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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER				
1958	High	Low	6 pm	prec.
Dec. 30	54	40	43	46 17
Dec. 31	43	27	32	46 17
Jan. 1	36	25	36	05 18
Jan. 2	41	31	36	42 5
Jan. 3	53	28	40	29 13
Jan. 4	41	16	18	29 13
Jan. 5	18	-3	9	39 3

*Trace of snow, Jan. 5-3 below zero.

Watauga County Farm Income Hits Record \$4,182,150

1957 Figure Is Topped By Over \$900,000

Watauga County's estimated gross farm income reached an all-time high in 1958, according to figures released by the county agricultural agents' office this week. The income ran to \$4,182,150, an increase of almost \$900,000 over the estimated 1957 gross farm income.

Doubling the broiler sales contributed most to the increased income, but better prices for tobacco, cattle, and more eggs added to the total, according to the annual summary prepared by the agricultural workers.

Vegetable sales decreased by one third to cast the most discouraging shadow on the 1958 farm income picture. Wool prices and known sales of forest products also declined slightly.

The complete summary follows: A million dollar tobacco crop plus \$350,000 for vegetables and potatoes, \$125,000 for fruits and miscellaneous crop sales of \$12,500 gives a total crop sale of \$1,487,500.

Cattle sales amounted to \$450,000; sheep and wool sales of \$75,000, swine and pork sales of \$25,000, and dairy products sales of \$300,000, brings the sale of livestock and livestock products to a total of \$850,000.

Broiler sales of \$1,430,000, egg sales of \$300,000, fowl sales of \$45,000, and turkey sales of \$1,650 brings the sale of poultry and poultry products to \$1,775,650.

Add to these sales the estimated \$65,000 for sale of forest products and we have the total of \$4,182,150 for estimated gross farm sales for 1958.

The estimated gross farm sales for 1957 amounted to \$3,283,668, with \$1,450,502 coming from sale of crops, \$780,249 from sale of livestock and livestock products, \$1,045,642 from sale of poultry and poultry products, \$68,000 from sale of forestry products and \$9,270 from other sales.

Some interesting accomplishments during 1958 were rapid expansion of broiler production, increase of commercial egg flocks, increase in interest in quality livestock, continued activity in Rural Development program, and more interest in community organization.

Poultry was the fastest growing farm enterprise in Watauga County during 1958. Commercial egg production increased from approximately 12,000 birds to approximately 23,000 birds. This does not take into consideration the flocks maintained for home supply. Broilers enjoyed even a larger expansion. Broilers increased from approximately 1,500,000 bird capacity per year to 2,250,000 bird capacity per year.

The market structure was enhanced by the organization of an association for the marketing of commercial eggs. This is adding stimulus to commercial egg production.

The 4-H Pullet Chain was again successful in the county. The pullets sold from each member's flock for the purpose of buying chicks for another year, brought a record price.

The 4-H poultry program is showing results other than training for the 4-H members in the sense that expansion on a commercial basis has been a direct result in some instances.

The Watauga Cooperative Breeding Association bred 98 more cows artificially in 1958 than in 1957.

Barnett Motor Company provided a truck for use of the technician for the Artificial Breeding Association.

Milk producers selling to Catawba Dairy Cooperative switched to bulk tanks and tanker pickup this year.

Yadkin Valley Dairy Cooperative secured a local wholesale distributor for their bottled milk in Watauga County.

Two new Grade A dairies were set up in the county this year.

Three heifers were sold in the Proven Sire Bred Heifer sale at Enka.

A strawberry variety test was harvested at Mrs. Esther Watson's at Deep Gap, with yields on a per acre basis of 2,500 gallons.

Strawberries proved to be a very profitable crop in 1958 for (Continued on page 3, 2nd sec.)



Walls of wing on East Hall at College go up, as Appalachian's building program continues.

City Building Brisk During The Year '58

March Dimes Kickoff Held

The March of Dimes kick-off supper was held at the Daniel Boone Hotel Friday evening at 7:00 o'clock. The Rev. E. F. Troutman gave the invocation, Mr. John Yates, state representative, was the principal speaker and Dr. H. M. Wilson was a special guest. Mr. Leland Cooper of Appalachian State Teachers College showed a film entitled "The Challenge," which dealt with the problems of polio, arthritis, birth defects and virus diseases.

Dr. Gene Reese, Watauga County director, Mrs. John Houck, and Mrs. Joe Worth, county co-chairmen, arranged the meeting, and 23 committee chairmen were present.

Mercury Dips To 3 Below

The coldest weather of the season hit Boone Sunday night, when the mercury took a dip to minus three. The cold continued during the day, with the thermometer never going any higher than 18 on Monday.

High winds accompanied the cold, causing the weather to feel even more severe and uncomfortable. Low temperatures this time of year are not unusual, and last year on the same date the thermometer read 3 degrees above zero.

Monday night, which had been predicted by some to be even colder, failed to reach even the zero mark in Boone, as the cold continued. A low of 4 above zero was recorded for the preceding 24-hour period. During the night the winds let up some, making the weather somewhat tolerable.

