

I would have been glad to have lived under my woods, and to have kept a flock of sheep, rather than to have undertaken this government.—Oliver Cromwell.

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Newspaper Serving The Northwest Carolina Mountain Area

Boone Area  
Chamber  
Needs You

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, N. C. THURSDAY AUGUST 27, 1970

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26 PAGES—2 SECTIONS

## Watauga System Gains 186

# First Day Of School Finds 4,300 Students Enrolled

## Only Two Schools Have Loss

Enrollment figures released by Dr. Swanson Richards, Superintendent of Schools in Watauga, show an additional 186 students have enrolled in the county schools this year.

Total enrollment tallied at the high school and the eight elementary schools on the first day of school, Aug. 20, is 4,345.

Watauga enrollment in the elementary schools this year is 3,015, which is 86 more than enrollment on the first day of the 1969-70 year.

A reduced student total was reported by only two schools. Bethel Elementary reported 177 students, 20 fewer than last year. And at Green Valley, the 1970-71 total of 292 is 10 fewer than enrolled last year.

Appalachian Elementary now has 933 students, an increase of 32.

At Blowing Rock, 14 additional students put the school population at 290.

Cove Creek's 370 include five extra youngsters.

The increase of 25 pupils at Mabel Elementary puts their overall figure up to 254.

Parkway has 36 more, or a total of 456 and at Valle Crucis the 1970-71 enrollment is 243, four more than last year.

The report shows that the 1969-70 total of 4,121 reflected a countywide increase of only 37 students over the 1968-69 school year. The high school had 18 of the new students and the elementary schools had 19.



Boone Buys Loader-Backhoe

A street sweeper and an angle blade for snow removal are two features of a new Ford tractor with backhoe and front loader the Town of Boone has received. It is the latest in this type of equipment and was hauled to Boone Friday by Marion Equipment Company, whose bid of \$10,225 was accepted by the

Aldermen Aug. 20 for immediate delivery. Standing beside the machinery (from left) are Frank Queen of Marion, Boone Streets Department Superintendent, Howard Winkler and Alderman Clyde Winebarger. (Staff photo)

## Federal Land Bank Will Have Open House Event

Thirty-two years ago, Wade E. Brown made this snapshot of the brick office building he was having constructed at 301 West King Street in Boone.

And when he loaned this and other photographs to the Federal Land Bank Association of Boone, he commented that 1938 was when labor could be had for a quarter per hour.

Since 1958, the property has belonged to FLBA, according to its manager John H. Hollar. And this year, the organization began its remodeling program to double

its office space. From 1 to 4 Saturday afternoon, the association will hold a public open house and some Federal Land Bank officials will be on hand to meet the visitors.

A former Mayor of the Town of Boone, Brown used the building as his law office. Hollar said space also had been leased to the Highway Department, and at one time to photographer Palmer Blair, who perished some years ago in a plane crash.

Brown now lives in Raleigh where he serves as chairman of the State's parole board.

## Development Assn. Board Opposes Rock Festival

The 11-county Northwest North Carolina Development Association has adopted a resolution opposing plans for a rock festival in Alleghany County.

The action was taken Aug. 19 when the association was in session in Duncan Hall on the university campus here. The resolution was to be forwarded to Superior Court Judge Robert M. Gambill who earlier has granted petitioners from Alleghany a temporary restraining order against the festival.

The Judge is to hold a hearing Monday to determine whether to make the order permanent.

With West Jefferson in Ashe County being almost as close to the proposed festival site as the town of Sparta in Alleghany, citizens of Ashe last week started their own petition. Ira Johnston, well-known West Jefferson lawyer, led the drive for signatures.

The association also approved a resolution asking the State to remove junk vehicles

that are on its highway rights-of-way.

And resolutions in memory of the late Mr. Sloane W. Payne of Alexander County and Mrs. Asa L. Reese of Watauga were passed by the group.

The association represents the counties of Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Caldwell, Davie, Forsyth, Stokes, Surry, Watauga, Wilkes and Yadkin.

## Quits Teaching After 42 Years

Mrs. Gladys M. Bingham of Sugar Grove has retired from teaching after having taught for 42 years.

She taught in Watauga County for 30 years, four years in Miami, Fla. and the last eight years in the North Wilkesboro Elementary School in North Wilkesboro.

## Prisoners Aid Blowing Rock Citizen

Dick Brown of the Watauga Subsidiary reports that five inmates have signed on to help Fredric Dunne, a stroke victim who lives in Blowing Rock, in the brain-patterning exercises (Aug. 20 issue).

He and the men made their first visit to the Dunne's home Wednesday night, Aug. 19, and have agreed to go back weekly to help in the volunteer program.

