

Receipts At P. O. Up In '63

Receipts at the Boone Post office for the year 1963 increased 24.4% over 1962, according to Postmaster Ralph Beshears.

Gross 1963 receipts were \$128,876.10 as compared with \$102,030.12 for 1962. During the past ten years receipts at the local postoffice have increased 300%, it is said.

Mr. Beshears expresses his appreciation to the patrons of the office for their fine cooperation during the heavy Christmas mailing period. "We were able to realize a considerable saving to the Department because almost all patrons used the labels we distributed for handling mail," he said.

Mrs. S. E. Gragg Dies Monday

Mrs. S. E. Gragg, 96, for 57 years a resident of the Foscoe community, died at the home of a daughter, Mrs. C. P. Moore and Mr. Moore Monday night, after a period of failing health which began a year ago.

Mrs. Gragg, who was one of the older residents of the county, was born in Caldwell county, near Lenoir and was the former Miss Margaret Lindsay. Her husband, Rev. S. Eber Gragg, (Continued on page six)



MRS. S. E. GRAGG

OFFICIAL BALLOT ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER

- To vote FOR any amendment, make a cross (X) mark in the square to the left of the word FOR.
- To vote AGAINST any amendment, make a cross (X) mark in the square to the left of the word AGAINST.
- If you fear or refuse or wrongly mark this ballot, return it and get another.

SPECIAL SESSION AMENDMENT

- FOR constitutional amendment increasing membership of Senate from fifty (50) to seventy (70), providing for compulsory redistricting of Senate, and reducing number of Representatives from one hundred twenty (120) to one hundred (100).

AGAINST constitutional amendment increasing membership of Senate from fifty (50) to seventy (70), providing for compulsory redistricting of Senate, and reducing number of Representatives from one hundred twenty (120) to one hundred (100).
- FOR the constitutional amendments empowering the General Assembly to make the rights of husband and wife the same in each other's separate property.

AGAINST the constitutional amendments empowering the General Assembly to make the rights of husband and wife the same in each other's separate property.

REGULAR SESSION AMENDMENT

- FOR the constitutional amendments empowering the General Assembly to make the rights of husband and wife the same in each other's separate property.

AGAINST the constitutional amendments empowering the General Assembly to make the rights of husband and wife the same in each other's separate property.

William Jordan
Chairman, State Board of Elections

Sample Amendment Ballot

This is a facsimile of the ballot you will vote in next Tuesday's election, when the fate of two constitutional amendments are to be decided. On other pages will be found explanations of the issues, as well as comment in letters and on the editorial page.

Assets Of Watauga Savings & Loan Reach \$10,416,982

The Watauga Savings and Loan Association today reports an increase in total assets to \$10,416,982.35 as of the close of business December 31.

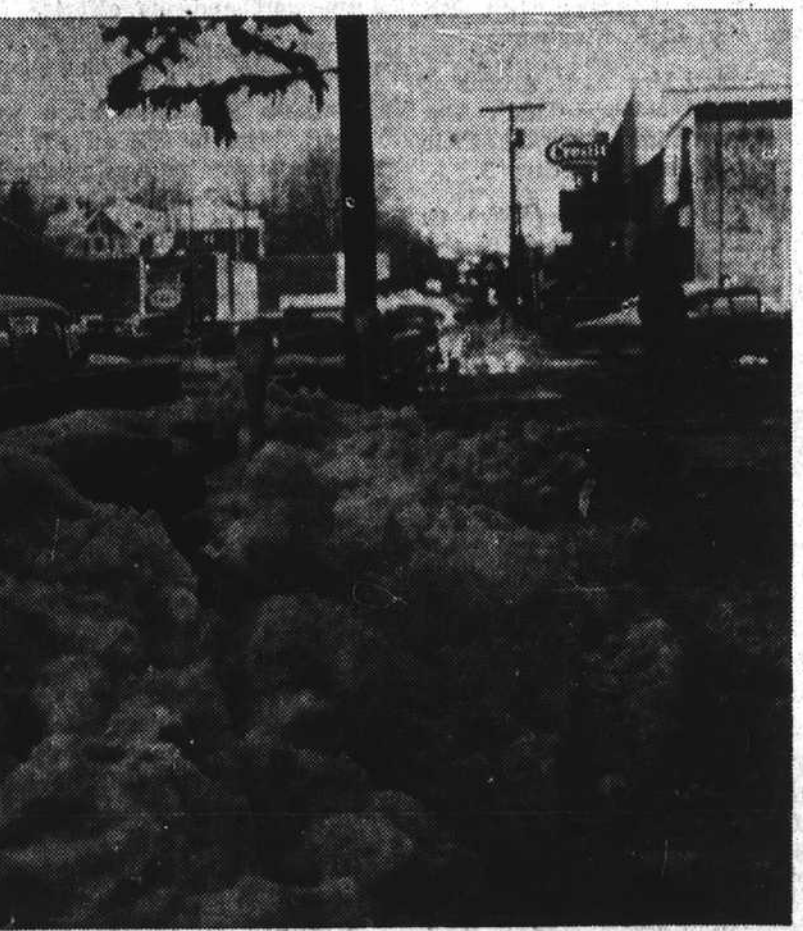
James F. Marsh, Secretary-Treasurer of the financial institution, pointed out that this figure represents a 12% increase over the total assets of a year ago, and reflects the continued economic growth of Boone, Blowing Rock and the county, and the increased acceptance of the Savings and Loan plan in the field of savings and home construction.

