

WEATHER	
Temp.	Prec. Snow '69 HI Lo
Jan. 27 4	0.05 1-in 43 29
Jan. 28 5	0.09 1-in 41 31
Jan. 22 25 -3	
Jan. 23 29 10	0.09 1-in 46 38
Jan. 24 39 15	0.03 1/2-in 50 39
Jan. 25 58 25	
Jan. 26 55 41	1.19 34 15



At the 45th annual N. C. Press Institute in Chapel Hill, David Whichard II presents certificates of award to Rob Rivers, president of Rivers Printing Company, which publishes the Watauga Democrat. Whichard (left) is president of NCPA.

In State Press Assn. Contests

Watauga Democrat Is Rated First In General Excellence

The Watauga Democrat was a major winner in the 1969 contests of the North Carolina Press Association at the mid-winter press institute held at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, last week.

The Boone newspaper again was presented the coveted first place award in the General Excellence category, having been a winner in this division for the last five years, taking four firsts and one third.

Ralph Tugman, head of the Democrat's advertising department, again placed in the advertising division with a third place award. In five years he has won three first places.

The Democrat placed second in Excellence in Offset Typography. It has consistently placed in this category.

In the absence of Governor Scott, David Whichard, II, of the Greenville Daily Reflector, president of the State Press Association, presented the awards at the annual awards banquet.

Editor Rachel Rivers, Rob Rivers president of the company, Ralph Tugman and Arnfield Coffey attended the institute.

Commenting on the awards, the judges had this to say:

"General Excellence: The Watauga Democrat is apparently an excellent newspaper week-in, week-out. Filled with interestingly-written news; illustrated nicely with good photography and with a locally-oriented editorial page bound to create reaction among readers. Advertisements were well

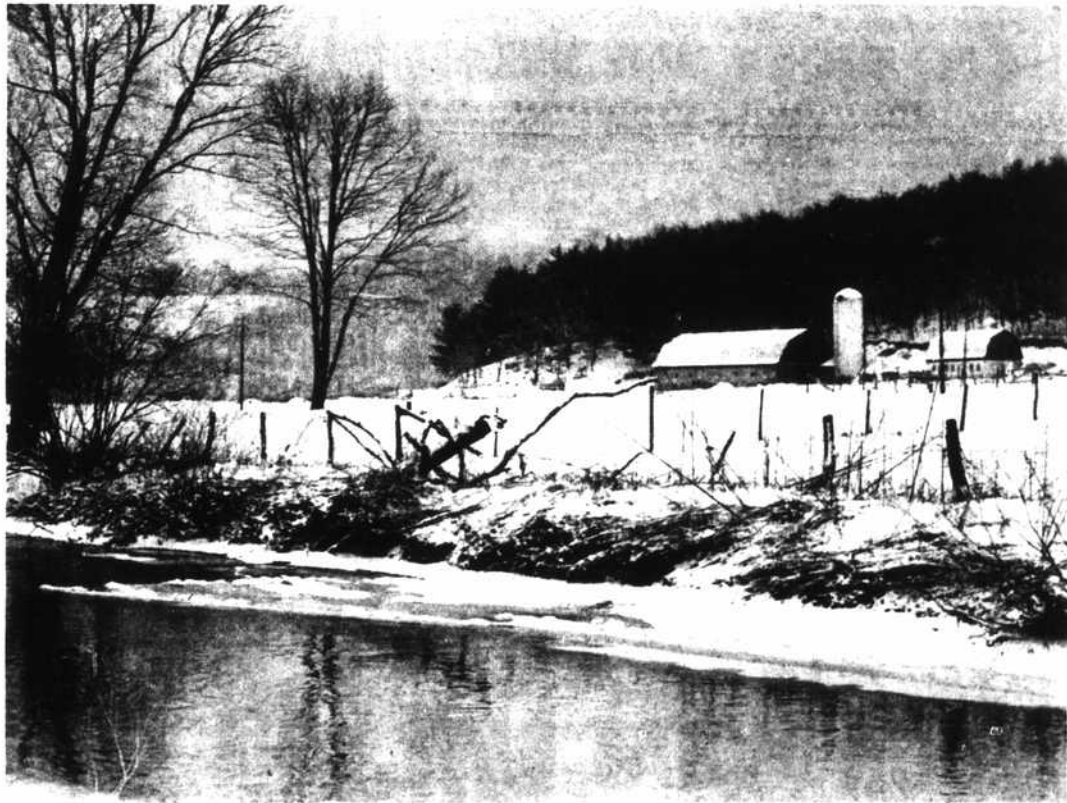
prepared, with obvious thought and creative ability. Typographically it was among the top two or three of all entries. Type faces are attractive and pages show a recognition of the best techniques of make-up.

"Excellence in Typography (Offset): This is a consistently good newspaper throughout. The photos, inside pages, color work are professionally well done. Type faces and make-up are pleasing. A paper of which anyone would be proud.

