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THE SYLVA HERALD

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Unit of Communities Is Formed By Civic Group

Western Counties Will Combine Efforts For Regional Improvement

Representatives of Chambers of Commerce and other public groups from four Western North Carolina counties met at the Jarrett Springs Hotel last Thursday evening in a move to organize Western North Carolina Associated Communities for the purpose of bettering the counties with respect to civic matters of regional interest.

The move, begun by the Asheville Chamber of Commerce, is designed to include the counties of Buncombe, Henderson, Transylvania, Haywood, Swain, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Macon, and Jackson and representatives from the Cherokee Indian Agency and tribe, Government Services Inc., from Fontana, and Western North Carolina Teachers College. Each unit will be entitled to one vote.

Charles Ray of Haywood, appointed temporary chairman of the group, was the principal speaker of a round-table discussion held to state the problems of the western counties and how best to solve them. Mr. Ray cited the work that had been done by a former group of similar purpose, the Western North Carolina Advisory Committee, which was instrumental in the development of the Great Smokies National Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway, but which expired with the advent of the war due to shortages in construction materials.

"The effect of all our counties together is better than any one county working alone," Mr. Ray declared, and added that "Tourists are interested in the region as a whole, not in any individual town."

A motion was then made to organize the Chambers of Commerce and other civic groups into one unified organization. It was carried unanimously.

The group adopted the name of Western North Carolina Associated Communities, set its next meeting for the tenth of July in Bryson City, and prepared to contact the counties whose representatives were not present at the meeting.

The unit appointed C. M. Douglas of Transylvania its temporary secretary.

The group formed a statement of intentions which follows and is to be approved or modified at the next meeting: "The object of this organization is to unite the member counties into an association equipped to regularly elect officers and appropriate by-laws that shall work for and promote the betterment of Western North Carolina with respect to all civic matters of regional interest which

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Many Self-Employed Vets File Claims Under GI Bill

In Graham, Jackson, Macon and Swain counties, served by the Bryson City local office, 178 self-employed veterans filed claims for self-employment allowances under the G. I. Bill of Rights in the first five months of this year, it is learned from information supplied by R. Fuller Martin, acting chairman of the State Unemployment Compensation Commission.

These claims are filed by World War II veterans who are in business for themselves and whose net income from their business for any month is not as much as \$100. If a self-employed veteran earns nothing or less than \$100 net during any month, he may file a claim not later than the 20th of the month following, for \$100 or for enough to make his total net income as much as \$100. More than 95 percent of the self-employed veterans filing these claims in the State are farmers and the bulk of them report little or no earnings during the growing season or until harvest and marketing time.

In the same five months and in the same four counties 1520 new veteran claims for unemployment allowances were filed indicating that during this period 1520 veterans were unemployed at the time they filed their claims.

LECTURE ON CANNING IS GIVEN AT SCHOOL

Miss Margaret Murphy, home economist of the Educational Department of a nationally-known jar company, gave a lecture and demonstrations on home canning at the Sylva High School cafeteria last Friday afternoon.

Miss Murphy emphasized the importance that food conservation and canning held during the war, and she asserted that conservation and canning are just as important as the peace is being settled.

The lecturer then proceeded to demonstrate the canning process of various types of vegetables, and warned her audiences of using inferior jars in canning. She said that a good standard canning jar should be used in order to minimize the danger of breakage, and that all jars should be sterilized before being used.

Miss Murphy then proceeded to can some tomatoes by heating them in order to drive out the air. She then placed them in a jar, poured in the juice in which they were cooked, sealed the jar, and placed them to heat further on a rack in a kettle. She explained that tomatoes should be heated after the sealing rather than before in order that the vitamin C would not escape into the air.

Later the speaker demonstrated the canning of peas, beans and corn, warning that peas and corn shouldn't be packed into the jars, because they expand. Green beans, she explained, should be packed tightly because they shrink.

The meeting was arranged by Miss Martha Barnett, associate FSA supervisor, and Miss Josephine Johnston, home demonstration agent for the county.

Local O. P. A. Office To Continue Operation

Dan Tompkins, head of the local O.P.A. office, has announced that they have been notified by Theodore S. Johnson, district director from the Raleigh office, to continue as usual until further notice.

Mr. Johnston, stated in his bulletin release "All boards should continue to schedule and conduct conferences and negotiate settlements with respect to any violation which occurred prior to July 1, 1946."

