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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Seventieth Year of Continuous Publication

BOONE WEATHER				
Date	High	Low	4 p.m.	Pre.
July 30	74	53	66	ir.
July 31	84	55	78	ir.
Aug. 1	83	55	75	ir.
Aug. 2	83	53	73	ir.
Aug. 3	86	56	73	ir.
Aug. 4	72	57	67	ir.
Aug. 5	75	59	66	ir.

VOLUME LXX—NO. 6

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1957

TWELVE PAGES—TWO SECTIONS



HUCKLEBERRIES RIPE.—These full buckets represent a lot of good eating and a half day's huckleberry picking at Grandfather Mountain for Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Bennett of Honaker, Va. The area around Grandfather Mountain and the Blue Ridge Parkway is known for its heavy concentration of the wild berries, which are in plentiful supply during the first three weeks of August.—Hugh Morton photo.

Over Twelve Thousand Attend Horn At Season's Halfway Mark

Joe Blackburn, Succumbs To Heart Attack

Mr. Joe N. Blackburn, 62, prominent business man and leading citizen of Mountain City, Tenn., and a native of Todd, N. C. died last Saturday from a heart attack.

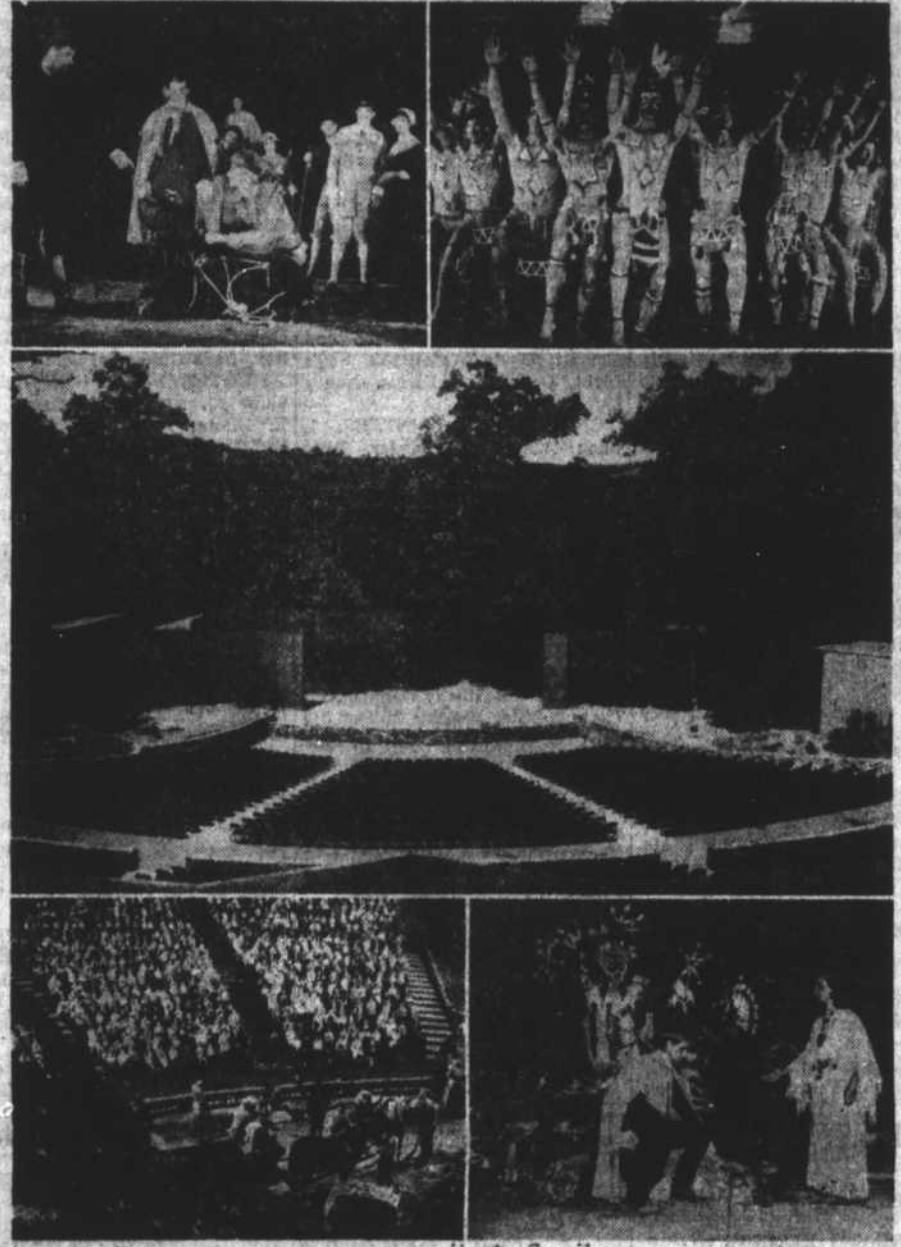
Mr. Blackburn, who had been in failing health for two years, succumbed while en route to a Johnson City hospital.

Funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon at the First Baptist Church in Mountain City. Rev. Mr. Whittington and Rev. Mr. Brown, were in charge of the rites. Burial was in the new community cemetery in Mountain City.

Survivors include the widow, Mrs. Ollie Eller Blackburn, three brothers and two sisters: Hamp Blackburn, Deep Gap; Don Blackburn, West Jefferson; Newton Blackburn, Todd; Mrs. Walter Cook, Todd; Mrs. Belle Brown, Route 1, Boone.

A native of Watauga county, Mr. Blackburn was a son of the late Cameron and Mrs. Blackburn. He had resided in Mountain City for twenty-five years, where he was prominent in the business life of the town. Among his business activities had been auction bean marketing, super market and furniture store. He also owned considerable rental property and other real estate.

Mr. Blackburn was a member of the city council at Mountain City and of the Baptist Church there.



The above series of pictures will soon be appearing around the State and much of the South showing scenes from "Horn in the West." Top left photo has Preacher Sims, Dr. Stuart, Daniel Boone and others looking over a bear killed by Boone; top right is part of the exciting Indian "Fire Dance"; center is a panoramic view of the Daniel Boone Theatre; bottom left is the exodus scene at the play's conclusion; and bottom right shows Dr. Stuart and Indian princess Nancy Ward looking over a dead warrior with tribal dancers in the background.

Attendance Is Well Ahead Of Last Season

At approximately the halfway mark of the 1957 season, paid attendance at the outdoor drama, Horn in the West, numbered 12,756 persons through Sunday night, according to figures released by Carl Fidler, business manager.

This represents a ten per cent increase over the 1956 attendance at the same point, he said, and a fifteen per cent increase in net receipts. This is due to cooperation of Watauga County people who are handling ticket sales this year without charge, whereas a commission was paid in many cases last year, said Fidler.

Tickets for the drama are on sale at various places in Boone, Deep Gap, and Blowing Rock, and at 24 points outside the county.

Audiences this season have been composed of persons from 32 states and two foreign countries, Canada and Hawaii, and automobiles have been noted from all states east of the Mississippi River except the New England states of Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island. The smallest number of states represented at any one performance thus far has been fifteen.

The month of August has brought heaviest attendance in past seasons, and producers are confident that the present figure will be more than doubled by the end of the season. The drama played to some 24,000 last year.

The final performance of 1957, and the only Monday night showing, will be presented on Labor Day, September 2.

Dr. Farthing's Funeral Held In Wilmington

Funeral services for Dr. J. Watts Farthing, prominent surgeon of Wilmington, who died Saturday afternoon, July 27, in Lexington, Ky., after a long illness, were conducted at 11 a. m., June 29, in the First Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, by the Rev. B. Frank Hall and Bishop Thomas H. Wright. Burial was in Oakdale Cemetery.

Pallbearers were J. Holmes Davis, George Rountree, E. B. Towles, Dr. H. B. Hare, Kauno A. Lehto, E. J. Wood, Jr., J. N. Brand and Dr. Junius C. Smith.

Honorary pallbearers were members of the New Hanover County Medical Society.

Dr. Farthing is survived by his widow, Mrs. Esther Tasa Farthing; one daughter, Miss Constance Farthing; a son, John Watts Farthing, Jr., and his mother, Mrs. L. E. Farthing, all of Wilmington. He was a nephew of H. Grady Farthing, Charles C. Farthing, Ed G. Farthing, Zeb W. Farthing and Mrs. Minnie Watson of Boone, and Don Farthing of Newland.

A native of Pittsboro, he was born March 3, 1890, a son of the late Logan Elmore Farthing, native of Boone, and Elizabeth Maude Hackney Farthing. He went to Wilmington in January of 1918, and he and his family resided at 2930 Park Ave. of that city.

Dr. Farthing was a graduate of New Hanover High School, Class of 1925, and received his bachelor of arts degree at the University of North Carolina in June, 1929, where he majored in German. He earned his doctorate of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania in June, 1933.

He married the former Esther Tasa, Sept. 26, 1936, in Rochester, Minn. After further extensive study in the medical field, he returned to Wilmington in August, 1938.

Dr. Farthing was a deacon of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilmington; a 32nd degree Mason, St. John's Lodge No. 1; a member of the Cape Fear Club, Cape Fear Country Club, Surf Club, Carolina Yacht Club and Civitan Club of which he was a past president.

