

The Skyland Post

BELIEVE-IT-OR-NOT
The Skyland Post is the only paper in North Carolina having an audited circulation of over three times the total population of the town in which it is published.

ASHE COUNTY
is the air-conditioned section of North Carolina whose altitude ranges from 3,000 to 5,500 feet above sea level. Twenty-five miles of the PARKWAY run through the county.

VOLUME X, NO. 4

\$1.50 a Year Out of County

WEST JEFFERSON, N. C. THURSDAY, JAN. 25, 1940

\$1.00 a Year in Ashe County

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

Ashe Experiencing Most Severe Winter In Several Years

Elkland Won 2nd Place In Annual ASTC Contest

Boone Captured First Place. Fleetwood, Jefferson and Lansing Won Honors.

MANY TAKE PART

Five of Ashe county's nine high schools took part in the annual Language and Forensic tournament, on Monday, sponsored by A. S. T. C. for the high schools of Ashe, Avery and Watauga counties when Boone won first place with the greatest number of points, and Elkland came out second.

Competitive tests in both English and French were carried out among the boys and girls of the high schools, as well as speaking and interpretive reading.

The winners from the Ashe county high schools were as follows: first place, competitive English, eighth grade, boys, Cecil Fletcher, Fleetwood; second place, ninth grade English, girls, Byrl May, Lansing; first place, tenth grade English, girls, Kathleen Ragan, Elkland; second place, tenth grade English, boys, Thomas S. Johnston, Jefferson; first place, eleventh grade English, Carrie Lookabill, Elkland; second place, eleventh grade English, boys, C. J. Rich Jr., Jefferson.

In the French competitive contest Elkland won first place among all of the schools; second place, first year French, boys, John Winkler, Elkland; first place, second year French, boys, Guy Marsh, Jefferson.

Second place in declamation contest was won by J. D. Miller, Elkland. In the extemporaneous speaking, first place went to Richard Lemly, Fleetwood.

High schools from Ashe county which participated in the contests were Fleetwood, Elkland, Jefferson, West Jefferson and Lansing. Weather conditions and the fact that some of the other schools had been closed part of the time since Christmas, prevented them from taking part in the events.

Last year Elkland won first place in the tournament. Kathleen Ragan, Carrie Lookabill, J. D. Miller of Elkland were among the winners last year as well as this year. Boone high school came out second last year.

Mass Meeting In Jefferson Tues. Was Postponed

The mass meeting of Jefferson citizens, scheduled to be held on Tuesday afternoon to consider possible plans for getting a WPA water and sewerage project for the town, was postponed because of bad weather and the inability of Warren H. Booker, director of division of sanitation of the State Board of Health, to come to Jefferson.

Tentative plans for the proposed project were discussed by several leading citizens, but no definite announcement has been made.

KEE FINED \$50 FOR VIOLATING GAME LAW

At a hearing before Squire Rose, Tuesday, Iran Kee, of Charlotte was found guilty of buying and selling game birds and was fined \$50 and the cost. The case against Ned Maxwell, also of Charlotte was dismissed for lack of evidence.

Kee and Maxwell were arrested several days ago by Harvey Goodman, Ashe county game warden and George Royal, special game warden, of Roaring Gap, after chasing them for some distance. The men, when caught were found to have around 100 quail and grouse as well as a great many rabbits on a truck which they were taking to Charlotte to dispose of.

It was reported that Kee who has hauled produce from this section for some time, had been suspected of buying and selling game birds, before he was caught.

Famous Mountain Covered With Snow



Since two days before Christmas, Ashe county's famous Negro Mountain has been covered with ice and snow. One of the most beautiful views ever seen from West Jefferson is the sun's rays glistening on ice-covered Negro. (Photo by Staff Photographer.)

Congressman Doughton May Agree To Stay In Harness

Masons Install New Officers

T. B. Grayson is New Master. Dinner Held at Tucker Hotel Tues. Night.

Following a dinner held at the Tucker Hotel, on Tuesday evening, the local chapter of the order of Masons held the annual installation of officers, at an impressive meeting at the lodge hall.