Sugar rationing and Meat Slaughter control remain in effect, since these are signed by the Second War Powers Act which was renewed by the President on June 29, 1946.

These veterans claiming Servicemen's Readjustment Allowances for unemployment must first apply for jobs. They must be able to work, available for work and willing to take any suitable job offered them, except that, under the G. I. Bill of Rights, if a veteran is able to work when he files his first claim, but illness or other disability prevents his weekly reporting to the local USES office in person, he may delegate a representative to file later claims for him.

On a State-wide basis, it is found that just about one veteran out of every four inducted into the service had filed claims for Servicemen's Readjustment Allowances by the end of May, and also, on a State-wide basis, it is revealed that considerably more than an average of two inductees came from non-agricultural activities for every one inducted from agriculture. Early this year 351,146 had been inducted into the armed forces from North Carolina, an estimated 105,185 coming from agriculture and 245,961 from non-agricultural activities.

It is estimated that early in this year, 2053 had been inducted from Jackson county, 785 from agriculture and 1268 from non-agriculture.

RURAL LIFE MEETING WILL BE HELD NEXT TUESDAY AT CHURCH

A Rural Life meeting to be held for the purpose of discussing the relationship between good farming and good religion will be held in the First Baptist Church in Sylva next Tuesday morning at ten o'clock.

Ministers, farmers and agricultural leaders are invited to attend.

There will be singing, a devotional led by the Rev. W. M. Cook of Webster, a talk by the Rev. Vladimir E. Hartman of the Council of Southern Mountain Workers, and an illustrated lecture entitled "God, Man and the Land" by Dr. Aaron H. Rapping of the Tennessee Valley Community Development Program.

A free lunch will be served after the program, and following the lunch hour there will be a farm tour conducted by Miss Josephine Johnston, Home Demonstration Agent, M. L. Snipes, county farm agent, and W. B. Collings, farm management supervisor of the Test Demonstration Program.

The Rural Life meeting is one in a series of meetings being held jointly by the Council of Southern Mountain Workers, the Agricultural Extension Service, and the TVA in fifteen Western North Carolina counties.

First Cars To Arrive By Rail Reach Local Dealer

A sight that is very rare transpired at the local depot last Thursday afternoon as workers unloaded two brand new automobiles from a freight car.

The cars, shipped out of Atlanta on the 25th, are the first 1946 models to arrive in Sylva by rail. They were consigned to a local dealer.

Founder's Niece Makes First Visit To Sylva Since 1898

By LARRY W. MULL

"The story connected with the naming and founding of Sylva reads like a fairy tale," says Mrs. Margaret L. Medd, niece of the late E. R. Hampton, founder of Sylva.

Mr. Hampton, she explained, along with a youthful stranger, William D. Sylva, who came to have a place in the hearts of the people in the community of Webster, erected the E. R. Hampton home on the site where the Carolina hotel now stands. Mr. Hampton then petitioned the U. S. Post-office department for a post office which was obtained. Mr. Hampton asked his little daughter, Mae, what name would be suitable for the new Post Office. She replied, "Sylva." Mrs. Hampton said that the post office was named, so it would be Sylva.

Mrs. Medd states that on March 9, 1889, the growing community of Sylva was chartered as an incorporated town by the General Assembly of North Carolina. This, however, is her first visit to Sylva and Western North Carolina since 1898. She is accompanied by her husband, William H. Medd who is a retired Naval Warrant Officer, a veteran of the Spanish American War, World Wars I and II. He has completed five active years service. They reside at Wilmington, Delaware.

Mr. and Mrs. Medd came here by way of Fredericksburg, Va., where they were visiting Mrs. Herman Bryson, daughter of the late Hon. E. R. Hampton, who is with her husband at Mary Washington College. The Medds celebrated their fortieth wedding anniversary on May 14, 1946, in Asheville where they were married. The couple plans to spend two or three months vacation in and around Asheville.

Mrs. Medd was the former Miss Margaret L. Moore, better known to older residents in Sylva as "Madge." She used to spend the summer months with her aunt, Miss Hattie Hampton, in the home of E. R. Hampton.

According to Mrs. Medd, E. R. Hampton established the first printing press and published the first newspaper, The Jackson

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WNC WEEKLY PRESS ASSOCIATION HOLDS MEETING IN MURPHY

More than thirty editors and publishers met in Murphy last Friday and Saturday for the regular meeting of the Western North Carolina Weekly Press Association.

