



RHODODENDRON IN BLOOM ATOP ROAN MOUNTAIN.—The peaks of Roan Mountain in Mitchell county were captured in their glory by Photographer Hugh Morton. The Rhododendron Festival is scheduled to be held at Bakersville this week end.

FEATURES PRETTY FLOWERS, GIRLS

Rhododendron Fete Starts Friday

Price Memorial Park Is Being Developed Into Resort Area

When barricades on the Blue Ridge Parkway near Blowing Rock and at Montvale Road (formerly Holloway Road) were removed this morning (Wed.) leading into the Price Memorial Park, an area that may well become the most popular on the Parkway was opened to the public.

This new stretch of the Parkway, still under construction at places, leads into a camping area where space for 35 tents or trailers are available near the Price Memorial Lake site. Fifty more units are in the process of being built and when completed will make a total of 85 camping spaces.

Water sports, such as fishing, will be available as soon as the dam is allowed to fill and the lake is stocked with fish. The dam has been completed, but filling will not take place until more work is done on the 42-acre basin. No date has been set for this phase of the Parkway project, but indications are that it will be soon.

Hiking trails have already been laid out and they go through picturesque settings. For those wanting to get in "the outdoors" this area is expected to furnish a more diversified program than any other area on the Parkway.

According to Ernest Hayes, sub-district ranger in this area, many inquiries have already come to Parkway officials about the camping grounds. Ranger Hayes said that no reservations will be taken. Instead campers will use the area on a "first come, first served" basis. Length of stay will be limited to two weeks so that as many as possible may use the area.

The units furnish facilities for both tent campers and trailers. No picnicking in the area will be allowed, thus providing the campers with a certain amount of privacy. Built-up tent platforms, filled with crushed stone, have been provided for those who expect to pitch a tent. This eliminates the necessity of digging around the tents and will help keep the area looking neat and clean.

Space is available for parking trailers also. Each unit has parking space, a cooking place and a table. Water fountains are provided, and a comfort station is in the area. A huge underground water tank, holding 30,000 gallons and fed by mountain springs will supply the water for the campers. The water is tested for safety reasons each week.

Work is progressing rapidly on the other units, but no time has been set for putting them to use. Space for future expansion is almost unlimited, Ranger Hayes said. (Continued on page eight)



SOUTH ENTRANCE SIGN OF JULIAN PRICE MEMORIAL PARK

First Annual Berry Sale Rotary Event

The Boone Rotary Club is sponsoring a strawberry show and sale June 18, to lend encouragement to young strawberry growers in the county, it is announced by Hugh Hagaman, Rotary member in charge of the event.

The sale had formerly been scheduled for June 23.

According to Mr. Hagaman, the show will be held at 3 p. m. and the public sale at 5 p. m. The location will be on Hardin Street, near Kirk's Restaurant and Winn-Dixie Store. Choice berries are expected to be on display and then offered to the public at auction, and householders are urged to attend the event and stock up for their freezing and other needs. Indications point to a good crop with plenty of berries for sale.

Mr. Hagaman explained how the show and sale, the first of which will probably be an annual event, is being arranged. The Rotary club has bought plants and distributed them to several young growers, in order to start a strawberry chain.

Each grower has agreed to contribute two prize crates each, the proceeds from which will be used

to buy additional plants which will start other young growers in the strawberry chain next year.

The proceeds from the remainder of each grower's crop belongs to the grower.

Laurel Bloom Nears Height

The purple rhododendron bloom in this district has past its peak, however, a few late blooming bushes are now at their best. The most attractive floral displays for the coming weekend will be the mountain laurel which should be reaching their height of bloom.

There was a decrease in travel of 2.6% on the Bluff District for the past month of May as compared to the same period last year. The decrease in travel is attributed to the cool rainy weather.

Dr. and Mrs. G. T. Buckland, Tad, Janie and Mrs. Emma Buckland visited last week with Dr. and Mrs. Roscoe Buckland and family in Berea, Ky.

The 14th Annual North Carolina Rhododendron Festival will be held this week end, beginning Friday. The town of Bakersville in Mitchell county will be the site of the festival, as pretty flowers and pretty girls take the high spots of the celebration.

The festival will have a "fresh new look" this year, according to its sponsor, the Bakersville Lions Club. The Rhododendron Pageant will start the festivities as the new queen contestants arrive at Bowman High School and register for the event. Each contestant will join with the judges at the Queens Banquet to be held in the dining room of the Bakersville Motel at 5:30 p. m.

