

Million Dollars Earmarked For Rural Telephone Lines

KING STREET

BY ROB RIVERS

EMMA LOU DOLLARS, 9 year old Deep Gap child, stricken with infantile paralysis two years ago, was in town Monday to highlight a March of Dimes radio program at WATA, and dropped by to visit with us at the Democrat office for a few minutes. . . . A bright, pretty child, Emma Lou makes friends readily and the folks along the street who are acquainted with the happy child are glad to see her each visit she makes to the city. . . . Through the good offices of the National Infantile Paralysis Foundation, this child, severely handicapped, is improving, and while she must live in a wheel chair, there are hopes that she will continue to improve and ultimately be able to live pretty nearly a normal life. . . . There are thousands of Emma Lous throughout this broad land, stricken down with polio, and the records indicate that four out of five of these victims of the grimcrippler must be ministered to by funds which we are privileged to contribute during the March of Dimes campaign. . . . In other words without the dollars and dimes which are given, and without the facilities provided by the National Foundation, it is to be assumed that only 20 per cent of the afflicted children would secure treatments, braces, chairs, etc.

WATAUGA COUNTY, along with the rest of the nation, is being called on again this year to raise some money to help children like little Emma Lou. . . . to restore the smile to other little faces, which have shown the marks of excruciating pain, to reactivate the muscles of the countless little arms and legs which have been immobilized, and to replace dark despair, with bright hopes of a gladsome return to the playground, the school, and to the normal pursuits of a happy childhood.

WE ARE NOT BEING ASKED for a great deal. . . . We have never been asked for an amount in proportion to the sums spent on our own children by the National Foundation. . . . We could pay the two or three thousand dollars asked of us annually for many years yet, and still be indebted to people of other States for the treatments our own Watauga children have been given. . . . Other demands on our people at this time are great. . . . The organizational campaigns being conducted almost daily in this locality take a lot of money. . . . The income tax man is digging deeper every trip, and come March 15, we don't know what the story's going to be, but despite all of this. . . . despite the high cost of living, and all the many demands of a society geared to financial abandon, surely we could do no less than, to give to the relief of polio sufferers, sums equal to those received by our own children from other folks. . . . Self-respect, if not love for God's own little youngsters ought to command a little more support than is being given this noble cause. . . . Money is coming in very slowly to Jim Taylor's campaign headquarters, folks are not overly anxious to have a part in this effort to salvage the frail little bodies of the youngsters, and they ought to be downright ashamed, considering as how the Federal lettuce is customarily ladled out around town for every manner of thing. . . . some of which are plumb no good. . . . Much is being said of our love for the Lord and his institutions. . . . But when it gets right down to the fundamentals of good Christian practice, such as helping a little frail, crippled child, who is scared and hurt, and helpless. . . . just a heck of a lot of folks turn a deaf ear. . . . Let's don't be caught short this time. . . . as a matter of fact, the youngster you may help, may be your own!

(Continued on page four)

REA Approves Large Phone Project For This Section.

West Jefferson, N. C., Jan. 13.—The possibility for widespread rural telephone service in Ashe, Alleghany and Watauga counties became definite Wednesday afternoon when G. B. Price, State administrator of REA, announced that George Haggard, U. S. Deputy Administrator of REA, had signed the allocation for \$1,060,000 for the Skyline Telephone Membership Corporation of West Jefferson for the construction project of 800 miles of lines to include 3,72 telephones in the rural sections of Ashe, Alleghany and Watauga counties. The building project totals \$1,181,000.00 and \$121,000 is to be raised in initial membership fees of \$34.00 which includes complete installation. Officials estimated that the monthly service charge would run around three dollars and twenty-five cents per member.

G. W. Edwards of West Jefferson is the new president of the Skyline Corporation. He was named this week to succeed J. Oscar Blevins of Lansing, who died suddenly last week. The telephone service to this section of North Carolina has long been needed and initial plans were started early last year when surveys were made in the three counties to determine the demand and costs.