A banquet on Friday evening featured a talk by Albert S. Hardy, publisher of the Gainesville (Ga.) News, who praised Ed Anderson, publisher of the Transylvania Times, and Miss Beatrice Cobb, publisher of the Morganton News-Herald, for the work they have done in securing more national advertising.

Miss Addie Mae Cook, president of the association, acted as chairman of arrangements for the meeting with several town and county organizations and individuals cooperating.

Activities at the conference included tours of Hiwassee Dam, a talk by the Naval Ordnance Experiment Station, Nantahala, Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest, and other points of interest near Murphy.

Representing The Sylva Herald were Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Gray and Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Bird.

Ratchford Conducts School In Record-Book Keeping

C. B. Ratchford, farm management specialist of the North Carolina Extension Service, conducted a record-book school last Friday afternoon at the courthouse for farm men and women keeping books in connection with the TVA.

Mr. Ratchford touched upon various problems that have arisen regarding the keeping of the books and answered a number of questions brought up by members of the audience. Sixteen individuals attended.



MRS. MARGARET L. MEDD

Second Quarterly Conference Convening At Cullowhee

The second quarterly local church conference of the Cullowhee Baptist church met Tuesday night, July 2.

Reports were made from the unit organizations of the church and business reports given.

Legion Will Sponsor Ball Game With Canton Team

The William E. Dillard post 104 of the American Legion will sponsor a softball game between the Canton American Legion team and the Sylva All-Stars on the thirtieth of this month at Mark Watson field at 8:00 p. m.

Admission prices will be ten and twenty-five cents, and the proceeds will be used by the local post toward the construction of a memorial building.

SOFTBALL STANDINGS

Softball standings in the Smoky Mountain Athletic Association are as follows:

Reed's Grocery: Won 4, Lost 1. Paperboard: Won 3, Tied 1, Lost 2.

Tannery: Won 3, Lost 3. Cherokee: Won 3, Lost 3. Webster: Won 2, Tied 1, Lost 2. Lions: Won 1, Lost 5.

SOSSAMON'S... in Sylva

Survey Shows No Merchants Anticipate Big Price Changes

But Wholesale Jumps Will Mean Climb In Costs To Consumer

In Asheville the mayor urged landlords not to raise rents. In Washington Chester Bowles forecast that the cost of living will double within twenty days if the prices of commodities continued their present rise. In Chicago cattle prices had leaped 25 per cent above the OPA ceiling.

A survey in Sylva showed that almost all of a group of merchants and other business men interviewed did not expect to increase prices unless wholesale prices rose or overhead took a climb.

One grocery buyer stated that he would purchase "just enough to get by on" if prices did rise, and he said that he believed that there "will be rises in the prices of scarce items, anyway."

The manager of a general merchandise store voiced the belief that the public is not enough aware of the significance of the government's removal of subsidies, which will be instrumental in forcing prices up, but he asserted that he didn't think they would stay up for long. "They will level off quicker than if we had retained OPA," was his idea.

Another manager of a general merchandise store said that prices will doubtless go up in some lines, but that scarce items will become more plentiful. Rayon, for example, will increase in price, but when the production of this staple is increased, prices will come down, opined the manager.

Restaurant owners anticipate no increases at present, but an increase in the wholesale prices of foods will naturally mean an increase in the prices of meals.

The manager of a price controls should increase the production of auto spare parts appreciably. These commodities have been extremely scarce due to the insistence of the OPA that parts remain frozen to their prices of 1941 and early 1942. A dealer in spare parts said that prices will remain the same as under the OPA as far as he is concerned, but a wholesale boost will naturally mean higher retail prices.

An automobile dealer asserted that the prices of new cars will certainly take a swing upward, but when supply catches up with demand, there should be lower prices. "It will knock out the automobile black market," the dealer said, and will settle discrepancies between auto prices. For example, under the OPA a used 1942 model sold for nine dollars more than a new 1946 model, he informed.

An investigation into the renting of rooms revealed that few if

get showed two transport ships sunk, a destroyer capsized, and a large number of other vessels damaged, with no visible destruction to the heavy capital ships. Some of the animals remained alive in the center of the target. The Navy considered the bomb drop successful.

