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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Seventy-First Year of Continuous Publication

BOONE WEATHER			
1928	High	Low	prec.
Dec. 9	35	25	25
Dec. 10	41	21	27
Dec. 11	33	18	23
Dec. 12	33	7	26
Dec. 13	30	20	26
Dec. 14	33	17	24
Dec. 15	24	10	17

1927-31
Snow—Dec. 14 2 1/2 inches snow

VOLUME LXXI—NO. 25

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1958

SIXTEEN PAGES—TWO SECTIONS

Snow Slows Travel; Winter Makes Entry Month And Half Late

It appears now that winter has at last arrived, more than a month and a half later than last year. The first real snow fell on Boone Saturday night, and by Sunday morning about three and a half inches was measured by Weather Observer Joe Minor in his back yard. More fell intermittently during the day, but could not be measured.

Streets and highways became dangerous for travelers shortly after dark, and some of those who had to travel reported it as "the worst" they had ever tried to drive in.

While the first day of winter on the calendar is December 21, people in this section usually count winter as beginning with the first big snow. Last year an inch and a half fell in October, and another inch November, according to records kept here. To December 16 of last year five and a half inches of snow had fallen in the last month, making a total of eight inches. So, as some residents said, we have already had a month and a half less winter than last year.

Coldest temperatures of the season were recorded Friday morning, when the reading was seven degrees above zero. Saturday and Sunday low readings were 20 and 17 degrees, and then on Monday morning the temperature stood at 10 degrees.

Last year on November 11 the thermometer had dropped to 9 degrees, with several days being pretty cold.

On Friday, when Boone was backing in low temperature sunshine, areas east of the mountains were suffering their worst snows in many years. Cars coming from those sections reported bad traffic jams caused by the ice and snow, and in many cases temperatures were being reported as low or lower than that in Boone.

These same areas were again snowed on Saturday night and Sunday while Boone was getting its first real snow, and on Tuesday, as far east as New Bern six inches of snow was reported still on the ground.

Much of the Boone's snow still remained on Tuesday, as the temperature had only gone above freezing one degree at any time and that was on Sunday. Monday a high of 24 was reported, and it was expected that Tuesday the weather might warm up to the low forties.

All the main highways were mostly clear of snow by Monday. Schools remained open, and very little inconvenience was reported by the superintendent's office. A late bus at the local high school caused some reshuffling of classes, it was reported, but aside from that no trouble was noted.

United Fund Short Of Goal

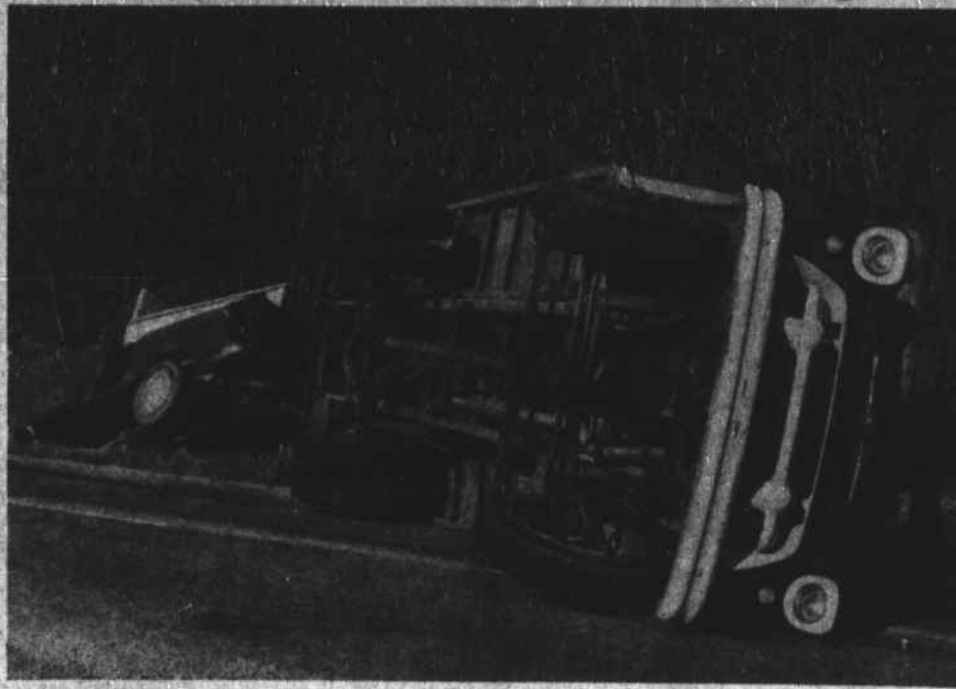
The Watauga United Fund has cash and pledges in hand totalling approximately \$14,500 of a goal set this year at \$15,498.50, said Leo Derrick, co-chairman of the campaign committee. The campaign was begun in October.