Directors of the N. C. Rural Electrification Authority approved the incorporation application last week.

Administrator Price said that \$34 was considered low initial membership since it included all installation, and recalled that when electricity was made available to the rural sections the farmer had the expense of having his house wired.

He stated that in Watauga county the property owned by The Watauga Telephone company would be purchased by the cooperative and modern dial system installed.

Watauga people included in the incorporation were Dwight Cable, Sugar Grove; Johnny P. Greer, Sugar Grove; Sanford S. Creed, Reece.

Rotary Club Will Sponsor Stage Show

The Rotary Club of Boone is sponsoring a home-talent benefit show, "Going Places," which will be staged Wednesday and Thursday, January 24 and 25th in the High School Auditorium. The proceeds will be used for the benefit of the Rotary Club's crippled children's fund.

New Officers C. Of C. Installed; Neal, Shackford Are Speakers

by Earleen G. Pritchett
At a meeting of the Boone Chamber of Commerce, held on Tuesday night, January 9 officers for the coming year were installed. They included Herman Wilcox, president; Wayne Richardson and Fred Gragg, vice presidents; Alfred Adams, treasurer; and Roy Ruffey, Paul Winkler, Grady Farthing, Russell Hodges, Watt Gragg, Clyde Green, Leo Pritchett and Wade Brown, directors.

The installation was conducted by the Rev. J. K. Shackford, pastor of the Boone Methodist church. Mr. Shackford told the officers that in the true discharge of their office they should remember four major considerations: A faith, or a philosophy, with some ruling idea; a policy for achieving that idea; a program for coordinating the policy; and a strategy for taking hold and moving forward to the objective. He said that a good motto for every Chamber of Commerce would be Oliver Goldsmith's lines.

Report Road Work In Watauga Given

Six and nine-tenths miles of road have been paved, while 27.7 miles have been graded and surfaced with traffic bound macadam in Watauga county during 1955, according to a year-end report coming from the State Highway Commission.

The report reveals that in addition, \$17,000 has been spent in this county for repairs to and replacement of bridges on Watauga roads paved with bond funds.

Eighteen additional miles of county roads have been stabilized, while eleven miles now under construction will be paved next spring.

The Bamboo to Blue Ridge Parkway, 1.5 miles has been completed out of regular state funds, it is said, while the only Federal aid project listed as being completed in 1955 is defined as the "relocation and surfacing of NC 603 from a point 1.5 miles west of Sugar Grove west to a point approximately 7.7 miles east of the Tennessee State line—3 miles."

January Scout Meeting Tonight

The January meeting of the Watauga District, Old Hickory Council, will be held tonight (Thursday) at 7:30 o'clock, at the Skyline Restaurant. Various committee reports will be given, the main ones being a report on the recent fund raising drive in this district to be given by Alfred Adams, and a report by the Camping and Activities group, headed by Howard Cottrell, which will disclose activity plans for the Scouts during the coming year.

A discussion of plans for the National Scout week, February 6 through 12, is expected to be held. Anyone interested in Scouting is invited to attend. It is not a supper meeting.

Brown Named To Committee Posts

Wade E. Brown of Boone, Watauga's member of the House of Representatives, was appointed to a number of important committees by Speaker Taylor last Wednesday. The appointments follow:

Vice-chairman of Conservation and Development, member of Judiciary No. 2, Agriculture, Elections, Higher Education, Courts and Judiciary Districts, Justices of the Peace, Wildlife Resources, Education, Senatorial Districts Appropriations.

Ill fares the land, to hastening ills the prey Where wealth accumulates, and men decay.

He told the officers that they should concentrate on conservation in six areas: Our offspring; our character; our talents; our work or industry; our natural resources; and our investment capital. Included would be the full, best possible church life for the community, by loyal and sincere participation by each member in the life of the church, by discouragement of all commercial activities upon the principal day of worship in the churches, by a careful effort to avoid scheduling of big public events upon the night of the mid-week church service. Mr. Shackford commended the citizens upon continuing the policy of banning the sale of alcohol, and reminded the Chamber of Commerce of its high responsibility for creating sentiment for law enforcement.

