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# THE Valdese News

"A LIVE NEWSPAPER IN A PROGRESSIVE TOWN"

Your Local  
Merchants Deserve  
Your Support

## Eleventh Western Gold Medal Basket Tourney Planned Next Month

### INVITATIONS GO TO EIGHT COUNTY TEAMS

Girls Events Will Begin February 12; Boys On February 19th.

Letters of invitation to Valdese Community Center's eleventh annual Western Gold Medal basketball tournament have been mailed out this week. Jimmy Chambers, center director, has disclosed. For the 11th year Valdese will become the focal point of basketball activity during the month of February as the 64-team tournament gets underway February 12. The tournament, which has become highly successful and popular with fans over an eight-county area, will be conducted the same as the 1948 event which was attended by an estimated 10,000 people. Mr. Chambers said that the invitation list includes those teams which participated in last year's tournament and in the event a team should decide not to enter, another team will be invited. The list includes teams from Lincoln, Catawba, Alexander, Caldwell, Burke, Cleveland, Rutherford and McDowell counties.

The girls' tournament will begin February 12 and extend through February 19, with the boys' tournament beginning on the latter date and extending through February 28.

Teams entering the tournament are required to pay a \$5 entry fee which is refunded after the tournament. Mr. Chambers said that he had no way of knowing at this time how the individual teams would be seeded.

Last year's boys' winner was Stony Point high school which eliminated Fallston in a thrilling game. The Lincoln high school girls defeated the North Brook high school girls for the girls' championship.

Began here in 1938, the Community Center's basketball tournament has been increasing in popularity and last year drew the largest crowds up to that time. It is expected that this year's event will prove even more popular.

The clock-like precision with which the tournament is run, its orderliness and clean fun, has made it one of the most successful large scale high school athletic events to be held in the state.

### ROTARY CLUB ADDS THREE NEW MEMBERS

The Valdese Rotary Club added three new members to its roster Tuesday. They are Sam Brinkley, Clinton Brown and George Anderson.

Mr. Brinkley operates the City Coal Company here; Mr. Brown is a salesman with the Merchants' Produce and Grocery Company; and Mr. Anderson is manager of Benlee's Department Store.

J. P. Rostan, Sr., took charge of the program of last week's meeting, tell the club of his experiences at the Sugar Bowl game.

Rev. O. L. McGinnis, pastor of the Emory Baptist church, spoke to the club at this week's Tuesday luncheon meeting, using as his subject "Friendship," which he connected with the Rotary motto "Service above Self."

Frank Goode was in charge of the program.

## Valdese Library Reviews Fine Record As Fifth Year Of Service Is Recognized

The Valdese Public Library was five years old Tuesday of last week. During the five years of its life, 8,622 books have passed across its desk into the hands of readers, an average circulation of almost 15,000 a year, or well over thousand books a month.

The library opened January 11, 1944, in the telephone building, and moved to the rear of the Valdese News in June of 1947, when the telephone building was needed for other purposes. It has been open five afternoons a week for five years, with the exception of six weeks during May and June, 1947, when the move from one lo-

## Valdese Postal Receipts Reach All-Time High

Postal receipts at the Valdese post office for the year 1948 hit an all-time high of \$39,253.26, it was disclosed yesterday by Postmaster J. M. Farris. Receipts in 1948 exceeded the next highest year, 1947, by \$13,351.12, an increase of more than 50 percent.

Although Valdese has come in for its share of growth, the biggest factor contributing to the sizeable increase in postal revenue here was the hiking of express rates last summer, Mr. Farris said. Shippers who formerly used express service found it cheaper to turn to parcel post after express rates went up last summer.

Final quarter receipts in 1948 totalled a whopping \$12,740, as compared with \$8,418.56 for the final quarter of 1947. During the year 1948 the post office expanded in other ways also. City mail carrier service was begun in November for the first time. Parcel post delivery also was added and more than three miles was added to the rural delivery route.