"Best advertising: An original approach to a 25th class reunion called down third place for the Democrat. The ad must have made good reading for the returning classmates as well as the paper's other readers. Layout and typography of the Savings & Loan Association ads also are good and are enhanced by careful use of color."

Estimate 10,000 Acres Optioned

Area Strip Mining Proposal Topic Of Development Assn.



KEEPING WATCH—The chilly waters of the New River slipped silently by the bottomland of the Cloyd Bolick dairy farm on US 421 east of Boone last Friday as the county began to shed itself of threat from more snow.

Concern Felt For Regional Scenic Values

BY RACHEL RIVERS

The president and vice-president of the Colonial Oil and Gas Corporation of Rochester, N. Y., came to North Wilkesboro last week to allay fears about their proposed strip-mining operation in the region. It is Gibbsite Corporation of America, 75%-owned by Colonial, that has secured leases for mining in Ashe, Wilkes, Alleghany and Surry, four counties in the 11-county Northwest North Carolina Development Association.

Mrs. Doris Potter, president of the association, offered two mining officials a forum before area leaders as the program for the association's Wednesday-Jan. 21 meeting in the Elk's Club in North Wilkesboro.

Larry L. Murphy and Frank T. Lamb, president and vice-president of Colonial respectively, gave repeated pledges of good intentions, the desire to be "good neighbors" and to restore the land "as close to original contour as economically feasible" after extracting aluminum oxide, or alumina.

The concern of area citizens was voiced by John Walker, vice-president of sales for Lowe's Companies, Inc., who raised some questions that Murphy and Lamb could not answer to his satisfaction, but promised to work out in detail later. The upshot of the forum was that Mrs. Doris Potter and Neal Bolten, president and secretary of the association, were asked to appoint a committee to meet with Murphy, Lamb and their attorney with preservation of scenic resources and prevention of pollution as the aim.

UNCERTAIN

The officials could not answer what the total acreage under lease for mining is.

They said they have purchased leases in the four North Carolina counties as well as in Carroll and Grayson counties in Virginia, that they are now focusing on a 10-acre tract available to them in Alleghany County and have roughly 2,000 acres under lease in Wilkes. A "wild guess" as to the total acreage leased for mining is 10,000. Murphy told the meeting, and he said most leases are in Alleghany and Carroll counties.

The company president indicated that many of the leases will be dropped but that lease of thousands of acres was needed to guarantee the availability

Mass Vaccination Program Is Aimed Against German Measles

A mass vaccination program against German Measles (Rubella) is being planned in Watauga County.

Announcement comes from Mrs. Harvey Ayers, chairman of the Watauga County Chapter of The March of Dimes, an

epidemic of German Measles is expected in the spring and a number of groups are banding together in an effort to avert a serious toll on unborn infants in the county.

Carl Tuttle, director of the District Board of Health, states

that there are 4,300 children in Watauga County that will need to have the first vaccine. He says that if 50 per cent of them can be reached before the epidemic is expected, "we will be on our way to averting the tragedy that could be ours."

Since Rubella attacks the unborn baby and the expectant mother is often unaware she has been in contact with the germ, the vaccination program is aimed first at the group most susceptible to Rubella. This age group is one to 12.

CO-OPERATING

Tuttle along with George Thomas, director of the Blue Ridge Council of Chapters of The National Foundation-March of Dimes, appeared before the Watauga County Medical Society to get their support in beginning the mass campaign.

Dr. Clayton C. Dean, chairman of the Medical Society, stated that the doctors will support and be glad to give time to the campaign.

Meeting with the Boone Jaycees, Tuttle and Thomas again met support for the program. Dr. William C. Derrick, M. D., was elected to head the Jaycees' committee on the vaccine.

The Boone Lions Club, which has aid to the blind and pre-

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Watauga County Schools Work On Accreditation

