

350 Attended Revival Of Medford-Cooper Reunion Held In Clyde On Sunday

By W. C. MEDFORD

The Medford reunion (which was discontinued several years ago) was again held Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Medford at Clyde. It was reorganized in April of this year by Mr. and Mrs. Medford and Wayne Cooper of West Asheville as the Medford-Cooper reunion.

The registration showed over 300 persons, and an estimated 350 were in attendance.

The states of Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas were represented as well as a number of counties in North Carolina.

Families in attendance, which are related to the Medfords, were: Byers, Robinson, Limer, Chambers, Tate, Jones, McCracken, Rogers, Mull, and Kinsland. Mr. Cooper presided at the reunion.

Talks were given by Judge W. D. Fulbright of Cleveland, Tenn., W. G. Byers of Clyde, and W. C. Medford of Waynesville. Two or three others who had been scheduled to speak were not present.

The genealogy charts or "family trees" prepared by Amos Medford on the Medford line, Fulbrights, Robinsons, and other families were an interesting feature as were the many old pictures of the "clan," displayed on a large board.

Among those in attendance from other states were:

Judge Fulbright; Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Johnson of Decatur, Ga.; W. P. Fulbright of Americus, Ga.; F. D. Tate of Lakeland, Fla.; Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Hull of Cheswick, Pa.; Bill Cothran of Pasadena, Texas; Mrs. Bruce Francis of Hamilton, Ohio; Lenoir Burruss of Macon, Ga.; Mrs. Wade Mitchell of Chattanooga, and Mrs. C. R. Evans of Gaffney, S. C.

A downpour of rain interrupted as lunch was being enjoyed on the



OLD PHOTOGRAPHS of the Medford forebears and past Medford reunions were on display at the Medford-Cooper reunion at Clyde Sunday. Looking over the display are Hardy Medford (left) and Amos Medford, at whose home the event was held. (Mountaineer photo)

Payroll Gains Match Rise In Local Business Activity

spacious lawn, but lunch boxes were again opened up after the rain and everybody had finished by about 1:30 when the regular program began.

Oldest persons present were Charlie Medford, Mrs. Lavonia Medford, Aunt Ida Mullis, and Charlie Limer.

Tentative arrangements have been made to hold the reunion again next year about the same time during the summer.

(Special to the Mountaineer) Significant business gains were made in Haywood County in the past year as its residents, enjoying relatively good incomes and a high rate of employment, expressed their strength in large-scale buying in the local retail shops.

This is brought out in a copyrighted study of business in the nation's cities and counties, released in Sales Management's new buying power survey.

The high tempo of activity in

Haywood County is seen in the amount of retail business recorded. It added up to a \$27,503,000 year for the local merchants. This was a gain over the \$24,033,000 of the previous year.

What was the direction of the bigger spending? The extra money available was used to buy the things that make for a better standard of living. People equipped themselves with more of the modern devices that add to comfort and convenience. Electric refrigerators, washing machines, better homes, fancier cars and the many other items that were once luxuries have become musts for more people.

The ability to spend more is made possible by better earnings. The data shows that, despite certain soft spots in the local economy, the net disposable income among families in Haywood County came to \$41,049,000 last year.

Divided by the number of local families, it amounted arithmetically to \$4,189 per family compared with \$4,004 in 1954.

The improvement, which amounted to 4.6 per cent, was better than was achieved generally. The gain



350 PERSONS attended the Medford-Cooper reunion held Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Medford at Clyde. The Medford reunion has not been held for the past several years, but was resumed this summer by the hosts and Wayne Cooper of Asheville. The event is expected to be held again next year. (Photo for The Mountaineer by Joe Medford)

Haywood Farm Land Prices Among Highest In Nation

(Special to the Mountaineer)

was 3.6 per cent for the United States.

The ratio of how much is actually being spent in each community, as compared with its full capacity, is shown in the survey by a "buying power index". This weighted figure is based on such factors as income, sales and population. It lists Haywood County as able to produce .0169 per cent of the nation's retail business. Since a smaller amount was done last year, .0149 per cent, it is evident that considerable sales potential is still available.

NEW YORK—Mounting business activity in the retail stores in Haywood County in the past few years has been accompanied by a corresponding rise in payrolls.

The 301 local retail establishments chalked up \$24,238,000 in business during the year 1954 as compared with \$17,781,000 six years earlier. The increase was 37 per cent.

At the same time their payrolls rose to \$2,034,000 from \$1,581,000. This represented an increase of 28 per cent. The number of employees was 1,022 in 1954.

These sidelights on local retail operations are brought out in the Government's 1954 Census by Business, just released. It is the first such study made by the Census Bureau since 1948. It covers every state, county and urban place in the country over 2,500.

The census, which has been eagerly awaited by the business community of the country, is expected to contribute answers to many questions.

One of these is: how have central city retail sales been affected by suburban development? Another:

has the expansion of retail outlets been in line with population trends?

Haywood County's 37 per cent rise in overall retail business was better than that accomplished throughout the United States generally, where the increase was 30 per cent.

The big guns of retail activity locally during the year were stores selling food, eating and drinking places, and automotive equipment establishments.

The food store and eating and (Continued on Page 6)

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