

2-Black Mountain (NC) NEWS  
Thursday, May 27, 1948  
SECTION II

BLUE RIDGE  
(Cont'd From Page 1, Sec. I)

UAW-CIO Educational Group.  
Farmers Cooperative Exchange.  
Southern Area Groups.  
YMCA Summer School.  
Southern Area Hi-Y Conference.

Boy Scouts of America (Executives).

Regional Sanitation Seminar.  
YMCA Interstate Secretaries.

Blue Ridge was originally chartered under the name of Blue Ridge association for Christian Conferences and training. The plan for Blue Ridge was first presented at a meeting of the international committee of the Y.M.C.A. in the fall of 1904 by Dr. John R. Mott and Dr. W. D. Weatherford.

The committee refused to take the responsibility for the project but did agree to add their blessings if Dr. Weatherford could do anything about it during his summer vacation.

But it was the fall of 1906 before 952 acres of the present tract were purchased by Dr. Weatherford and Dr. A. L. Phillips, who borrowed \$4,000 in their own name and gave their personal notes for the balance of the purchase price of \$11,500. A charter was drawn up and a board set up immediately thereafter. The board set about securing funds to complete the boundaries needed, to cut the timber from the property for the buildings, and to put

the property in condition to hold conferences.

The sale of tannic acid wood, and the portion of lumber used in the buildings netted the committee \$25,000. Success of the project was assured when John D. Rockefeller gave \$50,000. The remainder was made up by many smaller gifts. Today the property has more than 1500 acres of land with buildings and grounds valued at more than a million dollars.

Blue Ridge continued to operate under the name of Blue Ridge Association for Christian conferences and training until December, 1933, at which time it was reorganized under the name of Blue Ridge College, Inc.

On December 21, 1943, The Blue Ridge Assembly Incorporated was formed and took over the properties of the Blue Ridge College, Inc. The new corporation is owned and operated by the Young Men's Christian Associations of the ten southern states, which include Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, North and South Carolina, Kentucky, and Virginia. The purpose of Blue Ridge continues to establish, promote and provide for conferences of workers under religious, social, educational and industrial organizations: to provide training for workers engaged in physical, mental and spiritual improvement of men and women with special emphasis upon work for young people, and to carry on and generally engage in other religious, charitable and educational activities.

Each year between sixty and one hundred college students from all over the country come to Blue Ridge to join the student staff. These students participate in religious education courses and go back to their college campuses the next fall better fitted to carry on work in religious activities. Courses in Y.M.C.A. methods are taught and as a result of the training received here many are brought into Y.M.C.A. and other religious fields.

Students are carefully selected from several hundred applicants each year, and only those who have leadership responsibility on their campuses and desire to grow through work, play, study and worship are eligible. For the past thirty six years more than 3,000 students have found larger visions, deeper fellowship, and Christian purpose.

Blue Ridge Assembly is open to individuals, families or organized groups. Friends of the Y.M.C.A., social, religious and educational organizations and all who are interested in a summer recreational center with a Christian purpose, are welcome.

For the entertainment of guests—lectures, seminars on current topics, musical programs by the Blue Ridge String Ensemble, moving pictures, etc., are offered.

In addition many of the programs offered by the various conferences are available.

There will be many outstanding speakers of national renown throughout the summer for the entertainment of guests.

Beginning July 1st, courses in ceramics, watercolor and metal work will be offered. Individual or class instruction may be taken. Local members of the board and operating committee are Judge H. C. Jarvis, J. G. Northcott, H. W. Sanders, resident manager, E. S. Jackson, executive secretary, C. E. Morgan, Asheville, D. W. Glover, and D. Hiden Ramsey.

Blue Ridge has always been closely associated with the Young Men's Christian Association. However, in 1943 the Y.M.C.A.'s of the South acquired the property and assumed the leadership of this training center.

For the past thirty-seven years it has been dedicated to the promotion of religious, educational and social thinking. With the enlargement of scope and with the backing and direction of the Y.M.C.A.s of the South, Blue Ridge has become a veritable laboratory of Christian character and a force of far-reaching effect on the ideal pattern of life. Like the Y.M.C.A. it is non-sectarian in its programs, and members of all faiths are cordially welcomed.

More than one hundred thousand individuals have used the facilities at Blue Ridge during the past thirty six seasons of operation.

**VISIT MISS CHATTERTON**  
Mr. and Mrs. James R. Crandall and Mrs. J. M. Crandall of Washington, D. C., are guests of Miss Edith Chatterton.

**HOME FOR WEEK END**  
Jack Milbee, accompanied by a friend, Les Bang of Hendersonville, spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Jones.

MRS. DARGAN BACK

Mrs. M. U. Dargan has returned to her home on Montreat Road after spending the winter in Asheville with her niece and nephew, Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Richardson.

EXPRESS THANKS

Members of Sunshine school and their teacher, Mrs. L. H. Gregory, wish to express their thanks to J. G. Northcott of Grove Stone and Sand company for the sand which he donated for their use.

HERE FOR SUMMER

Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Tucker of Orlando, Fla., are here for their third summer. They are in Mrs. Baer's apartment near Blue Ridge gates.

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Announcement

For Member Of  
Board Of Education

I hereby announce my candidacy for member of Board of Education of Buncombe County, subject to the will of the voters of the Democratic Primary, May 29, 1948.

B. V. Riddle, A.B., B.D.  
SWANNANOVA, N. C.

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