Since that time, said Mr. Derrick, he and co-chairman Herman Anderson have been "gathering up loose ends" and receiving late reports from volunteer workers throughout the county. There are still a few reports to come in, because of workers or prospective contributors being out of the county at the time the intensified drive was conducted.

"When the final report is made, probably next week," continued Mr. Derrick, "and certain contingency monies unused from last year are figured in, we think we will be fairly close to our goal."

He expressed his appreciation to all volunteer workers, area chairmen, other officials of Watauga United, and contributors for their invaluable assistance in conducting a campaign that is considered a successful one. In the face of several adverse factors, he added, the drive has already exceeded the total raised last year.

Wreck Does \$1,500 Damage



TRUCKS AS THEY APPEARED AFTER COLLISION

Lloyd Edgar Coffey, Route 3, Boone, and Carl Oscar Blackwelder, Route 1, Charlotte, were drivers of two trucks involved in an accident last Tuesday, just off the Parkway, on Highway 321. Neither driver was hurt, but an estimated damage of \$1,500 was done to

their vehicles. Time of the accident was set at 9:30 a. m.

According to the investigation, conducted by Charles Mason, patrolman, Lloyd, who is employed in Parkway maintenance, had pulled off the Parkway onto highway 321 and was headed south toward

Blowing Rock. Blackwelder had just passed another truck, which was not involved, travelling north, and sideswiped the Coffey truck. Blackwelder's truck turned over on the left side of the road. Blackwelder was charged with improper passing.

4-H Tobacco Show And Sale Is Held On Tuesday, Wednesday

Tommy Tester 4-H club boy of Zionville, placed first in the Annual Junior Tobacco Show and Sale held December 9 and 10 at Mountain Burley Warehouse in Boone. His crop was judged the best out of the seven crops shown, and he received \$20.00 in prize money.

Tommy is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Tester.

Other winners were Franklin Cole, second; Franklin Hodges, third; Lynn Matheson, fourth; Jimmy Gouge of Mitchell county, sixth, and Kenneth Norris, seventh.

The crop show was on the entire crop of each contestant, and was judged as follows: 15 points for record book; 20 points for practices; 15 points sorting and handling; 20 points yield; 30 points price based on last year's price per pound.

In the 4-hand show the following were winners: Flyings (first second, third, in that order): Franklin Cole, Franklin Hodges, Tommy Tester. Lugs: Franklin Hodges, Kenneth Norris, Tommy Cole. Leaf: Franklin Hodges, Tommy Cole, Kenneth Norris.

Judges for the show were Earl Morton, Leggett Tobacco Co., Blyth Lee, government grader, and John Larus, Austin Tobacco Co.

The seven exhibitors sold 5,127 pounds of tobacco for \$3,397.14, for an average of \$66.26.

The event is sponsored by the North Carolina Extension Service and Joe Coleman and associates. Prize money for the show was given by the Watauga United Fund and Joe Coleman and associates.

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WINNER—Tommy Tester, first place winner in the Junior Burley Tobacco Show and Sale, listens as S. N. Hawks, left, Extension Agronomy Specialist of State College, and Blythe Lee, U. S. Government grader, talk about his crop of burley.



JUNIOR BURLEY GROWERS.—These boys showed and sold tobacco last week at Mountain Burley Warehouse in the Junior Burley Show and Sale held last week. Kneeling, left to right are Franklin Hodges, Tommy Cole, Lynn Matheson; standing Tommy Tester, Franklin Cole and Kenneth Norris.

Horn Asked To Run On A Sliced Budget

Board Offers \$45,600 For 1959 Staging

The Board of Directors of the Southern Appalachian Historical Association adopted a sharply reduced budget of \$45,600 for the 1959 production of the outdoor drama, Horn in the West, at a meeting Thursday night, December 11.

