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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER			
1966	Hi	Lo	Prev.
Jan. 12	44	29	31
Jan. 13	44	22	33
Jan. 14	37	22	33
Jan. 15	31	12	33
Jan. 16	26	15	32
Jan. 17	21	9	32
Jan. 18	19	12	31

*Nearest inch of snow

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1966

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ARCHITECT'S CONCEPT of the \$697,401 headquarters building for Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation. The two buildings in the background are planned for future construction.

Contract Let For New Headquarters Building For Blue Ridge Electric



A HIGH-VOLTAGE WIRE FELL ACROSS A TRUCK adjacent to the burning Fox Brothers Grocery, when firemen were rescuing a car which was parked behind the building. The fireman was warned to stay inside, since the wheels of the truck acted as conductors. Another fireman was nearly hit by the wire which fell off the back of the truck as it pulled the car forward. (Rivers photos.)

Fox Brothers Store On 421 Is Razed In Sunday Flames

The building housing Fox Brothers Grocery on Highway 421 about one mile west of Boone was destroyed by fire Sunday afternoon about 2 p.m.

According to Ben Fox, partner in the business, it is believed that the fire started at a faulty fuse and quickly spread throughout the frame building.

The Fire Department was summoned by J. D. Miller, who lives near the site, but their efforts were to no avail in saving the building or its contents.

No water was available and both fire trucks of the Town of Boone made several trips for water to try to quench the flames. Much emphasis was put on keeping the gas pumps doused to prevent explosion.

The Fox Brothers recently purchased the building from Mr. Pink Hodges, had done extensive repairing and remodeling and had set up a grocery business. They had been operating in the building for about two weeks. Partial insurance coverage was carried on the contents, but none on the building itself.

A truck which was parked near the building and platform scales was saved from the fire. (Continued on page four)



FIREMEN MOVE IN ON FOX BROTHERS GROCERY, about a mile west of town on Highway 421. The blaze was reported around 2 p. m. on Sunday. The city's two trucks (250 and 500-gallon capacity) each made three trips to town for water, there being none available at the scene of the fire.

The contract has been awarded for a new headquarters building by the Board of Directors of Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation. C. E. Viverette, General Manager, made the announcement following the board meeting Saturday, January 16.

The modern designed, total electric facility will be constructed by Guy Frye and Sons of Hickory, at a cost of \$697,401. The general contract price includes the grading, construction, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, landscaping and fencing.

The new facility will be located on Highway 321, North, at Zack's Fork intersection, on property formerly known as the Triplett Dairy Farm. Construction will begin immediately and will be completed early in 1966.

The new headquarters facility will house the Caldwell district operation and the general offices of the locally owned corporation. The cooperative serves in an eight county area of Northwest North Carolina and has district offices in Boone, West Jefferson, and Sparta.

This building is designed to meet the expanding needs of the organization for the next ten years and will enable Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation to render technical assistance and control information to neighboring electric membership corporations. It will provide adequate space (Continued on page four)

Resolution By C. Of C. Honors Herman Wilcox

Whereas, Herman W. Wilcox has served for many years as President and for a number of years as Executive Secretary or Manager of the Boone Chamber Of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, during this time he has worked diligently and effectively for the growth and expansion of Boone and all Watauga County as a tourist paradise; for bringing industry to our County; for the expansion of Appalachian State Teachers College, for larger income for our farmers and for the general good of all our people; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that an expression of our appreciation to him is hereby given as we thank him for his faithful and rewarding devotion to Watauga County through his services with the Chamber of Commerce.

Adopted this the 12th day of January, 1964.

Boone Chamber of Commerce
 Col. Clyde Miller, President

Mercury Plummet To 6 Degrees Over 10 Inches Of Snow Falls During Weekend

2 Manslaughter Cases On Docket

Two hundred and fifty traffic violation cases were disposed of at the Monday session of Watauga County Superior Court which convened Monday with Judge W. K. McLean presiding.