Traffic Safety Program To Feature Meeting C. of C.

A program on traffic safety will be presented by the Watauga County Medical Society at the August meeting of the Boone Chamber of Commerce, to be held at noon Tuesday, August 13, in the Boone Trail Restaurant.

Action Program Films prepared by the President's committee for traffic safety will be shown. The medical society feels that there has been many avoidable highway accidents and deaths this year, said Dr. Lawrence H. Owsley, secretary, and it is hoped that these films shown to public officials and to the community's citizen leaders will serve as a kick-off for organized citizen action.

The films were obtained on loan from the North Carolina State Highway Patrol, Department of Motor Vehicles, in Raleigh, and will be shown in Blowing Rock and elsewhere in the county during the week of August 12.

The program to be presented Tuesday will consist of three films: "Alas the Killer," introductory film showing the need for organized citizen support for balanced traffic safety programs; "Motor Vehicle Administration," concerning sound licensing and inspection for safety; and "Traffic Court, USA," recognizing good traffic courts as a force for traffic safety.

If these films are well received, an additional program of five films will be shown at a later date, it was announced.

In connection with the above program, S. M. Ayers, superintendent of the New River Light and Power Company, will give a talk on the importance of better home wiring.

Golf Club To Map Plans For Boone Course

The newly reorganized and re-chartered Boone Golf Club will meet at the Boone Trail Restaurant on Monday, August 12, at 7:30 p. m. to discuss further plans for securing a golf course for Boone.

All interested persons are urged to attend, said Mrs. L. H. Owsley, secretary. She added that those who have not attended previous meetings are also invited, as all action will be reviewed in brief.

A proposed site has been surveyed by a golf course architect, said Mrs. Owsley, and Monday's meeting will be concerned primarily with plans for financing the project.

The business session will begin promptly at 7:30, it was announced, and anyone who desires to dine there may order from the menu.

Boone, Mountain City Road Opened

Highway 421, from Trade, Tenn., to Mountain City was opened for travel on Wednesday of last week, according to word coming from W. E. Graham Construction Co., contractors on the link, which has been under construction for more than a year.

This comes as good news to Watauga county people, and other travelers, who rely on the road for an outlet into Tennessee, Virginia, and middle western points. During the course of construction travel has been routed from Trade to Shoups through Ashe county.

The seven mile link of modern highway supplants the twisting road, with hairpin curves, which traversed "the gorge," and reduces the distance to Mountain City by about 1 1/2 miles. The construction was largely through rock, and constituted one of the toughest jobs of grading done in this section. Work started on the project in March 1956.

Parkway Cracks Down On Garbage Dumpers

The Blue Ridge Parkway has been cracking down on garbage dumpers over the past few weeks, a dispatch from the Parkway states, and as a result, two Mitchell county residents paid fines of \$50 and \$25 respectively, and a Rowan county resident had to have the area cleaned up in which the garbage was dumped.

The major cleanup problem on the Parkway is not the dumping of quantities of garbage, the dispatch states, but is the continual stream of tissues, candy and cigarette wrappers, and other scraps that slip from car windows, and the refuse left after picnic lunches.

Most visitors enjoying the Parkway, show their appreciation by using the trash cans which are located at each overlook. However, there are a few that have no feeling of responsibility toward those that follow and would like to enjoy the same area, and these make it necessary for the Park Service to spend funds on cleanup which could otherwise be used to improve the services available to the visitor.

During the month of July, for enough trash was picked up on an instance, the Parkway officials said, the Parkway between Mt. Mitchell and Grandfather Mountain to fill 281 forty-gallon containers.

Mr. Dulles has interpreted the recent convulsion in the Kremlin as a sign that "irreversible" evolution was changing the Soviet system, under the influence of popular pressure for more liberty and comfort.

Joe Coffey Hurt In Fall

Joe L. Coffey, Sr., of the Laxon community, was injured seriously in a fall about noon Monday.

Mr. Coffey suffered a fracture of the spine, it was reported, when a scaffold upon which he was working at the house being built by M. D. Brown at Laxon, gave way and tumbled him to the ground. Two other workmen on the scaffold escaped without injury.

A report Tuesday from the Blowing Rock Hospital, where he is undergoing treatment, said Mr. Coffey sustained a crushed vertebra in the fall, but there are no complications, and his condition is satisfactory.

Frank Church Is Recovering

Mr. Frank Church has been at home here for two weeks recovering from injuries sustained in a fall from a smokestack in Paulsboro, N. J. He suffered head cuts and other injuries but expects to be able to return to work in the next few days.

