

## Schools Closed By Snow

Between four and five inches of snow fell on Watauga County from Sunday afternoon to Tuesday morning, forcing the closing of public schools and creating hazardous driving conditions that resulted in at least nine minor auto accidents.

The snow began about 1:30 Sunday afternoon. By 8 p. m. Sunday, over two inches had fallen, and flurries continued throughout the night. Monday's sunshine melted some of this first deposit, but it began snowing again about 1:30 Monday afternoon.

Weather forecasters predicted from two to four more inches of snow Tuesday and Wednesday.

Schools in the county were closed Monday and Tuesday, making 15 days in all that Watauga youngsters have been forced to stay at home because of bad weather. Plans were to make up one of the missed days Saturday if the weather improved sufficiently by then.

State Highway Patrolmen could not be reached Tuesday for reports of the various accidents caused by slick highway conditions, but an unofficial count tallied nine known mishaps, none of them causing serious injury.

Most of the wrecks occurred in the Blowing Rock area, which apparently was hardest hit by the snow.

The Highway Patrol office in Boone was urging motorists to travel with extreme caution Tuesday. Chains were a necessity on most roads.

According to weather bureau reports, over three feet of snow has fallen in the county already this winter, the highest total since 1960's 109-inch accumulation.

## Thomas Attends YDC Executive Comm. Meeting

George C. Thomas, vice-president of the Watauga County YDC, attended the State YDC Executive Committee meeting in Raleigh Saturday.

There was a good attendance and the state president, Tom Gilmore, made an important appointment at this meeting. James L. Burney was appointed executive secretary and will have his offices in the State Democratic Headquarters in Raleigh. This is the first time the YDC has ever had a paid officer. His salary was not immediately known.

Thomas stated that a change has been made in the by-laws and that will be discussed at the next county meeting.

The next meeting will be held in the Courthouse in Boone February 24, at 8 p. m. A membership drive will begin at that time and the club expects to double the membership this year. The State YDC had about 30,000 members in 1963, and it is hoped this can be doubled.

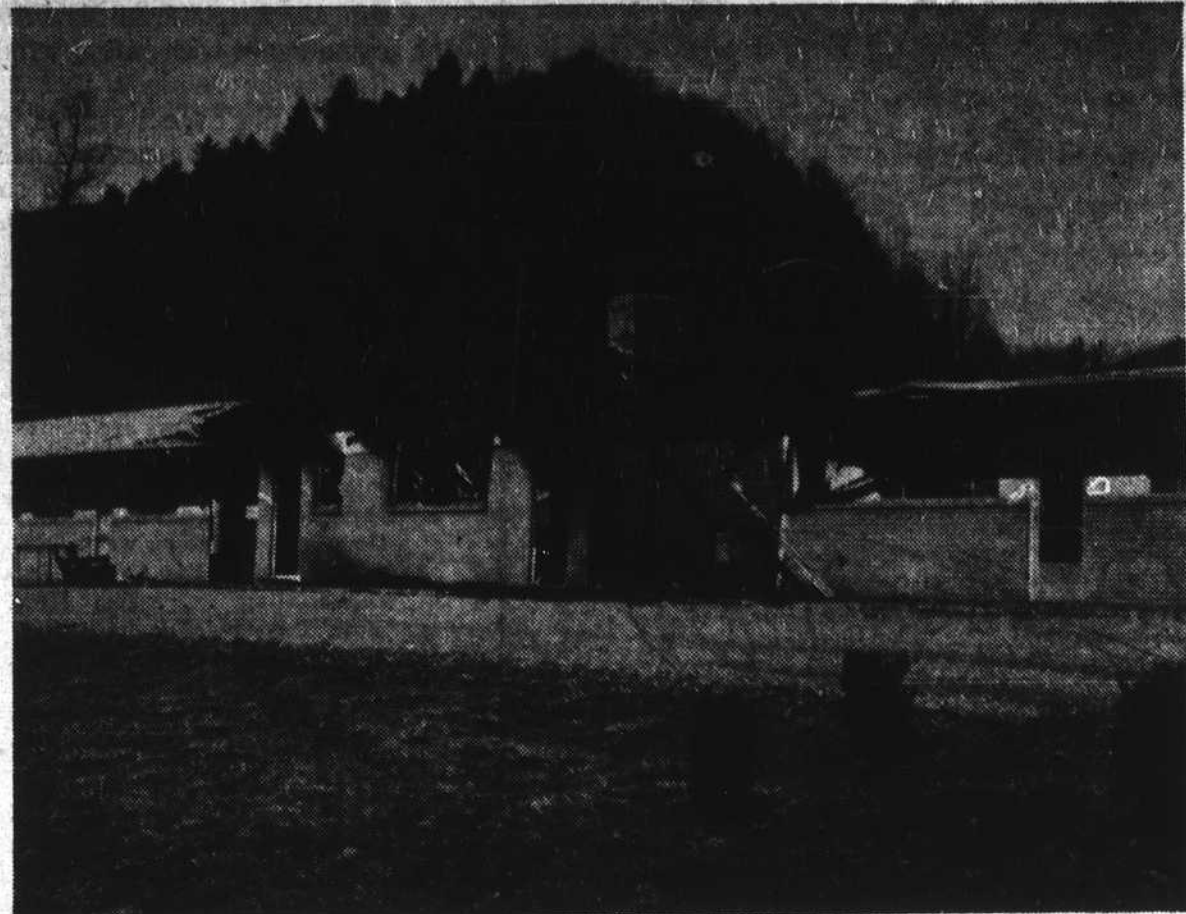
All interested Democrats are urged to attend the February 24, Thomas said.

