

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER				
1959	High	Low	5 pm. prec.	1958-59
Dec. 22	44	19	28	50
Dec. 23	30	15	24	32
Dec. 24	34	21	34	42
Dec. 25	50	23	48	31
Dec. 26	57	27	47	36
Dec. 27	57	32	52	45
Dec. 28	56	45	49	45
Total precipitation—16 in.				

FOR BEST RESULTS
advertisers invariably use the columns of the Democrat. With its full paid circulation, intensely covering the local shopping area, it is the best advertising medium available.

VOLUME LXXII—NO. 27

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1959

TEN PAGES—TWO SECTIONS

Building Boomed In 1959

Building in Boone was booming in 1959, according to Howard Cottrell, building inspector. Permits for nearly a half million dollars of construction were issued by Cottrell during the year.

Permits for 17 new residences were included, at a total cost of \$268,000, and additions to two homes for \$3,500. Eight new business buildings and renovations at a cost of \$158,000, and one new apartment house at \$44,000 were also included.

Total for all categories was \$474,500.

Mr. Cottrell said that this figure represented a gain over 1958, particularly in business building.

Not included in the above figures was building and renovations at Appalachian State Teachers College. A new wing to East Hall Dormitory for women, started last year, was completed during 1959. It represented an expenditure of \$525,000, according to Bernard Dougherty, college vice president.

Also a new steam boiler was installed and renovations made to the power plant on campus at the college at a cost of \$360,000, and an addition to the college library at a cost of \$49,000, boosted total building in the town to over a million dollars.



Best Wishes
for the New Year!

Amid all the clamor and clangor of the new year's dawning, we pause for a quiet thought of all the firm friendships that have made the old year so satisfying.

Warmly appreciative, we wish for one and all a happy and successful 1960.

WATAUGA
DEMOCRAT

G. O. P. SEEN WINNING A CLOSE ONE

Babson Sees Continued Peace, Prosperity During New Year

1. Naturally, as I am just back from Moscow and Berlin, my first thoughts are what will happen to Berlin in 1960. My answer is definitely, "NOTHING WILL HAPPEN." Mr. K. will make no more ultimatums; President Eisenhower will continue his peace talks. Therefore the Berlin situation will be just the same in 1960 and 1961 as it is today.

2. There will be no World War started between Russia and the United States in 1960. This does not mean that such a war will not come within 10 years; but just now neither country is ready for it. I am convinced of this after my recent visit to Moscow.

3. Airplane warfare with the dropping of bombs is a thing of the past. We are turning to rocketry with pinpoint precision. Our expensive air bases may gradually be vacated.

4. Moscow is Mr. K's "pride and joy." It is a beautiful city with broad streets and thousands of new apartment houses. Mr. K does not want it destroyed. Furthermore, he wants a reduction in armaments so that he will have money to raise the standards of living in Russia. I forecast he will have to do this in order to hold his power.

5. We first feared a "shooting

war"; now we are in a "cold war"; but we will soon be in an "educational war." In 1960 the United States will expend far greater effort on education.

6. Along with the efforts to improve education during 1960, I forecast that our teachers will be given a minimum salary of \$5,000 and that schools of all states will receive federal aid.

7. I forecast that instead of spending so much money on new school buildings, municipalities

will give more attention to discipline, promotions, and sifting, and to teaching of mathematics, physics, and chemistry in both grammar and high schools.

8. I forecast that some of those who have gone into business will seek teaching jobs, which will be a major force in postponing World War III. School teaching will be a part of our national defense.

9. The Russians are afraid of China, which I hope to visit again (Continued on page 2, section B)

Local Trade Better During Holidays

Business during the month of December, considered the Christmas buying season, was up from last year slightly, according to reports made by several merchants after a preliminary check of their business. While gross sales appeared to be up, one merchant indicated that net profits might be down some due to higher operating expenses over last year's sales.

No dollar volume was available, 1958 had been considered a record year, as far as retail sales in the area were concerned, a merchant who declined use of his name, said. The year 1959 ap-

parently has surpassed 1958 to set a new record.

Other merchants about town expressed the same views, saying their business was "good" to "extra good." "If business stays as good next year (1960) as this year, I'll be satisfied," is the way one merchant put it.

Boone and Watauga county have long been considered a trading center for the area, and the enthusiasm expressed by most business men here seems to bear out the fact that more people are "trading at home."

Local Motel Owner Is Believed Suicide

Willie Andrew Shull, 52, Boone resident and owner of Longview Motor Court, was killed at 11 o'clock Monday morning by a bullet fired from his hunting rifle.

Deputy Coroner C. C. Cook, who, with Sheriff Ernest Hodges, made an investigation, expressed the belief that Shull was a suicide, but stated that he will hold an inquest into the death Thursday morning at 10 o'clock.

Mr. Cooke stated that members of the family said Shull had threatened to take his life previously, but they hadn't taken his remarks seriously. Mr. Cooke said his information was that Shull

had again threatened suicide before going out of the house, immediately before the fatal shot was fired. The bullet from a .35 calibre rifle entered the left side of the head, Mr. Cooke said.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 o'clock Wednesday at the Reins-Sturdivant Chapel by Rev. William Eaton and Rev. E. F. Troutman. Burial will be in Mount Lawn Memorial Park.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Mildred Church Shull; a son, David, daughter Corenea of the home; his mother, Mrs. Cal Shull Hodges and a sister, Mrs. Grace Little, Manhattan, Kans.