During the day Tuesday, the sun shined most of the time, and the temperature was expected to reach the high twenties during the afternoon.

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Postal Receipts During 1958 Are Ahead Of All Previous Records

Calendar year receipts for 1958 in the amount of \$64,351.17 exceeds all previous records at the Boone Post Office. This is a 13.3% increase over the all time high calendar year of 1957 when total receipts were \$56,783.16, says Lyle B. Cook, Acting Postmaster.

A breakdown of receipts for comparison during the past ten calendar years are as follows:

1949	\$32,602.66
1950	33,595.69
1951	35,903.75
1952	40,722.53
1953	44,534.32
1954	49,534.32
1955	54,991.90
1956	55,962.54
1957	56,783.16
1958	64,351.77

During this ten year period, this office advanced from second class to first class effective with the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1953, while postal receipts during

Building was brisk in Boone during the past year, according to Building Inspector Howard Cottrell, who issued permits for construction of 23 new homes in the city limits, two new store buildings, one new church and a major addition to another.

Permits for the new homes totaled \$238,000.00. The new business building permits called for expenditure of \$45,000.00, and the church work was valued at \$88,000.00.

In addition, permits totaling \$7,500.00 were issued for adding to homes already in existence, Mr. Cottrell said.

Another building project, a wing on East Hall on the college campus, was begun last year, and is expected to cost \$750,000.00.

The new homes are scattered about town. The business buildings both in construction now, include the new Dixie Store just off Hardin Street, and a building on West King Street being built by Lovill South, next door to Edmisten Furniture Co.

St. Elisabeth's Catholic Church, in the south end of town was the new church, and an Education Building was joined to the Boone Methodist Church.

Former Blowing Rock Mayor Dies Thursday

D. P. Coffey, 79, who served as Mayor and Alderman of the town of Blowing Rock for sixteen years, and who conducted a general store in that town for more than fifty years, died Thursday at the home, following a long illness.

During his several terms as mayor, he was instrumental in the procurement of federal and State funds for the improvement of the Blowing Rock roads, schools, and water system, and in many other projects beneficial to the people.

Born in Watauga County January 25, 1879, he was the son of Patterson Coffey and Matilda Curtis Coffey. He was married to Luda Perry Coffey, who survives. He was a charter member of the Civitan Club, and a member of the First Baptist Church, Blowing Rock, where he served as treasurer for more than 25 years.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, are five daughters, Mrs. Clara C. Thompson of Hickory; Mrs. W. T. Willis, Mrs. Anne C.

Brown, Mrs. Stewart Bolick, and Mrs. Richard Gragg, all of Blowing Rock; three sons, D. Paul Coffey, Glenn Coffey and Justin Coffey, all of Blowing Rock; a sister, Mrs. J. Lee Hayes of Lenoir; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, at the First Baptist Church in Blowing Rock. The Rev. G. Carlton Cox, pastor, officiated. Interment was in Blowing Rock cemetery.

Active pallbearers were Johnny Broyhill, Eugene Koone, Ben Church, Arnold Bolick, George M. Sudderth, Jr., and Deward B. Coffey.

Honorary pallbearers were A. E. South, Russell Hodges, Robert Rivers, George M. Sudderth, Sr., D. W. Wooten, D. A. Smith, W. B. Castle, J. H. Winkler, Rufus M. Coffey, Fred B. Hartley, Ira W. Bolick, W. Paul Gragg, Dr. Charles (Continued on page six)

Civic Meetings To Plan Further Growth Of Area

State Leaders To Meet With Local Chamber

A series of important meetings relating to plans for the growth and progress of Watauga County in 1959 will be held in Boone on Tuesday, January 13.

A luncheon meeting of the Boone Chamber of Commerce at 12 noon in the banquet room of the Boone Trail Restaurant will be highlighted by a discussion of Watauga County's forestry resources, led by W. W. Jolly, R. A. Vogenberger, and Douglas Boardman, all of the Tennessee Valley Authority's Department of Forestry.

Other out-of-town guests of the Chamber will be Wayne Corpening, president of the Northwest North Carolina Development Association, Neil Bolton, secretary, both of Winston-Salem, and Chester Davis of the Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel newspapers.

Also expected to be present are N. C. State Forestry Service and N. C. Extension Service forestry specialists.

All Watauga County communities of the Northwest Association have been asked to attend the meeting and welcome the distinguished visitors.

Beech Creek Dam Project
At 10 a. m. on the 13th there will be a meeting of the Beech Creek Dam Project Committee from the four-county area of Johnson and Carter counties, Tennessee, and Avery and Watauga counties, North Carolina.

At 11 a. m. the Industry Com- (Continued on page six)

Weed Sales Are Resumed

Auction sales on the Boone tobacco market were resumed Monday when 295,416 pounds of burley brought growers a total of \$182,896.46, for an average price of \$62.25 per hundred pounds.

A spokesman for the R. C. Coleman firm, operators of the Mountain Burley Warehouse Company, said Tuesday the market expects to pass the 3,000,000 mark in pounds sold by the end of the week.

