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# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

| BOONE WEATHER |    |    |            |
|---------------|----|----|------------|
| 1967          | Hi | Lo | Snow Prec. |
| June 6        | 70 | 43 | 77 49      |
| June 7        | 72 | 46 | 76 57      |
| June 8        | 75 | 46 | 79 68      |
| June 9        | 78 | 48 | 71 55      |
| June 10       | 80 | 52 | 76 60      |
| June 11       | 74 | 49 | 79 41      |
| June 12       | 76 | 50 | 81 50      |

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Dr. W. H. Plemmons, president of Appalachian State Teachers College, welcomes the membership of Blue Ridge Electric.

## Wants Better Highways

### BREMCO Shows 21.6% Increase In '66

More than 300 attended the 31st annual membership meeting of Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation on Saturday.

The Cooperative's consumer-owners met at the Broome-Kirk Gymnasium on the campus of Appalachian State College in Boone. The meeting was presided over by the president, Mr. Bert Mast of Zionville, North Carolina.

"This Is Your Business" was the theme of the meeting. Dr. W. H. Plemmons gave the welcoming address. The cooperative membership viewed slide

illustrated reports by officers and the manager. The members were assured their business was in sound physical and financial condition and that it experienced a 21.6% increase in sales in 1966 over the previous year. Some 1200 new members were added.

Recognition was given five students for their winning efforts in the Youth Tour to Washington Contest which was sponsored by the cooperative the first time this year. The students were Gilbert B. Goodman, Jr. of Boone, Richard Dixon of Lenoir, Jimmy Par-

sons of Lansing, Doug Joines of Sparta, and Steve Tuttle of Boomer. The students won a five-day tour of the nation's capital through their competing in a written quiz contest which was made available to high school Juniors in the area. The students will tour Washington the week of June 12 with approximately 1,000 other youngsters from electric cooperatives throughout the nation.

Resolutions adopted by the membership urged the board of directors and management to pursue lower rates for pur-

chased power and to work with agencies and groups for the comprehensive multipurpose development of various river basin areas to the end that lower cost electric power will be available to the members of the cooperative. The members indicated their support of the enactment of legislation which will permit Blue Ridge Electric and other systems to meet their responsibilities as rural electric utilities. They urged road improvement and pledged to support the efforts of local and state leaders to secure improved highways. Total development of the Northwest North Carolina area was urged. Member owners of the organization pledged support to the board of directors and management in pursuing the consolidation study which deals with the possible merger of Blue Ridge Electric with three other cooperatives.

Five members were elected by a vote of the general membership to serve three-year terms on the board of directors. They were: D. M. Edwards, Alleghany District; C. B. Graybeal, Ashe District; D. R. Moore and Oren Teague, Caldwell District and Bill E. Brown, Watauga District.

### Gov. Reagan May Visit Boone

Ronald Reagan may be coming to Boone after all.

A letter from Gov. Reagan's schedule secretary, Miss Patricia Gayman, to Herman Wilcox, manager of Boone's outdoor drama, Horn in the West, states:

"This is to let you know that we have not forgotten your invitation to Governor Reagan to attend the Horn in the West production.

"I have checked with our legislative people, and they inform me that, although the date of adjournment has not been set, they anticipate the Legislature will not adjourn until late August.

"Should there be any chance that the Governor will be able to attend, I will most assuredly be in touch with you."

The original invitation, backed up by a correspondence from Gov. Dan K. Moore, asked Reagan to attend on a specific date, for which he was already booked.

Other officials of the Boone Association attending the conference were O. Paul Bower of Jefferson, vice president; Gordon A. Chambers of State Road, director; Carlis Lee Mitchell of Sparta, director; and J. Dykes Wilson of Granite Falls, director; and John H. Hollar, manager.

The Boone Association handles the making and servicing of loans for the Land Bank in Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Caldwell, Mitchell, Watauga and Wilkes counties out of the association office in Boone.

Director Ward Haarbauer told the executive committee of the Southern Appalachian Historical Association in luncheon session he is pleased with the cast and the rewrite to conform the play to Daylight Savings Time.

Run-throughs will begin Monday night, he said, inviting committee members to come out during the week and give him the benefit of pre-opening criticism.

Dr. W. H. Plemmons, president of Appalachian, will be asked to make introductory remarks the light of the opening. The Rev. Robert Young, pastor of Boone Methodist, will be asked to deliver the invocation. Guest list for opening night will include Sen. Sam J. Ervin, Congressman James Broyhill, Secretary of State Thad Eure, Mrs. Dan K. Moore and other state and local leaders. Dr. I. G. Greer, president of the Association, is not expected to be able to attend, because of a lingering illness.

