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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER			
1958	High	Low	5 pm. Precip.
Dec. 23	32	26	35
Dec. 24	42	25	27 .09
Dec. 25	31	11	21 tr.
Dec. 26	38	4	27
Dec. 27	43	13	39
Dec. 28	45	39	45 1.72
Dec. 29	53	42	47 3.51

Total rainfall for week—5.32 inches.

VOLUME LXXI—NO. 27

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 1959

TEN PAGES—TWO SECTIONS

Happy New Year



Boone Cleans Up From Record Week-End Rain

Over 5 Inches Falls; Damage Seen As Slight

A rainfall record for the month of December was set in Boone Saturday and Sunday, when almost five and a quarter inches of water drenched the town. This was almost the normal precipitation for the entire month of December as averaged over a period of years.

Rain began falling about 10 a. m. Saturday, and at 7 a. m. Sunday 1.72 inch was measured at the local weather observation station. At 2:30 p. m. Sunday 2.14 inches more had fallen, and a hard shower, accompanied by high winds, raised the measurement another inch. From 7 a. m. Sunday to 7 a. m. Monday a total of 3.51 inches of water had fallen. Total for the two days was 5.23 inches.

Records have been kept of the precipitation in Boone since December, 1928, and in scanning the record books no figures for the month of December showed a two-day rainfall equal to the past week end. Closest was a two-day period in 1950, when Dr. J. C. Yoder was manning the weather station. Four and a half inches fell in two consecutive days then. In 1936, when Dr. J. T. C. Wright was observer, 3.35 inches were recorded in two days.

Five and a quarter inches precipitation is considered normal for the month of December.

While Boone was setting its record, the TVA water measuring station at Sugar Grove, tended by Howard Edmisten, reported 3.70 inches of rain. On Sunday morning Mr. Edmisten reported .28 of an inch, and on Monday 3.44 inches.

In Blowing Rock, Mrs. Ernest Hayes measured five inches for the two-day period. The rains caused Watauga River and New River, and several creeks to leave their banks and flood some of the low land. Watauga River, normally flowing at one and three-tenths feet, reached a high of 8.4 by 8 p. m. Sunday, according to TVA measurements. By 6 a. m. Monday it had dropped to 5.0 feet.

New River had reached a 7.1 ft. reading at Galax, Va., closest river stage station to Boone by 10 a. m. Monday, according to an official of Appalachian Power Company. New River flows north out of Watauga County and into the Clayton Hydro power dams at Radford, Va. Bottomlands were flooded, and some of the low roads were covered.

No serious damage had been reported by farmers at the county agricultural agents office, according to L. E. Tuckwiller, agent. Some gullies were noted in fields.

(Continued on page five)



MYSTERY PIPE—Sheriff E. M. Hodges holds one end of two-inch plastic pipe found in the crotch of a tree near Hodges Gap road recently, while Max Brown, who discovered the 70-foot length, holds the other end. How the pipe got in the tree is a

mystery, but the theory was advanced that it originally was a plane refueling hose, and had been dropped from a plane. Brown intends to put the pipe to his own use unless someone claims it soon.

Local Headlines Of The Old Year

A brief review of the old year in Boone and Watauga county is given from the following headlines, picked, random-fashion, from the pages of the Watauga Democrat:

January 2

Christmas buying equals the record of 1956; Fred Krider, retired highway maintenance foreman, dies at his home in Todd; Babson sees more cold war; Richard Chase carries message of the folk festival to the people of California.

January 9

100 to be tried at January court; William Eugene Barnett, 21, of Asheville, dies as car leaves highway 105 12 miles from Boone; Jerry Harrison, Blowing Rock, dies; Dorrell Everett Perry, formerly of Zionville, dies at Hickory hospital; William Arthur Trivett dies at Watauga Hospital at age of 88; Cherryville musketeers come to Boone, fire their muskets ushering in the New Year; Harley Trivett succeeds T. M. Greer, resigned, as manager of Winn-Dixie Store.