Then the visiting public will see these lovely young ladies, twenty-five in all, as they participate in the talent and swim suit competition in the school auditorium Friday night at 8 o'clock. A talent winner and swim suit winner will be chosen, each receiving a beautiful trophy from Blanton's Business College in Asheville.

The festivities will continue in the gardens on the Roan Mountain Saturday, and will open at 10:00 a. m., with the Harris High School Band from Spruce Pine playing.

The many entertainers and speakers will share the new observation platform just completed by the U. S. Forest Service with the many visiting queens from other festivals. Some of those expected are the Dogwood Festival queen, the Apple Festival queen, the South Carolina Peach Festival queen, and Miss Erwin.

The annual search for a new Rhododendron queen will get under way promptly at 2:30 when Master of Ceremonies Cal Calhoun will call the young ladies to meet the public and the critical eyes of the judges. Miss Norma Ann Buchanan, reigning queen, will be present to present the crown.

The festival will end after the Queens Square Dancing Party Saturday night, in the high school gym at Bakersville. Lewis Calhoun, professional square dance caller from Winston-Salem, will conduct the square dance party.

The new queen will receive valuable prizes and travel through the entire year. She will have a first and second runner-up.

Mr. Hughes Is Returned Here

Rev. Preston Hughes was returned to the Methodist pastorate in Boone by the Western North Carolina Conference in Asheville Sunday.

Rev. A. A. Wilson remains on the Watauga Circuit and Dr. H. E. Spence at Blowing Rock.

The Boone charge will be served by Rev. Ralph H. Ballard.

Africa receives \$450,000 educational grant.

TOTAL REVENUES \$589,558

Watauga Co. Tax Rate Will Remain At 95 Cents

Proposed Budget Is Given Out

Watauga county's tax rate will remain at 95 cents on the one hundred dollars valuation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1961, estimated budget estimates being published today reveal.

This levy, based on a property valuation of \$25,000,000, is calculated to raise \$237,500.00. The anticipated revenue from poll taxes, and dog taxes will bring local receipts to \$246,300.00. Five per cent is being deducted for insolvents which would leave a net tax levy of \$233,985.00, or about half of the total revenues of \$589,558.00.

Other receipts include from State intangibles tax \$8,000; Tax penalties \$2,500; cost on tax sales \$550; court costs \$7,000; marriage license \$1,000; interest \$1,500; miscellaneous \$1,000; state aid veterans' service officer \$1,000; State aid, welfare administration \$1,000; fines and forfeitures \$15,000; State and Federal grants, old age assistance \$123,243; State and Federal grants aid to dependent children \$117,504; State and Federal grants, aid to permanently and totally disabled \$42,075; State and Federal grants, equalization \$7,500; unencumbered balance \$13,681.

Expenses for the fiscal year are set up as follows:

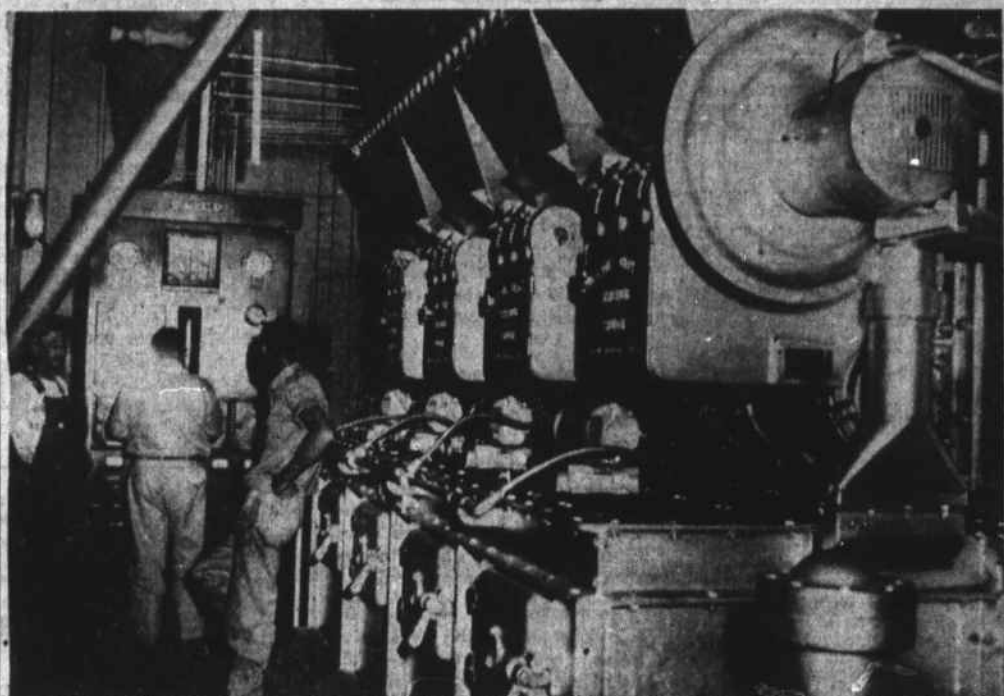
Tax releases and tax collector's commissions \$12,000; general fund expense \$88,446; health and welfare expenses \$50,369; bond retirements \$13,050; interest and exchange \$675; school expenses \$99,518; old age assistance \$141,600; aid to dependent children \$132,200; aid to permanently and totally disabled \$49,500.

