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BOONE WEATHER	
High	Low
Dec. 29	34
Dec. 30	34
Dec. 31	37
Jan. 1	38
Jan. 2	35
Jan. 3	40
Jan. 4	32



STEEL BEAMS ARE UP on the State Farm Road. Recent rains have stunted work on the plant of the American Saw & Tool Company, which agreed to operate here at the bequest of the Industrial Committee this summer. Stanley

Harris, committee member, says builders hope to enclose the building soon, so that work may continue despite the weather. (Rivers photo.)

397 New Buildings Finished In Watauga County In 1964

New building in Watauga County reached a peak during 1964, and local utility corporations "hooked up" 397 houses and commercial buildings in the year, according to a survey made by the Democrat the first of the week.

The New River Light and Power Co., whose territory embraces the town of Boone, reports that it turned electricity into 31 new buildings in 1964.

The Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corp., which supplies Blowing Rock and rural Watauga, reports the acquisition of 316 new structures to its supply lines. Of these, 37 were commercial buildings and 279 dwelling houses.

Both companies point out that hookups for summer residents, or so-called "transfer connections," are not in the figures given.

Mr. James Marsh, manager of the Watauga Savings and Loan Association, says that his corporation loaned money on 223 new houses. Of this number, loans were made for building 120 dwellings and for buying 112 newly-constructed houses. Many others

were financed, of course, by banks, insurance companies, and by the individual property owners.

Building is still being carried on, and there will be no letup during the winter, except when weather conditions shut down construction operations.

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Boone Postal Receipts Gain

Postal receipts at the Boone Post Office in 1964 were \$138,863.57.

Postmaster Ralph Beshears said receipts were \$126,000 plus in 1963. Since he took office four years ago, receipts have grown 60 per cent.

"Volume of mail has increased in proportion to postal receipts," he said.

The Post Office staff worked all incoming mail on Christmas Day and delivered Christmas packages for the town. Beshears said volume was 10 to 12 per cent greater than last year.

He said mail was worked for the post office boxes on New Year's Day.

ACP Signup Will Begin On Monday

The regular signup for the 1965 Agricultural Conservation Program will begin January 11, and continue through January 29, County ASC Chairman Vaughn Tugman announced this week.

Farmers should make early plans for the practices they intend to carry out next spring and be ready to apply for whatever assistance it is felt will be needed on their farms.

Conservation of the soil and water resources is vital to the economy of our county. A prosperous agriculture cannot continue unless these measures are continually carried out.

The following practices were selected by the Watauga County ACP Development Group and have been recommended to the State ACP Development Group for approval:

(continued on page six)

Tax Listing Gets Off To Good Start

Tax listing got off to a good start this week at the Court House in Boone and at the designated places in the various townships, according to R. G. Greene, Tax Supervisor.

Prior to beginning their work, the listers attended a school of instruction at the court house under the supervision of the supervisor. Mr. L. E. Tucker, County Agent, gave instructions and assistance relative to the taking of a farm cen-

sus in conjunction with the tax listing.

Also attending the session and speaking briefly were Mr. S. B. Greene, Chairman, Board of County Commissioners, and Mr. Stacy C. Eggers, Jr., County Attorney.

It was brought out at the meeting that a special effort would be made by all listers to see that all persons owning house trailers list them with other property. A recent survey indicated that many had not been listed previously.

Officials announced that outstanding regulations providing a penalty for late listing would be enforced this year. The law requires that all property be listed during the month of January and for a 10% penalty for those who fail to do so. It was explained that laxity in the past with respect to listing had caused a delay in getting tax books ready for early payment of taxes when taxpayers could take advantage of a discount.

Taxpayers are urged to contact their local listers whose schedules were announced in the Democrat last week. Listers (Continued on page six)

D. G. Moretz Is New President Watauga Y. D. C.

The Watauga County Young Democrats Club, at its regular meeting in the Courthouse Monday night, elected the following officers for 1965:

President — Mr. D. Grady Moretz, Jr.

First Vice-President — Mrs. Geraldine Ragan, employed at Shadowline.

Second Vice-President — Mr. Eddie P. Norris, State Highway Engineer.

Third Vice-President — Miss Jo Anne Aldridge, Teacher at College.

Secretary — Mr. Robert Danner, Principal at Cove Creek Elementary School.

Treasurer — Mr. Johnnie Austin, Mortician with Reins-Sturdivant.

Mr. Moretz announced plans for an active club, a banquet, and having outstanding state and nationally-known speakers at the regular meetings.

Outgoing President, Glenn Hodges, was praised for the outstanding work of the club during the two years he was president, especially this past election in which "the club gave advertising and just plain hard work in so many areas to help bring the county to support a Democratic nominee for President for the first time since 1940."

Joe A. Luther Dies In Gaffney

Services were held on Dec. 24 for Joe A. Luther, 74, who died in Gaffney, S. C., on Dec. 22, after a long illness.

