

In last 3 years Democrat has won 14 State Press Assn. awards. Eight of them are first place awards.

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER							
1968	Hi	Lo	Snow	Prec.	47	Hi	Lo
Jan. 16	35	19	1	.05		41	18
Jan. 17	48	8				41	21
Jan. 18	52	14				36	24
Jan. 19	44	22				38	18
Jan. 20	45	34				49	17
Jan. 21	48	39				54	19
Jan. 22	54	30				64	44

Snow given to nearest half-inch.

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THE BALTIMORE SYMPHONY

## Baltimore Symphony To Be At ASU

The Baltimore Symphony will make its second visit to Appalachian State University when it is heard in concert at 8 p. m. Jan. 31 in Broome-Kirk Gymnasium under the auspices of the Artists and Lecture Committee.

Numbering 92 members the orchestra, founded in 1914, will be under the baton of guest

conductor Gerhard Samuel. Samuel, resident conductor of the Oakland, Calif. Symphony has filled guest spots with a number of major American orchestras during the last several seasons and is substituting for Peter Adler at the local concert.

Program for the symphony will include Beethoven's Over-

ture to Fidelio, Tchaikovsky's Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D major, Opus 35, Schubert's Symphony in B minor, No. 8 (Unfinished), and de Falla's Dances from the Ballet, The Three-Cornered Hat, Suite No. 2.

General admission prices for the concert are \$1 for adults and 50 cents for students. Uni-

versity faculty and students will be admitted upon presentation of I. D. cards.

Tickets will be on sale at the gymnasium box office from 6:30 to 8 p. m. Jan. 31.

## State Takes Nolle Pros As Jury Fails To Agree

The State declared a nolle prosequi last week in the second trial for a 26-year-old Negro charged with assault and attempted rape.

Clerk of the Court Orville H. Foster said the jury deliberated more than an hour in the case of Charles McLendon of Miami, Fla., then told Judge W. E. Anglin it could not agree.

The September trial of McLendon in Watauga Superior Court also ended in the failure of the jury to deliver a verdict.

The trial involved an Appalachian State University co-ed who said she was returning to her dormitory July 8 when a Negro man approached her, put his hand on her back and asked her to go out with him. She said she screamed and fought off her assailant, who turned and ran.

McLendon testified that he was not on the campus the night of the alleged incident. Witnesses testified that they had seen him elsewhere that night, according to the record.

The Clerk said Superior Court, which had been postponed from Monday because of snow, convened Wednesday, Jan. 17, (Continued on page two)

## New, Liberalized Program Pensioners In Watauga Will Get \$186,000 More

Total Payments In Local Area Are \$1,618,000

How much more will residents of Watauga County be receiving from Washington this year in the form of pension checks under the new, liberalized program?

What will the average payment be in the local area compared with what it was previously?

It is estimated that the changes in social security rates, approved last month by Congress, will add approximately \$186,000 a year to the amount that local beneficiaries have been collecting.

The estimate is based upon the latest annual statistics for the county, released by the Social Security Administration. They show the number of retired and disabled workers, as well as dependent relatives, on the pension rolls and the total paid them each month.

All of them will be benefited by the changes. Those who have been getting no more than \$44 a month, the minimum amount, will be receiving \$55 when the new checks go out, early in March.

The smallest payment to a married couple will be \$83, instead of the present \$66. For those whose annual earnings were \$6,000 or more, the new pension checks will be at the rate of \$190 a month, as against \$168 last year. For couples in that maximum bracket, it will be \$285 a month instead of \$252.