Brown said that if enough people would sign on to take the men to Blowing Rock as many as 20 might eventually get involved in the rehabilitation program.

The subsidiary is a minimum custody unit, Brown explains, with some 90 per cent of its occupants being alcohol offenders who generally serve terms of 30 days minimum up

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## YDC Will Meet Friday Night

The Watauga Young Democrats Club will meet Friday night at 8 o'clock in the county courthouse. All members are urged to attend, as this will be an important workshop meeting and plans for the fall election will be made.



REV. BOYCE BROOKS

## Brooks New Head Three Forks Assn.

The Rev. J. Boyce Brooks, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Boone, this month was elected as Moderator of the 8,900-member Three Forks Baptist Association.

The Association, which is made up of 46 churches, was in session Aug. 4 and 5, meeting with the Three Forks Baptist Church (Rev. Lynn Powers) and the Oak Grove Baptist (Rev. Fritz Hemphill).

Elected to serve under Mr. Brooks as Associate Moderator was Dr. Jack Lawrence, who is president of the Baptist Men and Boys, Baptist State Con-

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## From Moon Eclipses To Payrolls Boone C Of C Has Been Fruitful

BY RACHEL R. COFFEY  
In the early fifties, the Boone Chamber of Commerce "Sponsored" an eclipse of the moon.

Stanley Harris Sr. remembers it well and establishes roughly the time at which this happened. Clyde R. Greene, former Boone Mayor, recalls that the viewing point was on a Blue Ridge Parkway overlook beyond Deep Gap.

Crowds of people—un-counted numbers of them photographers—came from near and far to see perhaps the world's only "Sponsored" moon eclipse.

And Twenty-one years ago, Harris was instrumental in putting together a centennial pageant, Echoes of the Blue Ridge, for Watauga County. In fact he remembers having written most of the script.

The next year, plans were fast underway to begin a summer outdoor drama in Boone. Harris recalls that this held a direct link with the Chamber of Commerce, many of whose members put time and money into developing Horn in the West, which ended its 19th season last Saturday night. The Horn is controlled by the Southern Appalachian Historical Association.

The Boone Area Chamber of Commerce's industry com-

mittees have brought vigorous employers here.

According to Fred McNeal, Chamber manager, it was Bob Bingham, Gwynn Hayes, Harold Rice and him who originally worked to start the wintery Snow Carnival of the South.

Now he says the responsibility for the success and

continuation of the Carnival is borne by the chambers of commerce of Blowing Rock and Avery County as well as Boone.

500 Soon  
All this has to do with "500 Soon for Boone", the campaign slogan for the Boone Chamber's drive for 500 memberships.—or more.

In seeking to renew old memberships and attain new (Continued on page two)

## Jane Smith Named To Radio Board

BANNER ELK—The North Carolina Associated Press Broadcasters Association elected Charles Whitehurst as its new president Saturday.

Whitehurst, the director of news and public affairs of WFMY-TV, Greensboro, will take office Jan. 1. He succeeds Jack Brown of WLOX, Lincoln.

Also elected Saturday at the annual meeting of the broadcasters were vice president, Robert Ray, WBBB, Burlington; and two directors—Dick Waters, WSOX, Charlotte, and Jane Smith, WATA, Boone.

## Watauga Loses On Sales Tax Levy

The first quarterly report of one cent sales tax levied in twenty-five N. C. counties shows that the smallest counties generally claimed more tax money than they shelled out.

The report, issued by state Revenue Commissioner Ivie L. Clayton, indicated that the remaining big counties collected more tax money in most cases than they kept and the surplus went to their smaller neighbor.

New Hanover County, for example, took in \$408,758 and retained only \$355,505—a loss of \$53,253. Durham County

	1970	HI	Lo	Prec.	Snow '69	HI	Lo
Aug. 18	19	80	57			80	62
Aug. 19	18	78	57	.37		74	63
Aug. 20	20	78	55	.13		74	63
Aug. 21	21	78	58			75	55
Aug. 22	22	76	55			69	52
Aug. 23	23	73	59	.11		70	43
Aug. 24	24	75	50	.22		76	48

## 'Horn In The West' Plays To 31,300

Outdoor drama "Horn in the West" played to a record-high 31,300 paid customers during the 1970 season which closed last weekend, according to unofficial attendance figures for the show's 19th season.

Kermit Hunter's famed outdoor drama here topped 1969's record total by about 75 persons, despite two rainy stretches that at various times during the season saw the show behind the 1969 attendance total by as many as 2400 customers.

The show played to a record high 5,177 during its last week and to what is believed to be a record 7,958 customers during the last nine performances.

The Horn's Powderhorn Theater, where the cast produces one-hour shows on weekends after regular performances of the Horn, also drew record total attendance in its third season of operation.