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 \* Mrs. J. H. Buchanan, Editor \*  
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 \* Mrs Earl B. Wilson Mrs. Carol Lind \*  
 \* Mrs. Bertha Jane Libby Advisors Mrs. George W. Swift \*  
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(Conclusion of Mrs. Spraker's account of "Boonecroft")

"WE CAN IMAGINE Mrs. Beard scurrying throughout the countryside for some cherished old piece of furniture which would fit into a special spot as if made for it. That she was eminently successful is evident to anyone fortunate enough to glimpse the interior, where the result speaks eloquently for itself. The house is a modified "salt-box" type and has the original date-stone, 1733, set in one of the gabled ends.

"NEITHER of the Beards is of Boone descent. John Beard, however, is a descendant of the famous Daniel Carter Beard, founder of the American Boy Scout Society. By profession, he is a certified public accountant, but he has several hobbies among them collecting old guns and raising Hereford cattle. Mrs. Beard is a homemaker in the widest sense of the term, an antique collector, and is engaged in many public and community projects, one of which was the Daniel Boone birthplace memorial now owned by the State of Pennsylvania, and a major tourist attraction. Both she and her husband have a great interest in Americana, inherited as well as acquired. Two fine young sons, aged 13 and 10, engage much of their time, though the elder is now in private "prep" school some distance away.

"HAPPILY the new owners have not tried to disassociate the old home from its aura of Boone history and tradition which has always surrounded it, for to them therein lies much of its charm. Thus it is still "the old Boone place" to them as it is to us, for they have named it "Boonecroft". They are gracious hosts to all Boone descendants, as well as to others who are interested in the place for historic or artistic reasons. Yet it is in no sense a public showplace or memorial. It is just the home of a thoroughly fine young American family, who enjoy living in this historic old house.

"IT IS reassuring to all descendants of George and Mary Boone to know that the first Boone homestead built in the New World by these immigrant ancestors is now owned and occupied by such an understanding, appreciative family. Barring wars or catastrophies, the old building through such skillful restoration, has been given a new lease on life, which should carry it through one or two more centuries at least. But best of all perhaps, it has been saved from descent into decay which would surely have claimed it soon, had not John and Theresa Beard turned their dream into reality."