January 16

Rev. L. H. Hollingsworth of Boone elected to serve as president of the General Board of the Baptist State Convention; William W. Winkler, prominent Boone dairyman, dies; Boone and Blowing Rock Chambers of Commerce ask for more informative signs on Blue Ridge Parkway; Boone postal receipts break all records; Frigid weather features advent of the New Year; Dimes Dance is arranged; Lions Club contributes to Eye Bank.

January 23

Boone to host area band clinic; Asheville civic leaders ask for local cooperation; Spencer Robbins heads Blowing Rock C. of C.; Burley Sales ahead of previous year; Edwin Duncanson reelected president Northwestern Bank; James Wilson and James Wilson, Jr., killed in crash at Marion, Va.

January 30

Willis Chester new Rotary proxy; Geo. W. Robinson dies in Beaver Dam; Snow, cold, hold Boone in icy grip; slide moved to reopen 321; Mrs. C. D. Coffey rites are held; Chamber of Commerce states committees; Park body reaffirms signboard position.

February 5

Leaders map plans for \$150,000 civic center; In jail 30 years, William H. Weins, in toils again, blames John Burleycorn; Thomas J. Wall dies at 63; Rites held for Mrs. C. A. Reese; Jaller loses

finger as Negro bangs door; Watauga Inn Blowing Rock hostelry, destroyed by fire; Black Bear Super Market bought by Thrift Food Center; County schools close in wake of 17-inch snow.

February 13

Bill Ross chosen as director Horn in West, succeeding E. R. Loessin; College drama group stages "Roaring 20s Review"; Mrs. Lena Mast Reddick of Valle Crucis dies; Church's Store occupies new building; Thompson Greenwood speaks to merchants; Northern lights brighten local horizons.

February 20

Watauga digs out of worst snow—zero gales freeze pipes, slow traffic; Warehouse roof broken by snow; John Carlton Pitts dies in Lenoir; James Simmons funeral held at Mount Lebanon; Watauga schools again closed by drifting snow; Blowing Rock School threatened by blaze.

February 27

Appalachian High Wrestlers wear State crown; Lee Swift, 85, succumbs to long illness; Robber foiled in effort to enter Belk's store; Miss Edna Miller dies in Bristol; Thomas Winkler named new highway engineer; A. B. Culler, 82, dies; Mrs. Martha Cook Critcher funeral held at Mount Vernon; Mrs. Mary Phillips, 83, dies at Reese home.

March 6

Streets, highways broken by freeze; State Highway Commission allots \$900,000 to fix roads of area; Rites held for Lloyd M. Tate in Pinehurst; Mrs. Lila Henkel Spillman dies in Statesville; Dorothy Sue Campbell Watauga Poultry Princess; Rites held for Ross W. Hollar.

March 13

"Peck" Holshouser nominated to be new U. S. Attorney for Middle District; Fate of Horn in West annual topic; Andrews Chevrolet gets Oldsmobile agency; Appalachian, Charlotte schools offer joint reading program; Miss June Street, home agent, goes to Yancey county; Dr. Wey quits as Appalachian College Dean Graduate School.