Along with the growth in population, Mr. Shackford said that toward conservation of the youth

REPORT SHOWS GOOD YEAR AT HOSPITAL: NEW SET OFFICERS

Wade E. Brown New Chairman Board Of Directors.

The annual meeting of the Board of Trustees for the local hospital was held on Wednesday, January 10. Business included election of officers for the coming year and a report of the hospital's activities for 1955.

Wade E. Brown was elected chairman succeeding Dr. G. K. Moose. Others elected were: Herman R. Eggers, vice-chairman; Fred Gragg, secretary and Stanley A. Harris, treasurer. Vance C. Holland was re-employed as administrator.

A comparative report showed that the hospital increased in number of patients and service rendered. A grand total of 660 surgical procedures were done in 1955 compared with 583 in 1954. There were 1,862 patients admitted and discharged during the year. X-ray and laboratory work almost doubled itself. A total of 490 emergency cases were taken to the hospital for treatment. "ACTH" the wonder drug was procured making the hospital one of the first in North Carolina to use it. In addition, any and all new medicines were made available to the medical staff. Plant improvements included the completion of a new kitchen—modern in every respect; an over-all inside painting; modern operating room lights; enlargement of the clinical laboratory; new furniture for several rooms; and the installation of an emergency power unit.

Under the direction of James Christian Pfohl, head of the music department of Davidson College, the Western North Carolina clinic band will present a concert in the Appalachian State Teachers College auditorium, Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Clinic Band To Give Concert At College Saturday Night

The concert will climax two days of rehearsing of 85 students from 23 schools in the western section of the state. Assisting Mr. Pfohl in conducting the clinic are: Mr. Roy Blanton, clinic chairman; Mr. Gordon A. Nash, director of the Appalachian State Teachers College band; Mr. Roy Milligan, director of Mineral Springs band; Mr. Robert Mayer, director of Reynolds High band of Winston-Salem; Mr. Moore, woodwind instructor at Davidson College; Mr. Bernard Hirsch, director of the Marion High band; Mr. Earl Martin, director of the Hendersonville High School

Quartet Leaders Are To Meet on Sunday

The leaders of the various quartets in the county are asked to meet at radio station WATA Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock to map plans for a singing, designed to raise money for the March of Dimes. Where possible, leaders are asked to see Richard Hodges in Boone, before Sunday.

Blue Ridge Fair Dates Are Set

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Blue Ridge Fair Association, held last week, the dates of this year's exhibition were set, officers and directors elected, and it was decided to issue the premium list by April 15, in order that farmers may make their plans to enter the competitions at the start of the farming season.

Doughton Opposes Draft of Youths

Washington, Jan. 15.—Rep. R. L. Doughton (D-N.C.) is opposed to drafting 18-year-olds. He issued a statement this week saying, "I am unconditionally opposed to lowering the draft age. If it has to be moved at all, it should be moved upward."

Mayor Boosts Dimes Drive

Honorable Gordon H. Winkler, Mayor of Boone, North Carolina, issued a proclamation Monday calling on all residents of this city to assure continuation of the fight against infantile paralysis by giving unstinted support to the 1956 March of Dimes.

The proclamation disclosed that bills for polio patient care alone during 1949-50 took some \$47,000,000 in March of Dimes funds, again exhausting the epidemic aid fund of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Text of the proclamation follows: "WHEREAS, for the third successive year the nation has experienced a very serious polio epidemic, with incidence that ranks 1955 as the second worst polio year on record, and

"WHEREAS, the past two years drained away some \$47,000,000 in March of Dimes funds in defraying patient care costs that families could not pay themselves, and

"WHEREAS, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis exhausted its epidemic aid fund in coping with the 1955 polio outbreaks and with continuing care for patients from 1949 and earlier years, and

"WHEREAS, the 1951 March of Dimes, January 15-31, must prove the most outstanding success if the National Foundation's work is to continue unabated,

"SO THEREFORE, I, Gordon H. Winkler, Mayor of Boone, North Carolina, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM January 15-31 as March of Dimes period in our city and do call upon all to do their utmost to ensure the success of the drive and the continuance of the fight against infantile paralysis."