Mrs. Wagner Rites Held

Mrs. Myra A. Wagner of Foscoe, aged 84, died June 12.

Funeral services were held on June 14 at 2:00 p. m. in Foscoe Christian Church, conducted by Rev. Joel Wilson and Rev. Charles Collins. Burial was in the Foscoe cemetery.

She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Charlie Cole, Banner Elk; two sisters, Mrs. Snow Gragg and Mrs. Ethel Wyke of Boone; two brothers, John Aldridge of Boone and Linville Aldridge of Banner Elk. There are nine grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.



NEW BOILER.—Voyne Edmisten (left) and Fred Ward (right), power plant employees, watch as one of the men testing boiler checks on outfit's efficiency at the control panel.

Big Boiler Is Given Tests For College Heating Plants

Potentate Visits City

Mr. Lynn Harkey, Potentate of Oasis Temple, Order of the Mystic Shrine, Charlotte, paid an official visit to Boone last Thursday and met with local Shriners at the Daniel Boone Inn.

The official party included Mr. Earl Tate, Mayor of Lenoir, who is expected to be Potentate next year; Joe Bass, Potentate's aide, Charlotte; Fred Bunn, Ambassador, Morganton; Neil Huggins, Ambassador, Monroe.

Mr. A. E. South was chairman of the arrangements committee for the first official visit of a Shrine potentate to Boone, and Bob Allen presided.

Mayor Tate stated that next year a visit of the Shrine patrol to Boone is planned.

Local Shriners meeting with the Potentate and his party were T. M. Greer, C. H. Hendrix, John Wellborn, J. E. Clay, and J. W. Kelsey.

1,396 Registered As College Opens

The first summer term at Appalachian State Teachers College started Monday with 1,396 passing through the registration lines, according to H. R. Eggers, college registrar.

Mr. Eggers states that this represents an increase of 80 over the opening day a year ago, and that with the workshops included, more than 1,800 will have been enrolled by the end of the first six weeks term.

Regular classes began at the college Tuesday morning.

The college campus around New River Light and Power plant was filled with steam and noise last week, as the first of two tests were made on the new and most modern heating plant of Appalachian State Teachers College.

The boiler was installed last December, and this test and one which will be staged this fall are necessary before the State accepts the project from the contractors, Bernard Dougherty, vice president and comptroller of the college said.

The test last week, run by E. V. Puryear for the Dillon Supply Co., of Raleigh, were satisfactory, and if the final testing is successful, Appalachian should have all the heat from the new boiler it needs for years to come, according to the college official.

The new boiler and automatic equipment which goes with it, comprised the bulk of expenditure in the \$360,000 improvement project for the power plant, soon to be completed. All coal and ash handling are automatic, and no manual labor is used in firing the boiler furnace from the time the coal is taken from the truck until the cinders are loaded onto a truck from a huge ash silo. Cost of this equipment was set at close to \$300,000 by Mr. Dougherty.

The boiler is expected to be put into use this winter and will supply the campus with most of the heat, hot water, and cooking steam for the cafeteria. It provides for expansion of the college and may eventually supply the needs of the men's dormitory which now are heated independently of the other buildings.

Mr. Dougherty said the college will continue to make use of its old boiler, which is being repaired and put into good condition, when the demands for steam are not so great, as in the summer months. It is in use now.

The huge boiler is capable of producing 60,000 pounds of steam an hour, Mr. Puryear said. This is beyond the needs of the college now, but as the college grows it will supply steam without addition to the plant.

The test last week did not reach capacity, according to the testers, because there were not enough outlets for the steam to escape from. The fall test is expected to reach capacity as more outlets will be provided. Something over 50,000 pounds of steam per hour poured over the campus during the extensive test last week.

Johnson picks up strength in western tour.



PARALLEL PARKING.—Parking on the south side of King Street in downtown Boone was changed last week to parallel parking, to allow a better flow of traffic. Carl Greene supervises two town employees in the task of painting the parking spaces.—Photo Flowers' Photo Shop.