## Daniel Boone Wagon Train Starts Rolling Next Week

The fifth annual Daniel Boone Wagon Train will assemble at Memorial Park, North Wilkesboro, June 24 and 25.

Tuesday, June 27, Wagon Master Dewitt Barnett of Boone will head 'em up along the

trail pioneer Daniel Boone used in migrating from the Yadkin Valley to Kentucky.

Ivey Moore of North Wilkesboro, will be back for the fifth year, portraying the role of chief scout.

Moore, who is register for the train, said last week he expects about 100 wagons. Two horseback riders per wagon will add up to a procession roughly the size of last year's.

On Monday, June 26, at 2 p. m., John Dawson, president of the Wagon Train Corporation, will join Wilkesboro officials in welcoming trainmen and visitors. Moore said Rep. James T. Broy-

hill has been asked to take part in the public program.

The wagon train will parade through North Wilkesboro starting at 3:40 p. m., and a jubilee will be held that night.

Leaving at 8 a. m., Tuesday, the Train will camp the first night at Ferguson; Wednesday night at Darby on Elk Creek; Thursday night at Triplett on the Blue Ridge; moving on into the Boone camp Friday, June 30.

The annual Wagon Train Parade will start through Boone at 10 a. m., Saturday, July 1. Food, music and square dancing will be available at each encampment.

## Says Farm Outlook In South Is Bright

"The outlook for Southern agriculture in the future is extremely bright," according to S. C. Eggers, president of the Federal Land Bank Association of Boone, who has just returned from the Golden Anniversary Conference of Federal Land Bank Associations held at the Hotel Americana in Miami Beach, Florida.

"We feel that the need for long-term credit by farmers will continue to increase at an accelerated pace," Mr. Eggers explained. "Our future plans are to effectively meet these needs of farmers."

The Boone Association is one of 46 farmer-owned land bank associations which make and

service long-term loans outstanding in the amount of more than \$420 million to farmers in the two Carolinas, Georgia and Florida.

Other officials of the Boone Association attending the conference were O. Paul Bower of Jefferson, vice president; Gordon A. Chambers of State Road, director; Carlis Lee Mitchell of Sparta, director; and J. Dykes Wilson of Granite Falls, director; and John H. Hollar, manager.

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## Notables Asked To Attend Horn Opening Next Week

Comptrollers of the "Horn in the West" Monday decided to move into the sixteenth season without the traditional free, preview performance of the drama. The production will open Friday, June 23.

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Run-throughs will begin Monday night, he said, inviting committee members to come out



D. H. JOHNSON

## Johnson Goes To Union Carbide In Oak Ridge

D. H. Johnson of Boone has accepted a position with Union Carbide Corporation in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

A spring graduate of Appalachian State Teachers College, he received his Master's degree, having majored in chemistry. With Union Carbide, he will be an associate chemist in the research department. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Hal Johnson of Blue Ridge Avenue, he graduated from Appalachian High School and attended N. C. State at Raleigh one year before transferring to ASTC. At both institutions, he was a Dean's List student.

At State, Johnson was a member of Phi Epsilon Pi, serving as vice-president of his fraternity. At Appalachian State, he was elected to several offices within the Collegiate Civics Club, lettered in soccer three years and in his senior year was elected captain of the soccer team.

He also was a member of the "A" Club at Appalachian. Mrs. Johnson, originally from Charlotte, has been teaching eighth grade at Parkway Elementary School. The couple will reside at 133 West Vance St., Oak Ridge.

## On Original Site Bids Asked On Watauga County's Courthouse

### Space Located For Storing Of Vital Records

Most of the stumbling blocks which lay in the way of a new court house for Watauga County are gone.

County Commissioner Glenn Hodges Monday said the County is advertising for bids on the \$450,000 court house approved at the polls last November. Bids will be opened June 29 and contracts let toward the construction of the two-story, brick structure.

The building must be completed within one year from the time contracts are let.

Hodges said the Commissioners have learned that in the original estimate of the architects, Coffey & Annas of Lenoir, money was provided for tearing down and hauling away the old court house.

The bond election specified that a court house be constructed on the site of the present one.

#### ECONOMICAL

Some weeks ago, a bill was introduced in the N. C. General Assembly which would have allowed the site of the court house to be changed.

Hodges explained that this was on condition that the people would approve this, and if suitable land could be found. He said discussions with many individuals and trips to several possible sites evolved the feeling that "it seems, economically, it will be better to go along with the original plan, even though there will be limited parking."

Parking available on the northwest side of the present Court House would be obliterated with the construction of the larger facility. This fact prompted Commissioners to consider an alternate site.

#### STUMPED

Another problem which stumped the new Commissioners in their effort to carry out the bond issue proposal was storage for County records.

That meant fire proof vaults, which were not available to them.

