



A touch of pre-Dixieland New Orleans jazz will hit Boone Tuesday night, Jan. 14. Under the sponsorship of the ASU Artist and

Lecture Series, The Ambassadors from Preservation Hall will go to work at 8 p. m. in I. G. Greer Hall.

## Musicians Will Bring Warm Rhythms Of New Orleans Jazz

On Tuesday (Jan. 14), a group of oldsters will move into I. G. Greer Hall on the Appalachian State University campus, dust off their battered trumpet, slip-

horn (trombone), licorice stick (clarinet), drums and upright piano, and unleash the warm, throbbing rhythms of pre-Dixieland New Orleans jazz that is rapidly becoming extinct.

The Ambassadors from Preservation Hall, an edifice located on St. Peter Street in the heart of New Orleans' French Quarter, will offer the true improvisational flavor of original grass roots music made by greats like Sidney Bechet, Bessie Smith, W. C. Handy and Jelly Roll Morton.

Originating primarily as background for the strip shows of the Storyville era, New Orleans jazz differs from Dixieland in that it is more thoroughly improvisational, less polished, more flexible and spontaneous.

Tickets for the one-time performance are priced at \$1 for adults and 50 cents for high school and elementary students, ASU students and faculty members will be admitted free of charge.

Sponsored by the university's Artist and Lecture Series, the concert will begin at 8 p. m. Featuring Billie and DeDe Pierce on piano and trumpet, the group also includes Jim Robinson on the trombone, William Humphrey Jr. as clarinetist,

and drummer Josiah Cie Frazier, all musicians who were brought up in the great, warm swinging rhythms of the Delta land.

Billie Goodson Pierce, Florida born in 1907, came from a family of pianist-vocalists and learned the blues rhythms almost before she could talk. When Billie was fifteen, she took Clarence Williams' place for a week as accompanist for the great blues singer, Bessie Smith.

As substitute piano player for the allent films, organ player for touring minstrel shows and

pianist for numerous traveling bands of the era, Billie found herself in New Orleans at Pop-eye Charlie Palooka's and the Kingfish. At the latter, she played with George Lewis and DeDe Pierce, whom she married in 1935.

"DeDe" Joseph LaCroix Pierce was born in New Orleans in 1904 and grew up with a trumpet which he learned to play from Professor Chaligny. Of Creole roots, DeDe learned his folk songs early, even before the frequent Brass Band jobs at

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## Ski Conditions Called "Excellent"

Area ski lodges report that conditions will be "excellent" this weekend after snowmaking operations and a natural snowfall that blanketed the county Tuesday.

At Blowing Rock Ski Area six inches of powder are on top of a good base, according to officials there. Last weekend an estimated 550 skiers a day were at the area's oldest ski

facility. Hound Ears has a "good three feet" of snow on the slopes, according to Chuck Derrick. He said last Sunday was an "excellent day" with slopes full. He said that some 250 skiers are capacity at Hound Ears.

Seven Devils is "expecting a tremendous crowd" this weekend according to the ski manager Peter Reinecke. He said that skiing conditions will be "perfect." Last weekend was termed quite good with Sunday being the best day.

Beech Mountain officials were not available for comment at press time Tuesday.

Officials at Beech Mountain said that all but the expert slope is in operation. Six inches of natural snow are on top of some 18 inches of man-made snow. Beech made no predictions about the weekend saying that it's too early to tell.

A 24-hour information service is available by calling 898-4666. Weather and slope conditions at Beech Mountain are given by up-to-date recording.

horse, Calico.

During the weekend, a Snow Ball will be held at Seven Devils and the State's first North Carolina Snow Queen will be crowned. Also planned are an after ski party, a torchlight ski exhibition and an avant-ski party Sunday morning, Jan. 19.

merchants in Boone and the ski operators at Blowing Rock, Beech Mountain, Hound Ears and Seven Devils.

Also appearing in the parade will be Charlotte television personality Ty Boyd and Western TV star Fred Kirby and his

## Many Are Expected For Snow Carnival

Thousands of skiers are expected in town next week for the first North Carolina Snow Carnival.

The starting date, Friday, Jan. 17, coincides with the beginning of National Ski Week and Carnival Director Robert Bingham says the event may eventually become a week-long festival, running the full length of the national observance.

Miss America of 1965, Vonda Kay Van Dyke, will be grand marshal of the late afternoon Snow Carnival Parade in Boone next Friday. Another feature that day will be half-price skiing at the four lodges.

