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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER							
1962	Hi	Lo	prec.	1961	Hi	Lo	
Feb. 27	61	44	tr.	64	39		
Feb. 28	63	47	.06	55	32		
March 1	47	27	.05	54	36		
March 2	50	21		52	30		
March 3	45	23		62	27		
March 4	45	23		73	39		
March 5	33	22	*.27	71	51		
*3 in. snow; total prec.—.39 inch.							

VOLUME LXXIV—NO. 36

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1962

6 CENTS

18 PAGES—3 SECTIONS

8 TO 10 INCH SNOWFALL

County Schools Closed As Blizzard Rages In

Activity Slows In Winter's Worst Storm

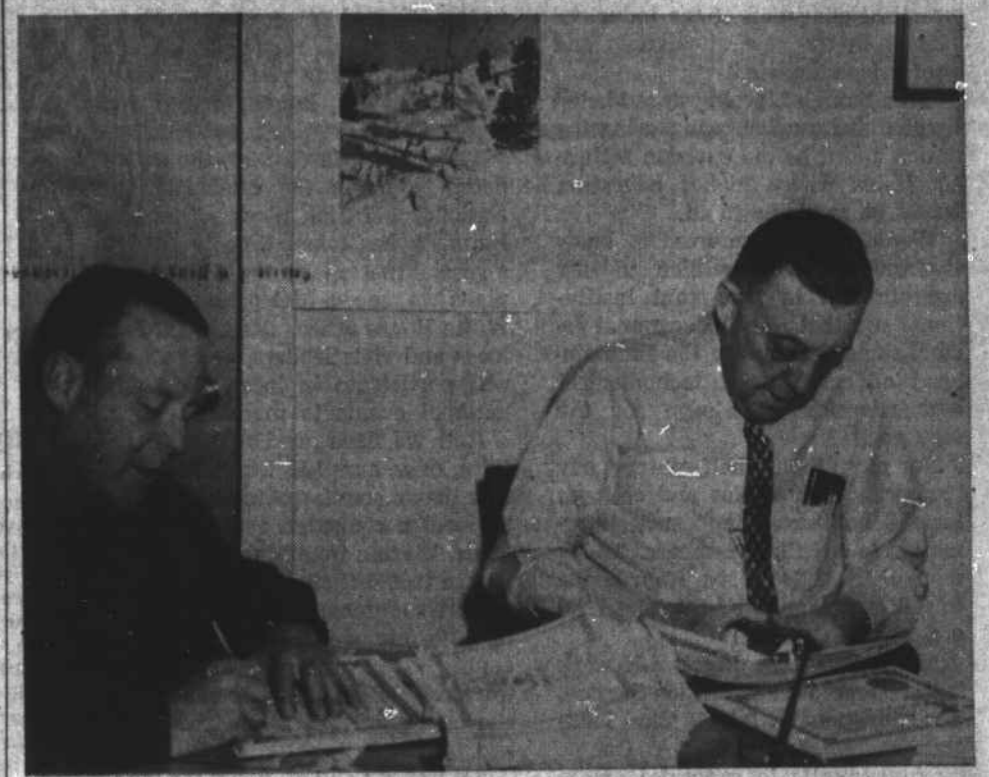
Winter's worst blizzard blew in Monday and increased in intensity Tuesday until from eight to ten inches of snow had been driven into road-blocking drifts, closing the county schools and slowing traffic and business activities throughout the area.

Early risers Monday morning were able to see about three inches of snow which fell during the night Sunday. Actually the snow began to fall in Boone about 6:00 p. m., following a light rain and sleet. The streets were white by dark, when the flakes slowed somewhat. The temperature dipped from 45 degrees during the day to 32 by 6 o'clock.

Monday morning the weather didn't look so bad, although it continued to snow most of the time. The temperature hovered around 33 degrees until the afternoon, and much of the snow, particularly on the highways disappeared. Then in the afternoon, the wind began to blow and by 6 p. m. the thermometer had dropped to 22 degrees, with the wind feeling even colder.