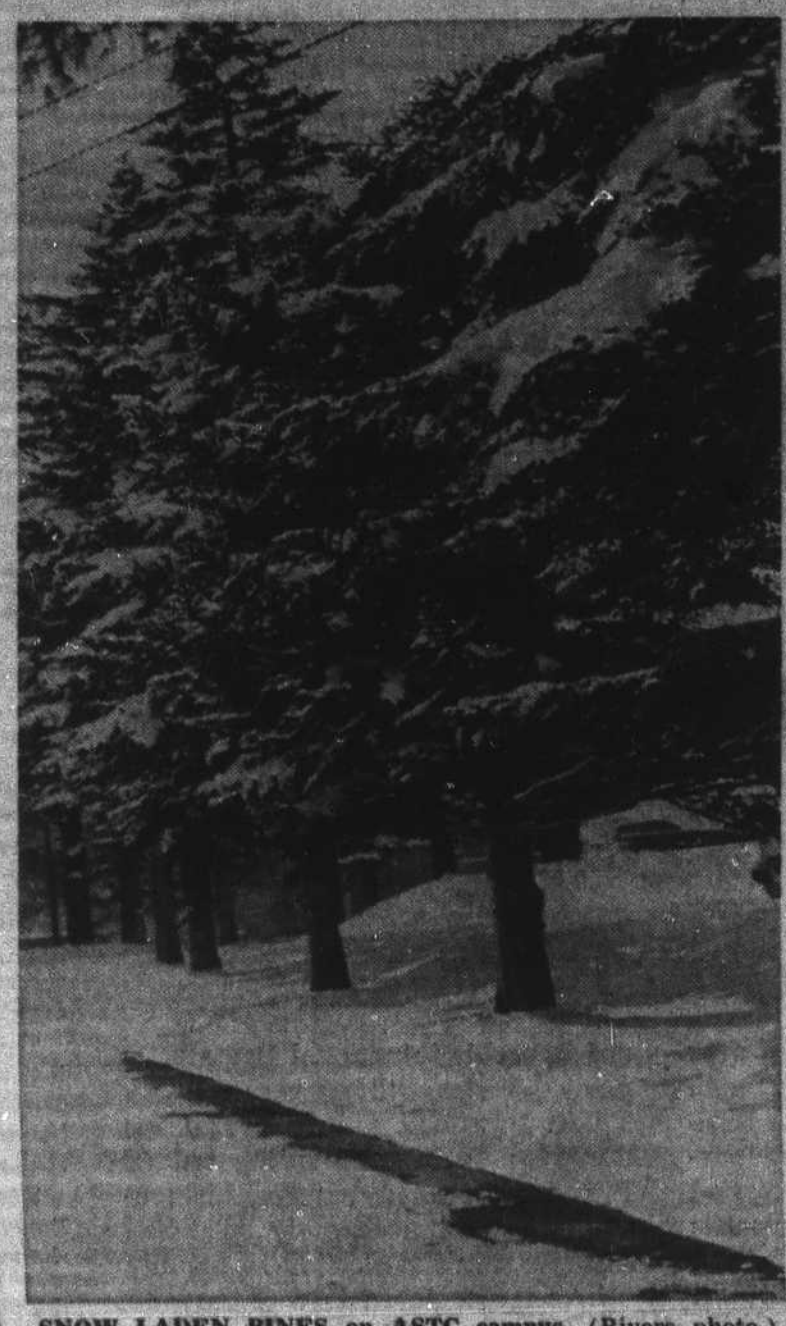
Among the cases to be tried this week are two manslaughter cases. Lewis Marvin Combs of Sugar Grove will be tried in the death of Mrs. Lucile Potter Main, 39, of Sherwood resulting from a head-on collision on the Silverstone Road about 15 miles west of Boone October 20.

James Edward Bentley of Caldwell County will be tried on charges of manslaughter in the death of Rhonda Oxendine who was struck by Bentley's car near the golf course in Blowing Rock July 13. Oxendine died of injuries sustained in the accident December 9.

