

The Jackson County Journal

VOL. IX

SYLVA, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, FEB. 27, 1941

\$1.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE IN THE COUNTY

Elementary Basketball Tournament For County Meets Here Saturday

The annual elementary school basketball tournament for Jackson County will be held in Sylva Saturday, beginning at 9 o'clock in the morning and closing at 9 in the evening.

Both boys and girls teams from Sylva, Webster, Addie, Dillsboro, Qualla, Balsam, Beta and Willets, will participate in the tournament.

The trophies are now held by last year's winners. Beta holds the girls' cup, and Sylva, the boys'. Any school that wins one of the cups for three consecutive years retains permanent possession of it.

"STEPHEN FOSTER" REHEARSALS NOW IN FINAL STAGE

Rehearsals are swinging into the final polishing stage on the dramatic-choral production of Earl Hobson Smith's "Stephen Foster," or "Weep No More My Lady," to be given in the auditorium, Thursday evening, March 6.

The life of Stephen Foster lends itself excellently to dramatic production as was proved in the recent movie success, "Swanee River," starring Don Ameche as Stephen Foster. Jilted by the woman he thought he loved, Susan Rentlout, played by Jean Whisnant, only to be forced to give up his wife, "Jeanie With the Light Brown Hair," played by Gertrude Carter, by an adamant family because he couldn't support her and her baby, just as he realized she was the real love of his life, Stephen's life is replete with drama from the rise of the curtain till the grand finale of the fourth act.

Joe Crowell, who is playing Stephen Foster, is a new comer on the Cullowhee stage, but he bids fair to give Don Ameche a run for his money.

The costumes give promise of being one of the high lights of the play. They are authentic reproductions of actual styles of the 1850 period when the belles "felt positively naked in only five petticoats and pantalets two inches above the ankle."

Mrs. Charles Gully's choral groups, with a long string of musical successes to their credit, will be the outstanding feature of the production. In a delightful medley of gaiety and tears the groups sing such favorites as "De Caniptown Races," "Swanee Ribber," "Wilt Thou be Gone Love," and "My Old Kentucky Home." A feature is Stephen's singing of "Beautiful Dreamer" and "Jeanie with the Light Brown Hair."

The play follows the life of Stephen Foster closely and is authentic in most respects, making it particularly interesting to community music groups and high school glee clubs, as well as to lovers of the theatre.

The cast of seventy-five includes all the members of the Schubert Glee Club, the Halcyon Chorus, and members from the Western Carolina Players.

The production staff includes Marjorie Honeycutt, Harry Martin, I. A. Jackson, Mary Katherine Gardner, Marion Arnold, Dorothy Thompson, and Edith Cherry.

TO MOVE EVERGREENS AT HIGH SCHOOL

The row of beautiful, young white pines, set a few years ago along the highway on the school property at Sylva, will be moved and reset, near the Vocational Educational building, which is in the course of construction.

The pines were deemed by school authorities to be a traffic hazard for the school busses and were ordered removed. Mrs. D. M. Hall, C. E. Smith, and Mrs. Dan Tompkins, were appointed a committee to relocate the trees.

Suspend Sentence On Cole; To Pay \$1000 To McMahan

C. C. Cole, who plead guilty of involuntary manslaughter in the death of Garland McMahan, was sentenced to serve from 3 to 5 years in the State prison, by Judge Felix E. Alley; but the sentence was suspended during good behavior and upon payment of the costs of the action and \$1000 to the family of McMahan.

McMahan, 25-year-old WPA truck driver, and his young brother were walking along the highway coming to Sylva to the picture show, when the elder McMahan was struck and killed by an automobile operated by Cole, with Clyde Ledford as the other occupant of the car. The automobile, according to witnesses, did not slacken its speed, but continued toward Sylva. A few minutes later Cole and Ledford were arrested on charges of drunken driving, by Chief of Police Griffin Middleton and Patrolman John O'Kelly. Cole was intoxicated, according to officers.

Mrs. W. B. Farwell Passes At Balsam

News reaches us from Balsam this morning of the death on yesterday of Mrs. W. B. Farwell, one of the oldest and best loved residents of that community.

Mrs. Farwell, born in Virginia, came to Balsam many years ago. She was the widow of W. B. Farwell, for many years a merchant at Balsam, and a sister of the late Mrs. D. T. Knight, veteran correspondent of the Journal, who died a few months ago. Mrs. Farwell and Mrs. Knight operated the Balsam Store, for several years, after the death of Mr. Farwell.

