

...and to all, a Merry Christmas

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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER				
1967	Hi	Lo	Snow Prec.	'66 Hi Lo
Dec. 12	48	37	.22	42 34
Dec. 13	55	28		44 22
Dec. 14	30	35	.02	33 28
Dec. 15	49	34		44 22
Dec. 16	40	24		48 22
Dec. 17	62	25		48 22
Dec. 18	56	37	tr.	45 34

VOL. LXXX— NO. 25

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1967

10 CENTS PER COPY

40 PAGES—4 SECTIONS

A Christmas Biography

Wm. J. McCormick
NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATION

HE WAS BORN in an animal shelter—a stable, midst the dumb creatures of His Own creation, in an obscure village, the Child of a young simple peasant Jewish maid—the spouse of a carpenter. His relations were inconspicuous, unimportant and had neither training nor education. He grew up in another village where He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty; then for three years He was an itinerant preacher, but in truth The Messiah, teaching the gospel of love. He never visited a big city nor travelled two hundred miles from the place of His birth. He never held an office. In infancy He startled a King; in childhood He puzzled the learned doctors; in manhood He ruled the course of nature by walking upon the waves as if pavements and hushed the sea to sleep. He, Himself, had neither wealth or influence, but possessed dauntless courage, which faltered only once, in the Garden of Gethsemane, and then for only a moment when He cried "Abba, Father, all things are possible to You. Remove this cup from Me; yet not what I will, but what You will." His only weakness was human sympathy and, if He ever faltered again, it was on the side of mercy and pity. He never had a family or owned a house. He didn't go to college but all the schools put together cannot boast of having as many students. He never wrote a book, and yet all the libraries of the country could not hold the books that have been written about Him. He never wrote a song and yet He has furnished the theme for more songs than all the song-writers combined. He never practiced medicine but He went around healing the multitudes without medicine and making no charge for His services, and He has healed more broken hearts than all the doctors that ever lived. He did none of the things one usually associates with greatness — He had no credentials but Himself, yet every seventh day the wheels of commerce cease their turning and multitudes wend their way to worshipping and to pay homage and respect to Him. The names of the past proud statesmen of Greece and Rome have come and gone; but the name of This Man abounds more and more. Time has spread 1900 years between the people of this generation and the scene of His crucifixion; at the time He was thirty-three years old and the tide of public opinion had turned against Him because His teachings of righteousness were contrary to their ideas. He was betrayed by His own disciple. His friends ran away. He was turned over to His enemies and went through the mockery of a trial. The thirty shekels for which Judas sold Him were worth \$18.36, but don't forget, we have often sold Him for less. At the instigation of the Jews, the Romans nailed Him to a cross between two thieves. While He was dying, His executioners gambled for His clothing, the only property He had on earth. When He was dead He was laid in a borrowed grave through pity of a friend, and rose on the third day from the dead, and ascended, as St. Luke has put on record, from the summit of the Mount of Olives, in a cloud into the infinite expanse of the Heavens. With this Resurrection He has left to us a legacy that we will never have to face tomorrow—alone. This God-Man, He Who died with a spear through a breast bruised with our sins, Whom we honor today, went through all this—This Man Whose soul was tempered by a large charity that proceeded from a Divine understanding and an Infinite power of compassion. Yes, He still lives. Herod could not destroy Him and the grave could not hold Him. Nineteen hundred years have come and gone and today He is the Central Figure of the human race and the Leader of mankind's progress. All the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as That One Solitary Life. He stands forth, today, upon the highest pinnacle of heavenly glory, proclaimed by God, acknowledged by Angels, adored by Saints and feared by devils as the Living Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Such, in brief, is the story of the most Remarkable Personality the world has ever known, our greatest teacher.

Response Best In Years

Announce Winners Yule Decorations Contests

Watauga Garden Club Council Sponsors Event

The Watauga Council of Garden Clubs, in announcing winners in the Christmas decoration contest, would like to thank all who entered. The response was the best in years, sponsors said. However, due to lack of adequate lighting, the judges felt that a great many decorations were missed.

OUTDOOR

Winners in the outdoor categories were:
 Live and Growing Lighted Trees—large—1, Mrs. Jim Jones, 2, Mrs. Tom Winkler, 3, Lewis Wilson and 4, Miss Cynthia Stiles; small—1, Lee Anderson (twin trees), 2, Vaughn Roten and 3, Kenneth Mathes.
 Front Doors—Traditional, Religious—1, Mrs. Frank Hagaman and 2, Mrs. Hoyle Davis; Secular—Mrs. Norman Isenhour.
 Garage Doors—Mrs. W. C. Richardson.
 Entrances—1, Mrs. Johnny Barnett, 2, Mrs. Eric DeGroat and 3, Mrs. Fred Mast.
 Roof and/or Chimney Displays—1, Mrs. Perry Greene, 2, V. A. Stevens and 3, Mrs. Ben Bosworth.
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ABC And Police Arrest 3 Men

State ABC officers working with the Boone Police Department arrested three men on charges of illegal sale of tax-paid liquor Saturday night.

Chief of Police Red Lyons said an ABC officer from Hendersonville, Gay T. Lyda Jr., bought liquor from three suspects that night. He identified those arrested as J. O. Cook, working for a business on South Depot Street; Friday Teague, located on the Blowing Rock Road in Boone; and John Winkler, who was approached at a firm at the intersection of Hardin and East King, he said.

They will be tried at the next term of Superior Court.

Lyons said that two officers with ABC in Hickory joined in investigations running for three weeks prior to the arrests.

Former NYC Boys Charged With Entering Building

The Neighborhood Youth Corps building on West King Street was broken into last week.

Police Chief Red Lyons said he received a tip that "suspicious looking characters drove up close to the building, opened the trunk of the car and got something out."