James P. Marsh, executive vice-president, presided, and Hugh Hagaman, co-chairman of the finance committee along with R. D. Hodges, Jr., presented the budget to the board.

It will now be up to the production committee, headed by Dr. Lawrence H. Owsley, to decide whether they will undertake to produce the play next season on the curtailed budget. It cost more than \$65,000 to present the drama in 1958, and after receiving a \$10,000 subsidy from the state funds, there was a deficit of some \$9,000. This was made up by individuals who had signed notes to provide money to open the play.

Recommendations accompanying the budget submitted by the finance committee (which were also adopted by the board) stated in part: "The Finance Committee recommends that firm policies and controls be instituted and enforced to assure that the budget is in no way exceeded. . . . The adopted budget shall be binding on the complete expenditure of the total yearly cost of Horn in the West. No authority shall be given to anyone to exceed this budget, and no money shall be made available to pay any overage. In any case of extreme emergency the problem could be considered by the Board of Directors. . . ."

"As in the past, Horn in the West continues to depend on the support of interested citizens for its existence. These people are asked to support it with their money, with their time and effort. If this support is to continue, and indeed should be expected, then these people must remain convinced that Horn in the West is being operated in a realistic, practical, and intelligent way."

Mr. Marsh announced that notes representing a total of \$13,500 have been signed by individuals thus far for opening the Horn in 1959.

Last Weed Sale Friday

The Boone burley tobacco market will recess for the Christmas holidays after the sale of Friday, December 19, and will resume sales on Monday, January 5.

Mountain Burley Warehouse No. 1 will remain open to receive tobacco throughout the holidays, it was announced. Definite figures were not available, but a spokesman for the market said approximately two and one-quarter million pounds of burley had been sold here through Monday of this week, with the average for the season thus far being estimated at very near \$66 per hundred pounds.

Local warehousemen expect prices to remain high at Boone for good leaf throughout the remainder of the season.

Schools Close Noon Friday

All the elementary and high schools of Watauga County will close at noon Friday December 19, according to information from the County Superintendent's office.

The students will return to classes, following the holidays on Monday, December 29.

All county schools will observe New Year's day as a holiday. Students at Appalachian State Teachers College were dismissed for Christmas last Friday and will return to classes January 2.



"OLD FRIENDS."—Dr. D. J. Whitener, right, dean Appalachian State Teachers College, chats with former President Harry S. Truman, Jr. in Raleigh recently, when the two appeared on the same program.

70 Will Face Trial January Court Term

Judge J. C. Farthing of Lenoir will preside at the January criminal term of Watauga Superior Court, which will convene on the 19th for the trial of some 70 cases.

Solicitor B. T. Falls, Jr., of Shelby will prosecute the docket. Practically all the defendants are to be tried for misdemeanors, drunk driving, speeding, and other traffic violations heading the list, said Clerk Austin E. South.

There are a few cases involving violation of the prohibition laws. Following are the names of those who have been selected for jury duty during the term, which was called for one week, but which it is believed will adjourn in about three days:

Bald Mountain: Roy Moretz, Fred Holman. Beaver Dam: Claude Wilson, Baker Ward, Howard Lawrence. Blowing Rock: Shuford Edmisten, Astor J. Cook, Marion Ford, Dave W. Wootten. Blue Ridge: Elmer Miller, Dan Cook.

Boone: Bill Bingham, Ed J. Culler, Bernice Gragg, Ruby Ellis, Guy Hunt.

Brushy Fork: A. Y. Howell, V. C. Shores, Mrs. Ray Farthing.

Cove Creek: James Burkett, Ford Henson, Blanche Wilkerson, Elk: Jerry Hampton, Jack Todd, Laurel Creek: Graddon Hagaman, Bob White Bingham, Ned Glenn.

Meat Camp: A. W. Greene, B. F. Warren Greene, Clint W. Lewis.

New River: Zeb V. Farthing, Bill Brown, Paul E. Miller.

North Fork: Boyd Main.

Stony Fork: Elster H. Greene, James W. Foster, Vaughn H. Carroll.

Shawnee: Harston Coffey, Bynum Welch.

Watauga: Frank Taylor, Aud Ward, Noah Church.