However, Hodges says he has learned that the County can, according to the General Statutes, put on a guard or watchman, thus eliminating the cost of supplying a fireproof system which would be used only during the construction period.

"We have located what we feel is an adequate space for all records," in the former Consolidated School.

A more recent problem to overcome, he noted, was that several have gone to the Commissioners with the idea that a jail was voted for simultaneous construction with a Court House.

Since the jail was not included in the bond election, he said one will not be built, but added he was greatly encouraged with "the progress that's been made on the County jail."

Hodges said some plumbing and flooring remains to be done before the jail will pass inspection per the recommendations of the Grand Jury.

When the bond issue was drawn up, it was determined that the jail and the rock annex to the Court House would remain in service. Several County offices operated from the annex.

### Be Sure To Get Out And Vote

Saturday will be challenge day and Tuesday, June 20, will find voters at the ballot boxes in City Hall.

All registered voters are urged to turn out and support the candidates of their choice.



THE DE-MOLAY, 54 Junior Masons of Boone, are playing a big part in community service. Here, (from left) Roy Tugman, Chamber of Commerce Manager Fred McNeal, Donald Lee Payne, and Chamber secretary Miss Sally Miller pose at a garden site near the C of C on Hardin Street, Payne, who last month graduated to the Order of Mason, but who still works with De-Molay, helped Tugman deliver a truckload of dirt to the site where Mrs. Vivian Reynolds and co-gardeners will be at work soon. The gardeners recently planted flower boxes in front of the Chamber. Members of the De-Molay, who range in age from 14 to 21, have distributed several thousands of brochures to area motels and this summer will take thousands more to motels, restaurants and service stations. (Staff photo)

## 58 Percent WHS Seniors To Continue Education

In a survey of post-high school plans of the 260-member graduating class at Watauga High School, Mrs. Margaret Gragg, Guidance Director, has found that 58 per cent plan to continue their education.

This number, she says, is 4 per cent higher than last year's senior class plans and considerably higher than the North Carolina average.

College plans of 110 of the 151 graduates who will continue their education are as follows: 85 will attend four-year colleges, 10 will attend two-year colleges and 15 will enter community colleges. Of the remaining 41 in this group, technical institutes will claim 20; business schools, 6; beauty schools, 3; nursing schools, 5; and other trade schools, 6.

Among the 42 per cent, or 109 students, who do not plan to go on to school, 10 will enter military service, 33 will enter clerical work, 39 are available for work in industry, 21 expect to work in other types of jobs, and some 6 are undecided about their future.

Of the colleges which these 110 graduates will enter, Appalachian has accepted approximately 64.

Other colleges to receive Watauga seniors are UNC at Chapel Hill, 3; UNC at Greensboro, 2; N. C. State, 6; East Carolina, 2; Lees-McRae, 5; Wilkes Community College, 15; out-of-

state colleges, 6; and one each to Guilford, Mars Hill, Wake Forest, Lenoir-Rhyne, Winston-Salem State Teachers College, St. Andrews Presbyterian and Wingate.

Non-college institutions these

young people will attend are Caldwell Technical Institute (Lenoir), 3; Catawba Valley Technical Institute (Hickory), 3; King's College (Charlotte), 3; Draughton Business College (continued on page twelve)

## Poppy Sales Committee Tabulates Record Sales

The Poppy Committee of the American Legion Auxiliary announced a near record intake of \$250.35.

The report was made by committee women Mrs. Ralph Greer and Mrs. Hettie Hodges at the regular business meeting.

Proceeds from the Poppy Day sale will be used to pay disabled veterans in the state's four veterans' hospitals for making the poppies, for cards and presents for the men at Christmas and to help children of needy veterans in Watauga County.

Expressing appreciation to town and County residents who bought poppies, Mesdames Greer and Hodges, on behalf of the Auxiliary, also expressed thanks to Misses Darlene Hicks, Joann Hicks, Sheryl Miller, Connie Crawford, Marilyn Brown, Judy Sherwood, Sharon

Hayes and Sandra Cleary for helping distribute poppies.

They also thanked the Watauga Democrat, Radio WATA and Mayors Brown and Hardin for publicity and proclamations.

A covered dish luncheon was served at the home of Mrs. Cleve Gross for poppy workers as well as for Legionnaires who placed flags on veterans' graves. Thirty-five members and friends attended the appreciation event.

Mrs. Greer also reported on plans to send two girls, Misses Jane Dougherty and Beth Lawrence, to Girls' State, June 26-30, at Greensboro. Two boys are to be sponsored by the Blowing Rock Legion Post.

Mrs. Roy Ruffy, president, presided. Prayer was led by Mrs. Troy Norris, chaplain, at the first of the meeting and at adjournment, Legion members joined the Auxiliary for refreshments.