SCHAUB OUTLINES NEEDS FOR A PROGRESSIVE SOUTH

Before a permanent basic system of agriculture, flexible enough to take advantage of rapidly changing conditions can be established, the South must overcome undernourishment, soil and human erosion, and an undesirable system of tenancy, believes Dr. I. O. Schaub, director of the N. C. State College Extension Service.

Speaking before the 42nd annual convention of the Association of Southern Agricultural Workers in Atlanta, Dr. Schaub said Southern farmers must grow more things to eat as well as more feed for their livestock. In addition, they must build their soil to a higher state of productivity.

While pointing out apparent needs in the South, the State College man sharply rapped critics of Southern farming methods, saying that "I am convinced that the efficiency of the southern farmers has kept pace with the efficiency of farmers in other areas and with people in other occupations."

The South has been in the midst of an agricultural change for many years, he continued. For this reason, the European war is not entirely to blame for the loss of important export markets.

"We can't expect to have what we think of as 'normal' exports just as soon as the war ends," Dr. Schaub told the meeting. "The cotton situation didn't get bad the day that fighting started abroad. It just took a turn for the worse. We've seen, or at least we should have seen, the handwriting on the wall a number of years before the current military crisis."

Concluding his speech, Dr. Schaub said: "A confident people, a well-fed, well clothed, and well-housed people will build a more prosperous South."

The State College extension director is serving this year as president of the Agricultural Workers Association.

Baptists To Honor Rev. T. F. Deitz In Special Service

The Baptist people of Jackson County are planning a special service of honor for Rev. T. F. Deitz, who has given more than fifty years to preaching the Gospel in this section of North Carolina.

The service will be held at the Scott's Creek Church on Wednesday night, March 5. Mr. M. A. Huggins, executive secretary of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention, will be present and speak. The public is cordially invited to the service.

TALKING PICTURE OF LIFE OF CHRIST TO BE SHOWN HERE

A talking motion picture utterly different from anything ever shown in this community will be presented in the Methodist Church on Monday evening, March 3, at 7:30 o'clock, under the sponsorship of the senior Methodist young people. The title of the motion picture is "Golgotha," and it is the first and only talking motion picture ever made of the life and crucifixion of Christ. "Golgotha" presents the immortal story of Christ in a spectacular and impressive manner. It is a remarkable film that every man, woman and child in this community should see. Since this great motion picture is being presented in the Methodist Church, a complete set of the finest talking motion picture equipment will be brought to this city for the showing of the film. This equipment includes special projector, a complete sound system, and a modern screen. As a result, this picture will be shown in the Methodist Church in an even more effective manner than if it were shown in a theatre.

The average feature picture made in Hollywood costs approximately \$200,000, but "Golgotha" cost \$800,000, or four times more than the average feature motion picture made in Hollywood. This will give you some idea of the size and magnitude of the picture. "Golgotha" was made in the old country, consequently the scenic backgrounds are accurate and correct in every detail. However, all the speaking parts in this picture are in English.

Everyone recognizes that the war in Europe is due largely to the fact that certain nations have forgotten the Bible and religious principles. We also know that our free democratic government is based upon the principles of the Bible and religion. Consequently, it is important for all of us to have a better conception of religious and educational principles in order that we may continue to preserve our free democracy. The seeing of "Golgotha" will give everyone a better conception of the Bible and religious and educational principles. It is positively non-sectarian in every respect.

Can Be Seen for 10c
Through the cooperation of the merchants of this community, special tickets are being given out, and these tickets, with 10 cents in cash, will admit adults to see this great talking motion picture. This brings the picture within reach of everyone. All you need to do is go to your merchant and ask for special tickets, which will be given you free. Then one of these tickets with 10 cents in cash, will admit you to see "Golgotha." There will be a children's matinee, with the regular admission price of 10 cents, and children will be admitted to the night performance, for 10 cents, without the special tickets. The producers say "Golgotha" is without question the greatest motion picture of its kind ever filmed, and that the most that can be said is "Don't fail to see it." They add that it is not only worth while, but at the same time, it is wonderful entertainment. The date is Monday, March 3 and the place of showing is the Methodist Church.