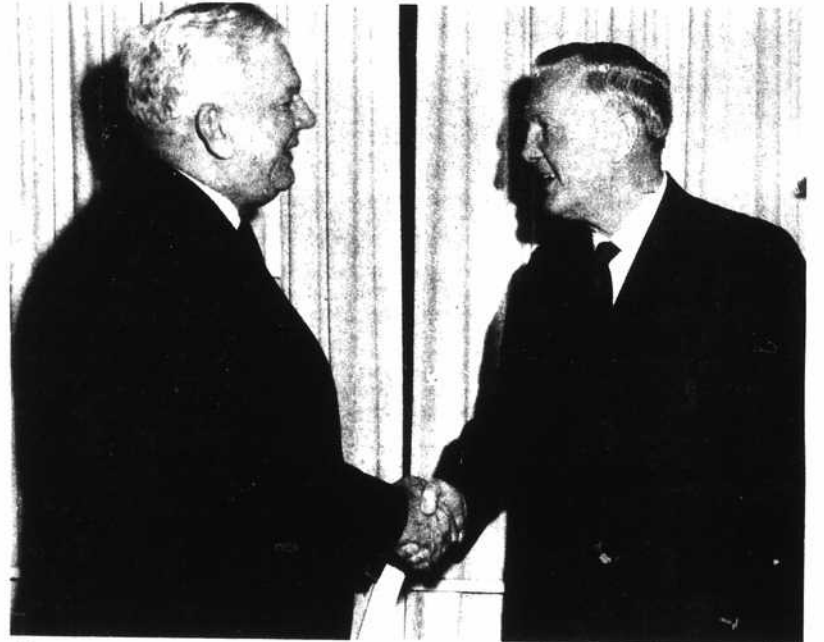
At the beginning of last year, the Social Security Administration reports, pension payments in Watauga County averaged \$629 per year per recipient. Under the increased rates, they will get approximately \$711 per year on average.

The total payments throughout the local area, based upon the number who were on the pension rolls at last count, will add up to some \$1,618,000 a year, a considerable rise over the prior total of \$1,432,000.

The increase are not without cost, however. People with earnings above \$6,600, the former taxable limit, will have to pay 4.4 percent on all income up to \$7,800. Their employers will have to contribute a similar sum.

Those who are self-employed will be taxed at the rate of 6.4 percent, up to the \$7,800 maximum.

All others will be free of additional tax until 1969, when the tax rate will rise from 4.4 percent to 4.9 percent.



When Press Association awards were made Thursday night, Rob Rivers, publisher of the Watauga Democrat in Boone, and Gov. Dan K. Moore said hello.

## Democrat Is Given 4 NC Press Awards

The Watauga Democrat received three first-place and one second place award in the North Carolina Press Association contests, the awards being presented on the University of North Carolina campus last Thursday night by Governor Dan K. Moore.

The local weekly took the top spot in the coveted General Excellence category, a first in Off-

set Typography, first in Advertising and second in News Coverage.

This makes 14 awards the Democrat has received in three years, 8 of them being first place. It was the only newspaper this year, weekly or semi-weekly, to receive as many as three blue-ribbon awards.

In General Excellence this makes the third win in three

years, two of them firsts. This year the judges in this category said:

"The Watauga Democrat comes nearest being a perfect community newspaper than the others, in the judges' opinion, although many excellent weekly newspapers were submitted in this category. The main purpose of a community newspaper's existence is to give its readers the happenings of the area it serves in writing clear and simple enough for all to understand and in a style that is pleasing and attractive. The Watauga Democrat meets this requirement. On the whole, the Watauga Democrat serves its community exceptionally well in every department. It is a good community newspaper any way you judge it—excellent news coverage, a good editorial page, an aggressive advertising policy and superior reproduction."

TYPOGRAPHY  
The Democrat received its third consecutive first place award in typography, two in letterpress, and this year in offset production. The judges' comment:

"This newspaper makes reading easy. It tries to be a weekly, yet presents a professional quality." (Continued on page two)



1968 Watauga Heart Fund President Mrs. Ralph Greene (left) accepts the first special gift to the local drive from Mrs. Wade Wilmoth who presents it on behalf of Col. Mercer Lee Price of Ormond Beach, Fla.

## Kickoff Heart Fund Drive Luncheon Held Thursday

Kicking off the 1968 Watauga County Heart Fund Campaign here, a luncheon was held at the Gateway Restaurant at noon Jan. 18.

The campaign will continue through February. This community's goal is \$3,300 as compared with \$3,007 actually realized in the 1967 campaign. The funds will be used to support

research, education and community service programs of the North Carolina Heart Association.