Carolina Band Clinic To Be Held At Appalachian

85 Band Members Being Entertained

The college, townspeople, Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce, and Rotary Club are combining their efforts to entertain the eighty-five members of the Western North Carolina Clinic Band and their directors.

The Boone Lions Club has donated the money to furnish one meal to all members of the clinic. The Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club have donated the money for one meal. The college is giving the members of the clinic a dinner on Friday evening and providing sleeping accommodations for forty boys. Parents of high school band members and other interested townspeople are furnishing sleeping accommodations for the other student members of the clinic.

The college and community spirit of cooperation is highly commendable and the officers and directors of the clinic are deeply appreciative.

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He said letters from North Carolinians opposed to putting 18-year-olds into service are pouring into his office daily.

He said one out of ten of the letters also says "get us out of Korea."

Polio Dance Set For February 1

Final Plans In Making For Annual Social, Benefit Affair.

Preliminary plans have been made for the annual March of Dimes ball, which is to be held at Appalachian High School auditorium Thursday February 1, from 9 to 12, and at the same time Jim Taylor, March of Dimes director announces a novelty request show on station WATA, to boost polio fund collections.

On Friday of this week from 2 to 5 p. m. the request show will be featured over the local radio facility. Listeners are invited to call WATA and request a number. In turn John's Cabs will call at the listener's home for a donation to the March of Dimes.

Music for the polio ball will be supplied by Ed Waugh and his orchestra, and tickets are now on sale at the following places: Boone Drug Co., College Book Store, Wade E. Brown's office.

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Burley Market Closes Friday

The last auction sales on the Boone Burley market will be held Friday, and present indications are that the final tally will show that about three million pounds have been sold on the local market this season.

Warehousemen point out that the post-Christmas sales have produced the highest average prices ever known on the Boone market.

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Attends Lectures

Miss Madeline McCain was in Chapel Hill last week where she attended lectures by Miss Helen Markainen, of the world health organization, who is in the country for a few days from Geneva, Switzerland.

Dr. Dougherty Again Is Chosen Head Northwestern Bank Group

North Wilkesboro—Dr. B. B. Dougherty, president of Appalachian State Teachers College at Boone, was re-elected president of the Northwestern Bank at an annual meeting here here last week at the bank's home office.

Stockholders of the bank, which has branches in 17 Northwestern North Carolina cities and towns, were informed that 1955 was a highly successful year for the institution.

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HECTOR SOUSA ROTARY GUEST

Hector Sousa, graduate student of Appalachian State Teachers College, and a native of Argentina, spoke to the Boone Rotary Club Thursday on his country, and what the Rotary Foundation fellowship has meant to him since coming to America.

Mr. Sousa is sponsored by the 280th district of Rotary International. Rotary Foundation fellowships, it is explained, are grants of money for one year of advance study abroad by young men selected for their qualifications and the promise they show for becoming influential leaders in their countries. "In this way," a local Rotarian stated, "youth is served and at the same time the objective of international understanding and good will is served."

Broom Sale Gifts Given To Blind

The Boone Lions Club distributed Christmas cheer to 35 blind people of Watauga county, in the form of small checks, which were sent with the hope that their holidays might be a bit merrier.

The funds thus distributed by the Lions came from the recent broom sale.

A. C. E. Meeting

The Watauga unit of the ACE will meet Friday evening at 7:30 at the C. K. & M. Gateway Cafe, rather than at the Skyline Restaurant, as originally scheduled.

All members are asked to come and each is expected to bring a guest.