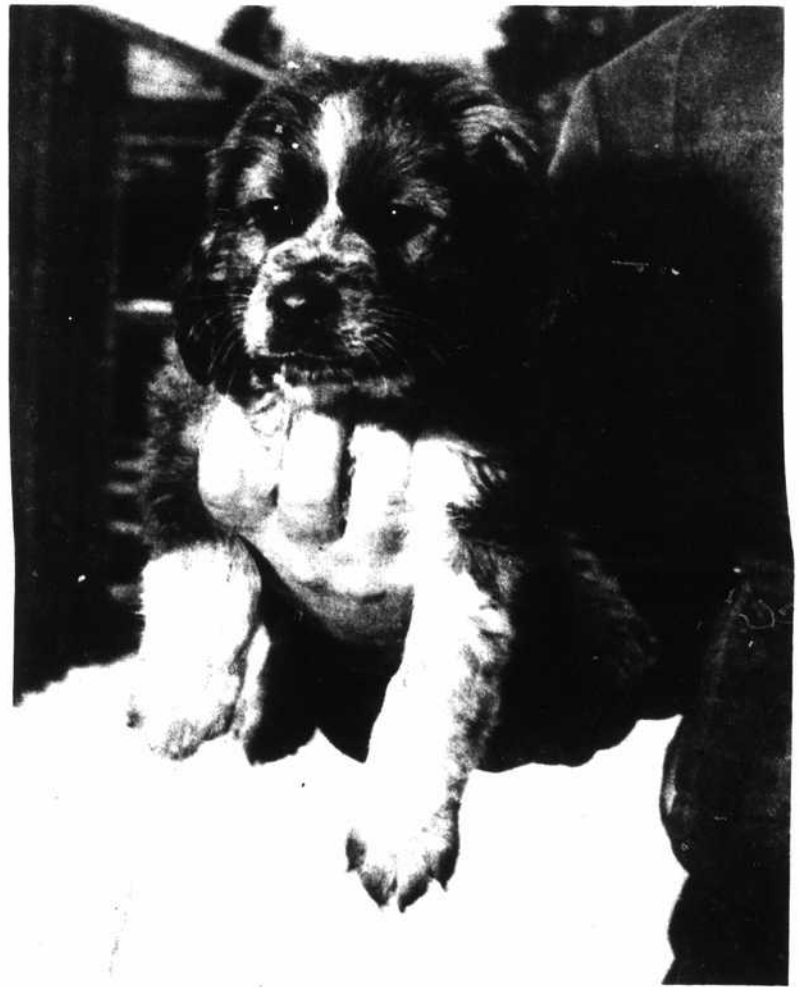
The elementary schools of Watauga County are now working toward accreditation by the Association of Southern Schools and Colleges.

They became affiliated with the Association in 1967 and in accordance with its guidelines have been working on improvement projects and in self-studies, leading to evaluation for membership status.

Dr. Guy Burehfield and Dr.

Jerry Rice of Western Carolina University in Cullowhee are working with the schools as consultants in their self-studies. Dr. Burehfield and Dr. Rice spent two days last week in the office of the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Swanson Richards, working with Dr. Richards, with Mrs. Dessa Mae Edmisten who is Supervisor of Instruction and the elementary principals and teacher representatives.

A visiting committee is scheduled to evaluate the schools in April. Dr. John Bridgman, Director of the Advancement School, Winston-Salem, has been selected to serve as chairman of the visiting committee. The remaining 34 members on the committee will be selected by Dr. Richards, Dr. Bridgman and Miss Madeline Tripp of the State Department of Public Instruction.



PET PROFILE

FIVE LITTLE PUPPIES pressed their shivering paws onto the cold steel wire of their pen at the animal shelter Friday afternoon—yelping for a home. This little fellow was among them. He enjoyed the attention. With him in the big kennel were seven other puppies, one mother and two collie-type females. (Staff photo)

Boone-Based Organization To Attack Pollution In Area

People for the land, a fledgling band of people concerned about man and his environment, are stretching their efforts into several states from a new base in Boone.

Keener Smathers, executive secretary, said the movement had its birth among a group of Duke University graduate students in the spring of 1968. Its main function has been distribution of information about environmental problems to

a few members in 12 states. Members funnel the information to radio stations and other news media as part of an effort to alert the public to problems brought on by population growth

and misuse of natural resources, including stream and air pollution.

"Essentially the organization seeks to present to the public

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Carpenter Named Census Manager

Appointment of Harry E. Carpenter, Jr., of Conover, as District Manager of the 1970 U. S. Census of Population and Housing in this area was announced today by Director Joseph R. Norwood of the Census Bureau's Regional Office in Charlotte, N. C.

A native of Catawba County, Mr. Carpenter was educated in the local schools, and received his degree from Duke University. He has also studied at the University of Maryland. Mr. Carpenter has served as an officer in the Navy. For a number of years he was associated in a scientific capacity with the national space program, primarily with NASA and Douglas Aircraft. Most recently he was president of a furniture manufacturing plant in Taylorsville,

and within the past year has entered the investment sales field. From the District Office located at 20-22 Second Street, N. W., Hickory, Mr. Carpenter will supervise all phases of the census in the following counties: Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cleveland, Lincoln, Surry, Watauga and Wilkes.

On January 26, following several days of intensive training in the Regional Office, Mr. Carpenter will come on duty and begin setting up the District Office. He will direct a force of about 460 field workers throughout the area.

Taking the Census nationally will require the services of 172,000 field workers, 393 District Managers, and 13,000 office personnel.

Gilbert Mast Gets Promotion Highway Dept.

G. F. (Smokey) Mast of Boone, has been promoted to district engineer for the North Carolina Highway Commission's activities in Avery, Watauga and Caldwell counties.

He succeeds J. T. Winkler who was named area highway engineer.

In other changes in the 11th engineering divisions, F. D. Blevins was named assistant

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