Meeting Of Farmers Federation Is Held Here Last Saturday

Thomas A. Cox of Cullowhee was renominated as a Director of the Farmers Federation at the annual meeting of the Jackson County stockholders of the Federation in the Sylva warehouse Saturday.

The entire Jackson County Advisory Committee was reelected by the stockholders. It consists of Mr. Cox; William Quiett, Whittier; A. O. Weidlich, Sylva; John C. Jones, Gay; Hute Snyder, Addie; Chief Jarrett Blythe, Cherokee; Will Bryson, Sylva; Marlon Moody, Erastus; Crawford Shelton, Whittier; Vance Hooper, East Laporte; and Milas Parker, Sylva.

Mr. Parker is also a director of the Farmers Federation from Jackson County, only half of his two-year term being expired.

At the stockholders' meeting speeches were heard from James G. K. McClure, president of the Farmers Federation; Guy M. Sales, general manager, Vearl V. Ensley, manager of the Sylva warehouse, and Charles R. Browning, Jr., head of the Federation's central marketing department who was formerly manager at Sylva.

Mr. McClure emphasized the Federation's 1941 goals of quality seeds, quality poultry, quality dairy cattle and "quality in our lives."

Winners of baby chicks in the stockholders' drawing were: Hicks Stiles, 30 chicks; Ellis Stiles, 20 chicks; and Frank Allman 10.

SYLVA HIGH SCHOOL TAKING PART IN DRAMATICS TOURNEY

Sylva High School Dramatics Club will present "Sparkin," under the direction of Mrs. Chester Scott, at the Fifth Annual meeting of the Western Carolina High School Dramatics Tournament at Western Carolina Teachers College, February 28-March 1. This tournament is being sponsored by the Western Carolina Players of which Miss Mabel Tyree is director. On Friday eleven comedies from various Western North Carolina high schools will be presented. The schedules for their presentations and the names of their directors are as follows: 9 o'clock, Webster High School, "Ring Once for Central," directed by Mrs. D. D. Davis; 9:45, Sylva High School, "Sparkin," directed by Mrs. Charles Scott; 10:30 o'clock, Swannanoa High School, "The First Dress Suit," directed by Mr. W. H. McMurray; 11:15 o'clock, Candler High School, "Sleeping Dogs," directed by Miss Louise Clark; 12:00 o'clock, Canton High School, "Cleaned and Pressed," directed by Miss Mary Gillis; 1:30, Bethel High School, "Neighbors," directed by Mrs. Tyson Cathey; 2:30, Sand Hill High School, "Sham," directed by Mrs. Junius Allison; 3:15, Cullowhee High School, "In Dixon's Kitchen," directed by Mrs. C. D. Killian; 4:00, Hendersonville High School, "Child Wonder," directed by Mrs. Walter O. Allen; 4:45, Bryson City High School, "The First Dress Suit," directed by Miss Ethlyn Massey; 5:30, Murphy High School; "Pink and Patches," directed by Miss Evelyn Brown.

On Saturday morning the five plays chosen for a semi-finals contest will be given from 9:00 to 12:30. From these five plays the judges will choose three plays for a final performance which will be given on Saturday evening.

INTRODUCE REPEALER FOR LOG CABIN BILL

Representative Dan K. Moore has introduced a bill to repeal the act of 1937 relieving the Log Cabin Association of taxation in Jackson County.

Petitions requesting this action by Mr. Moore have been in circulation in the county for several weeks.

W.C.T.C. Appropriation Increased; House Votes Unanimous On Wines

(By Dan Tompkins)

Increase Appropriation For W.C.T.C. \$27,850

The Joint Committee on Appropriations has voted to increase the appropriation for Western Carolina Teachers College to \$179,179, an increase over the Advisory Budget Commission's figures of \$27,850. This will enable the college to meet the standards set by the Southern Association of Colleges. Friends of the college are elated over the increase granted by the committee. Other institutions receiving boosts at the hands of the committee were the Greater University of North Carolina, East Carolina Teachers College, the Negro colleges at Winston-Salem, Elizabeth City, Fayetteville, and Greensboro, Cherokee Indian Normal School, at Pembroke, and the School for the Deaf and the State hospital, at Morganton.

Bill To Banish Wines Passes In House

The Assembly is nearing the close of its task. The bill to banish the sale of fortified wines from the State, except through ABC Stores, passed the House by a unanimous vote and went over to the Senate.