A complete list of judgments on the cases heard will be published in next week's Democrat.

Blowing Rock Dimes Leaders Are Named

Watauga County March of Dimes Chairman George Thomas has announced that Mrs. Jay Greene and Miss Nancy Trexler are co-chairmen of the March of Dimes drive in Blowing Rock.



SNOW LADEN PINES on ASTC campus. (Rivers photo.)

Winter Sports Participants Like Weather

Much to the delight of youngsters, ski slope owners and participants in winter sports, and to the disdain of others, ten and one-half inches of snow was dumped on Boone and Watauga County Friday night and Saturday, and more was falling Monday.

Flurries were expected to continue through Monday night with two or more inches of new snow accumulation.

Driving conditions were hazardous in all parts of the State Friday night and Saturday with numerous accidents resulting. The Highway Patrol warns drivers to be particularly cautious driving on the slick roads.

State highway maintenance crews were out en masse clearing roads, working around the clock making most roads and highways passable with chains.

Numerous accidents were reported. Wrecker crews were busy all weekend pulling cars out of ditches and out of driveways. Most of the accidents were minor, with little damage reportedly done to most of the vehicles. Most of the accidents were attributed to extreme road conditions and the inexperience of drivers to drive on slick roads.

Temperatures fell to six degrees Sunday morning with thirteen degrees registered Monday morning.

Youngsters who had not heretofore been able to enjoy their Christmas sleds, and skiers, who had not had the opportunity to try their skills, were taking full advantage of the snowfall; both slopes reported capacity crowds over the weekend with many remaining to enjoy the facilities this week.

Schools in Watauga, Ashe and Wilkes counties were closed Monday and Tuesday due to the existing road conditions, and unless there is a warming trend before Wednesday, it is likely schools will remain closed.

Boone Tobacco Market Ends Season; 4,981,871 Lbs. Sold

The Boone tobacco market closed out on Friday, Jan. 15 with a total of 4,981,871 pounds sold for \$2,751,905.48.

The market opened at Mountain Burley, Big Burley and Farmers Burley on Nov. 30. The first snowfall came to the county that day. The night of Jan. 15, when the market closed, the second snowfall hit here.

Sales Supervisor Stanley A. Harris has reported pounds and cash receipts turned over to him for the final week of sales as:

At Mountain Burley, Jan. 11-15: Monday—202,952 pounds at \$114,233.30; Tuesday—184,540, \$95,541.12; Wednesday—179,266, \$79,792.96; Thursday—129,086, \$57,660.86; Friday—24,988, \$10,190.14.

Total sales at Mountain Burley: 720,832 pounds at \$357,418.38.

At Big Burley, Jan. 11-15: Monday—88,914 pounds at \$50,077.87; Tuesday—76,350, \$34,504.00; Wednesday—95,558, \$42,282.24; Thursday, 74,820, \$28,553.62; Friday—6,328, \$1,667.90.

Total Sales at Big Burley: 341,970 pounds at \$157,085.63.

Total market sales for the week of Nov. 30 to Dec. 21 were 3,919,069 pounds at \$2,237,401.47; for the week, Jan. 11-15, 1,062,802 pounds at \$514,504.01.

Receipts Rundown

At Mountain Burley, Nov. 30 to Dec. 4—1,007,015 pounds at \$596,055.96; Dec. 7-11—1,020,662, \$588,041.17; Dec. 14-18—622,402, \$342,774.42; Dec. 21—97,146, \$50,288.56; and Jan. 11-15—720,832, \$357,418.38.

Mountain Burley's over-all total: 3,468,057 pounds at \$1,934,578.49.

At Big Burley, Nov. 30 to Dec. 4—458,052 pounds at \$266,213.10; Dec. 7-11—430,020, \$243,466.71; Dec. 14-18—266,760, \$141,596.54; Dec. 21—17,012, \$8,965.01; and Jan. 11-15—341,970, \$157,085.63.

