

School Problems Stressed Before N. C. Legislature

Bills Ask For Raise In Teachers' Pay; Attendance Bill Is Also Introduced

By Staff Correspondent

Raleigh, (Special)—Holding a five-hour hearing on proposed expenditures in the state's public school program in the next biennium, the joint appropriations committee was told yesterday that North Carolina's highly-gear-ed educational program has reached its greatest crisis because of a general shortage of school teachers and low salaries.

At the same time a school-conscious legislature, swamped with telegrams, resolutions and admonitions to increase teacher pay, received two more bills affecting the public school structure of North Carolina.

One measure, in line with a similar one already before the house, was introduced by Senator Matheny of Rutherford to raise the compulsory attendance law from 14 to 16. The measure has the blessing of Governor Cherry and interested organizations throughout the state. It would tend to equalize the school and labor laws of the state, since the general statutes prohibit the hiring of children under 16 in most kinds of industry. Exceptions are noted under an emergency war powers act.

More than 100 educators and representatives of organizations affiliated with the school program appeared before the joint appropriations committee as it considered a recommended budget of more than \$85,000,000 for the school program in 1945-47.

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George May Now Active In Italy

West Jefferson Man Is Member Of Famous "Polar Bear" Regiment, There

With The Fifth Army, Italy—Pvt. George L. May, son of Mrs. Ethel B. May, of West Jefferson, is a member of the 339th "Polar Bear" Regiment, which recently shattered the vitals of the vaunted Gothic Line, taking Italian peaks as high as 3400 feet east of Highway 65 and Futa Pass.

The 339th Infantry Regiment is in the 85th "Custer" Division, part of Lieutenant General Lucian K. Truscott, Jr.'s, Fifth Army.

The 339th landed in Italy last March 15, after a training period in North Africa, and was the first unit of the 85th Division in the line when it was committed to action the following day.

Under command of Colonel Brookner W. Brady, Los Angeles, California, the "Polar Bears" have repeatedly captured strong cores of enemy resistance, rocky mountain peaks above the cloud level and strongpoints nestled behind curtains of intense fire, minefields, barbed wire and earthworks.

When the Fifth Army offensive opened up last May 11, the 339th raced ahead in the Tyrrhenian Sea coast, shattering its objective in the Gustav Line. Having passed through Scauri, Formia, Itri and Fondi in rapid succession, the 339th, supplied by mule and human pack trains, passed 12 miles undetected over rugged mountain terrain and surprised the strongly fortified hillside town of Sonnino. The Sonnino garrison was completely cut off and Highway 7 thus sealed off south of the Pontine Marshes.

Powers Speaks To Rotary Club

Rev. E. W. Powers, pastor of the West Jefferson Baptist church, was the guest speaker at the Rotary club last week.

He told the members that the troubles of man and the peace of the world could not be brought about by compulsory military training for youth, but could be by Christian education. The speaker was introduced by Dean McMillan.

A new member, James T. McLaurin, was brought into the club. He fills the classification left vacant when Staten McIver, soil conservationist, moved away.

Russians Marching Toward Berlin; Gains Made By Americans

Poultry School To Be Held Here Next Tuesday

Public Is Cordially Invited; Leaders To Take Part On Program

Ashe poultry growers, as well as those from adjoining counties, will have an opportunity to attend a one-day poultry short course at the courthouse on Tuesday, January 30, when a number of specialists from State College will take part on the program.

All men, women, boys and girls interested in poultry production are cordially invited to attend the course, which will open at 10:00 a. m. and will close at 3:30, with a recess for lunch.

Those attending the short course from Raleigh will be Professor Roy S. Dearstyne, head of the poultry department; Dr. C. H. Bostian, poultry geneticist; T. T. Brown, extension poultry specialist; and Clifton F. Parrish, in charge of poultry extension.

"We are very fortunate in having..."

Badgers' Ass'n Has Good Report

Annual Report Of Local Burial Association Reveals Growth

The annual report of Badgers' Burial Association printed elsewhere in this paper, today, reveals that the association had a good year.

Guy T. Badger, secretary and treasurer, pointed out that the report shows a gain in cash on hand over that of last year, as well as the amount invested in war bonds.

He announced that there would be a meeting in the office of the association on Monday, February 5 for the purpose of electing officers and the transaction of any other necessary business.

The association, which was established in 1935, in connection with the funeral home, has shown continuous growth, officials point out.

Hart Would Ban Beer And Wine

Raleigh—A bill to prohibit the sale of beer or wine in Ashe county was introduced this week by Representative M. Donnelly Hart, a Republican of Husk.

The measure would make it "unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to sell, or possess for sale, any wine or beer in Ashe county." It would become effective upon ratification.