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In Raleigh

Dr. Mary Michael of the district health office attended an official conference in Raleigh last week.

28 High Schools Take Part in Music Fete Friday, Saturday

The annual Western North Carolina band clinic is being held Friday and Saturday on the campus of Appalachian State Teachers College, bringing to Boone a clinic band of 85 students, representing 28 high schools, with 28 band directors.

Appalachian College and High School Bands are acting as hosts under the chairmanship of the high school band director, Mr. Roy Blanton, this being the first time in the history of North Carolina band clinics, that one has been held in Boone.

The college administration, faculty, students and townspeople extend a most hearty welcome to the directors and their students to the campus and the town of Boone, with the hope that their stay will be most profitable and enjoyable.

Purpose of Clinic

The purpose of the clinic is to bring together students from each high school band in the western part of the State for a well-balanced concert band. This band will be rehearsed under an outstanding director during which time the students and directors receive inspiring and profitable benefits, tending to further motivate the high school instrumental program.

Pfohl to Direct

The director for the clinic is one of the outstanding musical directors in the State, Mr. James Christian Pfohl. Mr. Pfohl is head of the music department at Davidson College as well as conductor of the Charlotte Symphony and director of the nationally-famous Transylvania Music Camp of Bryard, N. C.

The Clinic Personnel

Following are the schools represented, the band directors and the students who will attend the clinic:

- Asheville, Lee Edwards High School; Joseph DeNardo, Director, Otto Henry, Larry Sherrill, Sylvia Moody.
- Boone, Appalachian High School; Roy R. Blanton, Director; Harry Farthing, Martha Council, Evelyn McCracken, Guy Hunt.
- Bryson City, Swain County High School; Donald L. Womick, Director, Dewitt Barker, Claude Parrish, Theresa Hyatt.
- Canton, Canton High School; Edwin Troutman, Director, Ronald Muench, Director, Mack Barrett, Harry Fincher, Frank Medford.
- Caroleen, Tri-High School; D. C. Cole, Director, Bobby Brindle.
- Cliffside, Cliffside High School; D. C. Cole, Director, Betty Whitaker.
- Drexel, Drexel High School; Dane Smyre, Director, Gertrude Miller, Blodden Idenhour, Cynthia Clarke.
- Elkin, Elkin High School; Joseph R. Austell, Director, Bonnie Bowman, Sarah Boyles, Kitty Cranford.
- Forest City, Cool Springs High School; D. C. Cole, Director, Bud Hames.
- Franklin, Franklin High School; Sammy Beck, Director, Bill Zickgraf, Bryan Hurst, Ann Hays.
- Glen Alpine, Glen Alpine High School; Martha E. Thomason, Director, Mary Walton, Jane Childress.
- Hendersonville, Hendersonville High School; Earl H. Martine, Director, Virginia Tiltson, John Young, Grace Myers.
- Hickory, Hickory High School; Landon Walker, Director, Dickie Miller, Jimmy Snyder, Glen Sashock, Vickie Bowman.
- High Point, High Point High School; A. L. Laitrell, Director, Peggy Tobia, Gwen Reddick, Haywood Rogers, Bud Montgomery.
- Hildebran, Hildebran High School; Edson Day, Director, Dean Jones.

Mrs. D. A. Tuckwiler Dies In W. Virginia

Mrs. D. A. Tuckwiler, mother of L. E. Tuckwiler of Boone, died at Clintontville, W. Va., Monday afternoon, following a long illness.

Funeral services are to be conducted Wednesday afternoon at St. James Chapel Methodist Church in Clintontville. Interment will be in the cemetery there.

Survivors are the following sons and daughters: L. E. Tuckwiler, Boone; Ray Tuckwiler; Mrs. T. C. Robinson, Mrs. L. L. Bryant, Mrs. C. F. Legg, Mrs. J. C. Pitzerberger. There is one stepson, Guy Tuckwiler. The husband also survives. There are 11 grandchildren.