17,750 MEMBERS ARE AIDED

REA Co-op Cuts Rates To Electric Patrons By 10%

New Schedule In Effect On January 1st

Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation announces a big electric power rate reduction to its 17,750 members effective January 1, 1960. According to C. E. Viverette, general manager, the new rate structure will result in an average savings to members of a little over 10% on electric service bills. All members of the corporation, with the exception of 25 very large power users, will be affected by this rate reduction.

The minimum users as well as those using 40 to 50 kilowatts of demand will benefit by this reduction as the minimum charge for two months will be \$2 now instead of \$3. Everyone's bill will be at least \$1 lower on their bi-monthly usage of electric power and some commercial consumers will realize savings up to \$39.40 on their bi-monthly electric service bill. A member using 100 kw in a two-month billing period would receive a bill for \$5; 1000 kw \$19.60 6000 kw, \$94.60. All Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation members receive their electric service bills on a bi-monthly basis, with the exception of the large power users.

Savings to members will range from 2% to 40% depending on the amount of power used. The largest saving will be to commercial accounts using 50 kw and less. The adoption by the board of directors of a consolidated rate for all small users of electric power (in our case up through 50 kw of demand) is a radical departure from that of electric power suppliers as a whole. Most power suppliers have a policy to differentiate between the commercial user and the residential user, with the commercial user paying more for his power. The manager and board of directors of Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation feel there is no justification for this rate differential. Why should a country store pay \$34.00 for 1000 kw used in a two months period, when a dairy farm, or home in town pays only \$20.60 for 1000 kw used in the same two months period? That has been the case in the past, but today on our new rate schedule, each will pay the same, \$19.60 for 1000 kw used in any two months period.

One of the stated objectives of the Cooperative as adopted with the by-laws when the organization was organized and chartered reads, "It shall be the aim of Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation to make electric energy available to its members at the lowest cost consistent with sound economy and good management." The board of directors having reviewed the objectives, and the financial position of the corporation had no trouble deciding a rate reduction was in order. The member contributed equity in the corporation has been building up very rapidly since 1950 and amounting to 16c out of each dollar in 1958; doubtless it will be even greater in 1959, the necessary cash reserves having been established.

The business, as far as financial position is concerned is very sound. Member contributed equity for 1960 will be reduced by an estimated 50% as a result of the rate reduction but by a lesser percentage in future years based on increased usage of electric energy resulting from lower rates. The management and board of directors feel that lower power rates will stimulate economic growth and development of the entire area served by Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation.

The "all Electric Age" is rapidly approaching, and Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation is prepared for it. New transmission lines and substations capable of furnishing our members with four times the amount of electric energy now used were put into service in December at a cost of

(Continued On Page Six)



BAPTISTS BURN NOTE.—Wade Brown and the Rev. John Gibson hold burning note, indicating debt on church and parsonage has been paid in full. Looking on, left to right Russel D. Hodges, Sr., G. D. Barnett, Mr. Brown, Rev. Mr. Gibson, James Marsh, and Dempsey Wilcox. Hodges, Barnett and Wilcox are trustees who executed the papers; Brown chairman board of deacons; Gibson associate pastor First Baptist Church; and Marsh treasurer.—Photo Flowers Photo Shop.

First Baptist Church Burns Notes As Debts Are Cleared

Auto License Plates Go On Sale In City

Auto license tags for 1960 go on sale at the local license bureau Saturday at 9:00 a. m., according to Mrs. Rachel Klutz, manager of the office. The office hours are: Saturday 9 to 12:00; week days 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.

The license bureau, located in the Bus Station on Depot Street, was opened early this fall, and this marks the first time in several years that all car owners have been able to buy tags in Boone. Prior to the opening of the office, motor-

ists either had to buy their license at other offices or order them from Raleigh.

Mrs. Klutz calls attention to the fact that her office also handles title transfers, and persons in the area are invited to use this convenient service.

Deadline for having new tags on vehicles is February 15. Purchasers are reminded they must have their new registration cards, mailed from Raleigh, to buy their new plates.

The First Baptist Church of Boone held a note and mortgage burning ceremony at the regular morning church service December 20. The burning culminated the payment in full of the debt on the church and pastor's home.

James March, church treasurer, lighted the note and mortgage in the presence of the trustees who had signed the note in 1953. The trustees were Russell D. Hodges, Sr., G. D. Barnett and D. L. Wilcox.

The business session was in charge of Wade E. Brown, chairman of the Board of Deacons. The Rev. John Gibson, associate pastor, preached the sermon.

Also taken up during the business session was the adoption of the proposed budget, and a review of some of the accomplishments of the year.

The budget adopted calls for collection and expenditure of \$85,000.00, with \$58,000.00 for missions and church activities and \$27,000.00 for the building fund. Approximately 43 per cent of the regular budget was allocated for missions.