According to the Savings and Loan report, net savings gains recorded during the past year totaled \$1,202,029.22, increasing total savings to an all-time high of \$8,944,427.15. A record dividend of \$317,157.06 was paid to savers, on a regular dividend rate of four per cent.

Total mortgage lending volume increased to \$8,988,526.61 in 1963, which Mr. Marsh states is approximately 11.9% above the volume recorded during the previous year.

Mr. Marsh commented that the strong savings inflow substantially increased home lending volume of the institution and indicates the growing demand for Savings and Loan services in this community and elsewhere in the nation. "The Savings and Loan system," he said, "provides the most efficient employment of real savings toward the investment of real estate lending, particularly in the area of private single-family homes. . . We feel that Savings and Loan institutions have now achieved a vitally important place in our total economy and that their influence will continue to expand in the future."

The local Savings and Loan executive predicted a further increase in housing and home financing activities during 1964.



The New Year's Eve storm which dumped six to eight inches of snow, sleet and rain throughout Watauga County seemed to be a harbinger of winter in earnest for this section of the state. Here, two days after the snowfall, this pile of snow alongside West King Street in Boone symbolizes the continued efforts of Wataugas to dig out from under the white deposit and keep going.

Heavy Damage Is Caused By New Year's Snow Storm

By CLARK COX

The New Year's Eve snowstorm which ravaged most of the South last Tuesday night deposited from six to eight inches of snow, sleet and rain over Watauga County through Wednesday morning.

Melted down, the precipitation amounted to 2.52 inches early Wednesday morning, according to local weather reports. Probably another half-inch fell later Wednesday.

Colder weather, followed by a warming trend, left the snow with a hard, icy crust over the soft lower levels. This situation created irritating slushy conditions in the streets of Boone and Blowing Rock, where snow plows and town workers wielding shovels were a constant sight for several days.

In Boone, the snow proved too heavy to haul away, so that the snow which had been pushed off the street had to be left standing, in huge piles which provided both drivers and pedestrians with numerous problems. Friday, when the temperatures soared to the mid-fifties, this snow was pushed back, a little at a time, into the street, where most of it melted to alleviate the congestion.

Driving was extremely hazardous over most of the county, (Continued on page seven)

Watkins Named To New State Position

R. W. Watkins, Appalachian State Teachers College professor, was named Monday by Governor Sanford to the Governor's Executive Committee for the Employment of the Handicapped.

The Commission, modeled after a similar group named by the President, is not a part of any other State agency, and the members are directly responsible to the Governor. The Watkins term will expire June 30, 1966.

Mr. W. C. Boren of Greensboro is the Chairman of the Committee, the other members, besides Mr. Watkins being Henry Belk, Goldsboro newspaperman; James Allen, Louisville; Mrs. George Nicholson, Cherry Hill; Mrs. Lucille Klasz, Asheville; Stephen H. Van-Avery, Charlotte.