Bingham says the Carnival was formulated by participating

## Severe Cold Weather Precedes Heavy Snow

The end of the week brought generally cold weather sending the mercury down near the zero mark in many sections.

The first of the week, there was some warming and snow started Monday, which continued in the night as well as Tuesday when five or six inches were reported in some areas.

The schools in Watauga, Avery and Ashe were closed Tuesday.

## Five Bound To District Court Ministers Ask Council To Rewrite Blue Laws

### Say Employee Needs Right To Day Of Rest

Having sent a fact-finding committee to the December meeting of the City Council in Boone, the Watauga Ministerial Association Monday drew up a resolution asking the Council to rewrite city blue laws.

"We respectfully request the Boone Town Board of Aldermen to rewrite the presently effective ordinances concerning the operation of businesses in Boone on Sunday."

The resolution continued, "Every consideration shall be given to making any new laws realistic and workable, taking into consideration the needs of individuals, families and businesses every day of the week; the uniqueness of our Town and area as a recreation and vacation area; and insuring the right of any employee to one day of rest, recreation and worship if he so desires."

The four committeemen attending the Dec. 19 meeting at City Hall were the Reverends Fritz Hemphill, C. O. Vance, Gray Temple Jr., and Bob Young. As chairman of the group, Mr. Young explained their purpose to get information and report to the Association.

Independent of the committee, Mr. Vance presented a Dec. 15 resolution made in opposition to Sunday business and drawn up by the congregation of Greenway Baptist Church, his pastorate.

The Rev. J. E. Crump spoke in behalf of his Brushy Fork Baptist Church congregation.

Mr. Temple said "I am unclear as to the intent of this ordinance" and suggested its rewording. Previously Dr. Hadley Wilson, alderman, had spoken for enforcement of the blue law found in the 1940 binding of city ordinances. He and Dr. James Graham voted approval. Alderman Gwyn Hayes arrived after the issue was decided.

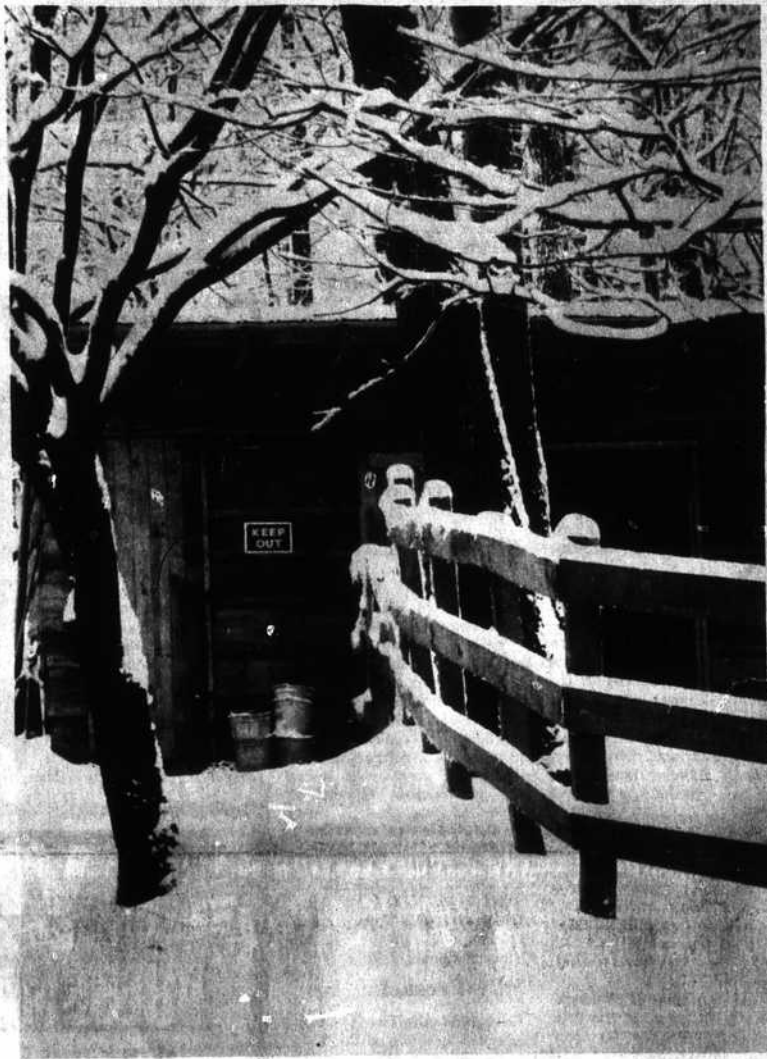
Police Chief Ed Harmon was called in and instructed to notify store owners in Boone that:

"It shall be unlawful for any person to keep open any shop, store or barber shop in the Town on Sunday for the purpose of buying, selling or engaging in the business conducted during the week days: Providing that drug stores, cigar stores, confectionery stores, shops, stands and service stations may be kept open on Sunday for the sale of drugs, medicines, druggists' sundries, cigars, tobacco, fruits, ice, ice cream, confectioneries, nuts, newspapers, periodicals, books, gas and oil."

