

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.

BOONE WEATHER			
1950	High	Low	5 pm prec.
Nov. 29	57	35	33
Nov. 30	38	20	18
Dec. 1	27	15	22
Dec. 2	47	9	29
Dec. 3	—	—	—
Dec. 4	59	11	48
Dec. 5	68	26	41
Total rain—18 inch.			



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.—The new board of county commissioners posed for this picture before their first meeting. They are, left to right: Chairman W. C. Lentz, Dr. Gene Reece, and Bynum S. Greene.—Staff photo.

## Lentz Again Heads Co. Board; Hodges, Winebarger Appointed

W. C. Lentz, of Blowing Rock, incumbent, Democrat Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, was re-elected to head the county governing board at the organization meeting held Monday.

Dr. Gene L. Reece, Boone dentist, a Democrat, is a new member of the board; also Mr. S. Bynum Greene, Republican, takes the place of Ivan Dishman, Democrat, of Beaver Dam township.

Dallas Hodges, of Boone, automobile salesman, was named County Tax Collector, succeeding Hubert Thomas, who has served in that capacity for the past two years.

Mr. J. D. Winebarger was re-elected Tax Supervisor and County

## Problem Posed For Pritchett

It was difficult to decide this week whether Leo K. Pritchett was simply relaxed after a job well done or limp from being un-done by a job. In either event he had overcome more than his share of problems in guiding debating squads from some eleven colleges and universities through the annual Appalachian Mountain Forensic Tournament held Friday and Saturday in the First Baptist Church.

Pritchett, an old hand at debate arrangements, felt fairly relaxed on Thursday morning. He had worked out all problems of housing, his schedule of matches was set, his list of judges complete.

Then his troubles began. The morning mail brought a cancellation by the Mars Hill College debaters, jolting him with the possibility of having to revise the entire debate schedule.

Fate then stepped in to pull him out of this disaster when on Thursday afternoon he received a phone call from the coach of a stranded Mississippi Southern College debating team which had appeared in Winston-Salem one week ahead of the scheduled Dixie Classic Forensic Tournament to be held this weekend at Wake Forest. Pritchett gladly welcomed the Mississippi group, simply inserting its negative and affirmative teams into the spots vacated by Mars Hill. Problem solved.

## Mississippi Wins Top Honors In Appalachian Forensic Tourney

Mississippi Southern College's debating squad won overall team honors in the 20th annual Appalachian Mountain Forensic Tournament which ended Saturday at Appalachian State Teachers College, Mississippi, which had arrived a week too early from Hattiesburg for Winston-Salem's Dixie Classic debate, entered the Boone tournament after Mars Hill College cancelled its entry.

Eleven institutions participated in the tournament, directed by Professor Leo K. Pritchett of Appalachian State Teachers College.

Teams participating were Duke University, University of South Carolina, Davidson College, Lenoir Rhyne College, Gardner-Webb College, Mississippi Southern, Winstate College, East Tennessee College, Maryville (Tenn.) College, Carson-Newman (Tenn.) Teachers College, and Appalachian State Teachers College.

For five rounds, beginning on Thursday and ending on Saturday, the students attacked this year's Intercollegiate Debate question: Resolved: "That the United States Should Adopt A Program of Compulsory Health Insurance For All Citizens."

Taking second place over-all debating honors was Carson-Newman of Jefferson City, Tenn. Appalachian State Teachers College won third place.

Best men debaters—First: Stan Gwin, Knoxville, Tenn., Mississippi Southern; Second: Dennis Smith, Beaufort, S. C., University of S. C.; Third: Tom Koehler, Johnson City, Tenn., East Tennessee.

Best women debaters—First: Judy Bittinger, Greensboro, Lenoir Rhyne College; Second: Toni Metcalf, Beaufort, S. C., University of South Carolina; Third: Marcia White, Forest City, Gardner-Webb College.

Men—First: Donald Leo, New York, Maryville College; Second: John Rankin, Kingsport, Tenn., Davidson College; Third: John Walker, Knoxville, Tenn., Duke University.

Women—First: Judy Bittinger, Greensboro, Lenoir Rhyne College; Second: Toni Metcalf, Beaufort, S. C., University of South Carolina; Third: Marcia White, Forest City, Gardner-Webb College.

Dr. J. D. Rankin, President Emeritus of ASTC, 20 years ago founded the first Appalachian Mountain Forensic Tournament at Boone.

This year's event, held in the First Baptist Church, was sponsored by chapter 219, North Carolina Epsilon, Pi Kappa Delta and Appalachian State Teachers College.