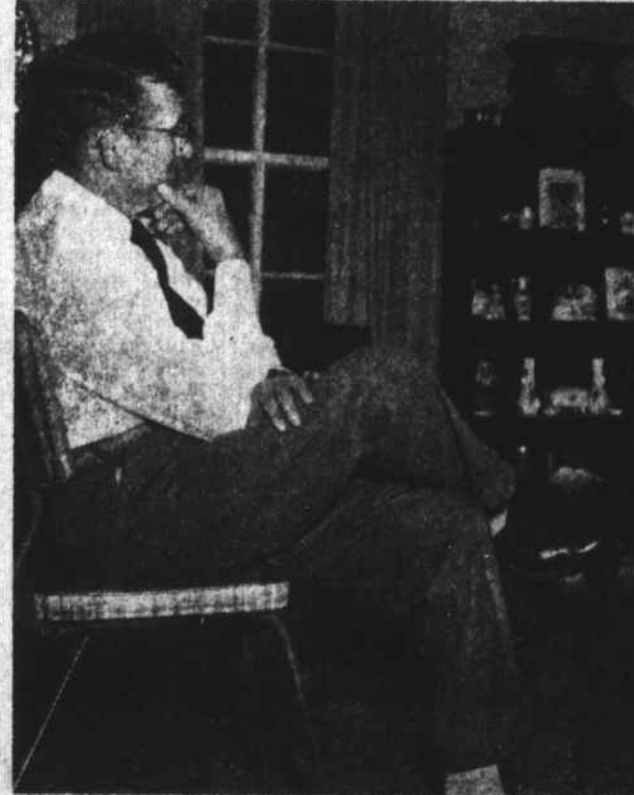
March 20

Horn to open June 28 if financial aid is forthcoming; American Legion's National Vice-Commander, Harry W. Miller, to visit Boone; Boone Lions honor Governor A. R. Smith; Aaron L. Brown dies in Knoxville; Appalachian High School bands rate "excellent" in district music contest.

March 27

College is seen as doubling enrollment.

Mr. Houck Retires . .



RETIREES—Will Houck, long-time employee of Appalachian State Teachers College, watches television as he relaxes after his retirement was announced. Mr. and Mrs. Houck were guests of honor at a recent party given for them by the men of Justice Hall dormitory.

Tobacco Sales To Be Resumed On Monday

The Boone Burley tobacco market will resume sales on Monday, January 5, following a recess since December 19, for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

The Mountain Burley Warehouse Company sold approximately two and one-half million pounds of burley before Christmas at a record high average estimated at near the \$60 per hundred figure. Although poundage of the 1958 crop was somewhat lighter than the previous season, it is reported that a sizable quantity of the leaf is still unsold. However, not more than two more weeks of sales are expected to be required to clean up the remainder of the burley crop in this area.

Ministers To Hold Meeting

The Watauga County Ministerial Association will meet in the Perkinsville Baptist Church, Rex West, pastor, Monday, January 5th at 10:00 a. m. All ministers are urged to be present.

Sherman Hollar Dies In Florida

Sherman Hollar, prominent Boone cattle dealer, died Monday morning at Vero Beach, Fla. from what is understood here to have been a heart attack.

Mr. Hollar and Mrs. Hollar had been in Florida about a week.

No funeral arrangements have been made. The body is being returned to Boone for interment.

Wm. Arnette Dies Monday

William Calvin Edward Arnette, 85, of Beaver Dam township, died at Watauga Hospital Monday, following a long illness.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at 2 o'clock at the Bethel Baptist Church by Rev. W. T. Brackett, the pastor, and burial was in the Norris cemetery.

Surviving are the widow, one son and three daughters: Will Arnette, Sugar Grove; Mrs. Iva Lee Norris, Vilas; Mrs. Rose Matheson, Sugar Grove; Mrs. Lucy Moretz, West Jefferson. There are fifteen grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren and 3 great-great grandchildren.

Many Stores Close New Year's; Yule Business Good, Few Jailed

Postal Receipts For Month Are Up Here

Receipts increased while cancellations decreased for the month of December, as compared with last year's figures at the Boone Post Office, according to Lyle Cook, acting postmaster.

Letter cancellations to Monday of this week totaled 149,000 for December, as compared with last year's figure of 179,000. This was a decrease of 30,000 pieces leaving the Boone post office. Mr. Cook said it appeared that less Christmas cards were mailed this year than last.

Receipts were up about 12% over last year, with no exact figures available at press time. The postmaster said parcel post mailing accounted for the increase.