Mr. Luther was the son of Mrs. John Luther and the late Mr. Luther of Deep Gap.

Surviving are: his mother; his widow, Mrs. Lucille Davis Luther; three brothers, Ray and Gurney Luther of Boone and Thea Luther of Todd; and three sisters, Mrs. Blanch Stewart of Deep Gap, Mrs. Eula Bledsoe of Sparta and Mrs. Zilma Greer of Kannapolis.

Burial was in Oakland Cemetery.

Electrical Power Is Interrupted Saturday Night

Electrical power was interrupted in Boone Saturday night for about 45 minutes when an electrical shortage developed at the New River Light and Power Sub-station.

Winds of high velocity which raged through the area broke a guy wire, letting the high voltage wires come together causing the shortage, and many people in the area witnessed what they thought to be an intense electrical storm, with the lights from the heavy conductor wires emanating into the sky.

Repairs were made by members of New River Light and Power Company and power was restored with a minimum of inconvenience to the residents.

Several reports have been received of trees being blown over by the high winds with electrical servicemen having to make repairs at several places in the county.

Summary Of Fatal Accidents In Watauga County In 1964

A summary of the fatal traffic accidents in Watauga County during 1964 is as follows:

January 2—This area's first traffic fatality of the year occurred when a Boone woman's automobile skidded into the rear of a truck that had stopped because of a minor accident. Mrs. Katherine Greene Hardy, 30, was driving on Highway 321-221 about a mile north of Blowing Rock when the fatal accident occurred. Injury was blamed for the crash.

February 2—Donald Edmund Watson, 37, of Rt. 5, Lenoir, was killed in a one-car crash on the Blue Ridge Parkway about

five miles southeast of Boone. The auto skidded on an ice patch, overturned several times down an embankment and stopped in a creek.

Runs Off Highway

February 18 — Injuries sustained in a February 9 wreck claimed the life of Cletes Gene Potter, 23, of Rt. 1, Zionville. Potter's car ran off Highway 421 about 10 miles west of Boone, went about 100 feet down a mountain and overturned.

July 23 — Raymond Junior Isaacs, 24, of Rt. 1, Zionville, was killed and five persons were injured in a head-on collision on Highway 105 near Boone. The auto in which Isaacs was riding was being chased by Watauga County law enforcement officers when the crash occurred.

October 20 — Watauga County's fifth fatality was the result of a head-on collision on a rural road about 10 miles west of Boone. Mrs. Lucille Potter Main, 39, of Sherwood, was a passenger in an automobile that was crashed into by a car that was crashed into by a car said to be on the wrong side of the road.

Fewer Acres, Larger Yields Watauga Farm Sales Go To \$3,564,000 In 1964

Burley Leads All Crops In Income With \$920,000

Watauga County farmers continued to reduce acres cultivated and increase yields per acre on most crops in 1964. Tobacco is an exception to the per acre yield increase, but the quality and value per acre did increase.

Better yields of apples and cabbage, a big increase in trellised tomato production, and increased sales of forest products offset reduced cattle prices and gave a small increase in gross farm sales over 1963.

Burley tobacco continued to be the leading cash crop with 767 acres on 1,530 farms producing an estimated gross sale price of \$920,000. This is about 97 acres less than the 1963 acreage due to a cut in allotment and the fact that some allotments were not planted in 1964.

Trellised tomato production increased by about 400 percent, bringing gross average sales of approximately \$1,500 per acre, with some acres bringing double this amount.

Strawberries continued to yield an average of more than \$1,200 gross sales per acre.

Late season cabbage yields and price per ton were very favorable in 1964, giving some gross sales per acre of over \$1,000. Cabbage insects were serious pests in 1964.

Cattle prices were weaker, but lambs and poultry were some better than in 1963. Wool sold higher and more milk went into class I and II grades, therefore returning more to the producer.

Sales from the woodland increased with nursery stock, native shrubs, Christmas trees and other evergreens reaching record volume in 1964.

The 1964 Watauga County gross farm sales, including government payments, is estimated at nearly \$3,564,000. Burley tobacco leads in crop sales, returning approximately \$920,000, potatoes and cabbage returned \$290,800; tomatoes, \$35,000; strawberries, \$17,500; apples, \$148,000; and other crops sold, \$37,100, giving a gross estimated income from the sale of crops of \$1,448,400.

Gross sales of poultry and eggs amounted to approximately \$648,000, and cattle sales fell to about \$517,000. Sheep, hogs and horses brought an estimated \$45,000; milk sales, \$217,500; and wool, meat and other livestock products sold for about \$58,300, giving an estimated gross income from the sale of livestock and livestock products of \$1,485,800. The sale of timber, lumber, wood, posts, Christmas trees, shrubbery and other forest products is estimated at (Continued on page six)



Truck purchased by the newly organized Deep Gap Volunteer Fire Department. Photo Flowers Photo Shop

Deep Gap Fire Department Acquires Engine, Equipment

Cashion Rites Are Held Friday At Wadesboro

Shelley Walker Cashion, of Boone and Wadesboro, died in that town last Thursday morning after an extended illness. He was 65 years old.