A closing date has not yet been set, but it was announced that the market will continue as long as there is any tobacco to sell. With favorable weather conditions, however, it is estimated that the final sale of the season will be held about the middle of next week.

3 Fire Alarms Per Month

Boone's Volunteer Fire Department answered an average of three fire calls a month in Boone last year, according to figures issued by Fire Chief Howard Cottrell, with approximately 26 fire alarms being placed. Seventeen of these were placed between June 30 and December 31, he said.

In addition to the town calls, Mr. Cottrell said, the local firemen answered eleven calls in the county outside Boone.

No "total" loss in town was recorded, and several of the calls were attributed by Mr. Cottrell to automobile fires and fires in deserted buildings.

Bishop Henry To Visit City

The Right Reverend M. George Henry, Bishop of the Diocese of Western North Carolina will preach at St. Luke's Episcopal Church and hold confirmation services at 6 p. m. Sunday.



Winter scene at Cone Memorial Park on the Parkway.

Fewer '58 Fatalities In Local District

Sergeant Frank Kennerly, in charge of District 1, State Highway Patrol Troop E, said Monday that he was "very pleased" with improvement shown during 1958 in his seven-county area's highway fatality record.

The number of highway deaths in the district—composed of Caldwell, Ashe, Avery, Burke, McDowell, Mitchell and Watauga counties—was less than half the total in 1957.

During the last 12 months, according to figures kept by the patrol, 25 persons died on the highways in the seven counties of Sergeant Kennerly's district. The year before, the number of fatalities was 55.

Although the number of deaths in the district was cut in half last year—compared to 1957—Sergeant

Kennerly stated that he and his patrolmen will strive in 1959 to cut the number even more. Two patrolmen covering Watauga are George E. Baker and Charles W. Mason.

The official tally of persons killed on the highways in the seven counties during 1958 is as follows: Ashe 1, Avery 1, Burke 10, Caldwell 7, McDowell 4, Mitchell 2, and Watauga 1.

(The death of Miss Ann Reid, of Blowing Rock in April, is not included in this report. She died as a result of an accident on the Parkway in Watauga county, but since the Parkway is patrolled by Parkway rangers the death is not included in the above figures.)

In 1957, the official tally was: Ashe 5, Avery 0, Burke 15, Caldwell 16, McDowell 9, Mitchell 1, and Watauga 9.

Rites Held For S. T. Hollar

Funeral services were held Friday at 2 o'clock at the Oak Grove Baptist Church for Sherman Tipton Hollar, 59, Boone resident.

Rev. W. W. Jones and Rev. E. F. Troutman conducted the rites and burial was in Mountlawn Memorial Park.

Mr. Hollar, member of a well-known Watauga county family and a prominent cattleman, died at Vero Beach, Fla. Monday of last week. Said to have been suffering from a heart ailment for some time, Mr. Hollar and Mrs. Hollar had gone to Florida to spend the winter. He died about a week after his arrival there.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Myrtle Perry Hollar of the home, and four brothers, Walter Hollar of Blowing Rock, Gurney Hollar of Franklin, Charlie Hollar of Boone, and Roland Hollar of Winchester, Va.

E. O. Hagaman Dies Thursday

Edward Oscar Hagaman, 67, of Boone died suddenly at his home in Boone last Thursday, from what was believed to have been a heart attack.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 o'clock last Saturday at Perkinsville Baptist Church by Rev. Rex West, Rev. W. C. Payne and Rev. Leroy Woods.

Burial was in Mountlawn Memorial Park.

A native of Watauga county, Mr. Hagaman was a brother of the late Dr. J. B. Hagaman of this city. He had resided in Boone for a number of years where he operated the Hagaman Rest Home.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Hattie Hagaman of the home, and a brother, R. H. Hagaman of Victoria, Va.

Police Chief Issues Apology For Firing Of Muskets In Early Hours

Positive public reaction against the firing of muskets on the streets in the early hours of last Wednesday morning, brought an apology from the Chief of Police, and the information that a misunderstanding brought about the fustilades of the Cherryville musketeers.

Chief of Police G. D. Richardson issues the following statement: "It has been very forcibly brought to my attention that the shooting in the early morning hours of December 31 on the streets of Boone alarmed and dis-

turbed some of our people.

"Last year a group of citizens from Cherryville requested the privilege of coming to Boone to do some ceremonial shooting, a custom that had been carried on there for many years. After this daytime visit there was some publicity given to the matter, but no invitation was extended for a return visit.

"Last Tuesday a call came to the night policeman that they would arrive at 4 on the morning of December 31. When the shooting started the night officer thought that it was in order. How-

ever when everything was pieced together it was found that no official sanction was ever granted to the affair. I personally apologize for any offense anyone has felt about the untimely noise and assure the public that the town would not have sanctioned the firing of guns at such an hour.

"We sincerely regret this and assure all that it will not happen again. The public has been very cooperative and we hope for a good New Year and full cooperation at all times."