

The Democrat led all N. C. weeklies in 1965 Press Assn. contests. It won first place in General Excellence, Excellence in Typography, Local News Coverage, Want Ads, and Second in Display Advertising.

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER				
1967	Hi	Lo	Snow Prec.	% HI Lo
Jan. 17	41	21		25 10
Jan. 18	36	24		24 14
Jan. 19	38	18	1 1/2 .14	23 9
Jan. 20	49	17	1/2 .01	26 5
Jan. 21	54	19		27 2
Jan. 22	54	44		28 20
Jan. 23	62	34		30 6

Snow given to nearest half-inch.

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 1967

10 CENTS PER COPY

18 PAGES—2 SECTIONS

Old City Hall Will Be Sold

The Boone Board of Aldermen voted Thursday of last week to again put up for sale the old Town Hall property at the corner of Depot and Howard streets. Town attorney John H. Bingham was instructed to prepare for publication an advertisement for bids.

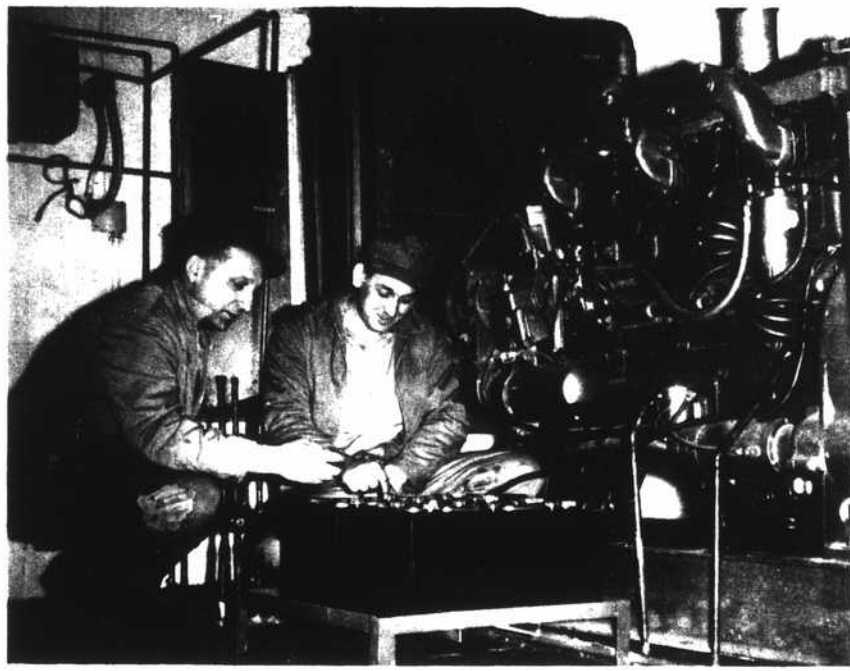
The property comprises a large corner lot and two-story brick building. The Town quit using the building, except for storage, when offices and fire trucks were moved to the new King Street facility.

Hubert Thomas, city clerk and chief of police, reported the newly purchased back-hoe machine is operating at considerable savings to the town. It is being used in the construction of the new water-sewer lines and can be used for other heavy work, such as snow removal.

City Building Inspector Hooper Hendrix will attend the North Carolina Building Inspectors School in March and April at Chapel Hill, the Board decided. The school is under the auspices of the Institute of Government.

The need for revision and recording of town ordinances was brought up and Bingham was asked to determine what services the N. C. League of Municipalities could render in the matter.

Several delegations of citizens attended to report problems resulting from the building of the new sewer and water systems. The Aldermen decided that since inconveniences, and in some instances, hardships, have been caused by the large-scale construction, these will be remedied as fast as possible.



Marvin Scholl (left) and Lewis Brown, maintenance engineers for Watauga Hospital, examine the huge battery and generator at new Watauga Hospital. The generation is designed to supply electrical power to the hospital in case of regular power failure. It will take over immediately when the power goes off so

the hospital will always have current. Hospital officials point out the hospital is connected to both New River Light and Power Company and Blue Ridge Electric Corp's systems to insure the facilities will always have power.

New Watauga Hospital Will Soon Be Ready To Occupy

The new Watauga County Hospital is fast approaching completion and will be ready for use shortly, according to Wade E. Brown, chairman of the hospital's trustees; Mrs. Virginia Groce, administrator; and Robert Bumbaugh, building committee chairman.

has been accepted, subject to a "punch list". Other contracts are expected to be approved and accepted in the near future.

The "punch list" will be made up of minor items that have not met the approval of hospital officials. As soon as the contractor has met the specified requirements, the items will be punched off and

accepted.