## BOND ISSUE REGISTRATION NOW UNDERWAY

\$100,000 Bond Issue Election Set For February 1st With Little Opposition.

Registration for the \$100,000 water bond issue to be submitted to Valdese voters February 1 is now being made at the city hall by Glenn Ramsey, town clerk.

Saturday, January 29, will be challenge day and the following Tuesday the election will be held. Little opposition is expected to the bond issue which will permit the double of town's water supply, an increase of 500,000 gallons daily.

Expansion of the filter plant at the eastern end of town and the laying of a new main from the plant into town is the principal work to be done if the bonds are issued.

## MASONIC FUNERAL FOR J. U. LEDBETTER, 79

Funeral services with Masonic honors by local Masons were conducted Wednesday afternoon, January 12, in Rutherford College, for J. U. Ledbetter, 79, who died Tuesday morning at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Phil Rowlands, in Henderson. Burial was in St. John's Lutheran church cemetery, beside Mrs. Ledbetter, who died on December 13, 1948.

Survivors are one son, R. O. Ledbetter of Andrews, S. C.; four daughters, Mrs. J. Paul Lowder of Norwood, S. C.; Mrs. Lawrence Coley of Rocky Mount, Mrs. Walter Carroll Ennis of Hickory, Mrs. Rowlands of Henderson; nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

## LUMBER YARD FIRE

A fire in a sawdust pile at the Brinkley lumber yard caused the Valdese volunteer firemen to be called out at about midnight Friday. The fire was extinguished in a short time.

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## PILOTS PLAN REPAIR SHOP FOR USED TOYS

Residents Urged To Hold On To Discarded Toys and Send Them To Shop.

Plans are being made in Valdese for a toy workshop for the repair of toys to be given to underprivileged children next Christmas. The Pilot Club of Valdese, meeting Thursday night at the Valdese Community Center, voted to sponsor such a project.

While the Pilot club is taking the initiative in starting the workshop, it is expected that other organizations will help with it later. Anyone with discarded toys around the house, that could be repaired, are asked to "please, please not throw them away," but to call a member of the club instead. They will be picked up and stored until the workshop can be opened, probably in the fall.

Call Mrs. Nell Hern or The Valdese News office, and the toys will be collected. It doesn't matter if the wheels are off the truck or the tricycle needs paint and tires, or the doll bed is broken.

The idea for the toy workshop grew out of the club's experience in delivering packages of food and toys to needy families this Christmas. Mrs. Lena McCauley and Mrs. Bertha Deaton made the deliveries, assisted by Eldon (Corky) Berry driving a truck loaded by the Martinat Hosiery Hill. They drove about 50 miles one morning delivering the packages, and all came home saying, "If only we had more toys." For, giving one toy to each child, they had not had nearly enough to go around, even though they had started out with what had seemed a large supply.

Said Corky Berry, "I've lived in Valdese all my life, and I didn't know conditions like this existed."

On the way back the three discussed the need for more toys, and later in talking with others, they thought about the many toys in Valdese that, with a little repair work, would mean so much to some child at Christmas.

They are hoping that by next December, there will be rows and rows of shiny toys waiting to be delivered.

Toy repair shops have proved very successful in many other towns.

## SCHOOL ANNUAL BEING PRINTED

Students Assured Annuals To Be Ready Before End Of School Term.

The Impersonator, annual of the Francis Garrou Memorial high school, has "been put to bed," as the printers say. The dummy and all the materials were sent to the Lassiter Press in Charlotte last week, it was learned from Janet McDonald, editor in chief. Students are assured of having their annuals in plenty of time to get them duly autographed before school is out.

The annual is being published by the Beta Club, which takes the publication as its main activity each year.

At present the club is also handling the sale of refreshments at all the school basketball games.