Masons Will Induct New Set Officers

An unusual program is being planned for Friday night, beginning at 7:30 o'clock, when Snow Lodge will hold its first public installation of officers. All members, their families and friends are invited to attend.

The Rev. J. K. Parker, Jr., will open the meeting with prayer which will be followed by the Allegiance to the Flag and a farewell address by the retiring Worshipful master. This will be followed by the introduction of guests and the installing officer, who is J. E. Joines, past master, and district deputy grand master of the 50th district.

After the installing of officers, the new master, Howard J. Williams, will give an address, followed by the awarding of certificates to all 25 and 50 year members.

An Oscar will be awarded to the outstanding member for 1958 in addition to other special awards. Refreshments will be served at the close of the meeting.

Mrs. Coffey Dies Friday

Mrs. Minnie Estes Coffey, 58, widow of J. J. Coffey, died at Appalachian Rest Home last Friday. Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at the Reins-Sturdivant Chapel by Rev. L. H. Hollingsworth and burial was in the city cemetery.

Surviving is one son, J. E. Coffey of Hudson. There is one sister, Mrs. E. B. Crisp, of Lenoir.

Closing Hours, Yule Vacation Time Set

Yule Party To Be Sponsored By VFW Post

Watauga Mountaineer Post No. 7031, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Ladies Auxiliary will sponsor their annual Children's Christmas party at the Post Home Friday night at 7 o'clock.

There will be a Christmas tree, carol singing, and gifts will be exchanged. Santa Claus will be there with a treat for the children. Refreshments will be served by auxiliary members.

Democrat To Issue Tuesday Of Next Week

The Watauga Democrat will come from the press early Tuesday morning of next week, in order to give better coverage for advertisers, and to give the newspaper staff an opportunity of observing Christmas at home.

In order that this early publication schedule may be followed it will be necessary to have the advertising matter as early during the present week as possible. Many advertisers will feature greeting ads, and as usual, our advertising department will supply art work and copy when desired. The continued fine cooperation of advertisers is solicited. Correspondents are also asked to supply their stories as early as possible this week.

When the Democrat comes from the press Tuesday the Democrat office will be closed, and will remain closed Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for the holidays. The business office will be open Saturday morning.

Christmas Tree Judging Set

The home Christmas decorations in the community will be judged Sunday night December 21st, starting at 7:30 o'clock.

Anyone having decorations to be judged should call Mrs. W. C. Richardson at AM 4-3795.

Prizes will be awarded in the following divisions: window, door, outside, mantels, children.

Winners will be announced next week.

Lad Injured In Accident

Johnny Richardson, 10 years old boy, of North Wilkesboro, was injured Saturday night about 9:15 o'clock, as he was attempting to help push a stalled car on highway 421, near the Elk intersection, east of Boone. He was carried to a North Wilkesboro hospital where it was disclosed he suffered a fractured ankle and pelvis.

According to meagre information, young Richardson was helping in trying to get a car moving on the ice and snow, and ran into the path of a 1955 Chevrolet driven by Norman E. Roland, 25, of Warrensville, who was attempting to go around the stalled vehicle. Roland was traveling toward North Wilkesboro.

Names of parents of young Richardson were not learned.

No charges have been placed against Roland, according to Patrolman Charles W. Mason, who made the investigation.

10 percent rise in shoe prices forecast for 1959.

Britain's gold and dollar reserves rose last month.

Michael Bingham Dies In Accident

Michael Bingham, 11-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bingham, 405 Broad Street, Elizabethton, Tennessee, died in the Holston Valley Hospital in Kingsport at 2:30 a. m. Friday, December 5. Young Bingham was struck by an automobile at 4:20 Wednesday

afternoon in front of the Tennessee Line and Twine Company on North Lynn Avenue.

Driver of the car was Ray A. Rash, Route 3, Elizabethton. No charges have been filed against the driver of the car, according to (Continued on page seven)



MAIL EARLY.—Acting Postmaster Lyle Cook, left, stands with old Santa, as they urge early mailing for Christmas delivery. Cecil Farthing, who built the display, checks motor, donated by Joe Todd, that operates Santa's arm as he waves to passersby. Mr. Cook said Monday was the heaviest day so far this season for outgoing mail in Boone, with approximately 15,000 cancellations being made. He expects a "big rush" Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of this week on outgoing mail, with the rush on incoming mail expected to be greatest about Monday and Tuesday.