

BOONE WEATHER				
1968	Hi	Lo	Snow Prec.	'67 Hi Lo
Oct. 1	73	46		65 42
Oct. 2	68	46		71 48
Oct. 3	68	45		71 45
Oct. 4	61	38	.05	73 46
Oct. 5	57	28	.22	70 47
Oct. 6	51	33		71 48
Oct. 7	66	48	.40	67 50

## ASU President Plemmons To Retire Next Year



DR. PLEMMONS

Dr. William Howard Plemmons, who recently completed his 13th year as president of Appalachian State University, informed the institution's Board of Trustees Wednesday that he will retire next summer.

Board members expressed shock at Dr. Plemmons' announcement that "it is my intention to retire prior to the beginning of the next academic year."

John P. Frank of Mt. Airy, chairman of the trustees, stated that he has been aware of Dr. Plemmons' retirement plans for the past four months. "I have

begged him to re-consider . . . but he has made a very strong plea to be relieved. Personally, I don't think he can be replaced. I hate the thought of him leaving."

Dr. Plemmons, an Asheville native who has diligently pushed Appalachian's mammoth growth in academic stature, physical size and service to the region during his leadership tenure on the mountain campus, will reach his 65th birthday next June 11. "I don't choose to violate the retirement age of 65," he told the board members.

"I will, if asked, aid the new

president in any way possible, whether on any payroll or not," Dr. Plemmons stated. "I love Appalachian, and my wife and I will be making our home here in Boone after my retirement. We are to build a house here within the coming year."

William B. Rankin of Lincoln, a member of the board, told the ASU president that "you have certainly earned the right to make this decision. But this university is in a tremendous transition period. Please re-consider to go with us a few more miles."

Dr. Plemmons replied that

"I have given much soul-searching to this matter, and have analyzed it from every point of view. The long-range pattern has been set for this institution. Its future cannot be determined by any one man alone. There won't be a better time than next summer. It is my desire to retire . . . I am looking forward to it."

Mr. Frank stated that he would, within the next few days, appoint a committee to launch the search for a successor to Dr. Plemmons. "If we can't find someone else, he will be drafted . . . the captain can't leave his ship."

Dr. Plemmons, a past president of the Association of State Colleges and Universities, has used the phrase that "Education is the mother of all professions" as his motto throughout his 39-year career as an educator.

Recently, he stated that "Appalachian, compared with her potential and her possibilities, is still in swaddling clothes. Let us hope that at no point will the word 'finished' be applicable to Appalachian."

When Dr. Plemmons became president of the university, then known as Appalachian State

Teachers College, it was located on a 35-acre campus with a physical plant valued at less than \$10 million. It housed only 2,200 students and employed a faculty of 114.

Appalachian today is spread over 90 acres, with some 40 major buildings and grounds valued in excess of \$30 million. There are over 6,000 students attending classes being taught by a faculty of 300.

Dr. Plemmons is only the second president in the 65-year history of the institution, Dr. B. B. Dougherty, co-founder of Appalachian in 1903, served (Continued on page two)



THE FIRST KILLING-FROST of the year swept Watauga County Friday night—some say as early as 11 p.m. This scene was photographed about mid-morning Saturday, when frost remained

in the foreground but had been melted off distant fields. Location is a farm on Poplar Grove Road near the western boundary of Boone. (Staff photo)

## Should Still Be Boiled

# Conservation Of Water Resources Continuing

### 12 Million Gallons Now In Reservoir

The term "emergency" has been lifted from the local water situation but citizens on the Boone water system are still advised to boil all water before consumption.

Neal Blair, Jr., town manager, said Monday that citizens also are asked to conserve water as much as possible. He said that the 39-million-gallon lake which supplies the town now holds about 12-million gallons. He added that the recent showers did little to affect the water level.

Blair made a distinction between the water level at the lake and the amount of useable water. He said that with the existing algae problem, only the top few feet of the lake water can be called "useable". He said that the algae are going to the bottom and gradually the amount of useable water is increasing. He added that he could not say when the algae problem will be relieved.

The town of Boone is now using water pumped from three wells which can furnish 180-gallons per minute. On weekends, water is also tapped from the Appalachian State University supply. Blair said that water also is being used from an old town dam located above the new dam, City Hall said that there is no truth to a rumor that Boone has changed over completely to the Appalachian State University water system.

Blair said also that he knows nothing about fertilizer being spread on land above the reservoir before a shower a few weeks ago. He said that grass has been planted, but as far as he knows no fertilizer was used.

The lake is supplying three water tanks including the one at Junaluska Heights. Blair said that these tanks filled automatically and simultaneously.