## More Gifts For First 1949 Baby

Had it been left up to the Valdese News, the New Year's baby would have missed out entirely on two gifts that were intended for him (and for his family). For, in listing the gifts from the merchants, the paper failed to include the cotton dispenser donated by Powell's Gift and Furniture Store, and the flower arrangement from the Valdese Flower Shop.

Fortunately, however, the baby did not have to depend on the newspaper. Cards had been sent to the parents, who presented them at the stores and received these two gifts along with 14 others.

ATTEND CONCERT  
Among the Valdese people attending the concert of the Revelers in Hickory last Tuesday were Mrs. Wade Stemple, Mr. and Mrs. George Williams and daughter, Ruth, Mrs. Leon Guigou, Mrs. John Guigou, Miss Catherine Guigou, Mrs. Alex Gulcok, Misses Helen and Lucile Williams, Miss Anita Ghigo, Miss Sylvia Brown, George Carpenter, James Short, Dr. and Mrs. Palmer.

## He's Ready To Do His Part



A polio victim of many years ago receives a collection can and other March of Dimes material to put in his store. J. R. Houk, who had polio at the age of 18 months and who has come through life with a crippled leg, takes the can from Mrs. E. B. Setzer, polio worker for Connelly Springs. Mrs. Setzer's son, "Brisie", had polio last summer. Mr. and Mrs. Houk operate the filling station, grocery store and sandwich stand at the intersection of the Rutherford College road and Highway 70.

## Special Meeting Of P. T. A. Set For Tomorrow Night

At a special meeting of the Valdese Parents-Teachers Association this Thursday night at the elementary school auditorium, the report of the North Carolina Education Commission, published last month, will be reviewed and discussed. The meeting is called for 7:30 o'clock and Mrs. J. M. Chambers is chairman of the program committee for the evening.

Commenting on the group's consideration of the much-discussed report, John Johnson, elementary school principal, said that since a number of local citizens had filled out questionnaires last year from which the report was compiled, he hoped to see a large gathering Thursday night. Former Governor Gregg Cherry

had refused to have the commission's report published by the state last year which led to a state-wide controversy and finally resulted in the long detailed account on the state of North Carolina's schools being published by a private organization.

Mr. Johnson said that he had read much of the report, which is well over 1,000 pages in length, and had found it most comprehensive. Strips films and excerpts from the text read by Donald Johnson of the high school faculty will be used to bring out the points to be considered by the P-T-A.

Rev. Ben Dickson, pastor of the Assembly of God church, will have charge of devotionals and Mrs. Harold LaFavers will conduct a program of group singing.

## "America's Geographical Frontiers" Subject of Study Series at R. College

The first of a series of studies on the topic, "America's Geographical Frontiers," using the text book, "On Our Own Doorstep," was presented Sunday evening at the five o'clock Vespers Hour, under the leadership of Mrs. L. C. Johnston, secretary of mission education and service of the Woman's Society of Christian Service and of the Wesleyan Service Guild at Rutherford College.

"The Church of the Crossroads" was the devotional theme, and was opened with an instrumental prelude, "Meditation," played by Sylvia Bolick. Mrs. Johnston then gave the call to worship, which included a free translation of the hymn, "Hawaii Aloha." A vocal solo, "Jesus, Thou Art Ever Calling," was sung by Alice Hallyburton, with piano accompaniment by Mrs. Grace Moore of Morganton. A Prayer of the Church of the Crossroads, Honolulu, Hawaii, was followed by the meditation, "De-

## CORRECTION IN ESTIMATE OF PILOT MILL OFFICE

The cost of enlarging the office space of the Pilot Full Fashioned Mill will be only about \$22,500, as it was estimated at \$62,500 as last week's issue of The Valdese News stated in a story about the building permits issued in Valdese in 1948. The Pilot Mill did get permits amounting to \$62,500, it is true, but of that amount \$40,000 was for the new warehouse which has been in use for several months now.