### Visit In Charlotte

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Crawford spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Bill Crawford and family in Charlotte. While there they attended the Ice Capades at the Charlotte Coliseum Saturday night.

## Low Bid Of \$82,500 Is Accepted For Grading High School Site

The clearing and grading contracts for the new Watauga High School were awarded to Sherman-Simpson Construction Company of Mount Airy after sealed bids were opened last Friday, W. Guy Angell, Watauga County superintendent of public schools, said Saturday. Angell said that Sherman-



The front of the Highland Hills Motel on Highway 105 looked like this Saturday morning, two days after a fire raged through several motel units and the living quarters.

## Midnight Blaze Destroys Center Portion Of Highland Hills Motel



### Given Scout Award

Representative James T. Broyhill receives a special Scout emblem from Cub Scout William L. Martin of Great Falls, Virginia, in ceremonies at the Capitol in Washington during Boy Scout Week, February 7-13. Martin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Martin who attended Appalachian State Teachers College at Boone.

## Polio Immunization Will Be Offered To All Citizens

Watauga County will soon offer polio immunization to everyone in two doses eight weeks apart.

There will be no needles; a lump of sugar moistened by two drops of Sabin vaccine will be given.

The Sabin vaccine is necessary no matter what other polio vaccine doses have been given. This is because the immunity produced by the oral vaccine will reduce the chance of development of a carrier state. The Salk vaccine, which prevents paralytic polio, does not serve this purpose.

It is estimated that more than two-thirds of the people in Watauga County are inadequately protected against polio and would run a special risk should there be an upswing in polio this year.

The Watauga Medical Society and Auxiliary, the Health Department and the March of Dimes are the local sponsors. The Medical Society has underwritten the \$7,000 cost of the vaccine. A donation of 50 cents for each dose will be accepted.

Simpson submitted the low bid of \$82,500 for the job. Six bids were submitted, ranging up to \$189,791.75, he said. He said, "It is my understanding that rock deposits have been struck on the school site—we don't yet know how much rock there is, but it is

A fire of unknown origin destroyed four units and the living quarters of Highland Hills Motel on N. C. 105, one and one-half miles southwest of Boone, about 11 p. m. last Wednesday.

The motel's owners, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cody, had taken a vacation to Florida, leaving it in the care of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Harmon.

The Harmons and their three children were staying in the living quarters. They were awakened by the noise of a window breaking and escaped uninjured from the building.

Members of the Boone Volunteer Fire Department sped to the scene and fought the blaze in a driving rain, using water from a nearby pond to extinguish the flames.

## Gordon Pitts Dies Last Wednesday

Gordon Lee Pitts, 72, of Lenoir, Route 8, died Wednesday at a Blowing Rock Hospital after an illness of three months.