Blair commented that people are asked to boil water not to remove anything in it, but to lessen the chlorine effect. He said that the water is de-

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Tallying the pre-goal total collected by United Fund workers in Watauga County are Mrs. Sarah Harris, secretary of the organization, and Wade Wilmoth, who is co-chairman of the current campaign. (Staff photo)

## \$4,650 IRC Contribution Raises Fund To \$13,783

A \$4,650 contribution by the IRC Corporation and its employees last week vaulted the Watauga County United Fund campaign toward its record goal of \$20,541. Pledges so far total \$13,783.

At a regular Fund meeting Thursday, Fred Gragg of IRC presented his company's total contribution to co-campaign chairman Wade Wilmoth. Wilmoth was noticeably elated at the figure and a round of applause followed his announcement of the largest contribution

so far. Several solicitors reported their total solicitations for the recent days including Hound Ears, \$743; Vermont American, \$865; and, Appalachian State University, \$815. Other smaller figures were reported and most solicitors noted that they still had more of their area to cover and that their figures were not complete.

Wilmoth and Mark Hodges, co-chairmen for the 1968 drive, have had 40 workers in the county soliciting funds since Sept. 23. All areas of the county have been covered in an effort to give everyone the opportunity to contribute to the Fund which supports many local projects and organizations.

Hodges and Wilmoth said they hope that the goal can be reached by this Thursday but also added that the drive will not be concluded then if the goal has not been reached. They continued to urge everyone to give the Fair Share Way.

UF chairman Jerry Moretz closed the dinner meeting by thanking all workers for their efforts. He mentioned afterwards that he hoped the campaign thermometer located on the Post Office lawn will "spurt out the top."

A victory dinner has been tentatively planned for this Thursday in hopes the goal will be reached by then.

## Visitors To Parkway Gain

Visitors to the Blue Ridge Parkway in the first nine months of 1968 had registered a 35% increase over the same period in 1967, while September of this year was 3.4% below the figures for September of 1967.

During the 1968 calendar year through September there were 8,980,691 visitors as against 6,652,940 in 1967.

In September there were 1,095,510; in 1967 6,652,940. By districts, the September visitation record is as follows, the first figure in each case being 1968, the second 1967.

James River, Va. (Mile 0 to 105) 141,471, 181,026; Rocky Knob, Va. (Mile 105 to 217) 241,248, 254,143; Bluffs, N. C. (Mile 217 to 305) 176,022, 161,443; Asheville (Mile 305 to 469) 536,769, 537,994.

## Gardner Says He Will Win; Cites Favorable Surveys



Campaigning through mountainous North Carolina last week, Congressman Jim Gardner introduced his newly released book, A Time To Speak. (Staff photo)

When his campaign road turned into Watauga County last week, Republican Jim Gardner said he is confident he will win the governorship by a large majority.

"According to the State surveys we're running, we're well ahead in the State. And polls in Charlotte, High Point and Winston-Salem show us in the lead."

Followed by Republican Headquarters in Boone by WSOC-TV of Charlotte, Gardner spent the early part of his Wednesday morning (Oct. 2) visit telephoning across the state. Several local party officials and voters were there. A breakfast had been held that morning and a speaking was set for that night.

In interview, Gardner said he expects his win to be accompanied by a Republican landslide in North Carolina and throughout America.

### WHY?

The candidate said the major reason he is running for the highest State office is that Democrats have been in charge of the State and nation too long.

Termining their administration "the biggest mess yet," Gardner said "Democrats as well as Republicans are troubled and concerned . . . They are turning to Republican leadership for the answers."

His plan will be to remove politics from State government, concentrate on education and see that classroom teachers receive more pay.

Other high-priority considerations would be vocational education and formation of a public kindergarden. Concerned about roads, Gardner said he would handle this program differently from Moore and Sanford by using a merit-and-need

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ROBERT G. SHIPLEY, JR.

## Shipley Gets Managership Umstead Farm

Robert G. Shipley, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Shipley of Vilas, has been appointed Assistant Farm Manager of John Umstead Hospital, it was announced by James I. Smith, Farm Manager. The appointment will be effective immediately.

In his new position Shipley will be responsible for managing the livestock enterprises as well as the crop farm.

The John Umstead Farm is composed of 10,360 acres of land. Over 2,000 acres are in grain, pastures for cattle, feed crops and vegetables. Over 8,000 acres are used as woodland.

Shipley graduated from Cove Creek High School in 1964 and received his B.S. degree in animal science from N.C. State University in 1968. At the university he was a member of the Blue Key National Honor Fraternity, a leadership and scholastic fraternity. He was also Vice-President of the student government during his senior year.

## \$390,266 Contract Is Signed For Parkway Bridges On New Link

Award of a \$390,266 contract to Troitino and Brown, Inc., Asheville, North Carolina, for bridge construction on the North Carolina portion of the Blue Ridge Parkway was announced Friday by the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior. The Company's bid was the lowest of five submitted.

The contract calls for the construction of two bridges on the Grandfather Mountain section of the Parkway. One bridge will be over Holloway Mountain Road, the other over U.S. 221 at Beacon Heights.

The work is to be completed by the contractor in 350 days.