Second and third floors were okayed two weeks ago and patient furniture subsequently has been moved into third-floor private and semi-private rooms. Second floor is the surgical and obstetrical area.

Mrs. Groce said a lot of work remains to be done before the facilities can be used, but "We are hoping to have open house in February" and patients may be moved into the Deerfield Road structure in March.

She pointed out that no definite dates have been set.

Parkway Superintendent's Office Going To Asheville

The office of the assistant superintendent of the Blue Ridge

Parkway will be moved from Roanoke, Va., to Asheville.

ice, said that moving the assistant superintendent's office to Asheville "will greatly strengthen our top-level representation in North Carolina."

Jaycees Are Given "Horn" Concessions

In session Monday, the executive committee of the Southern Appalachian Historical Association accepted the Boone Jaycees' bid to operate the concession stand on the grounds of "Horn in the West".

Taylor said that moving the assistant superintendent is a compromise. Taylor, a member of the House Interior Committee, had urged that the entire parkway headquarters, including the superintendent's office, be moved to Asheville.

Some parkway maintenance and ranger personnel already are located at Asheville, Taylor said he thinks some purchasing and procurement personnel will soon be moved there. He said he hopes also that as time goes on the entire 45-member headquarters staff will "gradually and systematically" be transferred to Asheville.

The bid specified a 50-50 division of profits.

The congressman's principal argument is that in time Asheville will be much nearer the mid-point of the parkway than Roanoke, Taylor is a sponsor of proposals to extend the parkway 190 miles south to a point near Atlanta. The parkway's southern terminus is now near Waynesville.

The parkway does not have an assistant superintendent now, but Taylor indicated that a man has been selected and will be named soon.

Last summer, the Jaycees operated the Gift Shop and Country Store as well as the concessions. The original bid of the Boone Rotary Club included all three, 50-50, but Monday was amended to include only concessions.

George B. Hartzog Jr., director of the National Park Serv-

James E. Eden, assistant superintendent for several years, was promoted to superintendent recently. He replaced Sam Weems, who is on temporary duty in Australia to help plan the establishment of a national parkway system there.



MISSION OF MERCY — Watauga County's Emergency Rescue Squad was involved Thursday in the transfer of a nine-month-old patient from a hospital in Abingdon, Va., to one in Belmont where it will receive special treatment. George Flowers, squad member, facing camera, is helping make the transfer from the Abingdon Lifesaving Squad Car to the

Watauga car in front of Boone Town Hall. Helping him are an unidentified woman and the driver from Abingdon with back to camera. Lumas Trexler, in dark jacket, accompanied Flowers to Lenoir where the rescue squad there took over, carrying the patient to Hickory. From Hickory the patient was carried by another squad to Belmont.

Snow Holidays May Shorten School Vacation

These "snow holidays" for school children may be fun, but it could shorten their summer vacation by the same number of days they are out this winter. Or there might be a few Saturday sessions in the classrooms.

W. Guy Angell, superintendent of Watauga County Schools, explains the situation this way: The schedule worked out at the beginning of school called for classes to end Friday, May 19, if no days were missed.

Saturday classes could be called, he said, but provisions in the flexible schedule for school to continue to June 1, if necessary, might reduce the chance of Saturday classes if no more than twelve days are missed. Angell explained that spring holidays might be adjusted to shorten the term, if necessary.

Already, six days have been missed by Watauga students. These days will have to be made up so school will be in session the full term.

The four days missed by Boone Elementary School and Watauga High School students because of the water shortage in the fall have already been made up, Angell said.

New Parkway Link To Open During August

The last uncompleted link of the Blue Ridge Parkway between Grandfather Mountain and Cherokee—an 11-mile section that bends around Asheville—is scheduled to be opened to traffic by August.

That is the latest word from the Parkway's district headquarters here.

District Ranger E. L. Robinson said the link, which runs from Oteen across the Blinnmore Estate to the French Broad River south of Asheville, is more than 80 per cent complete. (Continued on page 10)

Mid-March Completion Boone Post Office Gets \$22,000 In Face-Lifting

Building Is Said To Be In Good Condition

A \$22,000 face-lifting program is in progress at Boone's Post Office, according to Postmaster Ralph L. Beshears.

The general contract was awarded to L. B. Gallimore, Inc., of Greensboro and will be supervised under the General Services Administration, a Federal agency.

Included in the face-lifting will be painting inside and out, also the flag pole, refinishing floors; repairs to roof and guttering, aluminum entrance doors at both the front and vestibule, installation of lights at street level of steps, installation of venetian blinds in the lobby, and installation of an oil fed steam boiler to replace the hand-fed.

Beshears said this is the most extensive improvement program that has been initiated since the Post Office was built in 1939. The boiler being replaced, he pointed out, has been in use since that time.