### VIOLATION

Boone policemen testified in a Tuesday, Dec. 31, hearing of charges that Thrift Food Center, Redix Store, Boone Pure

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WATAUGA COUNTY SCHOOLS closed Tuesday morning for the reason above. Highway Department workers were fighting a thick soft snow that made sand a better treatment than salt. (Staff photo)

## Dave Mast Resigns As Co. Director Welfare

Dave P. Mast of Sugar Grove resigned Tuesday, Dec. 31, as Director of Welfare in Watauga County. At 67, Mast had held the job here since 1941.

Mrs. Milt (Amelia) C. Greer, a welfare caseworker who resides in Boone, has been named interim Director of Welfare until an appointment is made by the agency's board of directors: Dr. Gene L. Reese, Glenn Hodges and Mrs. Homer F. Brown.

The job now requires experience in public welfare and administrative work, nine months social works training or willingness to take such studies, and a college degree. The

appointment is made under the auspices of the State Personnel and State Merit System.

Mast received his B. A. in English from UNC in 1927. He taught in Watauga County schools for 12 years, during that time serving as principal of Appalachian High School and Blowing Rock High School.

Before becoming Director of Welfare, he undertook six months study of social work in a professional institute of William and Mary College.

Mast says he now plans to go into farming. He and Mrs. Mast are the parents of four sons: Pat, who is a lawyer in Wins-

ton-Salem; Bill, a pharmacist in Henderson; George, a lawyer in Smithfield; and Mack, a teacher in Lexington, N. C.

## New Mortuary Is Occupied

Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home Friday finished moving into its new mortuary on the Blowing Rock Road in Boone.

Council Cook, secretary-treasurer of the firm, said landscaping is yet to be done and that a formal opening and dedication will be held later.

The 12,000-square-foot building has an unusual feature in its cathedral-ceilinged chapel. Reins-Sturdivant's former location is a white frame house at 401 E. King St. The property is owned by First Baptist Church of Boone.

## Accountants Buy Building

The accounting partnership of Williams, Baker & Koontz moved from the second floor of the Professional Building in Boone to the former Hagaman Clinic, 300 E. King St.

The firm purchased the property Nov. 15 from Dr. J. B. Hagaman Jr., who has opened an office in the Doctor's Building adjacent to Watauga County Hospital.

Williams, Baker & Koontz are renovating their new quarters and say they expect to complete the work in time for the income tax season.

## Watauga Homes Get \$864,000 Upgrading

Homeowners in Watauga County spend a tidy sum each year on the maintenance and improvement of their homes.

In the past year alone, their expenditures for alterations, additions, repairs and upkeep came to approximately \$864,000, it is estimated.

The amount is based upon a sampling survey of dwellings in all sections of the United States.

The finding is that the average expenditure for residential upkeep and improvement in Watauga County's general area came to \$127 per housing unit. Not included in this figure were the normal, everyday household and housekeeping expenses.

That was the average outlay. In individual cases, it varied widely from that amount, both up and down.

The explanation is that most homeowners will undertake major improvements one year and then do nothing of an expensive nature for several years thereafter.

Details on how much is spent for such purposes and how much it adds to the value of a home come from the Department of Commerce and the National Association of Real Estate Boards.

They show that the outlay in this direction, for the nation as a whole, amounted to \$11.7 billion in the past year.

How did Watauga County homeowners spend their \$864,000 share of it?

A breakdown, based upon the overall figures, indicates that about 62 percent of it went for additions, alterations and replacements.

The other 38 percent was for maintenance and repairs. Almost half of this total was for painting and decorating. The rest was spent for plumbing, roofing, heating, air conditioning and miscellaneous purposes.

Because of the difficulty these days in obtaining plumbers, electricians, painters and other workmen for jobs around the house, more and more homeowners are becoming their own mechanics. They are saving themselves a pretty penny at the same time.

Nationally, it is estimated, the price of homes has gone up about \$1,000 per unit, on average, in the past year.

Taking into account, also, the value added by improvements, Watauga County homes are worth about \$5,484,000 more than they were in 1967, on that basis.