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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER

1962	Hi	Lo	prec.	'61 Hi	Lo
Dec. 18	57	39		58	47
Dec. 19	53	30		53	39
Dec. 20	53	45		45	28
Dec. 21	47	21	.11	41	24

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1962

6 CENTS

20 PAGES—3 SECTIONS

W. C. Lentz Dies Thurs. At B. Rock

William Council Lentz, Sr., 53, former county official and prominent Blowing Rock business man, died in the hospital there Thursday morning.

He had been a hospital patient for two months, and had been in failing health for several months due to a heart condition.

Born in Blowing Rock, Mr. Lentz was a son of John T. Lentz and Mrs. Bethesda Cannon Lentz. He was chairman of the Board of Watauga County Commissioners until December 3, 1962, had been a member of the Board of Aldermen and of the local school board at Blowing Rock. He owned the Lentz Service Station there.

Funeral services were held Friday at the Rumble Memorial Presbyterian Church by the Rev. Blake Brinkerhoff and the Rev. George Hyler. Burial was in Blowing Rock cemetery.

Surviving are the widow, the former Miss Elizabeth Sudderth; two daughters, Mrs. Everett Coffey and Mrs. Thomas Wright, both of Blowing Rock; a son, William C. Lentz, Jr., of Blowing Rock; three brothers, Ross, John and Eugene Lentz all of Blowing Rock. There are five grandchildren.



WILLIAM C. LENTZ

Democrat Has Early Edition

This issue of the Democrat comes from the press Friday, December 21st, although it is actually the edition of December 27 and carries that date.

This is done so the staff may have Monday and Christmas Day as a holiday vacation.



SANTA CLAUS will make a special appearance at the Blowing Rock Ski Lodge Christmas day at 1 o'clock. Everyone is invited to see jolly Saint Nicholas try out the new ski slopes. All are invited, but a spectator charge will be in effect.—Flowers photo.



BUSY DAYS FOR BOONE STORES

STORES ARE OPEN AT NIGHT Christmas Trade In City Seen Breaking Records

Merchants Are Hopeful Of New Year

Merchants in Boone reported an un-precedented high in pre-Christmas sales despite heavy snows and low temperatures during early December, according to a survey taken by the Watauga Democrat last week.

One spokesman observed that sales were "relatively slow" the first two weeks of December because of the severe weather in the Watauga area. "But," he explained, "trade in the past week has surpassed anything we have ever experienced."

Another manager stated that sales during December usually net almost 25 per cent of the year's total sales. "This year," he noted, "our sales have been around 10 per cent higher than that of any previous December."

Local stores have been observing night hours for more than a week. "I've never seen so many people in town," one customer told a reporter.

Stores were remaining open until 9 p. m. each night except Sunday, according to Chamber of Commerce president Herman Wilcox.

Looking optimistically to the new year, one salesman said, "Business in 1962 has been good—real good. I see no reason why 1963 should not be even better."

The Merchants Association and the Chamber of Commerce are recommending that stores take only one day off for New Year's.

Mrs. Church Rites Held

North Wilkesboro—The funeral for Mrs. Enoch Church, 75, of Deep Gap, Rt. 1, was conducted at 2 p. m. Thursday at Lewis Fork Baptist Church by the Rev. A. W. Eller, the Rev. Roscoe Greene, the Rev. Governor Blankenship and the Rev. J. A. Icenhour. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Mrs. Church died Tuesday in Wilkes General Hospital.



Photo by Paul Weston Studio

JAYCEES TREAT 36 SCHOOL CHILDREN

Dick Horton Dies In Pa.

William J. (Dick) Horton, native Wataugan, but for many years a resident of Farrell, Pa., died in a hospital in that city last Wednesday, December 19, from a heart attack.

Mr. Horton was 85 years old. Born in Watauga county, Mr. Horton was a son of the late James W. and Mrs. Horton of Vilas. A jeweler, Mr. Horton had operated a jewelry store and watch repairing establishment in Farrell for a great many years.

Funeral plans were not complete as this was written. Survivors include two sons, Howard Horton of the home and Dick Horton, Jr., of Silver Spring, Md.; a daughter, Mrs. Lloyd McCurdy of California; the widow, a sister and a brother, Mrs. Watt Henson of Sherwood and Don J. Horton of Vilas.

Reactor for nuclear rocket tested in Nevada.

Two Area Hospitals Among First To Cite Health Careers

Blowing Rock and Charles A. Cannon hospitals are two of the first 100 hospitals in the State to subscribe to a three-year program to inform young people about vocational opportunities in the field of health.

The program will be conducted by the North Carolina Hospital Education and Research Foundation, Inc., an agency of the North Carolina Hospital Association. J. Minette Pyne of Burlington, president of the foundation, this week announced that grants to assist the program have been awarded by The Duke Endowment (\$25,000 annually for three years), the

Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation (an equal amount), and R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company (\$5,000 annually for three years).

Subscriptions from hospitals, 11 hospital auxiliaries and the Hospital Care Assoc. of Durham Service Industries, Inc., and the Hospital Savings Assoc. of Chapel Hill Service Industries, Inc., amount to almost \$20,000 annually for the three years.

Mr. Pyne said that it now seems possible to start the program January 1. The major portion of the \$250,000 budget for the three years has been subscribed.

