

BOONE WEATHER				
1968	Hi	Lo	Snow	Prec. '67
Sept. 3	75	47		65 40
Sept. 4	71	48		67 41
Sept. 5	67	46		71 41
Sept. 6	71	61	.12	72 45
Sept. 7	75	49		70 45
Sept. 8	73	46		69 47
Sept. 9	72	51		65 57

## Cost-Price Squeeze Holds Down Net

# Watauga Farmers Have Income Of \$6,206,000 In '67

Despite the yearly ups and downs connected with agriculture, farming continues to be big business in Watauga County.

Most local farmers held their own last year and a number of them made out better than before, even though income in many parts of the county fell considerably behind 1966.

In the face of setbacks in the

form of lower prices for crops in general and higher costs for the things that had to be bought, local farms stood up well in comparison.

The findings are based upon a national survey made by the Standard Rate and Data Service and upon reports issued by the Department of Agriculture and others.

The figures for Watauga

County show that local farmers had a gross income in the past year of \$6,206,000 a gain over the previous year's \$6,087,000.

That represented total receipts, before deductions for taxes, labor costs, interest and other operating expenses.

The bulk of it came from the sale of farm products, with the rest of it consisting of government payments and "income-

in-kind," which is the value of the home-grown products used on the farm.

An estimated 43 percent of the income from farm marketings came from the sale of crops and 57 percent from sales of livestock, poultry and dairy products.

For the farm population of Watauga County, the gross receipts were at the rate of \$1,002

per person.

While the average American farmer has been able to boost his production through more intensive fertilization and the increased use of tractors and other mechanized equipment, he has not succeeded in turning this gain into added net income.

The cost-price squeeze has been against him. Inflation has driven up the cost of virtually

everything he has to buy, but the prices he obtains for his products have not been keeping pace.

In the past year, as a matter of fact, with some exceptions for livestock, there has been a general decline in that direction. The year's huge crop production forced prices lower than before.

## New Courthouse To Be Dedicated At Open House

The new Watauga County Courthouse will be formally dedicated next month.

Tax Supervisor Claude Danner said an open house will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 20, in the county facility.

James Marsh, chairman of the construction committee, said that plans for the ceremonies are still incomplete but should be set in the next few days. Marsh will work closely with the County Commissioners in outlining the dedication program for the \$450,000 courthouse.

## Volunteers Are Now Needed By Red Cross

Mrs. Lois Miller, chairman of volunteers for the Watauga Chapter of the American Red Cross, has issued a call for more volunteer help in this area.

Volunteers must be between ages 16 and 65. They will serve in the local hospital, the blood programs and other health programs in this county.

Mrs. Miller said of the volunteers, "They are bound together in one primary motivation—the desire to serve their neighbors in one way or another."

Anyone interested in helping with the volunteer program is asked to call 264-8826 or 264-2722 for more information.



THE COUNTY'S KING CROP, burley tobacco, is progressing toward the November market opening in Boone as growers harvest the leaf from river bottom and hillside plots. Much of the county's total allotments will be cut and cured for late market sale, but the appearance of teepee-like bunches is as much a part of autumn in the mountains as the multi-colored leaves soon to abound in the area. (Staff photo)

# Called "Major Step Forward" Search For City Manager Ends

After several months of searching for the right man, Boone's City Council last week named H. Neal Blair Jr. to fill its new office of city manager.

The Council received plaudits from Leigh Wilson, Assistant Executive Director of the North Carolina League of Municipalities, who said:

"We extend our heartiest congratulations to the citizens of Boone on this decision to employ a professional city administrator to supervise your

growing operations . . . Your decision will mean better planning, higher efficiency, and a better future for your community.

"The League of Municipalities looks forward to working with your new administrator in improving your service to the citizens of Boone," Wilson concluded.

An engineer in the Water and Sewer Department, City of Greensboro, for 14 years, Blair has been employed for \$9,600 per year, according to Jim

Holshouser, attorney for the Town of Boone.

A Greensboro city councilman added his congratulations while expressing thanks of the Gate City administration for Blair's work with them. William Folk Jr. also said that Blair's years of experience in municipal government well qualify him for his new responsibilities here.

Mayor Clyde Greene said "We have looked long and hard for a man with a working knowledge of city government, as well as the professional training needed for a top-flight administrator."

"We feel very fortunate to have found such a man and we are especially delighted to have a man who also knows our community."

The Mayor added that employing a professional administrator is a "major step forward in having our city government functioning in a way that will bring the greatest benefit to all our citizens. It is high time that we started operating our city government on a professional basis, without regard to partisan politics and political patronage."

A native of Watauga County, Blair is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Neal Blair Sr. of Deerfield Road, Boone. He attended local schools and Appalachian State Teachers College before studying at N. C. State University.

After a four-year tour with the Air Force and the Adjut-

ant General Department in the Philippines in World War II, he was employed by Southern Mapping and Engineering Company in Greensboro for seven years. He then entered on 14 years service with the City of Greensboro.

He and Mrs. Blair, the former Eugenia Vernon of Stoneville, are parents of a daughter, Linda, who is now Mrs. Richard Sain of Wadesboro.