Yanks In Pacific Keep Up Drive Toward Manila; Base Is Taken

The Russian first Ukraine army reached the Oder river in German Silesia in overwhelming strength on a 37 1/2-mile front yesterday and confidently prepared to leap that vaulted defense barrier into the heart of the reich as other Red armies came within 22 miles of closing the war's greatest trap on all of East Prussia.

Between those two theaters of victorious action, still another Red army slogged westward over the Polish plains at a somewhat slower pace on the most direct road toward Berlin, now reported but 137 miles away, in the vicinity of Poznan.

The American first and third armies and the ninth airforce delivered a knockout blow to the last German defenders of the Ardennes Wednesday when the doughboys closed to within four (Continued on Page 8)

Ashe Men In Tank Destroyer Group

Aided Army March Through Normandy; Now Nearing The Reich

Sixth Army Group, France — Two tank destroyer battalions can match the record of the 813th Tank Destroyer Battalion, which aided the American breakthrough from Normandy to the Seine River and is now pounding the last approaches to the Reich. Two Ashe county men, Pvt. Ralph E. Tegterman, of Jefferson; and William Richardson, of Silas Creek, are members of this.

Since its arrival in France on D-plus-21, this veteran unit has eliminated from the German rosters: 600 soldiers, 26 general purpose vehicles, 25 Mark IV tanks, 11 Mark V tanks, two Mark VI tanks, 10 self-propelled guns, eight pillboxes, five anti-tank guns, and three machine guns.

In a single operation one 813th T. D. company knocked out 13 Mark IV and two Mark V tanks, two half-tracks, two large trucks, and one mortar, probably silenced one self-propelled gun and killed 80 Germans. "This was all in a day's work," explained Capt. Peter P. Hale, 74 South 18th St., Pittsburgh, Penna., commander of the company that made the coup.

"A German battle group hit our town at 11:30 one morning," Capt. Hale said. "Our M-10 tank destroyers were in good positions, so all they had to do was (Continued on Page 8)

SERVICE ANNOUNCED

Rev. S. S. Graybeal will preach at the Obids Baptist church on Saturday night, January 27. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Pulpwood Committee's Campaign Boosts Production



Visible results of the Victory Pulpwood Committee's efforts to induce farmers and woodlot owners to increase their production of pulpwood in the International Falls, Minn., area, are pointed out by Paul Bunyan (Len Costley) to Forest Queen Patricia Sullivan, second from left, and members of her party during the community's recent pulpwood festival, climax of the committee's special promotion campaign.

Ashe Bldg. And Loan Ass'n Has Another Good Yr.

Officers And Directors Are Re-elected At Meeting Of Stockholders, Monday

During 1944, the Ashe Building and Loan Association enjoyed another successful year of operation, Glenn B. Graybeal, secretary and treasurer, announced at the annual meeting of stockholders, held on Monday night.

The association's financial statement presented to the stockholders and published elsewhere in this paper, reveals that the institution now has resources amounting to \$50,146.20 as compared to \$38,955.50 at the close of business, 1943. Undivided profits climbed from \$3,298.58 to \$4,482.20 during the year.

The Association now has invested in war bonds and is making plans for postwar work.

J. L. Segraves, president, was in charge of the meeting on Monday evening when all of the directors and officers were re-elected.

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Rationing Guide

MEATS, FATS
Red Stamps Q5 through X5 good indefinitely. No new stamps until January 28.

PROCESSED FOODS
Blue Stamps X5 through Z5, A2 through G2 good indefinitely. No new blue stamps will be validated until February 1.

SUGAR
Sugar Stamp 34 good for five pounds indefinitely. No new stamp until February 1.

FUEL OIL
East and Far West 1, 2 and 3 period coupons good indefinitely all over the country.

SHOES
East and Far West 1, 2 and in Book Three, good indefinitely.

Sunday Will Be Polio Fund Day In Churches Of County; More Contributions Needed

Special Crusade Now Underway; Meetings Held

Ashe Methodists, Along With Others, Join In "Crusade For Christ" Program

The nation-wide "Crusade for Christ" program now being carried on by the Methodist churches, was officially launched in Ashe county, last Thursday, at a county-wide inspirational meeting held at the West Jefferson Methodist church.

A number of out-of-town ministers, including Rev. A. G. Lackey, Rev. W. L. Hutchins and Rev. Charles P. Bowles, were on the program and gave informative talks on the movement. Rev. J. S. Hiatt concluded the program by presenting the goal and expressing his belief in Christian Methodism "to go over the top" in this all-important movement.

The goal for funds to be raised in the county is \$1,500.

At the close of the meeting a buffet luncheon was served by the women of the church to the large crowd present.

The program is being discussed in the various churches of the county and good response is being shown to the movement, reports show.

Freeze On Lard Lifted Monday

Washington — The three-day "freeze" of lard, shortening and salad and cooking oils was lifted Monday, the OPA reminded the public.

These commodities are now rationed at two red points a pound.