From Winston-Salem

A native of Winston-Salem, Mr. Watkins came to Boone in 1932. He is Professor of physical education and recreation at Appalachian State Teachers College, is Red Cross Water, Safety, First Aid and Disaster Chairman for Watauga County, and during the last world war was recreation field director



R. W. WATKINS

for the Red Cross in the United States and Europe.

Mr. Watkins is a Mason, member of the Eastern Star, and an Elder in the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Watkins is married to the former Martha McGill Delaney of Charlotte. They reside at their home at 413 Grand Boulevard, Boone, and have three children: Robert, Dianne and Danny.

CAR HITS COAL TRUCK

Mrs. Hardy Is Killed In Crash On U.S. 321

Eighth Traffic Fatality Here In Four Months

Mrs. Katherine Greene Hardy, 30, wife of Baxter Hardy of Boone, died at Watauga Hospital shortly after her Volkswagen skidded under the bed of a parked coal truck on U. S. 321-221, 1.1 miles north of Blowing Rock about 3:45 p. m. last Thursday.

Mrs. Hardy thus became Watauga County's first traffic fatality of the new year, as the wreck occurred before the year was two days old. Her death was the eighth on the county's highways in a tragic period of less than four months, dating back to September 9, 1963.

Mrs. Hardy was driving south from Boone toward Blowing Rock when the accident occurred.



Mrs. Katherine Hardy of Boone died from injuries sustained last Thursday in a collision involving this Volkswagen, which Mrs. Hardy was driving.—Photo by Flowers.

The truck driver, Ralph Roosevelt Holloway, 37, of Route 4, North Wilkesboro, had stopped because of a minor wreck in front of him, State Highway Patrolman William D. Teem said. (a 1950 Plymouth and a 1964 Chevrolet had collided, blocking the road in both directions). He said Mrs. Hardy possibly was blinded by the sun's glare, then hit her brakes when she saw the vehicle. He said the car skidded on a patch of ice and went out of control, sliding under the truck.

Mrs. Hardy died of head and chest injuries, he said. Her car was demolished. The truck was not damaged.

Mrs. Hardy was born in Mountain City, Tenn., to Millard and Pansy Cornette Greene. She had lived in Watauga County 12 years.

She was employed by Boone Drug Co.

Surviving are her husband; a son, Baxter H. Hardy, Jr., of the home; her parents of Lenoir, Route 3; three brothers, Johnny, Robert and Kenneth Greene of Lenoir, Route 3; three sisters, Mrs. Margerie Eggers Peters and Mrs. Reba Lee Flanagan of Tacoma, Wash., and Mrs. Barbara Mast of Lenoir, and her grandfather, Charlie Cornette of Reese.

(continued on page six)

Two Teenagers Found Dead In Car; Engine Fumes Blamed

Two teenagers were found dead in the front seat of an automobile on the Parkway School grounds six miles east of Boone on U. S. 421 Sunday afternoon.

Watauga County Coroner Richard E. Kelley said there was no evidence of foul play. He said an examination showed they died of carbon monoxide poisoning.

The deaths were apparently accidental, Kelley said. It has not yet been determined how the poisonous gas from the car's exhaust entered the vehicle, but Kelley said that it may have been sucked into the car through the heater.

The coroner identified the couple as Ronnie Glenn Parlier, 19, of West Howard Street, Boone and Wanda Mae Miller, 17, of Boone, Rt. 2.

Kelley said the bodies were examined at Watauga Hospital, where it was determined the pair succumbed to the deadly fumes.

The coroner said he would hold an inquest later this week but did not set a date.