The snow fall increased and started sticking again, and cars were seen with chains as the highways became slick at places. By 7 a. m. Tuesday another three or more inches of snow had fallen, and drifts were getting deeper as the winds picked the snow up from one spot and placed it down at another. The temperature stood at 18 degrees in early morning, and rose to a high of 27 during the day.

At mid-afternoon Tuesday, (continued on page four)



SIGNED AND SEALED.—M. E. (Bill) Thalheimer and Louis H. Smith get stock certificates ready for delivery to stockholders in the Blowing Rock Ski Lodge, Inc. Thalheimer, who is president of the corporation, and Smith, secretary-treasurer, said the certificates will be delivered to the stockholders this week. They said the lodge has been completed, the tows are in place ready for operation, and the sport shop is ready with rental equipment. Today (Wednesday) was set by Mr. Thalheimer for the "unofficial" opening. He welcomed skiers to join in the initial runs.

B. R. Co-Op To Be Honored At National REA Meeting

Cecil Viverette, general manager, announced this week that the Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation will be honored at the 20th annual meeting of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association which is being held this week, March 5-8, in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

The cooperative has been chosen as the electric distribution cooperative which has the

most outstanding safety program in the nation. There are more than 950 electric cooperatives in this country. Special recognition with an appropriate award will be given Blue Ridge Electric.

A special award will also be presented to Mrs. Barbara Deverick, staff assistant at Blue Ridge Electric, for outstanding work in the field of advanced management. Mrs. Deverick is

one of seven persons chosen from the rural electrification program to receive this award.

Scheduled to attend the meeting in Atlantic City from the local cooperative are the president, W. B. Austin of Jefferson; vice president, Bert Mast, of Zionville; treasurer, D. R. Moore, of Granite Falls; and directors, Clyde Perry and Collins Greene.

Personnel attending in addition to the general manager and staff assistant are E. D. Rader, system engineer; Harold Beach, safety director; James Allen, Jr., manager of Allegheny district; and Herman Anderson, director of member relations. There are more than 6,500 persons attending the meeting.

Packed into the four-day meeting were discussions of such topics as the development of rural areas, the need for na-

(continued on page four)

Matmen Will Try Out For State Honors

Some of North Carolina's most outstanding high school wrestlers will compete here this week end, vying for a chance to enter the State tournament in High Point on March 16 and 17.

Appalachian High School is the defending champions for the Western District, and will be placing her crown on the block as Appalachian, Elkin, Beaver Creek, Myers Park (Charlotte), North Mecklenburg, Garringer (Charlotte), and Marion will be wrestling for the district places.

Only three boys in each weight division will be able to go to the State event. They will be the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in the Boone tourney.

First rounds will be held in the College P. E. building Friday at 7:00 p. m.; second round Saturday at 2:00 p. m., and finals Saturday night.

Awards will be presented the champions by Paul Winkler and Jerry Coe.



KING STREET DURING TUESDAY'S BLIZZARD—TRAFFIC WAS ALMOST HALTED

Use Of Native Resources Vital To Development, Council Is Told

The Council of the Southern Mountains had its 50th annual meeting February 20-24 at Gatlinburg, Tennessee. It was attended by ministers, teachers, county agents, and other community leaders from all parts of the Appalachian South. Richard Chase, of Watauga County, who is on the Council's Committees on Recreation and on Publications, was in attendance.

Mrs. Laxon Is Dead At 100

Mrs. A. W. Laxon, an aunt of Messrs R. T., Grady and Horace Greer of Boone, died February 26 at Memorial Hospital in Lenoir.

Mrs. Laxon, who was a sister of the late Thomas F. Greer of Watauga county, had celebrated her one hundredth birthday last November.

Deceased lived in the Kings Creek neighborhood, about fifteen miles from Lenoir where she had spent her entire life.

Funeral services were held on the 27th at Kings Creek Baptist Church and burial was there.

Surviving is one son, Bynum Laxon of Lenoir.

Attending the funeral from Boone were the Messrs Greer, and a niece, Mrs. R. C. Greene, their families, also another niece, Mrs. Rosa Ford of Kingsport, Tenn., who was visiting here with the Greers.