Liquor Referendum Bill Now In Hands Of Favorable Committee

Representative C. E. Quinn, veteran member of the House from Duplin county, and an ardent dry, pulled a fast one, when he got the bill to provide for a referendum on the whole liquor business referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, of which he is the chairman. A public hearing will be held in the hall of the house today. It is generally admitted that Mr. Quinn's committee is more favorable to the bill than any to which it could have been referred. Ordinarily, it would have gone to Finance, a committee usually opposed to any changes in the liquor laws. It is believed, however, that if propositions and grievances gives the bill a favorable report, a move will be made to have it re-referred to Finance, on the theory that a lot of money will be taken out of the state budget, should the people vote, next November, to put liquor, wine, beer, and the whole catalogue of alcoholic beverages out of the state, and to kick the ABC stores out of the 24 counties where they now operate.

Dry Easterner Backing Referendum Bill

Mr. Quinn comes from the traditionally wet east, and persists in being elected whenever he wants to represent Duplin in the House. He is personally and politically dry, and says so on all occasions. The people in Duplin thoroughly understand that he is opposed to liquor, and will work and vote for absolute prohibition wherever the opportunity presents itself. And yet Duplin, down in the theoretically wet east, continues to send him up to Raleigh as her representative. Our bet is that propositions and grievances with Quinn presiding, will give the referendum bill a favorable report. Then the fireworks will really start, for the forces favorable to ABC stores and wine and beer will try to regain the lost ground by getting the bill sent to the committee on finance.

A gathering of the faithful will fill the hall of the house and the dome will resound to oratory; but Mr. Quinn has known for many years just how he will vote and how he will try to influence his committee to vote on a bone dry bill.

Add \$1,611,464 To School Budget

The committee on Appropriations, boosting the amounts proposed by the Advisory Budget Commission by three million seven hundred seventy dollars, has added \$1,611,464 to the school budget for the biennium,

to provide for the 12th grade, an increase of five dollars a month to all teachers who have taught for nine years, \$560,000 increase for vocational education, over and above the liberal amount provided in the budget. The State school fund appropriations for the biennium now stands at \$58,112,557. This is probably the figure that will stand, unless the Assembly as a whole, when it gets the bill, makes changes, which does not appear to be likely.

Upsets School System As Now Organized

The School Machinery Act, as reported out of Committee on Education, makes certain changes in the present act under which the schools operate. Principals would be appointed for two year terms, instead of one. Administrative superintendents would not be counted in the teacher allotment as made upon the basis of average daily attendance. But, the most far-reaching provision in the bill, one which would upset the entire State school system as now organized, provides that any school district can vote taxes upon itself for the 12th grade or to supplement to teachers' pay. No school bus can be loaded beyond 125 per cent of its rated capacity. And county and city superintendents are to be elected for four year terms instead of two, as at present.

Bill Is Unfair To Poorer Counties of State

The State Department of Education has been hammering away at the State School System every since it was established in 1933. Then we had a patchwork system, based upon local taxes and State-aid funds. When the taxes vanished by reason of the depression, the State system was set up, and the sales tax imposed to support it. The theory then was that every child in North Carolina was entitled to equal educational advantages. The teachers in the special tax districts were years behind in their pay. The State had to take over; and every school in North Carolina was kept open for eight months. Now, the School Machinery Act takes us back to where we were. Each district will become a taxing unit within itself, and the State school funds, although under another name, will be largely a State-assistance fund.

Districts Will Have To Tax Themselves To Get Better Schools

The heavy taxes the districts were paying in 1933 were voted upon the taxpayers by themselves. The districts that are willing to tax themselves will have better schools, better teachers, and the others will be forced to impose the supplementary tax, or to fall behind the procession. North Carolina's vaunted school system, without property taxation is done away in the present School Machinery Bill. The funds for vocational education were raised to a very large figure; but the poorer counties will derive little benefit from it, for the reason that vocational education is still based upon county or local participation; and the counties where this training is needed as badly as anywhere in the State will be left without it, for the reason that they are financially unable to put up the money for their participation. County participation gives us an unbalanced school system, which can in no way be regarded as a State School System. It puts a penalty upon poverty, and can in no sense be regarded as just, or democratic.

With more money than the schools have ever had, the State System is thrown into the junk pile by the provision for local supplements and by county participation in order to derive the benefits from the vocational education funds.