## Thos. Presnell Funeral Held

Thomas V. Presnell, native Watauga, son of the late Vance Presnell and Mrs. Presnell of Vilas, and City Commissioner of Elizabethton, Tenn., died there November 27 of a heart attack.

Mr. Presnell, 45, of Elliott St., died of a heart attack.

Funeral services and interment were in Elizabethton.

Presnell had been the Chrysler-Plymouth dealer in Elizabethton for the past 14 years.

Presnell was a member and inactive deacon of the First Baptist Church. He was a member of the Dashiell Masonic Lodge No. 238 F&AM, a member of the Kerbel Temple Shrine, and the Elizabethton Shrine Club.

He was a director of the Elizabethton Lions Club and a veteran of World War II.

Survivors include the widow, Mrs. Mary Nave Presnell; one daughter, Mrs. David Burner, Elliott Street; three sons, Thomas Spencer Presnell, Larry Burton Presnell and Ricky Joe Presnell, all of the home; and one granddaughter; five brothers, Laurie V. Presnell, Bristol; Gray Presnell, Carson City, Nev.; Jack Presnell of Florida, and Pvt. Ralph Presnell, Fort Knox, Ky.

## Milton Moretz Funeral Held

Milton Moretz, 28, former resident of Route 2, Boone, and cattle grower of Bethel, N. C., died last Thursday at the home.

Funeral services were held Sunday at 1 o'clock at the Meat Camp Baptist Church by the Rev. R. C. Eggers and burial was in Mountain Memorial Park Boone.

The widow, two sons and two daughters survive: Tommy, Eddie, Mary Alice and Lenora. The parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arlie Moretz, also survive, with a brother and two sisters: Elmo Moretz, Miami, Fla.; Miss Allie Moretz, Gastonia, Mrs. Bill McGoogan, Rockingham. A grandmother, Mrs. S. G. Moretz, of Boone survives.

## Mrs. Ida Stine Dies Saturday

Mrs. Ida Brown Stine, 71, resident of Beech Creek, died Saturday at Banner Elk Hospital.

Funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Beech Creek Baptist Church by the Rev. Max T. Brooks and burial was in the family cemetery.

Surviving are the husband, Charlie Stine, three sons and five daughters: Coy Stine, Elk Park; Floyd, Clyde Stine, Beech Creek; Mrs. Eddie Estep, Elk Park; Mrs. Ruth Estep, Beech Creek; Mrs. Eula Ward, Mrs. Viola Ward, Elk Park; Mrs. Vertie Vines, Elizabethton, Tenn. One brother and two sisters survive: George Brown, Beech Creek; Mrs. Nora Guy, Elk Park; Mrs. Laura Oaks, Bristol, Tenn. There are 42 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Phil McGuire of Troutman spent the week end with Mrs. Ala McGuire in Boone.

## Appalachian College Choir Will Again Present Handel's Messiah

The 53-voice Choir of Appalachian State Teachers College, under the direction of Mrs. Virginia Wary Linney, will appear in its nineteenth annual presentation of the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah, Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the First Baptist Church of Boone.

The Choir will be accompanied by the College Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Mr. Nicholas Erneston.

The singing of Handel's Messiah has become a traditional part of the Christmas season for the college and for the town of Boone. It has been sung annually since the Christmas of 1940, with one exception, when the choir presented the Bach Christmas Oratorio.

The College Choir has gained national recognition by its annual presentation of excerpts of the Messiah over the Mutual Network for eight successive years.

Soloists for the performance will be Miss Mildred Elliott and Miss Shirley Jackson, sopranos; Miss Susan Ford and Miss Judy McCurry, Contraltos; Mr. Samuel Chen, tenor; and Mr. Lowell Dotson, Bass.

Assisting at the organ will be Mr. Earney Hotard of the piano and organ departments of ASTC and Miss Sylvia Williams, pianist, a graduate assistant in the Music Department.

## BOONE GROWS, COUNTY SHRINKS

# Boone Gains 713 Over 1950 In Current Census

## Blowing Rock Also Chalks Up Increase

The final report on the 1960 census gives Boone a population of 3,686, an increase of 713 over the count of 2,973 made ten years ago.

However, as previously reported, Watauga county lost 813 people in the decade, leaving her population at 17,529. In 1950 it was 18,342.

The population of Blowing Rock is given as 711, as against 661 in 1950.

By townships, the county population is:

Bald Mountain	361
Beaver Dam	944
Blowing Rock	982
Blue Ridge	644
Boone	3686
Brushy Fork	1642
Cove Creek	1626
Elk	366
Laurel Creek	1036
Meat Camp	1257
New River	1952
North Fork	261
Shawneehaw	450
Stony Fork	1199
Watauga	1123

The State Figures

The population of the State of North Carolina is 4,556,155, compared with 4,061,929 in 1950, an increase of 12.2 per cent.