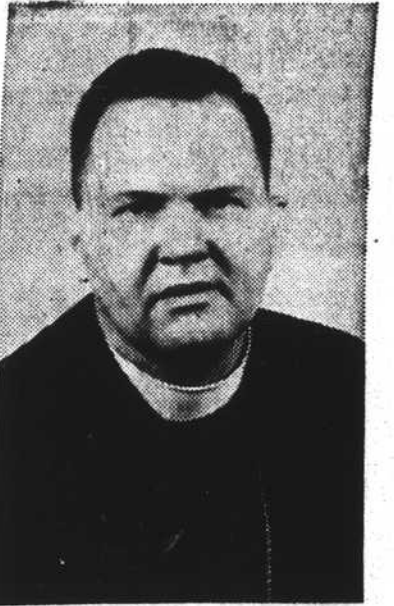
Kelley said the two had been dead for "some time." However, J. R. Gentry, custodian at the Parkway School, said the 1955 Ford was not on the grounds when he checked the school at 8 p. m. Saturday. He said he first saw the car at 6:30 a. m. Sunday when he returned to the school to fire the furnace. He said he returned to (continued on page six)

William Andrew Moore, Jr., 55, of 825 S. Henrietta Street, Nashville, Ga., died Friday morning at Watauga Hospital. He had been ill since suffering a heart attack about two weeks ago.

He was a tobacco buyer for American Suppliers of Durham and had been in Boone since the opening of the burley tobacco market.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Florie Jackson Moore; a daughter, Miss Marshal C. Moore of Milledgeville, Ga.; a brother, Dr. E. L. Moore of Sylvester, Ga.; and two sisters, Mrs. E. H. Brown of Nashville, Ga., and Mrs. Pauline Lee of Valdosta, Ga.

The funeral was conducted at 4 p. m. Sunday at Nashville Methodist Church. Burial was in Westview Cemetery at Nashville.



REV. TODD FERNEYHOUGH

Ferneyhough New President Minister Group

Members of the Watauga County Ministerial Association elected officers for 1964 at their regular meeting last week, outgoing president Rev. J. K. Parker, Jr. said.

The list of new officers was presented to the association by a nominating committee headed by Rev. E. F. Troutman, and approved by a vote of the membership.

The Rev. Todd Ferneyhough, (continued on page six)

Visit Mrs. Goodnight

Mrs. J. L. Goodnight's recent visitors included Mr. Howard Goodnight and daughter, Miss Joyce Goodnight of Gastonia, Mr. Joe Goodnight and daughter, Miss Leslie Goodnight, of Charlotte, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Berry of Drexel.

Sales Resumed On Weed Market; Schedule Of Remaining Auctions

Burley tobacco auctions opened Monday in Boone after the long holiday recess, with sales occurring at 9 a. m. at Mountain Burley Warehouse No. 1 and at 1:30 p. m. at Big Burley Warehouse.

Sales were scheduled for Tuesday, 9 a. m. at Big Burley and 10:30 a. m. at Mountain Burley; and for Wednesday, 9 a. m. at Mountain Burley and 1:30 p. m. at Big Burley, Stanley A. Harris, sales supervisor, said.

Here is the schedule for the remainder of the burley auctions in Boone this year:

January 9—Mountain Burley, 9 a. m.; Big Burley, 1:30 p. m.; Mountain Burley, 10:30 a. m.

January 10—Big Burley, 9 a. m.; Mountain Burley, 10:30 a. m.

January 13—Mountain Burley, 9 a. m.; Big Burley, 1:30 p. m.

January 14—Mountain Burley, 9 a. m.; Big Burley, 1:30 p. m.

January 15—Big Burley, 9 a. m.; Mountain Burley, 10:30 a. m.

Jan. 16—Mountain Burley, 9 a. m.; Big Burley, 1:30 p. m.

Jan. 17—Mountain Burley, 9 a. m.; Big Burley, 1:30 p. m.

January 20—Big Burley, 9 a. m.; Mountain Burley, 10:30 a. m.

January 21—Mountain Burley, 9 a. m.; Big Burley, 1:30 p. m.

Jan. 22—Mountain Burley, 9 a. m.; Big Burley, 1:30 p. m.

January 23—Big Burley, 9 a. m.; Mountain Burley, 10:30 a. m.

Jan. 24—Mountain Burley, 9 a. m.; Big Burley, 1:30 p. m.

Warehousemen expressed hopes that the long recess, called in order to provide overloaded redrying houses with enough time to make space for their needs, would create an upsurge in slumping burley prices.