



The Skyland Post



VOLUME 19, NO. 44 \$2.50 a Year in Ashe County WEST JEFFERSON, N. C. THURSDAY, DEC. 16, 1948 \$3.00 a Year Out of County PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

PLAN COUNTY PROPERTY REVALUATION

W. Jefferson Market Over 2,250,000 Pound Mark

Growers Paid Over \$1,112,000 Since Opening

Better Grades of Tobacco Continue To Bring Unusually Good Prices

The West Jefferson Burley Tobacco Market continues to set a record for pounds as well as high prices on quality tobacco, according to official figures released late yesterday.

Officials of the Tri-State Warehouses announced that more than two and a quarter million pounds had been sold for more than \$1,112,050, with an average of nearly \$50.00 per hundred.

Graders and representatives of the Burley Warehouse Association and other officials have been high in their praise of the local market.

Both C. C. and Rex Taylor, operators, said they were pleased over the cooperation of the farmers. "We are always anxious to give the best service and to get the best prices for the growers, so keep on bringing us your tobacco," C. C. Taylor said.

It was explained that while the sales in the warehouses here as well as elsewhere on the burley markets would be halted on December 21 for the holidays, that the warehouses here would remain open every day except Christmas for receiving tobacco for the sales scheduled to be resumed January 10.

Veterans Will Meet Tonight

Farm-Training Program Will Be Discussed; All Invited To Attend

A veteran farmer training meeting will be held at the Jefferson high school auditorium tonight at 6:30, S. B. Lacey, Jr., agriculture teacher at Jefferson, announced this week.

Mr. Lacey stated that all veterans, who wanted to be under the program for the 1949 farming year, were urged to be present at this meeting.

A farm survey will be made at this meeting, from which veteran farmers for next year will be chosen, he said.

"It is not necessary that veterans have a certificate of eligibility," Mr. Lacey stated.

Funeral Today For Richardson Infant

The funeral service for Roy Lee Richardson, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. William A. Richardson, will be held at the Howell Hill church, this afternoon at two o'clock. Rev. W. E. Denny and Rev. Paul Phipps will officiate at the service with interment in the church cemetery. He died yesterday morning at the Ashe Memorial hospital. Survivors are the parents and one sister.

Arrest Perkins In Theft Case

Monroe Perkins was arrested this week at his home in West Jefferson in connection with the breaking and entering of Western Auto Store here on Sunday night after some of the stolen property was found in his possession.

Perkins was out on parole in connection with a sentence he was given in Wilkes county on a similar charge.

The back door of the Western Auto Store was forced open some time Sunday night or early Monday morning and around \$200 worth of merchandise stolen, officials reported. This included radios, automobile batteries and aerials. An attempt was also made the same night to break into the warehouse of Ray Hardware and Smithy's store.

Burley Markets Will Close Dec. 21 For Christmas

NEW COUNTY NURSE



Mrs. Yvonne Owen, who has been named public health nurse for Ashe county.

Mrs. Owen, New Public Health Nurse For Ashe

Has Completed Special Training in Chapel Hill Health District

Mrs. Yvonne Owen, who has been named Ashe county public health nurse by district health authorities, returned this week from Chapel Hill, where she received five weeks of orientation and field training.

She stated that she will be in the office most of the time, located in the Ashe Memorial hospital, until January 1. After that she will make visits to homes and schools in the county.

Mrs. Owen graduated from the Emory University School of Nursing in March, where she received a B. S. in Nursing. She was president of the student body and was awarded the school's scholarship for nursing ability and excellence.

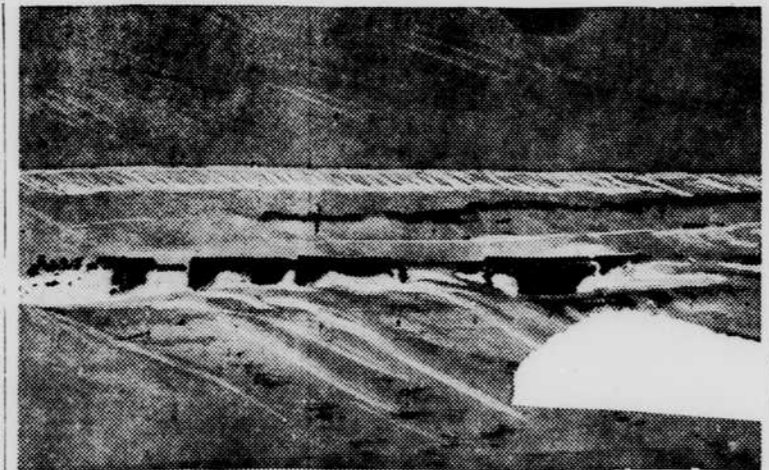
Prior to being the county nurse, she worked at the Ashe (Continued on Page 5)

Teachers To Get Pay Before Xmas

While the month is not quite up, Ashe county teachers will be issued their vouchers before Christmas, it was learned yesterday.