Eligible Farmers Desiring Pea Seed Are Urged To Report To Office Of AAA

D. C. Higdon, chairman of the Jackson county AAA committee announces that the association has received a shipment of Austrian winter pea seed and that farmers wishing to seed peas for a winter cover crop should come by the AAA office and see if their farm is eligible to receive these seeds on their 1946 allowance.

Mr. Higdon urges all farmers seeding Austrian winter peas to inoculate the seed to secure a good stand. This inoculation can be bought cheaply at almost any seed store.

The peas come in 100-pound bags, and anyone wishing to have a bag broken will be required to furnish his own bag.

Rosary College Catholic Group Completes Talks

The Catholic Evidence Guild of Rosary College, River Forest, Ill., completed a week of its ten-day street-teaching tour in Sylva last Saturday afternoon.

Three undergraduate girl students accompanied by two Dominican faculty members delivered addresses each summer in Sylva, Bryson City, Franklin, and Andrews for the purpose of extending the general non-Catholic public as to the structure, aims and history of the Catholic Church.

The group will be in Bryson City through this week, then continue to Franklin and Andrews.

The group is the fourth that has been invited to speak in this area during the summers by Father Ambrose Rohrbacker of Waynesville.

The students who presented the talks are Vary Virginia Doyle of Rockford, Ill., Marjorie Malay of Gas City, Ind., and Georgeanne Dunne of Oak Park, Ill.

The faculty members on the current trip are Sister Hilaire and Sister Marie Williams.

American Legion To Sponsor Dances At Community House

Beginning July 9 the William E. Dillard post of the American Legion will sponsor a dance each week on Tuesday at the Community House with Wallace Swann and his musicians furnishing the music.

All proceeds derived from these dances will go to the building fund of the American Legion for the proposed memorial building.

Sylva Musician Is One Of Five From WNC To Make New Recordings

Wallace Swann of Sylva is one of the five musicians from Western North Carolina to make five recordings in the studio of radio station WWNC and have them recently released by the Western Recording Co. of North Hollywood, Calif. Other musicians included in the group are the Carolina Mountain boys, Joe and Edgar Pressley, and James Haney of Canton; and "Smiling" Red Raper, of Murphy, the "hillbilly" troubadour whose songs have made him popular in Western North Carolina. These artists have appeared in the annual folk festival held each year in Asheville.

The records were made at the request of the Western Recording Co. and include "Little Indian Maiden," "Letter from Mom," "Wabash Cannon Ball," "John Henry," and "Johnson's Ole Gray Mule."

These records are now on sale at Sossamon's Furniture Co.

1-Sgt. Thad B. Deitz Is Transferred

1-Sgt. Thad B. Deitz, son of Rev. and Mrs. Thad F. Deitz and husband of Mrs. Viola Thorpe Deitz, has been transferred from Fort Barrancas, Fla., to Fort Bliss, Texas, where he will attend an anti-aircraft school. When he finishes his training he will report to Atlanta.

Mrs. Deitz will be with her mother, Mrs. Lela Thorpe, during that time.

Rites Held For Mrs. Franks

Mrs. Emma Sorrells Franks, 60, of Gay, who passed away Sunday afternoon, was buried on Monday afternoon at Savannah Cemetery.

Sylvans Keep Cool As U. S. Forces Juggle Hot Potato

Although the Navy and Army of the United States were preparing to carry out a test of the atom bomb on a fleet of ships late Sunday afternoon, about 9 a. m. Monday, Bikini time, Sylva people remained relative calm and took what may be a historic event, without much ado. The streets, drug stores, and cafes were filled with people, and the curbs lined with automobiles. Some had their radios going in an effort to hear the blast, and the radio commentators as they described what was taking place.

It was July 1st across the international date line where a fleet of 73 vessels lay in the water off Bikini. Some 34,000 people, scientists and military were nearby as Operation Crossroads reached its climax after months of preparation. Devices had been installed to test the effects of this new, dreaded explosive on ships, army and navy material, and a selection of live animals tethered aboard the combat and transport ships.

Clouds of smoke billowed up to 34,000 feet height in the flash that followed the explosion. When it settled down preliminary examinations of the damage to the tar-

get showed two transport ships sunk, a destroyer capsized, and a large number of other vessels damaged, with no visible destruction to the heavy capital ships. Some of the animals remained alive in the center of the target. The Navy considered the bomb drop successful.

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