Churches, Sunday Schools Are Asked To Make A Special Collection

Sunday, January 28 has been set aside as "Infantile Paralysis Fund Day" in the churches of Ashe county and all Sunday Schools and churches are asked to take special collections for the fund.

These are to be turned over to T. E. Parker, chairman of the drive for the county, which has a quota of \$3,549.00.

Mr. Parker announced yesterday that only around \$800.00 had been raised on the quota so far and that a number of generous contributions would be necessary in order to reach the assigned quota for the county.

Schools are asked to help in the drive and have been sent materials. Those who have not received supplies can secure them from chairman Parker.

A benefit ball game was staged for the fund last Saturday which created much interest and resulted in around \$60. Tentative plans are being worked out for (Continued on Page 8)

Boone Market Close Next Wed.

It was announced this week that the Mountain Burley Tobacco Warehouse at Boone would close for the season next Wednesday, January 31.

"I want to invite all farmers who have any tobacco left to bring theirs in before we close," Roscoe Coleman, proprietor said. The Boone market has had a very successful season and is nearing the 5,000,000 poundage mark with an average of over \$47.00 per hundred, officials point out.

More Buildings Approved For New Test Farm

Work On Improvements To Be Pushed As Soon As Weather Will Permit

Dean Colvard, supervisor of State Test Farms in Western N. C., announced this week that plans had been approved for additional buildings on the farm at Laurel Springs, including a tobacco barn and a new home.

Other improvement work now under construction includes an apple grading building combined with offices, grade-A dairy barn and other out-buildings and much additional fencing.

Work has been slowed down on account of the severe winter weather but is expected to go forward rapidly in the early spring.

In speaking of the livestock, Mr. Colvard announced that a flock of Ayrshire sheep would be brought to the farm early in the spring.

County Men Pass High Naval Test

Are Now At Great Lakes; Recruiting Officer Coming Tuesday

Carson Meade Keys, of Nathan's Creek and John Dancy Maines, of Scottville, two inductees who reported for service in the armed forces this month from Ashe county, have been sworn into Navel Reserve with the initial rating of Seaman first class, as a result of their passing the Radio Technician tests, according to Chief Specialist J. E. Huffman, Navy Recruiter. He will next be in Ashe County on Tuesday, January 30 at the West Jefferson Post Office.

Both men took the test prior to induction, according to the recruiter, and given letters of directed assignment to the Navy. They are now at Great Lakes Navel Training station taking boot camp, and on completing this indoctrination will begin a ten months' period of intensive training in electronics. Half way in this training these men will be promoted to petty officers third class, and on completing the course will be promoted to second class petty officers. The cost of this course is estimated at nine thousand dollars per man.

Qualifying tests are given by the recruiter to any seventeen year old youth and to selective service inductees who have passed pre-induction examinations. While the test is difficult, the recruiter said many high school graduates with a fair knowledge of mathematics and physics could pass the examination. Two other Ashe county citizens, James Miller, former principal of Nathan's Creek school, and Walter Thomas Graybeal, former member of the Elkin High School faculty, are now well along in this same training.

Ashe Stock Clinics Are Well Attended

Reports made public this week reveal that during the twenty-six work stock clinics conducted in Ashe county this month by Dr. J. W. Willis, veterinarian, in cooperation with the county agents, a total of 300 horses and mules were examined for 174 different parasites.

Out of the 300 head examined, 288 were treated for bots, worm treatment administered for 223, and 29 horses had teeth floated. This was the first series of work stock clinics conducted in the county. A stop was scheduled for every four or five miles throughout the county, with few exceptions, in order that any farmer could have the opportunity to take his work stock to a clinic without traveling more than two or three miles at the most.

"Examinations at the clinics revealed evidence that most of the work stock were infested with bots and worms which is sufficient proof that horses and mules should be treated for internal parasites now to save feed and put them in better condition for spring and summer work. A number of horses have been lost in the county each year from bots," county agent Roy Crouse (Continued on Page Four)

Following Ashe County Men Now Fighting For Liberty And Democracy



Pfc. Fred Osborne, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Osborne, of Crumpler, who is a member of the U. S. Fleet Marine Corps, is stationed on Saipan Island, in the Pacific. He has been in service for over a year.



Lt. James H. Absher, who has been in service for 23 months, is now a member of a troop carrier squadron, in France. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Barnett Absher, formerly of this county.



Pvt. Warren G. Hartsog, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Hartsog, who has been in service for 19 months, is stationed somewhere in the South Seas and is a member of an anti-aircraft battalion.



Cpl. Tine H. Gentry, son of Mr. Norman Gentry and the late Mrs. Gentry, of West Jefferson, is with an engineering regiment in France. He has been overseas for eighteen months.



Pfc. Wilber Wayne Reeves has been overseas, somewhere in New Guinea, for the past 16 months. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Will Reeves, of Laurel Springs, and has made a good record in his work.