He was born in Caldwell County to Roland and Sarah Greene Pitts and was a retired carpenter.

Mr. Pitts is survived by his widow, Mrs. Irene Shoemaker Pitts; eight daughters, Miss Rita Faye Pitts of the home, Mrs. Nellie Goulds and Mrs. Gladys White, both of Blowing Rock, Mrs. Jennie Oxentine of North Wilkesboro, Mrs. Frances Denny of Elizabethton, Tenn., Mrs. Mabel McMahon of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Mrs. Margaret Messer and Mrs. Katherine Viands, both of Asheville; four sons, Arnold Pitts of Lenoir, Donald Pitts of California and Harold and Homer Pitts, both of Asheville; 28 grandchildren; 35 great grandchildren; a sister, Mrs. Mabel Clark of Elk; a brother, Monroe Pitts of Lenoir, Route 8, and a host of nieces and nephews.

The funeral was conducted February 7 at 10 a. m. at the Church of God in Blowing Rock. The Rev. Herbert Pritchard and the Rev. Alfred Pitts officiated.

Burial was in the Blowing Rock Cemetery.

## J. J. Wellborn Has Fatal Attack

North Wilkesboro.—Joe Johnson Wellborn, 67, of Deep Gap, Route 1, died Thursday at his home after suffering a heart attack.

He was born in Watauga County to Daniel and Martha Greene Wellborn. He was a member of Stony Fork Baptist Church, a veteran of World War II and a retired farmer.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Bessie Carlton Wellborn; a son, Glenn W. Wellborn of Asheville; three daughters, Mrs. Marie Blevins of North Wilkesboro, Mrs. Joan Norris of West Jefferson and Mrs. Peggy Moretz of Charlotte; seven grandchildren; two brothers, John Wellborn and (Continued on page six)

## OFFICIALS ARE INTRODUCED

# Watauga Republicans Set Up Organization

## Clyde Greene Is Re-elected Co. Chairman

By CLARK COX

Watauga County Republicans met in convention at the Courthouse in Boone Saturday afternoon and set up a county organization for the next two years.

S. C. Eggers presided at the meeting as temporary chairman; O. J. Coffey served as temporary secretary.

All of the present county executive committee officers were re-elected: Clyde R. Greene, county chairman; Mrs. Lura Greene, vice-chairman; O. J. Coffey, secretary; J. E. Holshouser, Sr., finance chairman; and Phil Vance, treasurer.

Watauga's State Representative J. E. Holshouser, Jr., urged party harmony as a means to sure victory in the coming elections.

Holshouser's stand was backed up by the re-elected officers in brief acceptance speeches. Clyde R. Greene listed some of the duties and responsibilities of a county chairman, then explained that the major credit



Photo Flowers' Photo Shop

## Firemen Douse Auto Blaze

Boone volunteer firemen left their churches early Sunday to fight this blaze which broke out around noon in a car belonging to Clark Rominger of State Farm Road. The interior of the car, a 1958 Chevrolet, was completely burned out, Fire Chief R. D. Hodges, Jr.,

said Monday. Firemen arrived quickly at the scene of the fire on a side road near State Farm Road, and prevented the damage from spreading to other portions of the vehicle. —Flowers photo.

## Man Suffers Broken Neck, Frost Bite From Car Crash

A Watauga County man who suffered a broken neck and partial freezing of his body when his car plunged 1,000 feet down an embankment 10 miles west of Boone was in critical condition Sunday at Watauga Hospital.

Cletes Potter, 23, of Zionville was alone when his car plunged over the embankment about 2 a. m. Sunday, State Highway Patrolman Gary Morgan said Sunday afternoon. He said he had been unable to question Potter because of his condition. In addition to the broken neck, his arms, feet and legs are partially frozen, a surgeon at Watauga Hospital reported.

It was also said Potter received a damaged kidney and other internal injuries.

The accident occurred near

Potter's home on U. S. 421 about 10 miles west of Boone.

Mrs. Roy Martin and her sister saw the wrecked car about 7:30 a. m. on the side of a hill near their home, Morgan reported. He said they saw someone crawling away from the car. She notified her husband and Martin found Potter.

