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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER					
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VOLUME LXXVI—NO. 18

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1963

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18 PAGES—3 SECTIONS

Woods Are Closed By Governor

Tinder dry conditions resulting from prolonged drought brought a proclamation Monday from Gov. Terry Sanford closing forests in 26 western North Carolina counties.

The order forbids such activities as hunting, fishing, trapping or camping in woods of the 26 counties and the burning of brush, grass or other debris within 500 feet of any wooded area. Fishing from a boat in which no camping is involved would be allowed.

Robert Stallings, director of the Department of Conservation and Development, and Clyde Patton, director of the Wildlife Resources Commission, joined in requesting the proclamation. It was recommended by State Forester Fred Claridge.

The 26 counties are Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain, Transylvania, Buncombe, Henderson, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Yancey, Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Stokes, Surry, Watauga, and Wilkes.



MISS JUDY MARTIN, 1963 HOMECOMING QUEEN —Larry Penley Photo

ASTC Homecoming Draws Large Crowd

By LARRY PENLEY

One of the largest alumni groups in the history of the college attended the 60th Anniversary Homecoming Saturday at Appalachian State Teachers College, according to H. R. Eggers, registrar and chairman of the 60th Anniversary Committee.

Alumni, friends and visitors enjoyed a harvest of events from early morning until midnight. Approximately 3,000 alumni from across the state and other states were present.

Overflow crowds were present for the Homecoming Luncheon at the Elementary School Cafeteria and the exclusive Touchdown Supper at the Boone-Blowing Rock Ski Lodge.

A highlight of the 60th Anniversary Homecoming was the dedication of the new J. D. Rankin Science Building in outdoor ceremonies at 4:45 p. m. The invocation was given by the Reverend Richard J. Crowder of Boone Methodist Church and the prayer of dedication by Dr. John G. Barden, ASTC professor of education.

H. R. Eggers presided over the dedication ceremonies and introduced the guest speaker, A. R. Smith. Professor Smith was chairman of the chemistry department at Appalachian until his retirement in 1958. Smith and Dr. Rankin came to ASTC in 1921.

In his speech Professor Smith gave a resume of the development of science education at Appalachian College. He praised Dr. Rankin for his many contributions to the college and the Boone community. He closed his speech with a quotation from the October 23 issue of the Watauga Democrat. The following quote came from the editorial column written by Editor Rob Rivers:

"It is eminently fitting that the fine new science building bear the name of this illustrious former President of Appalachian." (continued on page four)



D. GRADY MORETZ, JR.

Moretz To Serve Again As Seal Sale Chairman

D. Grady Moretz, Jr., local lumber and building supply executive and popular civic leader will serve as the 1963 Christmas Seal chairman for the Watauga Tuberculosis Association, according to the announcement just released by E. A. Darr, Jr., and Mrs. Herman Wilcox, president and vice-president respectively, of the association.

Mr. Moretz is quite pleased (Continued on page four)

Mrs. Shook, 83, Dies October 22

Mrs. George Shook, age 83, of Pineola, died at Cannon Memorial Hospital in Banner Elk October 22.

She was the daughter of the late John and Mary Banner Carpenter. She owned and operated the Rose Tree in Pineola for 50 years.

Funeral services were conducted October 25 at the Presbyterian Church in Pineola. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Surviving are three sisters, Mrs. Mack Luttrell of Boone, Mrs. A. C. Sherrard of Fort Deposit, Md., and Mrs. Claude Hughes of Newland.

Dr. Weaver To Speak At Farm-City Event

Blowing Rock Carnival Nets Over \$1,200.00

The Blowing Rock School Halloween Carnival held Saturday night was termed very successful by the committee in charge, with a total of \$1,255.82 net profit.

Karen Coffey and Dickie Trexler were prince and princess from the elementary school. Gail Hayes and Dennis Henson were chosen king and queen of the high school.

The door prize was awarded to Mrs. Mary Pennell; the country ham was won by Mr. Eugene Fortune; the turkey by Mr. Allen Craig; the doll by Miss Mary Ann Troutman of Lenoir Rhyne College, Hickory; and the costume winner was Frances Chia.