CLUB HOSTESS  
Mrs. Dan Bounous was hostess last week to the Wednesday Night Bridge club.

## CREDIT GROUP SEEN LIKELY FOR VALDESE

Merchants Express Desire To Have Some Form Of Organization.

Valdese merchants seem likely to approve and appropriate funds to approve and appropriate funds organization in the very near future, the proponents of which hope to see it grow into a full-scale Merchants Association.

Frankie Pons, who as chairman of a three-man committee has been making a survey of local business houses, reports that nearly all the business men he has called on have indicated a desire to participate in the organization. He has discussed with merchants the matter of membership fees and dues necessary to provide enough revenue to run credit organization and he expressed confidence that there would be little difficulty from the financial angle.

"Right now we are trying to decide just what kind of an organization will be best suited for Valdese," Mr. Pons said. "We had thought at one time that one woman could manage the office, but there has been some feeling expressed lately that the job should be given to a man who could plan and expand the credit organization into something larger and more useful to the community at large."

Already as the rumor of the credit organization's establishment circulated through town, merchants have noted a marked improvement in their accounts receivable. Their delinquent customers have apparently been aware that if old debts are outstanding at the time the credit association is installed they will penalized by receiving a poor credit rating.

Serving on the committee with Mr. Pons is John Gardner and Russell Bumgarner. The merchants group is expected to get together later this month to review progress on the plan and decide further action to be taken.

## ROTARY PICKS JR. MEMBERS

Jack Robinson Is Selected Junior Rotarian For Two-Weeks Term.

Jack Robinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Robinson, has been selected as Junior Rotarian for two weeks, and will attend the meetings of the Valdese Rotary club each Tuesday at the Pilot Cafeteria.

Jack, an outstanding student, is president of the junior class, and also serves as business manager for the class. His ambition is to be a West Pointer. On weekends and after school he works at the A & P. Junior Rotarian for the past two weeks was Robert Herman, who is president of the senior class and was chosen mayor-for-a-day in the student elections November.

Robert was business manager for the junior class last year and performed the unusual (according to Principal C. B. Honeycutt) feat of ending the year with a surplus.

## Books Added To High School Shelf

The library at the Francis Garrou Memorial high school had added 125 new books, which are now in the process of being catalogued by Miss Anita Ghigo, who is in charge of the library, and her student helpers.

Chosen from the state approved list, the books covered a wide range of interests. C. B. Honeycutt, principal, said that every teacher in the school had a part in selecting the books.

## VALDESE SEWING SHOP HAS NEW OPERATORS

The Valdese Sewing Shop on Faet street between the Building and Loan Association and the city hall is now being run by Mrs. Emory Eckard and Mrs. Jim Phillips, both of Hickory. Mrs. Eckard and Mrs. Phillips took over the location, a small brick building, last week. Mrs. W. E. Passmore and Mrs. Roy Murphy formerly ran the shop.

Mrs. Eckard and Mrs. Phillips, both experienced seamstresses, do dressmaking of all kinds and alterations.

## March Of Dimes Drive Gets Under Full Power In Valdese Last Week

### Aids Polio Drive



Mrs. A. T. Abernethy of Rutherford College forgets that she is supposed to be at home recovering from the flu and starts out to deliver material for the March of Dimes. She is in charge of the Rutherford College drive, from the Hospital northward.

## JAY SPENCER TO BE CANDIDATE IN MAYOR RACE

Says He Will File Notice Of His Candidacy When Books Opened.

Jay Spencer set the political pot boiling this week when he announced his intentions to file as a candidate for mayor in the town election to be held in May. Spencer says that he will file as soon as the books are open, sometime in March.

Possible candidates for the office of aldermen and other mayoral candidates are still in the rumor stage, with interest already running strong in the almost-four-months-off election.

It is, however, understood that the incumbent, Mayor Oscar M. Harrison, will be a candidate for re-election.

Spencer is associated with the City Radio & Tire Company.

