for such government facilities.

Elmer F. Bennett, assistant to Secretary Seaton, replied in a letter to Director Saunders that apparently the C&D Board and the Park Service are in agreement "as to the method of providing public services." He suggested that a meeting with Park Service officials might result in a "clear understanding" of the plans.

If public hearings seem desirable after the discussion with board members, "we will be pleased to make suitable arrangements," Bennett added.

Saunders said public hearings on the subject should be held in the Western part of the state so that "people directly affected can be heard."

Bennett said a 10-year program being undertaken by the National Park Service includes plans for four million dollars worth of concession developments along the Parkway. These would not be provided at government expense "but through investment by private enterprise in other areas administered by the National Park Service," Bennett explained.

"These accommodations are planned only at locations which are not served adequately by nearby communities," he added. The Park Service would provide the necessary roads, parking and utility services "as is customary in the national parks," Bennett said.

Facilities proposed on the North Carolina portion of the Parkway include: Expansion of dining space and additional rooms at Doughton Park; lunch facilities at Tompkins Knob, Linville Falls and Tennessee Bald; and improvement of existing lunch facilities at Cumberland Knob and Crabtree Meadows.

## Clinic Is Set For Children

The Crippled Children's Clinic will be held at the Health Department Friday, December 21, at 8:00 a. m. Dr. J. S. Gaul, Jr., will be the attending physician.

## Market Will Recess After Friday's Sale

The Boone burley tobacco market, after a slow start due to poor grading and handling conditions, has now passed the two million mark in total poundage sold for the season thus far.

"The rainy weather started it rolling," said a spokesman for the warehouse.

Average price per hundred pounds for the entire season through Monday of this week was \$62.13, highest in the history of the market, with an estimated figure for Tuesday's sale expected to bring the total volume to about 2,150,000 pounds.

R. C. Coleman Associates, operators of the local market, urged growers to bring as much tobacco in as possible before the Christmas recess.

The growers are not a bit bashful about showing sales slips and talking about the local market.

For instance: Jim Proffitt of Vilas, displayed a sales slip showing he averaged 66c for his burley.

J. M. Sherwood and his son, Ralph, placed their crop on the floors last week and Ralph averaged better than 65c, getting 66c for five piles and 64c for one. His father had a slightly lower average with one pile getting down to 57c and the rest bringing 66c. Mr. Sherwood, Sr., said he had been selling on the local market since its institution in Boone, and will continue to do so because he has always been treated right, and then too, the local market helps "pay the taxes of Watauga county," keeping the tax rate for farmers low.

Henry Younce, of Sugar Grove, sold his entire crop for an average of 65½c, and wished he had more to put on the floor.

Conley Harmon, of Beech Creek, had a slip showing an average of 66c for his day's sale. Mrs. Harmon said the Boone "tobacco market is the best thing" that has ever been devised for Boone and for the farm people.

The market will close for the Christmas holidays after Friday's sale, November 21, and re-open on Wednesday, January 2nd.

Mountain Burley Warehouse No. 1 will be open to receive tobacco at all times during the Christmas recess, it was announced.



**CHRISTMAS TREE MAN.**—R. S. Jones, Watauga county Christmas tree supplier, helps Julian McGuire select tree. Mr. Jones has been selling Christmas trees in the area for more than 20 years and says that for the past 10 years he has averaged better than 1,500 trees per year. He bought trees locally as long as he could get them, but now he depends on Virginia and Canada to supply the need. His season begins, he says, the first week in December with people buying trees right up to Christmas.—Staff photo by Joe C. Minor.

## Democrat Edition Is Planned Saturday

A second edition of the Democrat is planned for this week, in order that those responsible for its publication may be able to observe the holidays at home.

Present plans call for the publication of next week's edition, which will carry the December 27th date line on Saturday of this week, the 22nd. It couldn't be published next Wednesday and allow the staff any time off. So it's Saturday.

The edition will consist largely of Christmas Greetings ads, copy and art for which will be

supplied by our advertising department, and Mr. Rollins begins offering the ads this (Wednesday) morning. Mr. Rollins and the publisher will appreciate the usual fine understanding of the merchants and others in their efforts to get off for Christmas. Likewise correspondents, and others interested in having matter in the early edition should have their copy in no later than Friday.

The Democrat office will be closed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

## Schools Close For Christmas

The Watauga county public schools will close for the Christmas holidays Friday and the students will return to classes Wednesday, January 2.

Students deserted the campus of Appalachian State Teachers College Friday afternoon. They will return January 2.

## Public Offices To Observe Yule

All the courthouse offices will be closed next Tuesday and Wednesday so that the officials may have a Christmas holiday period, it is announced by county auditor Clint Cannon.

## Blowing Rock Catches Yuletide Spirit In Bright Decorations

Blowing Rock, Dec. 18.—Blowing Rock has caught the real Christmas spirit in the striking decorations to be seen on the Playground Park.

At the front three scenes are high-lighted: the life-sized Santa with his reindeer high above the Town Hall, the lighted miniature church with carol singers around it, the beautiful stable scene with the shepherds and wise men coming to worship.

The most spectacular addition to the park decorations are the lighted trees, three of them in a group, forty feet high, with hundreds of lights, and topped by an eight-foot star. This feature of the over-all decoration plan, was designed by George Suddreth, Jr., and constructed by the fellows who make up the very efficient and versatile town crew. The trees can be seen for miles around.

Christmas carols will be played during the evening hours. A cordial invitation is given all to come

and enjoy these beautiful Christmas scenes.

A home decorations contest is being sponsored by the Park Commission. Four groups will be judged with three beautiful prizes in each group—inside decorations, outside decorations, home-made decorations, and combination inside-outside decorations.

Entries must be registered at the Library by Thursday, December 20. Judging will be either on Friday or Saturday evenings.