



To Expand Turkish Tobacco Experiment

Name Principals For 6 Of County's 9 High Schools

Atwood Elected To Nathan's Creek School; Dickson For Healing Springs

It was announced this week by superintendent of schools, B. H. Duncan, that school committees had announced the election of principals for six of the nine high schools in the county and that those from the three remaining, Virginia-Carolina, Elkland and Fleetwood were expected to be heard from within a short time.

Only two changes have been announced, at Nathan's Creek and Healing Springs. Dale Atwood has been named principal at Nathan's Creek to fill the position held by A. B. Hurt, who has been named county superintendent of schools. Atwood was a member of the faculty there for a number of years before entering service and has also been back for the past year. Kyle Dickson, a member of the faculty of Healing Springs high school, who was also in service, has been named as principal to succeed A. D. Goodman.

J. B. Hash was re-elected at Jefferson; Ron Davis at Lansing, Robert Davis, at West Jefferson, Herbert Graybeal, at Riverview.

Red Cross Sends Aid To Texas City

Special Contributions For Disaster Are Now Being Received

Voluntary Red Cross contributions for the relief of the Texas City explosion sufferers will be accepted by any of the organization's 3,754 chapters. Chairman Basil O'Connor said today. The chairman pointed out that already a number of inquiries have been received from persons interested in supplementing the initial Red Cross appropriation of \$250,000 to lessen the distress, even though many local chapters are still at work on their 1947 fund appeal. Word of this announcement was being forwarded to Red Cross area offices and chapters throughout the United States this afternoon. Earlier Governor Beauford Jester of Texas formally placed the Red Cross in charge of relief in its role as the nation's official disaster relief agency.

Mr. O'Connor explained that in accordance with its traditional practices the Red Cross is fully prepared to meet the relief needs of the disaster victims.

Mrs. Glenn Nye Succumbs In Pa.

Friends here will regret to learn of the death of Mrs. Glenn C. Nye, of Norfolk, Va., in Jefferson Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa., April 15. She was buried in Bluefield, W. Va., on Friday afternoon.

Austin Picked Up By FBI Tuesday

Vester C. Austin, of Mouth of Wilson, was picked up on Tuesday by FBI and tried for violation of the national theft act in connection with the stealing of an automobile and tried by U. S. Commissioner A. R. Vail. He was bound over to Federal court on the charge.

Austin is reported to have stolen a 1937 Chevrolet sedan on March 26 from Ford Vanhoy. The car was later found wrecked at Sugar Grove. It was stolen from the Negro Mountain road.

Henderson Medal Winners



Dr. Lars O. Grondahl, left, research director, Pittsburgh, and Sedgwick N. Wight, Rochester, N. Y., who have been awarded the George R. Henderson medals of The Franklin Institute for outstanding engineering development. Grondahl developed a practical system of inductive train communication. Wight invented and developed major railroad signaling system contributing to the safety, speed and reliability.

Jury Finds Men Innocent Of Rape Charge; Manslaughter Case Continued By State

Superior Court Ended Thursday Afternoon After Busy Four Days

Superior court, which was predicted, on Wednesday, to last several days, came to a sudden end on Thursday afternoon, when the jury, which was out not more than fifteen minutes, returned a verdict of not guilty in the cases of Fieldon Petty, Jr., Earl Severt and James Gambill, charged with rape.

The case of Mrs. Daryl Bare, charged with manslaughter in connection with the death of Guy Bare, was continued for the State.

Other cases disposed of the last day of court included that of Frank Sexton charged with abandonment and non-support. He was ordered to pay into the clerk of the court \$50.00 per month for the support of his wife and children.

Herbert Seymour, charged with robbery with firearms in connection with the theft of money from Robert Lambert, following a poker game, was found guilty and given a sentence of not more than fifteen years and not less than ten. The case grew out of an altercation the two had over a poker game in which Seymour contended that Lambert took advantage of him in the game, and for that reason he recovered his money, by force.

Arthur Bell, charged with non-support of an illegitimate child, was ordered to pay the cost and \$1,000 to Zollie McClure. He is also taxed with \$750.00 additional, on a civil charge in connection with the case.

Winners Given For Spelling Bee Sponsored By Legion Post

Nine Ashe county students were first place winners in the spelling bee held at the court house in Jefferson last Wednesday night in the annual event sponsored by the Ashe Post 171 of the American Legion.

Hundreds of children attended to hear the champion spellers. Awards to first place winners will be sent the principals of the various high schools in the county and will be presented at the high school commencements.