Big Burley's over-all total: 1,513,814 pounds at \$817,326.99.

G. H. Thomas, 82, Dies On Friday

George Hamilton Thomas, 82, a retired farmer of Zionville Rt. 1, died Friday morning at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Dean Isaacs of Zionville.

He was born in Watauga County to Jasper and Polly Wilson Thomas.

Surviving besides Mrs. Isaacs are two sons, Lee Thomas of Boone and Grant Thomas of Glen Burnie, Md.; four other daughters, Mrs. Raymond Oliver of Zionville, Mrs. Howard Snyder of Baltimore, Md., Mrs. Blaine Warren of Portsmouth, Va., and Miss Shirley Jean Thomas of Boone; 11 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; a brother, Alfred Thomas of Zionville; and a sister, Mrs. Graydon Campbell of Zionville.

The funeral was conducted at 2 p. m. Saturday at Union Baptist Church by the Rev. Barney Oliver, the Rev. R. C. Eggers and the Rev. Arnt Greer. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Funeral Is Held For Mrs. Swift

Mrs. Dora Shull Swift, 90, of Villas, Route 2, widow of Lee Swift, died Friday morning at Watauga Hospital.

She was born in Watauga County to George P. and Mary Grider Shull.

Surviving are a foster daughter, Mrs. Ethel Stewart of Winston-Salem; two foster sons, Stanford Creed and Cecil Swift of Villas; eight foster grandchildren; and 12 foster great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted at 2 p. m. Saturday at Beaver Dam Baptist Church by Dr. Wilson Stewart and the Rev. Bennie Greene. Burial was in Reece Cemetery.



J. E. JOINES, JR.

Given Honor At U. of Tenn.

J. E. Joines, Jr., student at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, has been named a floor representative of Melrose Hall Addition Dormitory at UT, according to word from Robert D. Collins, Resident Advisor at Melrose.

Mr. Joines has been selected for this duty, says Mr. Collins, for his leadership, scholarship attainments, and personality. His duty will be to aid in helping organize special functions at the dorm, as well as being added to the regular staff.

Mr. Joines is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Joines of Boone.

B. M. Eggers, 91, Dies Saturday

Bennet Monroe Eggers, 91, of Route 1, Banner Elk died Saturday, January 16, at the Cannon Memorial Hospital in Banner Elk.

He was a native of Watauga County and had spent his entire life here. He was the son of William and Hannah Wilson Eggers, and a member of the Clark's Creek Baptist Church.

Surviving are six sons: Charles of Lynchburg, Virginia; Clint of Zionville, N. C.; Ray and Clyde of Banner Elk; Clay of Goldsboro, Jim of Clinchco, Virginia; 2 daughters, Mrs. Emma Byrd, Route 1, Banner Elk, Mrs. Hannah Byers, Lancaster, Ohio; one sister, Mrs. Lottie Calloway, Banner Elk; fifty-two grandchildren, 105 great-grandchildren. (Continued on page four)

'Marching Mothers' To Aid Dimes Effort

Mothers in Boone, Blowing Rock and surrounding areas will begin the annual Mother's March of Dimes at 6 p. m. on Monday, Jan. 25.

Mrs. Harvey Ayers, chairman of the march, advises that the group will stop at residences where porch lights are left burning, and will try to get to as many houses as possible.

"The funds raised by the 'Marching Mothers,' explained Mrs. Ayers, 'will help support scientific research in this country and abroad — research to find causes and preventives of birth defects. Money will also go to finance the network of March of Dimes-financed birth defects centers where latest treatment techniques are available to birth defect children—often saving them from life-long disability.'

"Birth defects are the most serious childhood health problem in the United States today." The March of Dimes is already doing something about this problem. It can do much more if everyone in Watauga County will greet the Marching Mothers with a contribution on Jan. 25. (Continued on page four)