This should enable them to enjoy a "Merry Christmas," one official said. Attention of the principals was called to the necessity of reporting the names of any teacher who expects to resign during the holidays.

Snow Stops Union Pacific Freight



This westbound Union Pacific freight train bogged down in the snow drifts west of Oakley, Kan., during the recent blizzard. High winds swept onto the tracks to paralyze all rail traffic. This area was two weeks digging its way out of the snow.

Will Resume Sales Jan. 10; Warehouses Will Be Open For Tobacco

Mt. Sterling, Ky. — The Burley Sales Committee revised the marketing schedule so that buying personnel and warehousemen will get a day longer Christmas holiday. Sales originally scheduled at a three hour per day rate for December 20, 21 and 22, will be held instead at a four and one-half hour daily rate on December 20th and 21st only.

The committee announcement followed a meeting held by proxy at which the plan was proposed as a means of adding a day to the marketing holiday without any curtailment of total selling time.

This week, sales have been held at the rate of three hours a day. Next week the same three hour schedule will be followed, but on December 20th and 21st, sales will be held for four and one-half hours each day.

The resolution of the Burley Sales Committee states: RESOLVED, that sales of burley tobacco at auction shall continue to be held at the rate of three hours a day, 360 baskets an hour, for the week beginning December 13, 1948.

FURTHER RESOLVED that on December 20th and December 21st, sales of burley tobacco at auction shall be held for four and one-half hours each day, 360 baskets an hour.

FURTHER RESOLVED that there shall be a holiday marketing recess, beginning with the (Continued on page 4)

County Schools To Close Friday For Christmas

Will Re-Open On Monday, December 27 Following A Week's Holiday

It was announced this week that the schools of the county would be closed only one week for the Christmas holidays, beginning on Friday, December 18 and re-opening again on Monday, December 27.

A. B. Hurt, county superintendent of schools, said this was left up to the principals and teachers and that this was what the majority agreed upon.

These dates will apply to all of the schools except Virginia-Carolina, which is also governed by Virginia rulings, it was pointed out.

While some students lamented over the shortness of the holidays, it was pointed out that in the event the snow made roads impassable, there might possibly be some enforced holidays later on during the winter months.

Fleeing From The Holy Land As Christmas Draws Near



Christmas 1948 finds war and unrest ravaging the Holy Land. Arab refugees and their mothers line up before the tent of the International Refugee Organization to get their rations of milk. The Jericho area has been selected for the site of a huge settlement where all Arab refugees from the Holy Land war will be concentrated. The area was selected because of its warmth during the winter season.

New Officers Are Named For Red Cross Here

Miss Thomas Is Chapter Chairman; Coleman Payne, Drive Chairman

At a meeting of the Ashe county chapter of the Red Cross, Miss Frances Thomas was named as chapter chairman to replace Mrs. W. G. Vannoy, who had efficiently served in this capacity since 1941.

Mrs. Vannoy, who had made an outstanding record was commended for her service as was L. P. Colvard, another outgoing officer who had served as treasurer for the past fifteen years. Other officers named to serve with Miss Thomas included John Reeves, home service chairman; (Continued on page 5)

No Food Drive Is To Be Made Now

At a planning meeting of Ashe county pastors and others last Friday, it was decided, that because of the shortness of the time for collection and other drives and activities scheduled at this time, not to conduct a food drive.

It was explained that there might be both a food and clothing drive for European relief early next year.

Santa Is Coming Again Saturday; Business Is Good

Thousands of children were here last Saturday to greet Santa Claus, who will be here again this Saturday under the sponsorship of the merchants, when everyone is again invited to see him.

West Jefferson merchants as a whole report Christmas business unusually good. Some stores reported record high business last Saturday. Even with early buying, merchants still report full stocks of merchandise, however, and those who have not done their holiday buying are cordially invited to shop here.

Many who have visited nearby towns much larger than West Jefferson, report a far wider selection here at home.

In addition to attractive windows, the Christmas lights add to the holiday air.

Several Churches To Have Pre-Christmas Programs This Week End; Others Later

Rotary Club To Have Christmas Party Tonight

Special Program Planned; Rotaryans Are To Be Guests

The annual Christmas ladies' night program will be held by the Jeffersons Rotary club tonight at 7:00 at the community building.

Rev. Hoyt Wood, chairman of the program committee for the Christmas party, stated that the following would take part on the program: Mrs. W. B. Austin, Mrs. L. P. Colvard, Mrs. Lawrence Tyson, Mrs. P. G. Wright and Miss Marlene Jones.

As a part of the Christmas program, a Christmas tree with presents for all present will be held, Mr. Wood said.