Mr. Cashion was born in Cornelius, N. C. October 5, 1899, a son of Samuel Edmond Cashion and Mary Elizabeth Lee Kelley Cashion. He attended Davidson College and Trinity College, and taught in the schools of Lincoln, Mecklenburg and Anson counties until his retirement in 1962. He and his family established a summer residence in Boone in 1950.

Mr. Cashion was a member of the First Methodist Church of Wadesboro. He volunteered for service in both World Wars, and was a member of the American Legion, was a Moose and a Mason.

Funeral services were held Friday at the First Methodist Church in Wadesboro.

Survivors include the widow, a daughter, Miss Jeannie Lee Cashion of the home; a brother, S. Pat Cashion, of Charlotte; two sisters, Mrs. A. M. Moore and Mrs. Ben Kelley, of Charlotte.

New Year Brings Series Break-Ins Along Street

The Deep Gap Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., of the Deep Gap community has purchased a fire truck from the city of Bristol, Virginia.

The truck is a dual-thermo-die Mack engine with a 750 gallon-per-minute pump and has all standard truck equipment. It is being housed at Watson's Garage.

Fund raising for this project was started by a contribution of \$1,200 by the Deep Gap Legion Post. They sponsored three chicken dinners at Parkway Elementary School during the summer to raise this money.

The fire department raised additional funds through membership and plans to continue the membership drive in order to pay for fire fighting equipment recently purchased. This equipment comprises 600 feet of one and one-half inch dacroon fire hose that will not require drying after being used; two one and one half inch fog nozzles; parts necessary to install two pre-connected hose on the rear of the truck; and six complete uniforms (helmets, jackets, pants, boots and gloves).

Since the truck was a part of a city fire department it had a water tank with only 160-gallon capacity. Claude and James Watson are building an addition (Continued on page six)

C. Of C. Offices Moved To E. King

"We are extremely pleased to have been able to move into our new quarters so quickly." This was the sentiment of Chamber of Commerce manager, Fred McNeal on Monday.

Just before Christmas, the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce voted to move its offices from 211 South Depot St. to the corner of East King Street and the Blowing Rock Road in order to increase access to the tourist stream.

Prior to this resolution, the Board voted to rent the property from C. D. Coffey of North Wilkesboro. The building, formerly the Horn Cafe, is adjacent to Mock's Dress Shoppe.

The renovation committee, headed by Fire Chief R. D. Hodges began work immediately. According to McNeal, equipment from the Northwestern Bank and the Watauga Savings & Loan was installed by New Year's Day. Other equipment owned by the Chamber also was installed.

Although the offices were not completely finished, they were sufficiently organized to handle the sale of license tags beginning Monday morning, McNeal said.

The Auto License Bureau granted permission to have its station transferred to the new location; McNeal was instructed by newly elected C of C president, Col. Clyde Miller, to obtain permission from the Raleigh office of the License Bureau to move.

The Merchants' Association also is quartered in the new facility.

A conference room for executive committee and board meetings has not yet been equipped. McNeal said the northeast corner of the building will contain his office.

C. D. Coffey agreed to renovate the outside of the building.

Mrs. Watson Is Taken By Death

Mrs. Millie Carroll Rainey Watson, 79, of Rt. 1, Boone, widow of Charlie M. Watson, died at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday in a Morganton hospital after an illness of 18 months.

Mrs. Watson was born in Watauga County to John and Ellen Grubb Carroll.

She was a member of Bethel View Methodist Church.

Her husband was a former sheriff of Watauga County.

The funeral was conducted at 2 p.m. Friday at Bethel View Methodist Church by the Rev. R. H. Ballard and Dr. John G. Barden. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery.

G. W. Lookabill Dies Thursday

George Washington Lookabill, 83, of Route 2, Boone, died December 28 at his home after a long illness.

He was born in Watauga County to John and Susan Hodges Lookabill. He was a farmer and spent his life in Watauga County. He was a member of Hopewell Methodist Church.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Zora N. Lookabill; a son, James Lookabill of Black Mountain; two daughters, Mrs. Carrie Zowadski of Baltimore, Md., and Mrs. Lucille Stephens of Culpeper, Va.; a brother, Reese Lookabill of Rt. 2, Boone; two sisters, Mrs. Fannie Ragan and Mrs. Belle Greene of Rt. 2, Boone; 13 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Hopewell Methodist Church by the Rev. Gayland E. Smith. Burial was in the church cemetery.