A recent bulletin on the work of the Council reads, in part: "One of the Council's major goals is to make our people conscious of their own ability to develop, and to utilize their native resources and talents to improve their way of life. Whatever we do to help ourselves, indirectly helps all. While our problems are vitally personal and local, they are also national. The largest untapped reserve of manpower for industry in the country is in the Appalachian South. Much of this manpower is, however, engaged in farming small hillside acreages no longer adequate to support the families which live on them. Major im-

provements will come about through the youth of our mountains: if they have the proper nutrition during their formative years; if their health is not drastically undermined by want of medical care; if their clothes, or lack of them, do not force them to quit school to seek employment; if there is employment for them in the region when they graduate; if they are qualified to accept it.

The Council is the one organization concerned with all the factors: educational, recreational, health, religious, social, and cultural—which may improve the quality of living of the people of this region. The Council is the motivating force behind the actions of a large group of professional and lay leaders whose interests are devoted to the people of The Appalachian South. The Council recognizes the entire Appalachian South as a single region including parts of nine states: Maryland, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama—problems common to mountain counties."

Teachers To Meet Monday

The Watauga County unit of the NCEA will meet at the Appalachian Elementary School auditorium in Boone Monday, March 12 at 7 p. m.

Dr. W. H. Plemmons, President of Appalachian State Teachers College, will be the guest speaker and officers for 1962-63 will be elected.

British General Will Speak At Lees-McRae

Banner Elk—General Sir Geoffrey K. Bourne of Great Britain will speak to the student body and guests of Lees-McRae College on March 10 at 11:00 a. m., in the A. C. Chaffee Auditorium. He will talk on his Cold War experiences in combatting communism in Berlin and Malaya.

General Bourne, a four-star retired General, was the General Officer in Command of the British Sector in Berlin during the Airlift from 1949-51. He was also the General Officer in Command of the Malays Command and Director of Operations during 1954-56.

Colonel Max C. Chapman, President of Lees-McRae College and a friend of General Bourne, was instrumental in bringing the General to the mountain campus for the college's distinguished speaker series. Their friendship started in 1958 when Colonel Chapman was a student at the British Imperial Defense College, London, England, while the General was the Commandant of that college.

General Bourne is now the Director-General of the Alumn-



GENERAL BOURNE

num Development Association of Great Britain. He will speak at the California Institute of Technology in late February. (Continued on page four)

Frank Klutz Is Chairman Of Oil Group

Members of the Watauga County organization of the North Carolina Petroleum Committee elected Frank Klutz, Mountain Oil Company, Chairman at a meeting held at Boone, Monday.

The committee reviewed plans for participation in this year's NCPG program.

Other officers of the Watauga County organization are: R. D. Hodges, Jr., vice chairman; Frank Klutz, school program; Clyde Dula, films and speakers; R. D. Hodges, Jr., special events; John Council, women's program.

H. N. Williamson, area chairman from Hickory attended the meeting and addressed the group briefly on the organization and goals for 1962.

"The North Carolina Petroleum Committee is a statewide organization composed of a series of volunteer county committees of oilmen and women, Mr. Klutz, county chairman, said. "We are happy to make available to residents of Watauga County essential facts and figures on matters which are as much the public's concern as our own. In addition, we urge Watauga Countians to request our films, speakers, booklets and demonstrations that are interesting and informative."

Frank Klutz said further details concerning local plans of the group will be released as soon as finalized.

Weed Growers Get Warning From Co. ASCS

Watauga county burley tobacco producers are reminded that the leasing agreement or transfer of allotments does not apply to burley tobacco. This announcement comes as a sort of warning from the local ASCS office to producers who might have gotten the wrong impression from actions taken in the flue-cured belt.

The burley tobacco allotment must be grown on the farm for which the allotment is established during 1962.

Any questions about the 1962 burley allotment should be brought to the Watauga ASCS office for clarification.

Reese Files For County Office

Dr. Gene Reese, Boone dentist and member of the Board of County Commissioners, has filed for the Democratic nomination for Commissioner, subject to the May primary.

Chairman of the Board, W. C. Lentz of Blowing Rock, who is ill following a heart attack some time ago, and Mr. Bynum Greene, Republican member of the Board hadn't filed when this was written.

