

AWARD WINNER

In 1966 and 1967 the Democrat won 10 State Press Assn. awards for General Excellence, Excellence in Typography, Local News, Advertising, Columns and Photographs.

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Eightieth Year of Continuous Publication

BOONE WEATHER				
1967	Hi	Lo	Snow Prec.	58 59 60
Oct. 24	58	33		58 40
Oct. 25	53	43	.83	60 45
Oct. 26	55	36	.14	60 45
Oct. 27	52	36		61 31
Oct. 28	49	31		63 36
Oct. 29	55	23		63 41
Oct. 30	60	27		60 37

VOL. LXXX—NO. 18

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1967

10 CENTS PER COPY

20 PAGES—2 SECTIONS



Suede Jackets For Christmas

Nineteen deer skins (18 shown) could become coats for Christmas, but right now they're the proud cache of 15 men from Boone and Blowing Rock who returned Saturday from a five-day hunt near Basalt, Colo. The party took five pickups on the 11-day trip and camped out each night. Part of the meat was processed Monday and nine deer heads are being mounted as trophies.

Hunters from left (standing) are Steve Johnson, Eston Greene, Owen Coffey, Norman Critcher, Michael Wood, J. C. Fletcher, M. W. Greene, Harold Wood and Fred Greer; (kneeling) Roy Greer, Melvin Triplett, D. J. Black, Billy Baker, Gordon Bolick and James Coffey.

Burley Tobacco Markets Start Annual Auctions November 28

The Burley Sales Committee voted Friday to open tobacco markets in the eight state belt on Nov. 28 and have 59 1/2 sales hours before the Christmas holidays—the same as last year.

They were followed last year when 63 per cent of the crop—or 388,000,000 pounds was sold before the Christmas recess.

The committee, as usual, limited sales to 3 1/2 hours per day at 360 baskets an hour, or 1,260 per day for each set of buyers on the market.

An alternate proposal, calling for a Nov. 29 opening with one less pre-Christmas sales day, was voted down.

Ira Massie, University of Kentucky tobacco specialist, said he was afraid of opening too early because of a possible rush to the warehouses by the farmers and of too late a start that might glut the market.

The Burley Sales Committee is interested in having tobacco delivered in proper order to the warehouses to prevent fat stems and excessive short weights.

It is now a provision of the contracts between cooperative associations and warehouses

Whitener To Speak At Rally

Congressman Basil Whitener of the 10th District will speak Friday night, Nov. 17, at a Democratic rally in Boone. Tickets are being sold under the direction of Grady Moretz Jr., ticket chairman.

221 Acres Of Trees Planted By 34 Farmers

Results of the special tree planting project show 34 farmers planted a total of 221 acres according to Roy W. Tolley, County Office Manager.

The special ACP project provided for approval of a maximum of 10 acres of tree planting in addition to a farmer's regular ACP payment.

The majority of tree seedlings planted were white pine according to records of ACP program clerk, Faith Michael. Records show that a total of \$3,090 from the 1967 allocation was used for the project.

These funds were re-imbursed to the Watauga County ASC Committee by the North Carolina State ASC Committee thus increasing the 1967 ACP allocation by this amount.

Traffic Tantrums

An unofficial count of 635 cars parked at Conrad Stadium during a recent football game illustrates the fact that the Town of Boone attracts people: Whether gridiron followers, vacation travelers or the vast crowd of local shoppers seeking merchandise and services in the central business district and its outlying areas.

Our recent editorial, "Traffic Tantrums," pointed out that things could be worse: There could be no traffic at all. But traffic there is and the question arises as to what's being done.

Ned Trivette, manager of business affairs at Appalachian State University, says that students now must be juniors or seniors in order to bring cars to campus. Last year's policy included sophomores among student motorists, but heavy construction on campus began to pinch parking spaces and this measure was taken to ease the situation. Trivette comments that it has "relieved the situation a good deal," but it remains a problem to provide faculty and staff parking as close to their place of work as university officials would like.

In Boone, the Board of Aldermen has continued the lease on the city parking lot, which was paved week before last. Eventually, parking meters will be installed at the central location.

The Board now is conducting a study on the prospect of four-lane traffic in downtown Boone. If the notion is carried out, says Mayor Clyde Greene, additional municipal parking areas may be improved for the business district.

Valle Crucis Meeting Blue Ridge Council Will Devise Area Health Plan

Four Counties Are Involved In Promotion

The Blue Ridge Health Council officially was incorporated Saturday at Valle Crucis to begin comprehensive health planning for Watauga, Avery, Mitchell and Yancey counties. About 50 persons at the Health Seminar heard Dr. John Reese of Morganton declare that total community involvement particularly of physicians and dentists, was essential to the success of new health projects.

Dr. Reese, a past president of the North Carolina Medical Society, also said there were growing opportunities for cooperation between counties and between health districts, in the sharing of personnel and facilities, and urged the new group to keep other areas of the state fully informed on their progress.

After lunch at the day-long seminar, representatives of the four counties broke up into small planning groups to discuss three pressing problems. The group discussing home health care reported back to the Health Council a request for an immediate feasibility study of all four counties to document the need for home health care and to determine the best ways of financing these new services.

Elderly area residents now miss out on many services provided by Medicare because there are no home health care

agencies or approved extended care nursing homes in the four counties according to WAMY Community Action, Inc.

Representatives of the State Health Department attending the seminar agreed to conduct a feasibility study immediately on home health services.

The group discussing nursing home facilities recommended that the Council study and find

ways to provide new facilities as soon as possible.

The Council also adopted a report from the dental services study group which called for emphasis on preventive dentistry to begin solving dental problems in the area. Initial efforts in preventive dentistry might include fluoridation, school and home education programs.

Elected to the interim board of directors were Clifford Aldridge, Dr. H. C. Evans and Dr. Lawson Tate from Avery County; the Rev. W. Ross Bailey, Dr. J. T. McRae and Mrs. Hugh Dobbin from Mitchell County; Mrs. Ernest Briggs and Oscar Deyton from Yancey County; Mrs. Jack Groce, Joe Hartley and the Rev. George Abele from Watauga County.

Average Watauga Worker In Better Financial Shape

To what extent has the general economic expansion, now in its 80th month, improved the lot of the average working man in Watauga County?

How much more can he buy with his weekly wage than he was able to buy in the early part of 1961, when the record-breaking upswing began?

The figures show that he is in better financial shape today than he was then, despite the steady increase in the cost of living. His earnings have gone up more than enough to absorb this increase. The surplus represents the net gain in his purchasing power.

Latest reports on the subject, based upon national studies released by the Department of Labor, by the Tax Foundation and others, indicate the progress that has been made in the 80 months.

They show that per capita income in Watauga County rose considerably during that period. The gain amounted to 29.6 per cent locally.

The comparable gain in the United States was 29.3 per cent. During the same 80 months, the cost of goods and services went up by about 10 per cent. Because of the favorable differential, the average worker in the local area is that much better off today.

For example, he now earns enough, after putting in some 117 minutes on the job, to buy a carton of cigarettes. With 32 minutes of his time he can purchase a pound of butter and, with 150 minutes, a pair of cotton work pants.

He would have had to work much longer, back in 1961, to earn the money for these items and most others.

The Tax Foundation, a national non-profit research organization, shows how much time is spent by the average working man in the United States, during an eight-hour day, in providing for his family's various requirements.

Taxes take the most time—2 hours and 25 minutes. Housing and household operations are next, with 1 hour and 26 minutes. Then comes food and tobacco, 1 hour and 14 minutes, transportation, 40 minutes, clothing and

accessories, 30 minutes, recreation, 18 minutes, medical services, 21 minutes, and the remaining 1 hour and 6 minutes for all other purposes.

Dr. Edmisten Gets Research Grant \$25,240

Dr. Joe A. Edmisten of the University of Georgia Department of Botany has been awarded a grant of \$25,240 by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research for a study of the role of epiphyllae in the nitrogen cycle of tropical rain forests.

The grant provides for a year of investigation of the leaf algae, fungi, lichens, and liverworts in the El Verde rain forest east of San Juan, Puerto Rico, and in the forests of the Darien Province of Panama. Dr. Edmisten's study will be directed toward an understanding of the ability of epiphyllae to fix atmospheric nitrogen in the tropical rain forest ecosystem. The long range importance of the investigation will be in regard to improved food sources for a rapidly expanding population.

Dr. Edmisten, an assistant professor in the botany department, has been associated with tropical research in recent

(Continued on page seven)



DR. EDMISTEN

BREMCO Pays \$2,170 A Day On Loan Retirement

During the first 8 months of 1967, rural electric and telephone systems made payments on their government loans at the rate of more than \$1 million every working day, and passed the \$3 billion mark in their total payments on loans, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reported recently.

Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation's part of this payment was \$2,170 daily. The \$1 million-a-day cash flow into the U. S. Treasury represents the highest level of principal and interest payments in the history of the Rural Electrification Administration's loan programs. It is attributed in part to the joint effort of REA with its borrowers to help minimize the net cash demand on the Treasury by making payments on REA loans

ahead of due dates.

Interest and principal payments of \$203 million for the 8-month period increased total payments made by REA borrowers to more than \$3 billion. This compares with \$6.6 bil-

Teachers To Gather Monday

The Watauga County Unit of the North Carolina Education Association will meet Monday, Nov. 6, at 7:30 p. m. at the Watauga High School.

A program on homework will be presented by Mrs. Helen Stroupe, president of the Watauga County unit of the classroom teachers.

lion of REA loan funds they have invested. The payments over the life of the two programs include \$324 million paid ahead of due dates. During the last 8 months, this balance of advance payments increased by \$38.2 million, as compared with a reduction of \$4.7 million in the balance during the preceding 8 months.

"This willingness of the rural electric and telephone systems to step up their payments and help relieve current pressures on the U. S. Treasury serves to emphasize the close working relationship in these two programs of rural people and their Federal Government," Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman commented. "Basically, the relationship is a two-

(Continued on page six)



ROGER HILSMAN

Roger Hilsman To Be Speaker At University

Roger Hilsman, former Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs and currently professor of government at Columbia University, will be the speaker when Appalachian State University presents the first in a series of lectures to be given throughout the 1967-68 academic year.

This initial lecture will be held at 8 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 7, in the auditorium of I. G.

(Continued on page seven)

Draft Board Is Closed 30 Days

The Watauga County Draft Board office will be closed thirty days due to the illness of the principal clerk, Mrs. Evelyn Coffey.

Joe Todd, Chairman, states that personnel from Raleigh came here and took care of the induction process for October.