The First Baptist Church has been without a regular pastor since Dr. L. H. Hollingsworth accepted the call to Wake Forest College as Chaplain. According to the report, the church's budget grew in the seven years of Dr. Hollingsworth's ministry from less than \$20,000.00 to the present \$85,000.00.

The Board of Deacons' chairman, Mr. Brown, said, "The spiritual life has deepened and, while fully conscious that we have not reached anything like our potential, it is felt that the church is poised ready for greater opportunities for service than ever before."

Since Rev. Mr. Hollingsworth's leaving, Dr. William Harrison Williams of Charlotte, has served as interim pastor. The Rev. Mr. Gibson continues as associate pastor.

The Rev. Henry Greer is expected to take up the work of student secretary. He is employed by the Baptist State Convention, and will begin his work with the Baptist students of Appalachian State Teachers College in January.

Mr. Brown told the congregation, "... we look to the future of our church with enthusiasm; we recognize our weaknesses and our shortcomings, but we will seek to correct them and ever look to improving and enlarging our field of service to our fellowman, and seek to spread the gospel to the far corners of the world."

Schedule For Tax Listing Given Out

George Blair Dies In Tenn.

George Blair, 73, former resident of Boone, died at the home of a sister, Mrs. John Williams in Jonesboro, Tenn. last Wednesday. A heart condition was given as the cause of his death.

Mr. Blair, a son of the late William T. and Mrs. Blair, was well known to the older residents of the town. A house painter by trade, he went to Fort Myers, Fla. from Boone and resided there for a great many years.

Funeral services were conducted at the Funeral Chapel in Jonesboro Thursday and burial was in that city.

The immediate survivors are a son and a daughter. There are four living sisters: Mrs. T. B. Moore, Mrs. Wm. H. McGuire, Boone; Mrs. G. M. Suddeth, Blowing Rock and Mrs. John Williams, Jonesboro, Tenn.

President Eisenhower's recent crusade may influence Democrats to pick as a 1960 Presidential nominee the man the party believes best qualified to deal with Nikita Khrushchev, according to two Democratic senators.

Senators Mansfield (D-Mont.) and Monroney (D-Okla.) have expressed that view after some pulse feeling in connection with next year's Presidential election.

A schedule for the listing of taxes during the month of January has been prepared by J. D. Wibeberger, county tax supervisor, who points out that all real estate and personal property must be listed for taxation, according to ownership on January 1, 1960.

Tax listers will fill a schedule of appearances in the different townships of the county during the first 15 days of the month, according to an advertisement in this week's Democrat, to offer assistance to the taxpayers. After January 15, the books will be at the county courthouse, and tax payers may list there.

All farmers will be asked to give production facts for the farm census at the time they list their property for taxes. The census, according to the announcement, is not to be used for taxing purposes, but will be used as an aid in guiding the farm program of the county.

The tax listers are: Bald Mountain, John Ragan, Beaver Dam, Linville Norris, Blowing Rock, Dan Klutz, Blue Ridge, M. O. Coffey, Boone, Gurney E. Luther, Brushy Fork, Clifford Norris, Cove Creek, Hite Williams, Elk, Glenn Tripplett, Laurel Creek, Clyde Tester, Meat Camp, Paul Moretz, New River, Bynum Clawson, North Fork, W. G. South, Shawneehaw, Mrs. Bessie Davis, Stony Fork, Scott Moretz, Watauga, Arlic Hodges.



CANFIELD

Canfield Gets Promotion

International Resistance Co., has appointed Walter H. Canfield, Jr., of 309 Farthing Street, Boone, promotion manager of the marketing division. Mr. Canfield was formerly sales manager of IRC's Boone division.

His new post was expressly created, according to George D. Butler, director of the marketing division, of Philadelphia, to implement further major reorganization and expansion plans formulated by IRC earlier in the year.

In his new post, Mr. Canfield will be on a staff level and will report to the director of the marketing division. In particular, he will "guide and supervise" overall or corporate sales promotion, advertising, product publicity, and pricing strategy. Also, he will assist sales managers of the five operating divisions in such matters.

Mr. Canfield was sales manager of the Boone division, which produces resistors and selenium rectifiers, for three years. Before that—that is, before IRC decentralized its sales structure from a territorial to a divisional one—he was for one year territorial sales manager. In this capacity he was in charge of sales in 14 states in the South and Southwest.

Prior to his association with IRC, he was associated for five years with the Scintilla Division, in Sidney, N. Y., of Bendix Aviation. His last position there was product manager of sales.

Mr. Canfield was graduated from Indiana Technical College with a B. S. in Mechanical Engineering in 1950. He attended Central High School in Sidney, N. Y. He was an active member of the Student Council, among other things, and was elected president of his class in his senior year.

Mr. Canfield and his wife, June, will make their home in the Philadelphia area.

Total supplies of all feed concentrates for the coming year will be about 7 per cent larger than in 1959.

JOHN D. LARKINS, Democratic National Committeeman from North Carolina, frequently mentioned as a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the Governorship of North Carolina, who will speak at the courthouse in Boone Tuesday, January 5, under the auspices of the Watauga County Young Democratic Club.