

Moderation is the silken string running through the pearl chain of all virtues.—Joseph Hall.



Sunday Afternoon, Water Poured Over Tate's Dam. (George Flowers Photo)

Highway Accidents Noted

Torrential Rain Brings Problems

Roads Are Closed In Some Cases

After several hot summer weeks in which no appreciable rainfall was counted, Watauga County and surrounding area got what it needed—all at one time.

Joe Minor, U. S. Meteorologist in Boone, reported a total rainfall of 7.82 inches for the three days ending Monday night.

The reading he took Sunday showed 2.46 inches had fallen, Monday's count was 3.85 inches and 1.51 inches was measured by Minor Tuesday morning.

But for the rain-thirsty ground, the run-off might have posed a much more severe problem in the mountains. The Boone Golf Course closed, to re-open when debris deposited on some of the property is removed.

Fender-benders — accidents which resulted in minor injuries and damages—occurred frequently on Watauga's rainy roads. The Highway Patrol investigated some 11 minor accidents over the weekend.

The Boone Police Department said five rainy-weather accidents took place on Monday.

Local highway crews were kept busy this weekend. Sunday afternoon a washed-out ditch on the new section of US 421 between Boone and Wilkesboro presented a traffic hazard for a short while.

On US 321 between Blowing Rock and Lenoir, two major land slides blocked traffic for some three hours while the clean-up operation went on.

For a period of time, the Shulls Mills Road near Hound Ears was under water and Deerfield Road was closed for awhile until water drained off the road. The height of the swirling water on Deerfield Road was reported one and one-half feet.

A slide near the Ranch Motel just outside of Blowing Rock also blocked part of the highway Sunday afternoon.

Severe flooding was reported in Burke County, which also got more than 7 inches of rainfall. And the Yadkin River bubbled over its banks and did serious damage to business property, homes and farmland in Elkin and vicinity.

Flooding was widespread in Caldwell and Davie, among other counties near the mountains.



The Cowardly Lion And Dorothy

Visitor Total Goes Past 139,000 At Oz

Despite Saturday's rain, 3,860 people went to Land of Oz to see the re-enactment of L. Frank Baum's famous story, The Wizard of Oz.

And 1,000 people traveled to the pinnacles of Beech Mountain Sunday, bringing the adventure park's total number of visitors since its June 15 opening to more than 139,000.

On the weekends, the big

Appeal Made For Housing For Students

An appeal for information on housing available in the community for September occupancy has been issued by Rickard Tickle, Director of Student Housing at Appalachian State University.

"We are requesting that anyone who has an apartment or a room call us at the housing office and leave his name, address, and a description of the rental property," Tickle said.

The university is expecting a total enrollment of some 7,000 students when its fall quarter begins Sept. 6. No more than 4,000 of them can be housed on the campus, Tickle added.

He may be contacted at 264-8871, Ext. 340-341

rush to the Land of Oz seems to come between noon and 4 p. m. So the management will open the park an hour earlier on Saturday and Sunday mornings for the rest of the season.

Weekend tours will begin at 9 a. m., weekday tours at 10 a. m. The daily closing time is 6 p. m. Speaking for Carolina-Caribbean, Kays Gary says the visitor total for the five week days has been averaging 12,500, with an equal number of people coming in on Saturdays and Sundays.

Gary advises that weekend visitors plan to arrive earlier in the morning in order to avoid the jam-packed crowds that get there between noon and 4 p. m.

If business remains as is, and average attendance does not increase, Gary thinks a total of 330,000 will have seen Land of Oz in its first season. And Tweetsie Railroad, a sister enterprise of Oz, "is still ahead of last year" in receipts.

Land of Oz opened June 15 and was fully operational July 3. It will operate on a weekends-only schedule after Labor Day. The closing date has not been decided yet.

On July 29, Mr. and Mrs. Oras Biggerstaff of Shelby and their two grandchildren got to tour the park free of charge. They were the family that bought the 100,000th ticket to Oz.

And they are invited to spend a night as guests at the new Beech Alpen Inn on the mountain.

A farmer and operator of a cotton gin, Biggerstaff said "It's really something, I'd heard about it. A fellow told me you wouldn't believe it until you saw it, and that's the truth. It's really fantastic."

The grand opening of the yellow brick road at Oz was conducted in July by Harry Robbins, president of Carolina-Caribbean; Jack

(Continued on page two)

Taylor Says Teaching Should Be Year Around

Lt. Gov. Pat Taylor asked a group of 900 public school teachers Monday to help their legislators find the answers to adequate financial support for North Carolina's school systems.

Speaking to members of the Trade and Industrial Education Association at their annual summer conference of the Appalachian State University campus, Taylor said, "We don't spend as much money as we should on education, but we do spend a

lot, and sometimes we wonder if it is being spent effectively."

Taylor called for a "hard new look" at the expenditures in public education, but said that such a probe would be more a criticism of public policy than of school officials. "Teaching," he said, "should be a highly paid, year-round profession, and anything less, in today's world, is inadequate and its inefficient management of resources."