Virginia-Carolina had the distinction of having three first place winners in the event. First, second and third place winners are given as follows:

Fourth grade—first place, Shirleen Ann Witherspoon, Friendship; second place, Maynard Goss, Lansing; third place, Judy Wiles, West Jefferson.

Fifth grade—first place, June Dougherty, Riverview; second

More Red Cross Funds Coming In, Behind In Drive

Total Yesterday Reached \$1945.53 Or \$384.47 Still Short Of Quota

With such disasters as Texas City for the Red Cross to aid, should make everyone who has not contributed, give generously to the drive, an official remarked yesterday.

Yesterday's total showed \$1,945.53, which leaves the county still short of the quota of \$2330 by \$384.47. A final plea is now being made to those who have not made their contributions to do so within the next few days. Contributions from churches are also needed.

It was also announced that special contributions for the Texas disaster would also be welcomed.

Contributions not previously announced include the following: W. J. Baptist Sunday school, (Continued on page 8)

New Building Underway Here

Construction was started this week on a brick building, next to the Dollar Service Station, on Jefferson Avenue, by Ed Jenkins.

Foundation work is already well underway. No announcement has been made yet as to who will occupy the building.

W. J. Merchants Insist Streets Be Kept Clean

Plan To Install Street Garbage Cans; Cooperation Is Asked

At a meeting of the board of directors of the West Jefferson Merchants association, the group went on record to ask that the town continue to keep the street cleaner at work and that the streets be kept clean. It was pointed out that from now on, there would be more and more visitors and that the clean streets were particularly important during summer weather.

It was also announced that merchants will buy street garbage cans to be placed at convenient locations for the trash which is ordinarily thrown on the streets.

Jack Rhodes was named chairman of a special trade promotion event to be held next month and will meet with the standing committee on this.

In discussing the general improvement of the town the board voted to ask the town officials to inspect buildings and to en-

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Training Given 32 Bus Drivers At School Here

Only 8 Are Certified; One Girl Driver Among This Group

C. I. Yelton, of the highway safety division, who conducted a training course for school bus drivers and prospective drivers at Jefferson this week announced yesterday that there were 32 who took the training, but out of this new group only 8 were certified as drivers for the coming school year to replace those who will not be back.

There were two girls and one of them, Mary L. Thompson, was among the certified number. Mr. Yelton said that some of the others would possibly be certified later, when they reach legal driving age. Of the group of 32, one student failed to pass the written test.

Mr. Yelton said that another check-up and training school would probably be held in August before the opening of school.

Rites Held Sat. For J. W. Todd

Brother Of Sheriff W. B. Todd Passes In Hospital In Marion, Va.

Funeral service for J. W. Todd, of Marion, Va., and formerly of Todd, was held at the First Methodist church at Marion Saturday afternoon at two o'clock. Officiating was the pastor and interment was in the city cemetery.

Mr. Todd, a brother of W. B. Todd, of West Jefferson, was well known here in the county as well as in Virginia. He had been in ill health for sometime however and died at the Lee Memorial hospital at Marion on April 16.

He is survived by his wife and three daughters, one son and one sister, Mrs. Sam Ray, of Marion; W. B. Todd, of West Jefferson; George Todd, of Idaho; and Joe Todd, of Colorado, all brothers. Those from here attending the funeral included Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Todd, Mrs. John Powell, Miss Frances Ann Todd and Miss Billy Todd.

Business Men To Play Rotarians

A basketball game between the Jeffersons Rotary Club and the business men of Jefferson and West Jefferson will be played at the Jefferson gymnasium Friday night at 7:30 p. m., it was announced here.

The game will feature such players as Austin Jones, Dr. Dean C. Jones, L. P. Colvard, Sharpe S. Shoemaker and others it was stated.

America's Pioneer Auto Builder



Death came to the famed auto industrialist, Henry Ford at his home in Dearborn, Mich. With Mr. Ford was his ever loyal wife. Born July 30, 1863, he was 83 at the time of his death. He married Clara J. Bryant, daughter of a Greenfield farmer on April 11, 1888. She is shown in center. The present head of the Ford Company, Henry Ford II, is shown at the right.

To Install Machinery For Hay Drying Experiment At Transou Test Farm Soon

Jurors Drawn For May Term Of Superior Court

Civil Cases Are To Be Tried Jurors For Two Weeks Are Listed

The May term of Superior court for the trial of civil cases in Ashe county is scheduled to open May 26 with Judge J. H. Clement presiding.