Asked about his new job, Blair said "It's great to be back in Boone, and we're really looking forward to working with the people here."

"We know that all of the problems can't be solved overnight, but it's a tremendous

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H. NEAL BLAIR JR.

# Democrats Ahead In Registration 11,327 Watauga People Are Qualified To Vote

## Six Ballots To Be Marked November 5th

Six ballots will be available to Watauga County voters in the Nov. 5 general election.

According to J. D. Winebarger, chairman of the County Board of Elections, "There's more interest in people wanting to vote this time."

Currently there are 11,327 voters registered in the county. Of these, 11,226 are white and 101 are Negro, he said. The Democrats number 5,812, Republicans have 4,140 registered and 1,375 are listed as independents, Mr. Winebarger says.

In the May 4 primary, 3,852 voted in the county's 16 precincts.

### UNUSUAL

The top ballot will be the national presidential ticket bearing the names of Democrat Hubert H. Humphrey, Republican Richard M. Nixon and American Independent George C. Wallace.

Winebarger says that the 1968 ballot is unusual in that it carries the name of a third party bidder. There has not been a third party nominee since Strom Thurmond of South Carolina opposed Harry Truman and Thomas Dewey for the Presidency.

Other ballots will be for the County Board of Education, State Senator, District Court Judge, State Representative and County Commissioners. There also is a constitutional amendment ballot.

House seat from the 14th District is sought by M. Randolph Phillips, a Democrat, and Republican incumbent J. E. Holshouser Jr. Each party has slated three nominees for county commissioner. Other elections are uncontested.

The school board election will be on a non-partisan basis this year because of a change in state election laws. According to Winebarger, the change came about because of the feeling that schools and politics should not mix. Five men are to be named to the school board from the list of 10 nominees.

On election day, each precinct voting place is staffed by two judges, a registrar and a secretary if needed, along with two markers and a doorkeeper. Each party is allowed a watcher at the polls, however the Democrats seldom post one, Winebarger says.

The registration books are to open Saturday, Oct. 12, and remain open the following three Saturdays between 9 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.



Watauga County Republican officials Cecil Miller (left) and Mrs. Ralph Greene are pictured with Congressman James Broyhill after the weekend rally. Miller is County Republican Chairman, Mrs. Greene is vice-chairman. (Staff photo)

# Nationwide Disorder Deplored By Broyhill

At their first post-primary rally, Watauga County Republicans deplored nationwide disorder and dissent with the administration's policies.

Congressman James Broyhill said "In the 10th District, the people are asking for new leadership."

"It was 15 years ago that Dwight D. Eisenhower assumed his role of leadership in a time of crisis. We lived eight years in peace." He went on to say Republican administration was "a time of orderly progress when the American people had trust in themselves and in their leadership in high places."

"Today . . . we have turmoil; we have problems," Broyhill said. "By the tens of thousands American boys are wounded; our cities are centers of despair; the administration tells us there are more poor now than when they started (War on Poverty)."

Calling for "a resounding Republican majority from Watauga County" Broyhill cited lawlessness in view of an 88 per cent increase in crime in the last eight years and said Nixon would support the "belief that respect for the law is the foundation of a free, well-ordered society."

He said a new president would appoint three or more Supreme Court justices and "Nixon would pick men with experience."

He charged that the admin-

istration has squandered the resources of America: "High interest rates are a direct result of the administration's policies . . . inflation robs the paychecks of every American." And on grounds that Republicans are working for changes beneficial to the people, the Congressman said:

Increased Congressional control of national spending is needed. Republicans would work for decreased taxes.

"That the party's attitude is not to favor the criminal over the victim of the crime.

Rep. Broyhill stated that a return to the Eisenhower alliances is needed "to withstand the increasing tide of communist aggressions throughout the world. The United States can no longer be the policeman of the world."

And of the prospect of the Democrat's re-election, he said it would mean "more programs . . . throwing more money at the problem.

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## Constitution Week Is Noted By Mayor

In support of the Daughters of the American Revolution, who are commemorating Constitution Week throughout the country next week, Clyde R. Greene, Mayor of Boone, has released the following proclamation:

Whereas, Sept. 17, 1968, marks the one hundred eighty-first anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention; and

Whereas, to accord official recognition to this memorable anniversary, and to the patriotic exercise that will form a noteworthy feature of the occasion, seems fitting and proper; and

Whereas, Public Law No. 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating Sept. 17 through 23 as Constitution Week;

Now, therefore, I, Clyde R. Greene, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Boone in the State of North Carolina do hereby proclaim the week of September

17-23, 1968, as Constitution Week in the City of Boone and urge all our citizens to pay special attention during that week to our Federal Constitution and the advantages of American Citizenship.

# Democrats To Open Local Headquarters

Local Democratic campaign headquarters will hold its formal opening Saturday noon at the headquarters office on King Street in the Art and Auction Gallery Building.

State and local candidates will be present at the opening but local party worker George Tho-

mas said that it was not certain who will be present as there is to be a party rally in Thomasville the same day. James Dugger is chairman of the Watauga County Democratic Executive Committee.

The Democratic Women will serve refreshments.