## BAPTIST DEACONS MAKE GIFT TO ELDER MEMBER

The deacons of the First Baptist church presented a birthday gift to one of their number who is the oldest man who is a member of the church. The gift, a sweater, was given to Mr. Julius Grisette, who was 75 years old last week. Mrs. Jane Page, is the oldest woman member of the church, having recently observed her 83rd birthday.

## FEW VALDESE PEOPLE HAVE LISTED TAXES

It looks as if the people of Valdese are going to go right on being human, just as they have always done and wait until the last week to list their taxes. A Grill, tax collector, said, with a twinkle in his eye, "I don't think there were more than three or four who came in the whole first week I was at the city hall. But they'll be coming in the last week."

## LEAF RESEARCH FARM SET UP IN COLUMBUS

A new research farm which will specialize in studying problems of Border Belt tobacco growers is now being established in Columbus county, announced Dr. R. W. Cummings, associate director of the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station.

## PRIZE OFFERED STUDENTS FOR EXTRA EFFORT

All-Star Basketball Game To Have Cake Auction On January 28th.

The polio drive was launched last week in Valdese with vim and vigor.

School children have been covering the town like locusts in their effort to fill their dime cards. Charles Burgin announced that a prize would be given to the classroom collecting the most money and also to the individual pupil turning in the largest amount.

The two dime boards took in \$84 Saturday, more than was contributed to the boards in two weeks last year. The board in the eastern end of town, in front of the people's Drug Store, manned by the Boy Scouts, took in \$57, while the Girl Scouts collected \$27.00 for the board in the west end of town, in front of the Rock Drug Store.

Mrs. Lucy Hall, chairman of the solicitations in the business district, announced that she and her assistants, Mrs. Haynes Rutherford, Mrs. J. P. Rostan, Jr., Mrs. J. M. Chambers and Mrs. Elmer Winkler, would conduct their canvass of business houses Thursday and Friday of this week.

Jimmy Chambers, in charge of the sports division of the drive, has arranged for an "old stars" basketball game at the Community Center on January 28. During the half, there will be an auction of cakes. The women's organizations of the churches are being asked to contribute the cakes.

The drive in the various industries has been started but no reports received yet, according to Edward Garrou, chairman of the industrial division.

In Rutherford College and Connelly Springs, Mrs. A. T. Abernethy and Mrs. E. B. Setzer had divided their territory and lined up workers for a house-to-house canvass. Working with Mrs. Abernethy in the section north of the hospital are Mrs. Willis Lachot and Mrs. Ed Cannon, east of highway; Mrs. E. R. Rutherford and Miss Frances Dowdle, on highway; Mrs. Gene Wood and Miss Frances Estes, west of highway.

Mrs. Setzer, who has the area south of the hospital and Connelly Springs, will be assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Ted Clemmer.

Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Culberson had as their guests Sunday through Tuesday Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wilson of Atlanta, Georgia.

## This Week In Valdese

Thursday, January 20  
6:45 p. m.—The Lions Club will meet at the Pilot Cafeteria.

7:30 p. m.—The Parent-Teacher Association will meet in the school auditorium.

7:30 p. m.—The Sans Souci Bridge Club will meet at the home of Miss Sue Searcy.

Friday, January 21  
7:30 p. m.—Double-header basketball game at high school gymnasium. Valdese vs. George Hildebrand.

Monday, January 24  
7 p. m.—The Women of the Waldensian Presbyterian church will meet at the church.

Tuesday, January 25  
12:30 p. m.—The Rotary Club will meet at the Pilot Cafeteria.

6:45 p. m.—The Men and Women of the Waldensian Presbyterian church will have a dinner meeting in Pioneer Hall.  
7 p. m.—The Daughters of American will meet in the Junior Order Hall.  
Wednesday, January 26  
2 p. m.—The Home Demonstration Club will meet at the home of Mrs. Leroy Bronson in Rutherford College.