The top ten cities of the State have current population as follows:

Charlotte 201,564, Greensboro 119,574, Winston-Salem 111,135, Raleigh 93,931, Durham 78,302, High Point 61,652, Asheville 58,747, Fayetteville 46,473, Wilmington 44,013, Gastonia 37,276.



COUNTY APPOINTEES.—These three persons were appointed by the county commissioners Monday to top offices of the county. They are, left to right: Miss Mary Green, secretary and bookkeeper; J. D. Winebarger, accountant and tax supervisor; Dallas Hodges, tax collector.—Staff photo.

## Weed Sales Establish New Record

Leaf sales totaled 1,801,188 pounds for the first six days of selling on the 1960 Market at the Mountain Burley Warehouse in Boone. Gross receipts ran to \$1,224,320.16, making the average price \$67.79, the highest average in the history of the market, according to Mrs. Harriet Sikes.

Warehouse officials recommended early marketing of tobacco in order to take advantage of the current selling prices. As buyers approach their poundage quota, bidding tends to slow down, it was pointed out. Price levels are expected to remain high until the very end of the present market, but the early sales are likely to be the best, the market people believe.

Appearance of baskets on the sales floor still ranks as the number one factor in getting top prices for a tobacco crop, Mrs. Sikes declared, and urged that all growers make their crops as attractive as possible when displaying them for sale.

## Jones Child, 9, Meets Tragic Death When Gun Discharges

Ruby Joyce Jones, 9, of Vilas, R. F. D. 1, was killed instantly Sunday afternoon; when the 12-gauge shotgun with which she and a 13-year-old brother were playing, was discharged.

The load entered the child's left chest, and death was believed to have been instantaneous.

Coroner Richard E. Kelley, who, along with Sheriff E. M. Hodges, and Deputy George Smitherman, investigated the shooting, did not hold an inquest, and termed the tragedy an accident.

Ruby Joyce, Ralph, 13, and their twin sisters, Edna and Margaret, were at home while their mother, Mrs. Will Jones, and three brothers, visited their father, a patient at Grace Hospital, Banner Elk, Coroner Kelley said.

The shooting is said to have occurred about 5:30 p. m., while Ralph and Ruby Joyce were playing with the shotgun. The affair was not reported to officers until Mrs. Jones returned home about 9:30 p. m.

Surviving are the parents, six brothers and five sisters: Clifford, Franklin, Russell, Ralph, Bobby and Harold Jones, of Vilas; Mrs. Earlene Jones, Lenoir; Mrs. Maxine Huffman, Reese; Margaret, Edna and Jean Jones, all of the home.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday at 2 o'clock at Mountain Dale Baptist Church by the Rev. Carl Wilson and the Rev. Noah Johnson. Burial was in the church cemetery.

## Santa Claus Is On The Way

Santa Claus is coming to town next Saturday morning to distribute gifts to all the youngsters and to officially get the Christmas season under way.

The bewildered old gentleman of the snowy locks will open his pack at King and Depot Streets, where decorations have been put up to brighten the scene, and all the boys and girls in the area, regardless of age, are invited to come.

Santa will be on hand at 10 o'clock a. m. In explaining setting this hour, Chamber of Commerce President Wilcox said, "It was fixed in the morning 'so that all kids, regardless of age, could come and see Santa, and not disturb your resting period in the early afternoon."

Christmas Store Hours

It is recommended that all stores remain open Friday evening, December 16, till 9 o'clock. Beginning December 19, they are asked to remain open to 9 p. m. through Christmas eve.

The Merchants Association Committee, headed by R. D. Hodges, Jr., has contacted a majority of the merchants and finds they plan to definitely remain open. He says that the merchants are well stocked to take care of last minute rushes and have ample help to take care of the needs of the people of this entire area.

Dr. and Mrs. James T. Gouge were in Raleigh from Monday through Wednesday attending the Health Officers Conference of the North Carolina State Board of Health.

## Vote Error Is Reported

Representative-Elect Murray Coffey, calls the attention of the Democrat to an error which occurred in the official election returns published in the Democrat recently.

Due to a transposition of "slugs" when the table was made up, Mr. Coffey's vote was wrong in Stony Fork township, along with the vote in the Senate race.

In Stony Fork the vote should have read: Winkler 177, Norris 399; Edmiston 177, Coffey 398.

Mr. George P. Haganian is a patient at Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem.