

# Watauga County Says "Yes"

## Sales Tax, Bond Issue Approved

Watauga County voters Tuesday passed the \$1,400,000 school bond issue and the one-cent local option sales tax.

The overall vote on the school issue was 2,533 for and 2,011 against. The tax question tallied 2,314 for and 2,211 opposed.

The school money will be spent for improvements at the seven county elementary schools and \$900,000 of the

total will go for a new elementary school in Boone.

The North Carolina General Assembly this year earmarked \$1,250,000 to assist the county in providing a school for students in Boone. The present building and land are owned by Appalachian State University and are to be withdrawn from the county system for university use.

The Watauga County Board

of Education had optioned some 20 acres of the Grady Farthing farm in east Boone and had agreed to pay \$8,000 per acre pending the fate of the bond issue.

The condition of the state gift of one and a quarter million dollars was that unless the Boone school were under contract by Dec. 31, 1970, the money would revert to the State of North Carolina.

The school board is on record pledging the following expenditures at the county schools: Bethel, \$60,000; Blowing Rock, \$15,000; Cove Creek, \$65,000; Green Valley, \$20,000; Mabel, \$60,000; Parkway, \$90,000; and Valle Crucis, \$35,000.

For these schools, the board also pledged \$100,000 in improved plumbing, heating and electrical systems, \$30,000 for additional equipment and

\$25,000 to upgrade toilet facilities.

The sales tax issue was voted statewide in North Carolina, as called for by the Legislature. Presstime was delayed Tuesday night for inclusion of local election results, but there was not time to tabulate the results county-by-county for this issue.

The local option tax, where applicable, will mean an addi-

tional penny on each dollar spent by the consumer. The plan allows the county to receive nearly all the tax it pays in this manner.

Based on current figures, the amount to be returned to Watauga—even if no other N. C. county passed the tax—was to be sufficient to pay the principal and interest on the school bonds.

### Unofficial Returns

	SCHOOL BOND		ONE CENT TAX	
	For	Against	For	Against
BALD MTN.	28	20	31	17
BEAVER DAM	28	153	35	142
BLOW ROCK	103	232	98	235
BLUE RIDGE	103	138	88	132
BOONE 1	406	52	364	92
BOONE 2	360	43	318	83
BRUSHY FORK	217	204	195	225
COVE CREEK	105	210	97	219
ELK	28	22	23	27
LAUREL CREEK	29	203	33	197
MEAT CAMP 1	86	131	81	137
MEAT CAMP 2	18	9	16	10
NEW RIVER 1	626	117	561	176
NEW RIVER 2	229	82	200	108
NORTH FORK	8	32	8	34
SHAWNEEHAW	23	63	25	63
STONY FORK	47	143	52	138
WATAUGA	89	157	89	156
TOTALS	2,533	2,011	2,314	2,211

#### BOONE WEATHER

	1969 Hi	Lo	1968 Hi	Lo
Oct. 28	52	32	50	35
Oct. 29	48	38	37	31
Oct. 30	53	21	51	23
Oct. 31	49	47	65	26
Nov. 1	53	47	69	53
Nov. 2	64	50	70	49
Nov. 3	55	44	tr.	65

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Eighty-Second Year of Continuous Publication

VOL.—LXXXII—NO. 18

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1969

10 CENTS PER COPY

22 PAGES—2 SECTIONS



AT THE POLLS early Tuesday, voting was moderate but reported to be heavier in the first hour in some precincts than in previous county elections. This scene was at the Brushy Fork Township voting place where Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Hodges wait their turns as Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Hodges get their ballots. Seen at the table are Tom Brooks and Dallas Hodges (right). Unofficial registration figures put total registration at about 7,050 of which 2,469 registrants were reported to be from the two Boone and two New River precincts.

## Leon Norman New Watauga Director Social Services

H. Leon Norman, a native of Avery County, was to begin his work yesterday (Wednesday) as director of the Watauga County Department of Social Services.

Norman succeeds Dave F. Mast who retired in December 1968. Mrs. Amelia C. Greer served as interim director until the appointment of Norman. She will resume her former position as Social Worker II.

The son of Mr. and Mrs.

B. C. Norman, the new director attended Banner Elk School for two years, the family moved to Carter County, Tenn., when he was nine years old. They moved to Burke County in 1952.

Norman was graduated from Glen Alpine High School and from Western Carolina College with a degree in business administration and social science. In 1965 he joined the McDowell County Department of Public Welfare.

Jaycee, Mr. and Mrs. Norman are members of the United Methodist Church. He is a staff sergeant in the U. S. Army Reserve. He also is a member of the North Carolina Social Service Association and a charter member of the North Carolina Juvenile Probation Association.

### Movers Erect New Building

Fox Brothers Moving and Storage Company of Boone is constructing another storage building. Max Fox says the move is being made "due to demand."

Begun a month ago, the construction is expected to be completed in the next 30 days. The two-story building is of block and brick and will provide the firm an additional 4200 square feet of storage space.

### Sheriff Gets Call At 6:55 Last Monday

By blowing up the safe in the Sugar Grove (N. C.) Post Office burglars made off with \$11,000 in Social Security checks, about 50 money orders, \$4,180.66 in stamps and \$11.43.

Sheriff Ward G. Carroll said he was called about 6:55 Monday morning and arrived at the scene about 7:20. He termed the burglary professional and said the safe was blown expertly with dynamite or TNT.

The main door on the north side of the building was forced open "with a large object," he said, "such as a crow bar or a large wrecking bar." An inside door to the cubicle containing the safe was opened in the same way.

The Sheriff said the burglars used the high explosives "as if they knew exactly where to put their charge just to blow the door open." His office reported they had received no report in the surrounding community about a loud noise during the night.

The Social Security checks were to have been delivered Monday morning.

Postmaster of the Sugar Grove Post Office is Cannon Ward, Clerks are Mrs. Edna G. Shepherd and Mrs. Dora Dean Lawrence.

SBI Agent Charlie Whitman and a postal inspector from Charlotte were called in to assist in the investigation.

The Sugar Grove burglary follows upon two recent post office robberies, one in Greer, S. C., and the other in Randleman, N. C.

It was Halloween in Randleman when the postmaster, Mrs. Audrey H. Cashitt, returned to the Post Office to get her son's

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### Weed Mart Auctions Start 24th

LEXINGTON, KY.—The Burley Sales Committee set the dates of sales at more than 200 tobacco auction warehouses in the eight-state burley belt region last week.

The committee, an industry-wide group whose membership includes growers, warehouses and dealer interests, set Nov. 24 as the opening date with sales to be held five days a week until Dec. 17.

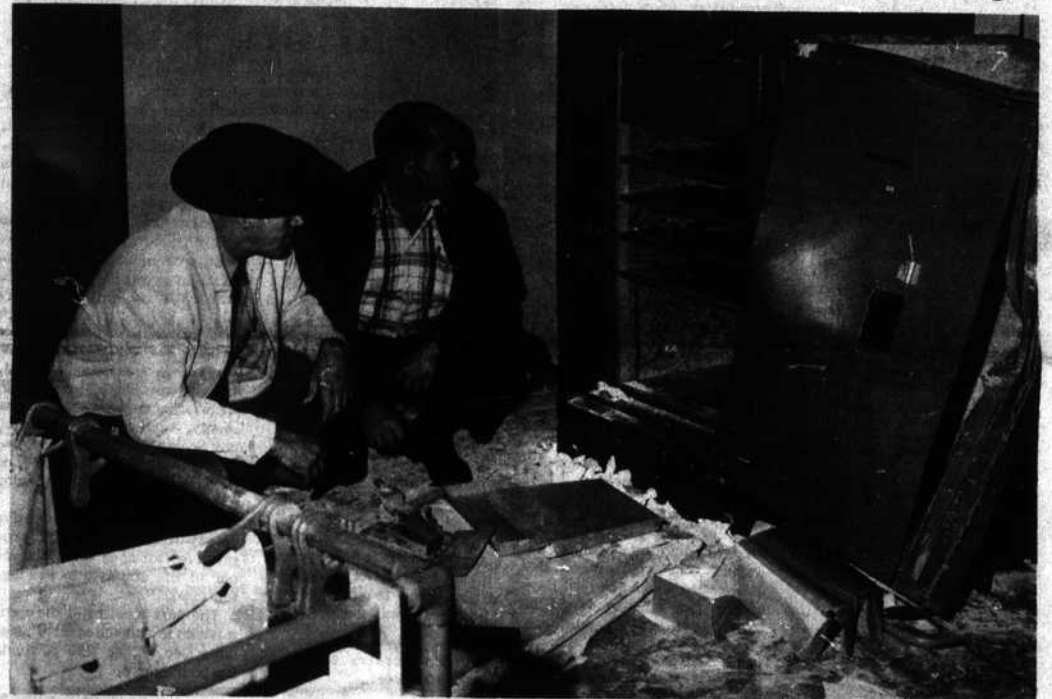
Following a Christmas recess, sales will resume Jan. 5 and continue at various locations until the crop is sold out. Most markets will conduct sales for 3 1/2 hours daily.

The committee said ware-

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## At Sugar Grove Sunday Night

# Postoffice Robbers Take \$15,192; Make Getaway



Examining the exploded safe in the Sugar Grove Post Office are Sheriff Ward G. Carroll (wearing hat) and Cannon Ward, Postmaster. The large safe was found in this condition early

Monday morning. More than \$4,000 worth of stamps, \$11.34 in cash, 50 money orders and \$11,000 in Social Security checks were listed as missing. (Flowers photo)

## Basic Values At Stake, Says Fortas, In Social Revolution

BY CHARLIE HAMILTON

The United States is in a "social revolution" with the "basic values" of the nation at stake, an ASU audience was told last Tuesday night.

The speaker was former Supreme Court Justice and Presidential advisor Abe Fortas.

The social revolution "already has had some success," he said, "and whether you like it or not, America will never be the same."

But he added, the nation "may be even greater" for the trials it is going through.

Speaking to some 1,200 students, faculty members, and local citizens, Fortas delivered the last in a three-lecture series entitled Dissent and Disorder on the American Campus.

The series was sponsored by the ASU Artists and Lecture Series with a \$2,000 grant from the S&H Foundation of the Sperry and Hutchinson Company.

Previous lecturers were Dr. Joseph Katz and Dr. Sidney Hook.

Fortas, introduced by ASU President Dr. Herbert Wey, is a native of Memphis, Tenn. He was graduated by the Yale University School of Law in 1933 with a record so outstanding that he was named a member of the faculty.

The son of a cabinetmaker,

Fortas later opened a law office in Washington, D. C., and became one of President Johnson's closest advisors. He later was appointed by Johnson to the

High Court and subsequently resigned amid a flurry of charges that he had accepted a consultant's fee from a foundation whose president had an appeal in

the court system.

Apparently impressed by the absence of zealous student discontent and tension at ASU, Fortas said, "You are fortunate. Here, all the tension can be devoted to study and teaching."

He described the lecture series topic as a "subject of utmost urgency and importance in this country."

And Fortas lent no support to the aims of student activists. Instead, he cautioned present college activists that their efforts could fall if their goals are beyond the tolerance of the nation.

But he assured them of his

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### ASU Symphony To Give Concert

The ASU Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Leo Reynolds will present their fall concert at 3 Sunday afternoon in the I. G. Greer auditorium.

The program will include compositions from Haydn, Kachaturian, Prokofiev, Vaughan Williams and Roy Harris.

Rogers V. Whitener, English professor, will be narrator for the Prokofiev "Peter and the Wolf."

No admission will be charged.



JUSTICE ABE FORTAS

### Bulletin!

Processing for replacement of Social Security checks stolen in Sunday night's burglary at Sugar Grove post office was begun Tuesday morning at the post office.

Richard Gibson of the Hickory Social Security office was at the post office Tuesday to help recipients file claims for new checks to replace those lost in the robbery.

Gibson said the entire process should require only seven to ten days. He was to have left forms at the post office for use by any recipient who might not have filed a claim.

Gibson said his work was speeded after the Sugar Grove rural carrier contacted most of the Social Security recipients to inform them about the burglary.

He said that the Treasury Department will stop payment on the checks as soon as it learns which checks are missing as noted in the claims filed by recipients.

And, additional help will be forthcoming from the Social Security office in Hickory, according to Don Marsh, manager of the Hickory regional office.

Marsh also said representatives of his office will be in Boone Wednesday, Nov. 12, to assist persons in filing forms. The visit will be from 10 a. m. for the remainder of the day in a basement office of the Watauga County courthouse.

"No recipient will lose any money" as the result of the robbery, Marsh said.

Marsh issued a warning to persons who cash Social Security checks to be extra careful about securing identification of strangers when they present Social Security checks. The Treasury Department will not honor such checks and the party that cashes a stolen check will have to make it good, he said.

### Unlisted Inventories

## County Uncovers \$350,000 More

Watauga County tax officials have uncovered another \$350,000 in unlisted business inventories following a check with the state Department of Revenue.

The inventories would generate an additional \$2,500 in county taxes, according to Watauga Tax Supervisor J. C. Lyons.

Lyons made the report to the Watauga County Board of Commissioners at its November meeting Monday.

The board instructed Lyons to notify the firms and set the board's December meeting for appeals to be heard. The board will meet on Monday, Dec. 1.

Lyons was in Raleigh last week where he checked inventories listed in state income tax returns against the listings of the same firms for county tax purposes as of last January 1.

A similar check last May revealed inconsistencies amounting to some \$1 million. They checked tax returns on 22 Watauga County corporations, 22

companies and partnerships then. Lyons reported discrepancies in 90 per cent of the listings.

As they did last May, commissioners declined to list the names of the taxpayers in question.

In other matters, the board named a nine-man county recreation commission and approved a petition for the paving of 4.3 miles of the Tamarack Road in northwestern Watauga County. A 16-man delegation from the area presented the petition. The delegation was led by VISTA volunteer Lloyd Tarvestad.

The board agreed to transfer \$500 from the AFDC fund in the Department of Social Services into a new fund for child welfare. The board, however, reserved a final decision for time to check out the procedure.

Not on the agenda was a formal request from the Watauga County Planning Board for approval of a five-point planning study for Watauga County.