He had been in the 15 degree weather since the accident occurred which Morgan said

was between 1 and 2 a. m.

As of Wednesday morning, the condition of Cletes Potter remained critical. Doctors said that it appeared as though he would survive, but that gangrene had set in over part of the frostbitten areas of his body, a condition which may force amputation of some of his fingers and toes.

## Meteorologist, Climatologist Complete Weather Study

Charles B. Carney, meteorologist, and Albert V. Hardy, state climatologist, have recently completed a study of weather and climate conditions in Watauga County in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Commerce, Weather Bureau (with offices at the Raleigh-Durham, N. C. Airport) and the Chambers of Commerce of Boone and Blowing Rock.

Herman W. Wilcox, president of the Boone Chamber, said last week that the reports had been prepared in order to ascertain the possibilities and usefulness of establishing a full-time weather bureau for this county. He said that he had recently received a letter from Under Secretary of Commerce Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., who is in charge of the Appalachians Development Program, which stated that a weather bureau was needed in Watauga County and could prove useful to the U. S. Weather Bureau.

Roosevelt said, however, that this project may have to be postponed for a time due to the

effects of President Johnson's economy drive.

The preliminary report contains a short statement of the climatological conditions affecting weather in the county, together with tables of temperature and precipitation figures gleaned from weather observations in Boone since 1929 and in Blowing Rock since 1944. Copies, for study and eventual distribution, have been sent to the Chambers of Commerce of the two towns.

Weather observations are now being made at Blowing Rock by Mrs. Velma Hayes and at Boone by Joe C. Minor.

## Mrs. Brown Dies In Iowa

Mrs. Robert L. Brown of Keota, Iowa died February 4 in a Burlington, Iowa Hospital where she had been a patient since November 25, 1963.

She was the former Marie Dietz, of Burlington, Iowa, a graduate of the University of Chicago and was a teacher and supervisor in the Burlington High School before her marriage to Rev. Robert L. Brown of Watauga county.

Funeral services were conducted February 6 at Keota, Iowa.

Surviving in addition to the husband are two sons, Dr. Edward Brown of the University of Arizona and Robert L. Brown Jr., of Houston, Texas. The Browns have visited frequently in Boone with Rev. Brown's brother, Mr. Homer Brown and his sister, Mrs. A. L. Cook.

## Watauga Industries Meeting Wednesday

The annual meeting of Watauga Industries, Inc., has been set for noon today (Wednesday) at the Daniel Boone Inn in Boone, Glenn R. Andrews, president of the citizens' group, said last week.

"We are going to make an attempt at this meeting to decide whether we definitely want to sell the bowling alley property on Blowing Rock Road," An-

draws said. "There has been quite a bit of discussion on this matter. We will also take up a number of other important items."

"We have already received a great number of proxy notices, but we feel that as large a portion of our membership as possible should attend this important meeting."

CLYDE R. GREENE



for the Republican sweep in the 1962 county elections must go to rank-and-file members of the party rather than to the officers. He urged continued efforts in the same direction for the 1964 campaign.

Republican county elected officials were introduced and made brief statements of appreciation to their supporters.

A resolution in appreciation of the services of the late Earl D. Cook, a former Watauga sheriff and chairman of the party's executive committee, was adopted.

Copies of the party organizations in the 12 townships represented at the meeting were presented and approved. One man and one woman from each of these townships was named (Continued on page six)

## Clenard Greene Rites Are Held

North Wilkesboro.—Clenard M. Greene, 91, of Deep Gap, Route 1, the Stony Fork community, died at 10:30 a. m. Thursday, at the home of a son, Arnold Greene, of Deep Gap, Route 1.

He was a retired farmer and a member of Stony Fork Baptist Church. His wife, Mrs. Nannie Simmons Greene, died January 24.

Surviving are three sons, Arnold, Ernest and Chilo Greene, all of Deep Gap; two daughters, Mrs. Flora Greene of Deep Gap, and Mrs. Cora Smith of Lenoir; 31 grandchildren; and 52 great grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted at 2 p. m. Sunday at Stony Fork Baptist Church by the Rev. Vestal Moore, the Rev. Roscoe Greene, and the Rev. John A. Greene. Burial was in the church cemetery.