The Health Careers Committee for the North Carolina Hospital Education and Research Foundation, J. G. Brothers, of Morganton, chairman, will name an over-all coordinator for the State.

The program will be administered through six districts. It is an extension of the successful project conducted for the past two and a half years in the mountain counties. WNC hospitals, assisted by the James G. K. McClure Educational and Development Fund and the Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation, started the pilot program. Mr. Brothers has served as its president since its inception.

"By thorough dissemination of information about work in

health services, the nursing schools in the mountain counties have been filled with desirable candidates and the number of those going into other health occupations has been considerably increased," Mr. Pyne said. "We are confident that this same pattern will work with much greater benefits on

(Continued on page four)

29 May Die In N. C. Traffic

Don't take the "Merry" out of your Christmas by becoming one of the 29 persons the N. C. State Motor Club predicts will be killed on North Carolina's streets and highways during the long Yule holiday.

The official fatality count began at 6 p. m. Friday, Dec. 21, and will extend through Tuesday midnight, Dec. 25, a period of 102 hours.

During the 1961 Christmas holiday, which covered a 78-hour period, North Carolina recorded 22 highway deaths in 20 fatal accidents and 730 injured in a total of 1,065 accidents. The largest number of deaths—10—occurred on Saturday, with 7 more on Christmas Eve, usually one of the most deadly days of the year because of traditional festivities and heavy travel to family gatherings.

Speeding with no regard for road, weather and traffic conditions was the most frequent driver violation contributing to holiday accidents last Christmas, figuring in 17 of the 22 fatalities.

"For many years," cautioned (continued on page four)

License Office Will Be Closed

The Drivers License Examiner's office will be closed Wednesday, December 26, and will reopen Thursday, December 27. The regular working hours are from 8 to 5 on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

NOTED ECONOMIST ISSUES PREDICTIONS

Babson Sees Continued Good Times; No War Is Expected During New Year

By ROGER BABSON
The business situation will vary with different industries, and hence with different cities. Some defense centers will boom; steel cities will still find the going tough . . . but better than a year ago. Considering the high level of the past ten years it will not be surprising for 1963 to show a moderate decline in business. If so it should come in the second or third quarter, with recovery in the fourth quarter, followed by a good 1964.

Disposable personal income will remain high. With increased savings deposits and little change in the cost-of-living, the public should continue to spend freely, especially if merchants maintain their advertising outlays.

the same during 1963. But government spending will increase over \$3 billion—largely on defense—and \$2 billion on new roads. Whether manufacturers will hike their expenditures for new machinery in 1963 in view of the depreciation tax credit, I would not now forecast.

All this means that business and employment for your city in 1963 will depend largely upon the attitude of its leading businessmen. If they will be optimistic and spend more on new plants, advertising, and salesmanship, we should have nothing to fear.

Stocks And Bonds
My father used to tell me, "It is okay, Roger, for you to make forecasts . . . but never put dates on them!" I forecast that the Dow-Jones Industrial Average will register lower

sometimes during 1963 and stocks will show an average yield of about 4%. Either dividends must be increased or prices of stocks must go lower. Both cannot continue forever so poorly adjusted.

The above comment refers primarily to industrial stocks. I forecast that both the gross and net earnings of utility stocks will advance during 1963 and for some years thereafter. The utility cumulative preferreds have reached a point whereby they will closely follow interest rates as determined by the Federal Reserve Banks. The utility common stocks should slowly rise in price provided they are not unjustly limited by legislation or by state and federal regulatory commissions.

As for the railroad stocks, I

generally feel bearish. A war with Cuba or a world nuclear war breaking out anywhere could cause the stocks of all our transcontinental railroads to go up sharply in price; but down they would come again.

We are today in an electronic age and no longer in a railroad age. Those who desire to invest in common stocks should stick to the oils, chemicals, and electronics. Even then keep in mind Newton's Law of Action and Reaction which will always determine the time to buy and sell common stocks.

Regarding bonds I am not pessimistic for 1963. Certainly, the non-taxable bonds will sell higher during 1963. Also, good short-term corporation and government bonds will be safest to hold. Long-term corporation (Continued on page 1, sec. B)

Jaycees Hosts To Children

The Boone Jaycees selected four children from each of the nine Watauga county schools last week and treated the group to a shopping tour, according to Ned Trivett, club member.

The school children selected clothes and toys amounting to \$12 per child. Funds for the

service were provided by the proceeds from the Christmas tree sale.

After the shopping tour, the children were entertained by the Jaycees at a luncheon in the basement of the First Baptist Church of Boone. Santa Claus was a special guest at the occasion.



MISS AGNES GRAY SHIPLEY

Miss Shipley Wins Second Prize In Baking Contest

Richmond, Va., Dec. 15 — Agnes Shipley, 18, a local student of Vilas, North Carolina, won 2nd prize today in a teenage baking contest sponsored by Pyrofax Gas Company. The competition took place here in the William Byrd Hotel.

The contest, now in its second year, commenced early in September with the writing of essays on the subject "Why I Want to Go to College." A total of 864 essays were selected,

and their hopeful authors went on to one of 36 preliminary baking contests scheduled at key locations throughout 27 eastern states.

The first prize winner received, along with the scholarship \$2000 fund, a \$500 gas range for home use, and another just like it for the home economics department of her home. Second prize winners won gas ranges, and third prize winners won 8mm cameras.