W. M. Greer, 68, Has Fatal Attack

Walter Monroe Greer, Sr., 68, of Deep Gap, Route 1, died at 12:30 p. m. last Wednesday at Watauga Hospital of a heart attack.

He was born in Watauga County to Rufus and Camilla Church Greer and spent all his life here.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Viola Nichols Greer; a daughter, Mrs. Herman Green of Salisbury, Md.; four sons, William Faine Greer, Kenneth Brook Greer and Quentin Allen Greer, all of Deep Gap, and Kent T. Greer of Chesapeake, Va.; and six grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted at 2 p. m. Friday at Laurel Springs Baptist Church by the Rev. E. O. Gore, the Rev. Donald Wilson and the Rev. Ed Crump. Burial was in the church cemetery.

David S. Weaver, former director of the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service, will be the guest speaker at the annual Watauga Farm-City Week gathering, which will be held at the Cove Creek High School November 14 at 6:30 p. m.

Dr. Weaver served in the Extension department from 1945 to 1962 when he retired. He is well and favorably known for his speaking ability, and the committee considers they were very fortunate in securing such an outstanding after dinner speaker.

Officers of the Boone Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association, as well as directors, will be installed. Officers of the Cove Creek Community Club will also be installed.

Awards to Watauga County's participating Community Clubs will be presented at the Farm-City meeting.

Mr. J. B. Robinson, Attendance Chairman, asks that everybody secure their tickets for this meeting. Civic Club members may make up their attendance at this time, it is pointed out.

Mr. Robinson suggests that those desiring to attend, contact any of the following: Chamber of Commerce office, Sam Dixon at the First National Bank, Paul Winkler at Watauga Insurance Agency, Mrs. Lillian Danner, Home Demonstration office, or any County Agricultural worker.

Leave For New York

Mrs. Gordon Winkler and Mrs. J. B. Winkler left Sunday for a week in New York City where they will attend several plays and do some sight-seeing.

STARTS AT 800 PAIRS DAILY

New Shoe Factory Begins Operations

Peak Capacity To Be Reached In 15 Months

R. D. Ray, plant manager for the newly-constructed Blue Ridge Shoe Corporation factory on Greenway Road, reports that the nearly 100 employees of the plant are at present turning out approximately 800 pairs of shoes a day, despite the difficulties involved in operating the factory while workers are still busy completing construction on the building.

Ray spoke to a Democrat staff reporter from his temporary "office," consisting of a small desk, two chairs, and a wastepaper basket placed strategically at the center of the sprawling main room of the building, while busy workers rushed by on all sides and construction workers hammered busily nearby.

The talk with Ray produced the following bits of information about the plant:

At full capacity, which is expected to be reached at the latest within the next 15 months, the plant will employ about 225 people full-time, including about 250 men and from 75 to 90 women. Though the temporary shops for training new workers, which were located in the Rivers Building and in the Hunt's Store Building in Boone, have been closed down to facilitate the move into the new plant, a drive toward reaching the full employment quota is still going on through the Employment Security Commission, which holds meetings in Watauga County every Friday at the county courthouse.

At its peak of production, which is also expected to be reached within 15 months, the plant will turn out about 3600 pairs of shoes per day, to be delivered eventually to the more than 1200 retail outlets of Melville Shoe Co. (of which Blue Ridge Shoe Corp. is a subsidiary), which will market the shoes under the brand name of Thom McAn.

The yearly payroll of the plant, once peak production has been reached, will approach an estimated one-and-a-quarter million dollars.

The plant will specialize in manufacturing men's casuals, or "loafers," all of which will be stitched by hand. This operation alone is expected to require the full-time services of about 150 men.

"Our shoes," Ray said, "are in a class, so far as quality and workmanship is concerned, with anybody's shoes, regardless of the length of time that the workmen have been on the job."