He added, "It is wasteful for teachers to have eight or ten

weeks of vacation. I know that some of that time is needed for their own continuing education, but we continue to operate under the concept of teaching as a nine or ten-month occupation. I believe that is obsolete."

Referring to efficient use of school physical plants, Taylor remarked, "I know it is a traditional thing which nobody pays much attention to, but sometimes it seems to me that the sight of a fine, expensive new school building standing

all but empty and unused for almost three months each year should be an affront to every taxpayer."

Taylor later cautioned the teachers to maintain "a tough, stubborn, objective sense of priorities" in public education.

"If our primary, undetracted concern is the child and the teacher, then extraneous concerns—social, economic, racial and geographic—should not be allowed to intrude."

Understudys Earned Pay This Season

The understudys have earned their pay here this season at "Horn In The West."

Through a series of illnesses and unusual accidents, several understudys have been called on to play the real part in several performances.

In the usual accident department, Barry Bell of Charlotte, who plays young Jack Stuart, sat out a week (Continued on page two)

Two Are Charged With Breaking And Entering

A call to the Watauga Sheriff's Department last Friday resulted in the arrest of two men on breaking and entering and theft charges.

Deputy B. W. Winkler, who with Deputy A. L. Perry apprehended the two men, identified them as Don Ellison and Bud Trivette of the Meat Camp section.

The men were put in jail under \$5,000 bond each. Trivette made bond Sunday, the deputy said. Ellison was still in Watauga County Jail early this week.

Deputy Winkler told the story as follows: After he and Perry received the call about 3:30 they went to the Clark's Creek vicinity where a suspicious looking car has been reported.

It was a white 1962 four-door Fairlane Ford "with the license tag rolled up so you couldn't read it." It was registered to Don Ellison.

They went to a nearby home owned by Thomas A. Tilden, a

Florida man who is a seasonal resident here. They found that the home had been entered and called Sheriff Ward G. Carroll.

Returning to the 1962 Ford, they saw Ellison and Trivette carrying something. They apprehended the two men. The items they were carrying included a J. C. Higgins 22-calibre rifle, an antique ox yoke, a General Electric radio

(model 835A), and a pillowcase full of items including canned foods, a light brown hat, a pair of black gloves and bottle of medicine with Tilden's name on the prescription label.

Deputy Winkler said the men "threw the stuff down and ran," but were taken into custody without incident.

A window in the back of the Tilden home had been broken.

President Names Local Man To Important Body

Dr. W. H. Plemmons of Boone was one of 28 North Carolinians, including liberals and conservatives to meet with President Nixon last week to pledge their support "in easing the burden of desegregation."

Appointed by the President and headed by Archie Davis, chairman of the Board of Wachovia Bank & Trust Co., the group officially became the N. C. State Advisory Committee on Public Education.

They met for more than two hours with the cabinet-level Committee on Public Education, which is headed by Vice President Spiro Agnew, then returned by plane to their hometowns.

They held a news conference in Raleigh Friday.

The North Carolina group was the third in the South to be named. The other states are South Carolina and Mississippi.

The state committees were formed to aid in the difficult transition to unitary school systems.

The advisory committee, in the order listed by the White House, includes:

Wilbur Hobby, president of the N. C. AFL-CIO; Tom Finch, president to Thomasville Furniture In-

dustries; Harvey Beech, past president of the Kinston school board and area attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund; Y. H. Allen, Lumberton superintendent of schools; Dr. W. H. Plemmons, president emeritus of Appalachian State University.

J. Marse Grant, editor of the Biblical Recorder in Raleigh; James Ollis, physical education instructor at St. Andrews College in Laurin- (Continued on page two)

Thanks Sheriff For His Hospitality At Meeting

The general security manager for Southern Bell in Charlotte wrote Sheriff Ward G. Carroll to thank him "for the many courtesies extended to each of us during the recent Sheriffs' Conference at Boone."

Roger H. Allred continued in part, "You were a most gracious and enjoyable host and your many efforts contributed greatly to the success of the meeting. I thought the Boone Conference was one of

the best in several years.

"We enjoyed the visit to your county and the courtesies extended by your local people. Our most sincere thanks to the management of Land of Oz, Tweetsie Railroad, Grandfather Mountain, Horn in the West, and others who permitted us to visit with them and enjoy the beauty of Watauga County. I hope to visit your county again in the near future."

John B. Proffitt, Todd, Killed In Vietnam War

The name of a North Carolina soldier was on a list of nine persons which the Defense Department said Friday had been killed in action in Southeast Asia.

He was Army Spec. 4 John B. Proffitt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cicero J. Proffitt of Todd in Ashe County.

1970	HI	Lo	Prec.	Snow '69	HI	Lo
Aug. 4	80	60	.22		70	58
Aug. 5	80	53			75	56
Aug. 6	77	58			77	54
Aug. 7	79	59	Tr.		78	51
Aug. 8	68	58			80	56
Aug. 9	66	56	2.46		82	61
Aug. 10	61	53	3.85		75	65