Different buyers for tobacco companies on the Tri-State Burley market made informal talks to the Rotary club last Thursday night. W. B. Austin had charge of the program and had as his guests the following buyers: Bailey Glen, Mt. Airy; Fred Oapes, Florence, S. C.; Errol Morton, Roxboro; T. Brooks Skinner, Winston-Salem and Leslie Boykin, Wilson. (Continued on Page 5)

Pageants, Plays, Trees And Other Services Will Emphasize Season

Many of the Christmas programs in the churches of the county will get underway this week end and others are to be held next week. Pageants, plays and other special services will portray the Christmas story. Some of them are announced today.

A special Christmas service will be conducted at the West Jefferson Methodist church Sunday morning by Rev. Hoyt Wood. On Sunday evening, the Youth Fellowship will present a candlelight service. Wednesday night the Sunday school will have a children's program and on Thursday the young people will have a Christmas party at the church.

A Christmas pageant will be given at the West Jefferson Baptist church Sunday night, under the direction of Miss Nena Barr. There will be a narrator, with chorus, leading up to the "Nativity Scene."

Glendale Springs will have their Christmas program Sunday night, when the play "Something Special," will be presented. "Something Special," will be given at Ebenezer, Dec. 20; Laurel Fork, Dec. 22; Peak Creek. (Continued on Page 5)

Commissioners Hope To Equalize Taxes; Make Plans

Appraisers Will Work With Tax Listers; Burgess Is Tax Supervisor

At a call meeting of Ashe County's Board of Commissioners, this week, definite plans were made for a revaluation of property in the county, which, it is explained by officials, will be more of an equalization.

Appraisers for the various townships, who will work in connection with the tax listers, will be named for the various townships within a short time, it was announced. Officials stated, however, that the appraisers would not place the final valuation on the property. It is understood that they are to list the total acreage, present value, market value and suggested value.

The revaluation program is one that has long been considered and believed to be badly needed, because of the inequality of taxes in many of the townships of the county. It was pointed out that in some of the county's townships the average valuation of the land is around \$4.00 per acre, while in others, it is around \$15.00.

Some of the property in this county is listed unbelievably low and it is felt by officials, that not only is a revaluation needed from a standpoint of equalization, but that the county's income will be increased. Because of the lack of necessary school funds and others needed to face the rising costs, more funds are necessary. It was pointed out that with a more equal valuation, there was a possibility that the present rate might be lowered. This will be determined when the re-valuation is complete, it was explained. H. H. Burgess, tax supervisor, will work with the revaluation appraisers as they work with the listers.

A casual glance at the tax books reveals much property listed unbelievably low. One tract of 1512 acres in Creston township is valued at \$2427 on the tax books. This is around \$1.61 per acre. Another tract of 725 acres is listed at only \$2070. (Continued on page 8)

O. D. Freeman, 62, Was Buried Wed.

Funeral Service Held At The Jefferson Methodist Church

The funeral service for Oscar D. Freeman, 62, well known Jefferson man, was held yesterday afternoon at the Jefferson Methodist church. Revs. Rexford Campbell, C. C. Murray and Cecil Callis officiated at the service with interment in the Jefferson cemetery.

Mr. Freeman, who was born at Star, was a popular barber in West Jefferson for several years, but was working in Aberdeen, Md., at the time of his sickness. He was a member of the masonic lodge, Welch, W. Va.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Pearl Freeman; three sons, Roy, Jack and Jerry Freeman and one daughter, Mrs. Shirley Allen.

War Hero To Be Buried Saturday

The funeral service for another Ashe county war hero, Blanco Eller, 26, will be held at the Bristol Baptist church, Jefferson, Saturday at 11:00 a. m. Interment will be in the family cemetery.

Eller, whose body was returned to Ashe county this week, was killed in France on June 8, 1944.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth Eller, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Eller; four brothers, Walter, Blain, P. J., and Marvin Eller and one sister, Mrs. Roger Osborne.

Inspection Lane Remains In County Through Dec. 20

The North Carolina Mechanical Inspection Lane, which returned to West Jefferson yesterday, will remain in Ashe county through December 20.

Roy Phillips, lane supervisor, stated that there are between 50 and 100 motor vehicles in Ashe county that have not been thru the lane for the initial inspection. He said that all motorists, who do not have their cars inspected before the lane leaves, will receive citations.

"The lane will return to West Jefferson the last of January to start the 1949 inspections," Mr. Phillips stated.

Arthur T. Moore, Director of Mechanical Inspection Division of the Department of Motor Vehicles, stated that the general condition of vehicles had improved immeasurably since the inspection program got underway last January.

The greatest single defect has been poor headlights, with bad brakes running a close second, Mr. Moore pointed out.

Teachers To Take Extension Work

All teachers in the county who are interested in extension courses are requested to write Mrs. Gertrude Vaught, Jefferson, giving her their desired subjects.

"Courses will be available from Woman's College, Greensboro, if you desire the work," Mrs. Vaught said.