Mr. Church is a professional inspector, repairman and painter of industrial chimneys, and in his twenty-four years experience in this work has been employed in 46 states, Canada and Mexico. He hasn't worked in North and South Dakota.

Brother Of A. R. Smith Dies In Fall From Roof

Aaron Butler Smith Sr., 60, of Fayetteville, was killed Wednesday when he fell through a skylight at the Queen City Garage in Fayetteville and struck a concrete floor 20 feet below.

Mr. Smith was a brother of A. R. Smith, of Boone, long time professor at Appalachian State Teachers College.

A veteran employee of the Queen City Bus Co., the deceased was engaged in repairing a leak in the roof at the time of the fatal accident.

Mr. Smith was a native of Stanley County, the son of the late Lee Smith and Hortense McIntire Smith. He moved to Fayetteville in 1930 and had lived there since that time, with the exception of 11 months spent in Monroe. He had been employed by the Queen City Bus Co., since 1941.

Surviving, are his wife, Mrs. Florence Eudy Smith; four sons, A. B. Smith Jr., Fayetteville; the Rev. Charles L. Smith, Staunton, Va.; James C. Smith, Burlington; and the Rev. Lee A. Smith, Cherryville; one daughter, Mrs. K. Stubbs, Richmond, Va.; five brothers, A. R., of Boone; Isaiah and Hurdee of Charlotte; Bert of Bennettsville, S. C.; and Charles of Ohio; five sisters, Mrs. M. P. Lambert, Kannapolis; Mrs. Morris Chaney of Charlotte; Mrs. Robert Lanier of Norwood; Mrs. Emma Falls of Pineville; and Mrs. Lloyd Bass of Nashville, Tenn.

Funeral service was conducted Friday afternoon at the Walston Memorial Baptist Church with the Rev. David Miller officiating. Burial was in LaFayette Memorial Cemetery.

Pallbearers were bus drivers of the company. Honorary bearers were members of the Delaby Sunday School Class and mechanics of the company he worked for.

CONSTRUCTION

Expenditures for construction in June rose to a record level for the month of \$4.4 billion, or \$100 million more than in June, 1956. Home-building gained 11 per cent over May, but was that much below June, 1956. Outlays for construction in the first half set a record of \$21.5 billion, a gain of 3 per cent over like period last year, according to the Commerce and Labor Departments.

Forsyth Business Men Plan Goodwill Visit To Watauga

Job Picture Is Brighter In This Area

ELKIN, Aug. 5.—New industries in the northwestern counties of North Carolina are beginning to brighten the employment picture in the seven counties served by the Mount Airy and North Wilkesboro Employment Security Commission offices.

The employment picture, according to managers of the two offices, was brighter in July than in June.

Carl M. Baber, manager of the Mount Airy office that serves Surry and Yadkin counties, reported job placements off somewhat. But, applications for jobs were up.

"They will make a tremendous jump in August because we are now taking applications for Proctor Electric Company of Mount Airy," he said.

Proctor Electric will employ 200-250 persons once it is in full production. Mr. Baber expects his application file to increase from its present 1,117 to better than 3,000 by the time Proctor actually begins hiring.

Industry as a whole did better in Surry and Yadkin counties during July, according to Mr. Baber. He cited construction work increases which he expects to continue due to the extensive school construction program going on in Surry in the wake of the fire losses of last spring and the planned consolidation program.

The picture in the five counties (Continued on page eight)

July Was Dry Month Compared To 1956

July, 1957, compared with the same month last year, was a dry month, according to figures kept by the weather observer. Only 3.55 inches of rain fell on the Boone weather station last month. More than twice that much, or 7.84 inches was noted in July of 1956.

The first half of July was really dry with no rain being recorded from the second day to the fifteenth. After that the month was fairly "normal." Crops were be-

On the way back into Boone the visitors will visit and ride "Tweetsie," before eating supper in Boone, and attending the Horn.

While this is primarily a goodwill tour, the group will be studying the industrial developments in the Boone area, community delectations, for all of which Watauga is noted, Mr. Tuckwiler said.

T. Holt Haywood, chairman of the agriculture and area development committee of the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce, said that "recollection of the fun, food, and good fellowship enjoyed by our folks on their July 10 trip to Wilkes has many of them all set to visit Watauga as well." This is one of a series of visits the Forsyth people are planning to acquaint them with their neighboring counties.

Plans are being made for a group of Wataugas to visit Forsyth on a similar tour, either this fall or next spring.

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Last year measurable rain fell 20 days out of 31, accounting for the 7.84 inches. In 1954 3.08 inches fell while in July of 1955 3.19 inches were recorded.

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