Attending the luncheon were Mrs. Ralph Greene, Mrs. Phyllis Templeton, Jerry Moretz, Mrs. Ginny Vance, Mrs. Cecil Greene, Mrs. Wade Wilmoth, Mrs. Freta Lee, Mrs. Bev Rusing, Mrs. Mabel Brown and Mrs. William Cooper.

The first contribution to Watauga County's 1968 Heart Fund campaign was a check in the amount of \$100 donated by Col. Mercer Lee Price, president of Price Foundation, Ormond Beach, Fla. Col. Price visited Boone in November and on hearing of the forthcoming Heart Fund Drive expressed his desire to participate.

The campaign will reach its high point on the weekend of Heart Sunday, Feb. 14, when neighbors to distribute heart-saving information and to receive Heart Fund contributions. This phase of the campaign will be headed by Mrs. Phyllis Templeton of Boone as local Heart Sunday Chairman.

Other campaign leaders include: Mrs. Ralph Greene, president; Mrs. Wade Wilmoth, Boone chairman; Mrs. Freta Lee, Blowing Rock chairman; Mrs. Marvin Story, rural community chairman; Mrs. Bev Rusing, special events chairman; Jerry Moretz, business days chairman; Mrs. Hazel Greene, poster chairman; Mrs. Lois Greene, treasurer; Mrs. William Cooper, public education chairman.

Township conventions will be held Friday, January 26 at 7 p. m.

Each township, says Mr. Greene, will set up an organization and recommend to the Convention a man and woman for membership on the County Executive Committee, also elect delegates and alternates to the county Convention.

## GOP Convention Set For Saturday

The Republicans of Watauga County are asked to meet in convention at 2 o'clock Saturday January 27 at the Demonstration School in Boone.

Clyde R. Greene, Chairman, states that the business of the convention will be to elect a County Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary; an Executive Committee and to name delegates and alternates to the Congressional and State Con-

## For Outstanding Community Service

# Glenn Hodges Gets Top Jaycee Award



GLENN HODGES

Glenn Hodges won the Distinguished Service Award Monday evening at the Jaycee DSA Banquet at the Holiday Inn.

Recognized for outstanding service to the community, Glenn received a standing ovation upon acceptance of the award.

Glenn is a member of the county Commissioners, Board of Trustees for Watauga Hospital, the First Baptist Church Board of Deacons and is president of his Sunday School Class; Chairman of the Recreation and Education Committee of First Baptist Church, chairman of the New River Mental Health Commission and head usher at First Baptist Church.

Glenn said that he was "still up in the air" the morning after receiving the award and was totally surprised by the honor. A native of Boone, Glenn attended Appalachian Elementary School, Appalachian High School and Appalachian State University.

He has been employed by IRC since 1956, having taken four years out to attend college and returning to IRC in 1961. He has served for two years with the U. S. Army in Korea.

Active in Jaycee work, Glenn is presently working in conjunction with the Boone Parks and Recreation Commission on the formation of a midget football team.

Other awards given in the course of the evening were the Spoke award given to a member of the Jaycees who has been a member less than one year and has actively participated in a number of Jaycee projects. The recipients of the Spoke award were Jim Hastings, Louis Gaston, Richard Hill and Joe Miller.

Recipients of the Sparkplug award are those who have been a member of the Jaycees for more than one year and who have actively contributed to projects in the Jaycees. Receiving this award were John Austin and Albert Hutchens.

Special guest speaker at the banquet was the State President

of the Jaycees, Luther Britt of Lumberton. Britt spoke on the growth of the Jaycees over the years and the makings of a true Jaycee. He also discussed his travels representing the State of North Carolina and the Jaycees. He felt that it is time, "that the Jaycees stop being the nice guys in the city and get involved by taking a stand for the good of the community."

He said that a good Jaycee is doing what he should do "what is asked and then more, what is needed and then more and what is required and then more."

Britt ended his talk by saying "A good Jaycee gets things done by making them happen."