Letter mailing rates were up this year over last year, with sealed letters costing four cents to mail now and unsealed greetings and cards costing three cents. A total of 80,000 three-cent stamps were sold to Boone patrons during the month. If all these stamps were placed on greetings mail and dropped back in the box for mailing the Christmas cards accounted for over half the machine cancellations.

Mr. Cook said the biggest single day for receipts was December 15, when 888.60 worth of stamps were sold.



PROMOTED—Major Horton Gragg, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Gragg of Boone, who was promoted to his present rank on Christmas day. Major Gragg, who with his family resides at England Air Force Base, Alexandria, La. has been in the Air Force for 17 years.

Housewives prefer cotton to other fibres for household uses, says Agriculture Department.

County Tax Listing Schedules Released

A schedule for the listing of taxes during the month of January has been prepared by J. D. Winebarger, county tax supervisor, who points out that all real estate, and personal property must be listed for taxation, according to ownership on January 1, 1959.

Tax listers will fill a schedule of appearances in the different townships of the county during the month, to offer assistance to the taxpayers.

All farmers will be asked to give production facts for the farm census at the time they list their property for taxes.

The appointments of the tax listers are given in an advertisement appearing in the Democrat today.

The names of the list takers follow:
 Bald Mountain: Mrs. Russell Vannoy.

- Beaver Dam: Lynn Norris.
- Blowing Rock: Daniel Kluttz.
- Blue Ridge: M. O. Coffey.
- Boone: Allen Gregg.
- Brushy Fork: Clifford Norris.
- Cove Creek: Hite Williams.
- Elk: Mrs. Jack Todd.
- Laurel Creek: Tom Mast.
- Meat Camp: Willard Norris.
- New River: J. Bynum Clawson.
- North Fork: W. C. South.
- Siony Fork: Scott Moretz.
- Shawneehaw: Lee Ward.
- Watauga: Ruby Baird.

Schools Close For New Year's

All of the county high and elementary schools will be closed for New Year's Day, according to word from the County Superintendent's office Tuesday. Classes will be resumed Friday.

A majority of Boone business places, including the Northwestern Bank, will be closed Thursday, January 1, in observance of New Year's Day, following a recommendation by the Chamber of Commerce board of directors.

The county offices in the courthouse and annex will also observe January 1 as a holiday.

Some stores, however, have announced that they will remain open on New Year's Day.

A spot check of Boone merchants indicates that Christmas buying here was at least as good, and in many cases, "a little better," than the record highs registered for the 1956 and 1957 Yule shopping seasons.

Sales were brisk in most categories, with clothing items and toys heading the list, as usual, and toiletries, watches and jewelry, hardware, leather goods, and electrical appliances also making regular appearances on the sales slips. There was also increased activity in furniture and house furnishing, it was reported.

Law Front Quiet
 Sheriff Ernest Hodges and Police Chief Glenn Richardson said the holidays were unusually quiet on the law enforcement front, with no automobile accidents resulting in personal injury, and only four or five arrests for public drunkenness.

The State Highway Patrol reported that they investigated three minor auto accidents.

Chief Richardson said his department did not find it necessary to make a single arrest for any cause. He expressed his appreciation for this ideal state of affairs, and commended the citizens of Boone for their good behavior and orderliness during the holidays.

T. Len Cooke Rites Friday

T. Len Cooke, 87, died at his home at 216 Hardin Street last Wednesday, after an illness of several years.

Funeral services were held at the Boone Baptist Church Friday at 11 o'clock. Rev. L. H. Hollingsworth, the pastor, conducted the rites and burial was in the community cemetery.

Surviving are five daughters: Mrs. Bernice Aldridge, Mill Springs; Mrs. Vera Tunnell, Boone; Mrs. Pearl Michael, North Wilkesboro; Mrs. Ruby Perkins, Knoxville. One sister, Mrs. L. M. Hartley of Marathon, N. Y. survives. There are three grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Extract found to shield mice against radiation.