Mid-March is the projected completion date.

Talking of the improvements, Beshears said "We hope the work will cause as little inconvenience as possible to the public." The building recently was inspected and found to be in good shape, he added. The face-lifting is designed "to keep it that way."



ROB RIVERS, Editor, receives award from Governor Dan K. Moore.

Democrat Wins 5 State Awards

The Watauga Democrat won five State Press Association awards at the 42nd Annual Newspaper Institute on the University of North Carolina campus Thursday night.

These awards were presented by Governor Dan K. Moore, at the opening session of the institute at the Carolina Inn.

The local newspaper again won in the coveted General Excellence category, taking a third place award.

The judges, a panel composed of members of the working press from another State had this to say of the Democrat:

"A well-balanced newspaper with something for all the family. Typographically sound and clearly planned throughout. A good newspaper the people of Watauga County should be proud of."

The Democrat took first place in the Excellence in Typography division with the comment that the judges had to "nit pick" in some instances to establish the ratings. They commented:

"Every newspaper examined stands in the excellent category."

The Democrat placed second in the Best Use of Photographs classification, and received this comment:

"The Watauga Democrat contains a large number of good photos illustrating situation stories on schools, civic events,

etc. They no doubt have strong local civic pride appeal."

Rob Rivers' won third place on his King Street column, of which the judges said:

"We found his column very well written, most appealing and original. Even at a distance, we found his subjects of interest and colorfully presented. He, also, was a little lengthy, although he arranged not to have any run-over to lose his readers. Well done and attractively presented from a typographical standpoint."

The Democrat won third place in the Best News Coverage category. The judge said:

"The Watauga Democrat, which I have picked for third place among weeklies, has comprehensive coverage of its field. It has particularly good coverage of education, a subject of interest in a large segment of homes. Stories are well written. Headlines have punch, and leads are generally concise. (I found the "Pigeon Roost" news concerning the big snow, page 4 of the February 10 issue, homey and interesting. I am sure it was well read.)"

Other area newspapers receiving awards were the North Wilkesboro Journal-Patriot—second in best news coverage and third for best spot news story, and the Elkin Tribune, second in general excellence and typography categories and third in editorials. Both are in the semi-weekly division.



B. W. NASH

Nash Is Named Coordinator Of First National

Jacksonville, Jan. 20 — A veteran of 26 years in the banking industry has been named vice president and coordinator of all branches for the First National Bank of Eastern North Carolina, it was announced here today.

B. W. Nash, who for the past two years has been in charge of operations and personnel for five First National branches in the Wilmington area, was named to fill the newly-created position.

James F. Allen, a veteran of 18 years in the banking industry who joined First National earlier this month as an assistant to Nash, has meanwhile been elected assistant cashier and will assume responsibility for operations and personnel for the five Wilmington branches.

J. Hugh Rich, executive vice president of the statewide system, said in making both announcements here today:

"Rapid expansion of the First National has necessitated the creation of a central coordinator for all branch operations and we are certain that the talents and energies of B. W. Nash will prove invaluable in delivering an even higher level of service to the

(Continued on page 2)

"Snoflakes To Sunshine Safari" Visiting Boone

A one-week, 1400-mile "Snoflakes to Sunshine Safari" visits the Boone Division of IRC, Inc. on Tuesday and Wednesday (January 24 and 25). More than 80 salesmen and manufacturers' representatives from the major electronic marketing areas of the United States are participating.

The "Safari" idea was adopted by the multi-division, Philadelphia - headquartered firm for its 1967 Sales Meeting so the sales force could see the new products actually being made and the extensive plant expansions necessitated by the introduction of those products.

started from Philadelphia on Sunday and initially concentrated on the products and the production facilities of the firm in that city.

After a thorough orientation at the Hound Ears Club on the Boone Division's new products, the sales team will tour the Division's physical facilities and see the progress that is being made on the \$1.23-million expansion. Some members of the firm will probably see snow for the first time.

The caravan moves on to St. Petersburg, Florida, for its windup on Thursday and Friday. The extremes of weather which the sales team will encounter on its Safari -- the wintry winds

of the Great Smoky Mountains to Spring-like zephyrs on the Gulf Coast in St. Petersburg--the similar to IRC's coverage of the resistor product line, . . . from the brute power resistor (made here) for heavy industrial applications to the micro-miniature precision adjustable trimming potentiometers used in the country's aerospace programs.

Heading the IRC corporate executives from Philadelphia on the trip is J. B. Jenry, Vice President of Sales and Marketing. The IRC sales team has members from Portland (Oregon), San Francisco, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Denver, Chicago, Dallas, Cleveland, Boston

(Continued on page 6)