Ira T. Johnston, past master of the local lodge, was in charge of the installation services. The following were inducted into office: T. B. Grayson, master; Coleman Payne, senior warden; Gwyn Gambill, Jr., warden; Ed D. Barr, treasurer; W. B. Austin, secretary; Ira T. Johnston, senior deacon; Dean McMillan, Jr. deacon. Captain George Doggett acted as marshal during the installation service.

The attendance was unusually good Mr. Johnston said, considering the weather. The Helton lodge had planned to hold a joint meeting and installation service with the local lodge, but due to weather conditions, was unable to attend.

Healing Springs Lunch Room Gets 2nd. Place Rank

Ashe county has the honor of having what supervisors regard as being the second best WPA school lunch room in North Carolina.

According to information obtained from Mrs. Alice Baker, county supervisor, the Healing Springs high school lunch room enjoys this distinction.

"This lunch room has all of the equipment required by WPA, also a large, spacious dining room with a seating capacity of 80, canned goods and so on," she said. "As soon as our hot water unit is installed, we hope it will be placed on the top round."

Second President's Ball Will Held Here On February 3rd.

The campaign against infantile paralysis in Ashe county was opened Saturday night with 1940's first President's Ball, to be held in this section, and an announcement was made that the second ball would be held here Saturday night, Feb. 3.

The proceeds of both of these events as well as the "March of Dimes" campaign now underway, will be used to fight infantile paralysis. Small containers for dimes are now being placed in stores and other public places to enable everyone to contribute to this cause. Bruce Dent, chairman of the drive here, said it would be carried into the schools and congregations throughout Ashe

Followers in District, State Put Great Pressure on Him to Run Again.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—The people of North Carolina in general, and those of the ninth congressional district in particular, are highly resolved not to take no for an answer. On two occasions of late Rep. R. L. Doughton has gently and considerably, but firmly, served notice of a purpose to retire from public life at the end of his present term, having labored in the congressional vineyard for 30 years.

Now it appears that Mr. Doughton may be obliged, by the pressure of events, to reconsider and agree to serve another term. The dean of the North Carolina delegation is paying the penalty of greatness, for all those concerned think that since he holds the chairmanship of the ways and means committee and rates high with the administration the state can ill afford to lose him and the advantage point from which he is permitted to serve. Letters and telegrams telling how the people feel about these things continue to arrive at Mr. Doughton's office, and it is understood that a delegation is to come here the latter part of the week to enter a direct plea.

The following telegram signed by Democratic chairmen of Cabarrus, Rowan, Stanly, Iredell, Alexander, Ashe and Alleghany counties was received by Mr. Doughton today:

"Your friends in the ninth district appreciate the great service you have rendered and would be reluctant to insist on an additional term of office for you if conditions were not so unusual as to create situations which appear to us of sufficient importance that we insist that you reconsider your announcement and immediately declare yourself willing to serve for another term. You can be of much greater assistance to the district than anyone we could secure at this time, and the termination of your many years of service, with turmoil which would be left in the district, would be a great loss to (Continued on Page Eight)

Record Number Now Working On WPA In County

Over 1000 Men at Work. Nearly 900 On 19 County Road Projects.

Over 1000 men are now working on 22 different WPA projects in Ashe county and more are being added every week.

This is the largest number employed on WPA at one time in this county. Nearly 900 are at work on 19 county road projects, B. W. Jones, supervisor, states, and over 100 work on the Grassy Creek school building, the hospital and the West Jefferson sewerage projects.

The WPA payroll in Ashe is now running around \$28,000 per month.

During the past six weeks, Mr. Jones estimates that over 200 men have been added to WPA rolls. 67 were given assignments last Saturday. In addition to these, several hundred applications are pending at the welfare office and in the WPA district office at North Wilkesboro.

In spite of severe winter weather, work on the road projects has been continued without much interruption this year, while the other three projects have had to close down right much of the time.

Splendid progress is being made on both the Grassy Creek school and the hospital buildings.