Parkway Tourney Winners

R. W. Watkins, director of the Parkway High School Basketball Tournament, announced the team and player trophy winners at the recent tournament held in Boone.

Champions for regular season play, Newland high school boys and girls.

Tournament champions, Cranberry, both boys and girls.

Runners-up in tournament (second place), Newland, both boys and girls.

Regular season sportsmanship trophy, Piney Creek and Bethel high schools tied, and both were presented a trophy.

Tournament sportsmanship, Bethel, both boys and girls.

Most valuable player, boy, McNeil of Lansing high school; girl, Mary Cherry, Newland.

All—Tournament selection, boys—McNeil, Lansing; Crinkley, Newland; Sturgill, Newland; Davis, Bethel; Aldridge, Cranberry; Edmisten, Blowing Rock; (continued on page four)

Ollie L. Smith Dies In Lenoir

Ollie L. Smith, 67, of Boone, died at the home of a son Henry W. Smith in Lenoir last Friday.

Funeral services were held Sunday at 2 o'clock at the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church by Rev. R. C. Eggers and Rev. James Kisselburg, and burial was in the church cemetery.

Mr. Smith was born March 24, 1894, a son of the late Julius and Harriet Smith. He was a farmer by trade.

Surviving in addition to the son here are three other sons, Lloyd Smith of Sugar Grove, Floyd Smith of Granite Falls, and Howard J. Smith of White; two daughters, Mrs. Ellis (Lulu) Eggers and Mrs. E. A. H. (Betty Sue) LeClair, both of Glade Springs, Va.; two brothers, Otis Smith, a twin brother of Boone, and Rufus Smith of Trade, Tenn.; twelve grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

Plans Near Completion For Visit Of 40 Danes To City

Plans have now been completed for the visit to Boone of some 40 Danes on Tuesday and Wednesday March 20 and 21. The group will put on a program at 7:30 p. m. Tuesday, March 20th as part of the college Lyceum program.

Rogers Whitener is chairman of this series of programs and he announced last week that the Danish presentation fits perfectly into the purpose of the Lyceum idea, which is to bring to Boone and the campus the best artistic and cultural programs that are possible. The Wednesday evening program will be geared to interest adults as well as children from the whole Boone area. The presentation will include music, dances, costumes, rhythms, gymnastics and other aspects of the life of the Danes.

This visit is part of the effort of Western Nations to help their "neighbors" meet and know more about the people and life of other countries. More than 400 applicants tried out for the opportunity to become part of the group, when competition was held in Copenhagen last year. From these 16 young men and 18 young women were

Girl Scout Week Proclaimed

Whereas the Girl Scouts of the United States of America have rendered continuous service to their country and communities since their founding on March 12, 1912; and

Whereas we the people of Boone are aware of the important contribution to community welfare being made by Girl Scout leaders through their work with the youth of the nation; and

Whereas the Girl Scout organization has grown to more than two and a half million girl members and almost 800,000 adult leaders, who are each day living up to their promise to Do Their Duty to God and Country, to Help Other People at All Times, and to Live by the Girl Scout Laws of Loyalty, Honesty, Courtesy, Cheerfulness, Usefulness,

Kindness, and Helpfulness to Others:

Now, therefore, I, Wade E. Brown, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of Boone, North Carolina, hereby proclaim March 11-17 of this year 1962 as Girl Scout Week and March 12 as the 50th Anniversary of the founding of Girl Scouting in the United States of America. I therefore call upon all citizens to give the Girl Scouts now and in the coming years the fullest cooperation and support so that increasing numbers of girls may benefit from the splendid program of training in citizenship which the Girl Scout organization offers.

WADE E. BROWN, Mayor
Boone, North Carolina
March 8, 1962.

selected. They are under the supervision of 8 directors, teachers and coaches.

During 1961 the group visited many countries of Europe, including Greece, Yugoslavia, Turkey, France, and England. Before arriving in Boone they will have appeared in many states of the United States, in Canada and in Mexico.

Many schools have inquired about the possibility of an afternoon program for school children and the committee will attempt to arrange such a program.