Lyons said he went to investigate and saw footprints leading through the soft dirt into the creek beside the building.

He waited until two boys, whom he identified as former Neighborhood Youth Corps enrollees, came out.

They were taken to Watauga County Jail.



THE FIRST CHRISTMAS tree put up in Watauga County Hospital, which opened this year, was furnished and decorated by the Blue Ridge Garden Club. It is found in the main lobby on first floor. Until last week, a tree on third floor was attracting much interest. Staff members had cleverly decorated it with syringes, cotton balls, band-aids and other hospital materials. (Staff photo)

Officers Secure Return Of Loot From Boone Robbery

A \$700 IBM electric typewriter, an adding machine valued at \$300, a corporate seal and a small electric heater are among items returned to Greene Buick-Pontiac, Inc., of Boone.

Police Chief Red Lyons said Monday that a suspect has been charged with the Dec. 8, break-

in and theft of the firm. He said a parking meter ticket issued in Hickory and bearing the license number and make of the vehicle owned by the suspect was found inside the building at the point of entry.

"A warrant has been issued for Kenneth D. Phillips, age 26, of Route 1, Parlier," he said.

Officials in Wilkes County came in on the case when checks forged on Greene Buick-Pontiac began showing up in North Wilkesboro. Cashied at supermarkets there were checks made out in the amounts of \$91.67 and \$91.76.

A personal checkbook belonging to the owner, G. C. Greene, and Mrs. Greene was taken as well as the company checkbook, a small stapling machine, a postage meter rented from the Post Office Department and approximately \$400 in mechanical tools owned by Bud Cornett.

Lyons said Greene stopped payment on the checks when he discovered the book was missing, although the officer said as many as 10 or 12 could have been cashed. Seven checks are known to have been cashed.

With The Northwestern Bank keeping him informed as soon as the checks began showing

up, Lyons went to Wilkes County for photostatic copies and visited one of the supermarkets to get a description of the forger. He said Wilkes County Sheriff Hoke Wiles checked around for a car and person fitting the descriptions and also found out where the suspect lived.

(Continued on page three)

Democrat To Close Monday

The Watauga Democrat will be closed next Monday for Christmas.

The newspaper office will be open as usual this week up to noon Saturday.

Boone Stores To Observe Yule

According to information received from the Boone Chamber of Commerce, most stores will be closed only on Christmas Day next week.

Most are planning to reopen for business on Tuesday, Dec. 26.

Says 1,320 Watauga Citizens Holding Government Positions

How many Watauga County residents are holding down government jobs at the present time? How does this compare, relative to population, with the number on government payrolls in other areas?

According to the latest figures, a larger proportion of the working force is to be found in public jobs—Federal, state and local—than in most parts of the United States.

Approximately 1 out of every 4 who are employed works for a governmental agency. This is exclusive of those in the armed forces.

The occupational data is based upon national surveys of government employment, conducted by the Tax Foundation, the Bureau of Labor Statistics and others.

They show that the number of persons so-employed has

rised much faster in recent years than the working population as a whole.

Since 1960, more than three million people have been added to public payrolls, bringing the total this year to 11.5 million.

In Watauga County, the figures, indicate, some 22.6 per cent of the working force are public employees.

This is above the proportion in the rest of the United States,

where the average is 15.7 per cent. In the South Atlantic States it is 17.9 percent.

It is estimated that there are now approximately 1,320 local residents in government jobs, as compared with the 997 listed in 1960, following a survey by the Commerce Department.

Most of the change has been in state and local government employment, it is pointed out, rather than in the Federal sector. They have been expanding rapidly, with the result that their payrolls are now about three times the size of the Federal.

The Tax Foundation finds that education has become the most costly function of state-local government, accounting for one-half of their personal service outlays.

The growing emphasis on education and the increase in the number of children call for more and more teachers.

It is noted that the number of teachers doubled in the first 50 years of this century, going from 430,000 in 1900 to 913,000 in 1950.

Since then, in only 17 years, the number has doubled again, bringing the number of teachers to 1,800,000.

County Offices Will Be Closed Dec. 23-25

The Watauga County Court-house will be closed for the Christmas holidays on Dec. 23 and Dec. 25. The Court-house will also be closed on New Year's Day, Jan. 1.

Mentally Retarded People In Watauga Should Be Aided

BY BARBARA BARNETT

Mentally retarded children can and should be helped.

Today more than ever, mental retardation presents a greater problem to the nation, state, and last, but most important, the community, because here is where the problem arises. With jobs being increasingly available, the mentally retarded person must get help from someone in order to remain in a productive community.

Within our County of Watauga, the following statistics were gathered and received from the Governor by the N. C. Council on Mental Retardation Committee. About two years ago, Watauga County had the following number of retarded people:

Mentally retarded under 6 years, 10; mentally retarded between 6-21, 175; mentally retarded over 21, 98.

These figures will give the citizens of Watauga some general idea of the need for classes and programs designed especially for these people. Today Watauga has only about 3 or 4 such classes. That is certainly not enough to provide for these people in the right manner. Services for them must be made available in order to make a step forward in a positive direction.

One such class is being offered to the retarded "trainable" children on the Appalachian State University campus. Here, under the supervision of qualified teachers and

assistants, children are learning to care for themselves, learn personal hygiene and get along with others their own age.

The mentally retarded "educable" child is also receiving some instruction, but at a certain age group classes stop. The teenage retarded person must stop his education, and no courses of higher instruction are offered to him. He must therefore, go off to a neighboring city or stay at home. This can be impossible to do, especially during the winter months when bad weather arises, preventing travel. The young teenager cannot go to a regular high school and try to learn as students with normal learning capacities can. He would become frus-

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