Aged Alleghany Citizen Passes

Oldest Postmaster in County Died Sat. Funeral Service Held Monday.

By G. GLENN NICHOLS, Staff Correspondent

SPARTA, Jan. 23.—William Henry Weaver, age 86, 6 months and 9 days, died at his home at Peden last Saturday after a few days' illness.

He was widely known as a merchant, justice of the peace and postmaster. He had served the people of his community as a public servant for many years and had a host of friends and relatives to mourn his passing. He was always ready to help in all public enterprises in his section.

He was married to Sarah Jane Edwards on October 22, 1884. He made a profession of faith in 1874, and although he never united with any church, his life was one of service to the church and his fellowmen at any and all times when his help was needed.

He is survived by his wife, one brother, James Weaver of Piney Creek; one sister, Mrs. Rebecca Caudill, of Broadus, Montana and the following children; John Weaver, Sprig, W. Va.; Robert Weaver, Scottville; Nathan Weaver, Edgerton, W. Va.; George Weaver, Peden; Mrs. Rose McMillan, Crumpler; Allie Weaver, Peden and Mrs. Smith Evans, Sparta.

The funeral was conducted from Rocky Ridge church Monday morning by Rev. R. L. Berry, assisted by Revs. Sturgill and Caldwell and interment was in the family cemetery.

The pall bearers were postmasters, W. B. Reeves, Whitehead; Rush Thompson, Glade Valley; G. Glenn Nichols, Sparta; and Fred Weaver, Everett Miller and Marshall Winkler.

The flower girls were: Nell Weaver, Hazel Nellie Van Dyke, Virginia Anne Weaver, Cora Weaver, Jean Warden and Edna Rae Smith.

JOHN SEVERT WAS BURIED ON SUNDAY

John Severt, of Damascus, Va., died at his home there Friday morning following a heart attack. Funeral service was held Sunday afternoon at Southerland and burial followed in a nearby cemetery.

The deceased who was a native of Ashe county, moved away from here a number of years ago. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Severt of Jefferson and a brother of Mrs. R. L. Speaks. Mrs. Mary Harris, and Joe Severt, all of Jefferson; Jim Severt of West Jefferson.

Winter Sports Are Popular In Ashe



Skiing, riding on sleds and toboggans are rapidly becoming popular sports in Ashe county. Plans are being made to organize a ski club here. Shown above are a group who were skiing and sleigh riding on the slopes of T. C. Bowie's farm near Fred Colvard's, which is the rendezvous for local sports' activity. Reading from left to right are Bill Garvey, Raymond Francis, Charlie Bailey, Dean McMillan, Mrs. Charlie Bailey and their two children, and Mr. Francis' son. (Photo by Staff Photographer.)

Directors And Officers Of Bldg. And Loan Association Re-Elected At Annual Meet

OUT FOR CONGRESS



Walter H. Woodson, Sr., of Salisbury, announced his candidacy for Congress from the ninth district following Representative R. L. Doughton's announcement that he would not seek re-election. Others are expected to announce if Congressman Bob does not change his mind.

Farm Officials In Ashe Today

A number of officials of the extension service at State College and state AAA representatives are in the county today, conducting an all-day educational meeting with members of the county and community committees.

The meeting is being held at the courthouse and plans are being worked out for the farm program in Ashe this year.

Included in the officials expected to be in the county today are: R. W. Graber, extension forester; F. R. Farnham, dairy specialist; H. R. Niswonger, horticulturist; E. C. Blair, agronomist; J. F. Inlow, AAA district officer; Mr. Canney, state AAA representative and F. S. Sloan, district agent.

Glenn Maxwell, Alleghany Negro, Executed Last Friday

Glenn Maxwell, 40-year-old Alleghany county negro who was put to death by the state of North Carolina, Friday, was the first from that county to pay the supreme penalty to the state.

Maxwell who was twice convicted of first degree murder, for fatally shooting Charlie Shepherd, in cold blood, was sentenced on May 3, by Judge J. H. Clement, to be put to death July 7. An appeal to the Supreme court delayed the execution. At a hearing in December the decision was upheld, and Jan. 19 was set for the execution.