"Our employees seem to have the knack to do things well with their hands. At any rate, they have certainly learned surprising (continued on page four)



BRENDA BOST, MISS RHODODENDRON, WAVES TO CROWD Photo by Flowers' Photo Shop

Town Buys 50 Acres As Site For Sewage Disposal Plant

Watauga, Avery Hospitals Get Duke Benefits

The Duke Endowment announces the expenditure of \$1,232,400 to assist 184 hospitals in operating expenses, 129 North Carolina hospitals receiving \$786,482 and 55 in South Carolina receiving \$445,918.

Locally, Blowing Rock Hospital received \$1,539; Watauga Hospital \$2,677, and Charles Cannon Memorial, Banner Elk \$10,917.

This is the largest general distribution the fund has ever made, it is said.

New Schools For Teenage Drivers

Driver education schools are to be established in the county for boys and girls 15 years and 9 months to 18 years old, according to word from the Motor Vehicles Department.

Prospective drivers to be eligible for these schools must be those who can't get drivers' education training in the public schools and must make application to the Drivers' License Bureau for assignment to one of these schools, it is said.

Nickels Vote To Be Held November 19

Farmers who use feed and fertilizer will have the opportunity to vote on the "Nickels for Know How" program November 19.

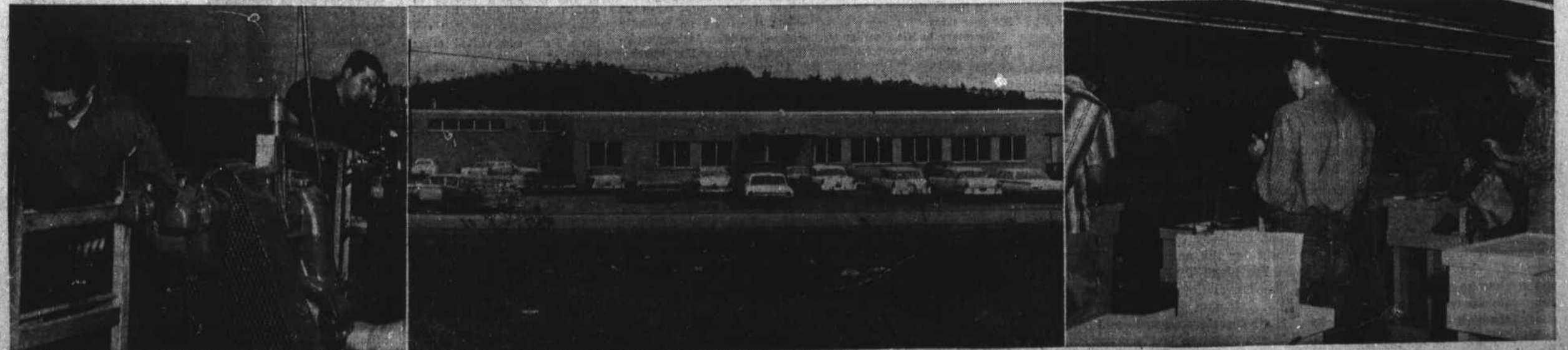
This is the program that costs only 5 cents per ton of feed or fertilizer. This money goes to help the farmer in various ways. One of these ways is to find ways to control diseases and insects that destroy millions of dollars worth of crops each year.

Some diseases that destroy crops in Watauga County are black shank in tobacco, clubroot in cabbage and blight in tomatoes and potatoes. We need help with insect control on such crops as cabbage, alfalfa, tobacco and many other crops. Such pests as the Japanese beetle, slugs, wireworms, nematodes and other insects need more research to find satisfactory ways to control.

The nickels collected from each ton of feed costs the individual farmer very little, but taken as a whole amounts to enough to help with these problems. These things should be considered when you go to vote on the "Nickels for Know How" program on November 19.

Return From Visit

Mrs. B. G. Teams and Mrs. Joyce Nail of Lenoir returned Friday from a two-week's visit with Mrs. Teams' daughter, Mrs. Emory Sylvester and family in Madison, Wisconsin.



NEW SHOE FACTORY ON GREENWAY ROAD, SHOWING EMPLOYEES AT WORK.