Maxwell was first tried May, 1938 and sentenced to die on June 17, 1938. The case was ap-

Association Shows Good Profit During 1st Year. Others Urged To Join.

The directors and officers of the Ashe Building and Loan Association were re-elected Monday night at an annual meeting of the stockholders held here in the community building.

The financial statement showed that the Association has enjoyed successful and profitable operation during its first year.

Undivided profits in the amount of \$142.14 were shown, which were regarded as being "very good" for the initial year. Receipts from installment stock totaled \$7,208.00, paid up stock \$500.00, interest \$213.75, fines \$10.65, entrance fees \$324.00, loan fees \$37.50, insurance for shareholders \$20.78, or a total of \$8,314.68.

Disbursements were as follows: mortgage loans, \$6,800.00; stock loans, \$20; salaries, \$200; advertising \$20.60; supplies, \$144.35; taxes, \$50.80; bonds for officers, \$16 and general expense, \$1.32, leaving \$1,061.61 in the bank.

The re-elected directors are: J. L. Segraves, J. Gwyn Gambill, Glenn E. Graybeal, Jack Rhodes, W. B. Tribble, Roy R. Badger, Don Francis, Dr. J. K. Hunter, J. B. Hensley and Ed M. Anderson.

The officers are J. L. Segraves, president; Gwyn Gambill, vice president; Glenn Graybeal, secretary and treasurer and Mrs. Rex Morton, assistant secretary and treasurer.

"I consider it a great honor to be president of this Association and I appreciate it greatly," Mr. Segraves stated in his opening remarks.

He explained the purpose of the Association and asserted that he was pleased with the first year's operations.

He praised the Building and Loan as being an excellent institution for systematic saving. "Money does talk; it gives the man (Continued on Page Eight)

Schools Closed And All Activity Greatly Hampered

6-Inch Snow Fell This Week. Thermometer Dropped to 1 Above Last Sat.

RELIEF FORECAST

Schools are closed, highway traffic is hampered, farm work and business activity are practically at a standstill as a result of the heaviest and worst snowfall of the season.

This big blast of winter, featuring a heavy snowfall driven by high winds and dropping temperature has not been confined to Ashe county and the mountain sections, but has covered practically all of the states and nation, extending far down into the state of Florida.

A blanket of snow, ranging in depth from 3 to 10 inches, covered almost every section of North Carolina Tuesday and yesterday. The far west reported snow as deep as 18 inches and in Atlanta, Ga., an all-time record was broken when 9 1-2 inches fell.

Last night the weather forecast held some signs of relief and this week end the temperature is expected to rise after dropping to a low level.

The snow storms here Tuesday and yesterday were the nearest approach to a blizzard that has been experienced in this section in many years.

The snowfall was from five to six inches and a high wind yesterday made walking or riding difficult.

Most of the schools in the county closed yesterday until Monday, or at least until weather conditions improve.

Under the direction of Captain George Doggett, highway forces have been working day and night in the county, cleaning snow off of the roads.

The mountain peaks and valleys in Ashe county have been covered with snow since December 23 and it is reported that the thermometer has not risen above 40 during January.

The mercury dropped to an official reading of 1 degree above zero last Saturday morning, the lowest it has been in the Jeffersons in a number of years.

Rivers and other streams in the county are frozen over and much skating is being done on them.

It is reported that the ground is frozen to a depth of 12 to 15 inches.

The demand for car chains and coal here has been heavy and in spite of severe weather conditions, only a few minor wrecks have been reported.

Miss Ruth Tugman's car was badly damaged Tuesday when she ran into the back of a truck which stopped a short distance in front of her on the highway between the Jeffersons. No one was injured.

Mail service has been greatly hampered.

ATTEND SHORT COURSE

H. D. Quessenberry, assistant Ashe county farm agent, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Graybeal, of Clifton and Lawton Woodie attended the poultry short course held at Lenoir Tuesday. Ashe won second place in the attendance contest.

THE BEST TASTIN' MEAL IS A FREE ONE... Mac GLEN