The following jurors have been drawn:

T. E. Hartzog, Glenn Brooks, A. L. Cox, David Harless, Clint H. Gilley, Jethro Blevins, W. R. Richardson, M. C. Church.

W. H. Campbell, Ernest Elliott, Lemon Francis, W. F. McGrady, W. M. Jones, T. R. Weaver, J. M. Baker.

L. H. Church, C. S. Fletcher, Dale Mullis, Paul Reeves, Ovan Worley, John Littlewood, Worth Miller, Bruce Denney, Hal Pen-

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Work On Road Going Forward

Grading on the new link of the West Jefferson-Smithport highway beginning at the railroad track on Jefferson Avenue is now going forward with the grading work well underway across the hill.

Hundreds of West Jefferson citizens have already been trying out the new section in order to investigate the progress being made.

Long Distant Calls Are Still Restricted Because Of Strike

Local telephone users now have the advantage over many others elsewhere during the present strike in which the Central Telephone company is not taking part. In addition to local calls, calls also are uninterrupted over the entire Central system, which means that Mount Airy, Sparta, Elkin and North Wilkesboro as well as other points on this line may be reached.

Mrs. Pearl Wyrick, in charge of the local central office, said that calls were still not being accepted by the Southern Bell System unless they are emergency calls. She pointed out that on average there were around ten of these calls per day handled out of the local office.

The Government started a fresh effort Tuesday to end the 16-day-old telephone strike.

U. S. Conciliators plan a meeting with strike leaders—prob-

Experiments In Hay Curing For This Section Will Be Carried Out

Plans are being made to install complete, fully equipped hay drying equipment in the Mountain Test Farm, located at the old Transou farm near Laurel Springs, it was announced today by J. A. Graham, superintendent.

This is being made possible by cooperation of J. C. Pierce, Jr., of the Animal Industry Department of State college, F. E. Miller, Director Test Farms, C. M. McCaslan, Agricultural Engineer of the Extension Service, and Lynn Price, Director of R. E. A. who will furnish all the electrical equipment necessary for the demonstration, it was explained.

In addition to the above, J. M. Johns, of Farmville, Va., Agricultural Representative for the Aerovent Fan Co. and the Bennett-Ireland Co., has agreed to furnish a large Aerovent fan and an Ireland hay hoist for demonstration purposes, Supt. Graham said.

The size of the barn in which the dryer will be installed is 36-66 feet and will be of slatted floor type. Latest methods will be used and all recommendations by the Dept. of Agricultural Engineering of State College and the United States Dept. of Agriculture will be carried out, it was explained.

"It is hoped that some valuable information will be gained from this important demonstration which will be of great value to the mountain counties in this vicinity."

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Officials Here Today Studying Outlook For Year

33 Farmers In Ashe And Alleghany To Cooperate In Growing Leaf

The experimental efforts in the growing of Turkish tobacco which were started in this county three years ago have proven so successful that they have been expanded each year and this season there will be 33 farmers in the two counties, planting this type of tobacco.

And while the production is still in the experimental stage, those in charge of the project point out that in quality and production the yield has been far better than anticipated and that the outlook for this season is better than ever before.

Dr. F. R. Darks, of the chemistry department of Duke University and Joe Few, from the Oxford Tobacco Experiment Station, are here today and with John Wilkins, Extension agronomist, in charge of the Turkish tobacco project in this area, are making a survey of the prospects for the crop this year. They report that a large percentage of the plant beds were seeded the latter part of March and plants are coming up in these beds.

FARMERS LIKE PROJECT

The survey reveals that a large majority of farmers who grew Turkish tobacco last year are doing so again as they like its production. This year, in addition to experiments being carried on in Ashe, Alleghany, Watauga, Wilkes, and Caldwell counties, an experiment will also be started in Burke and Alexander, it was learned this week. Other counties in which the experiment is being tried for the first time this year are Grayson and Carroll counties in Virginia.

BUILD NEW STORAGE BARN

Everett Hendrix, Vester Mabe, Everett Taylor, Ray Hash and H. F. Brown plan to build model Turkish curing and storage barns. At present they have most of the

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Play At Healing Springs, May 9

Public Cordially Invited To Comedy "Aunt Samantha Rules The Roost"

The Healing Springs high school will present a three act comedy, "Aunt Samantha Rules The Roost," on Friday night, May 9, at 7:30 o'clock p. m. in the school auditorium.

The cast of characters is as follows: Aunt Samantha, an old maid, Irene Massey; Serena Simpkins, her younger niece, Lucille Ballow; Sophie Simpkins, her older niece, Velma Jones; Polly Paine, maid at the Simpkins house, Lora Bell Jones; Annie Ambrose, the village dressmaker, Kathleen Eller; Blanche Bowers, a woman of very few words, Dorothy Bagley; Lucier Littlefield, a farmer, Donald McMillan; Blair Boswell, who likes Serena, Richard Neaves; Frank Fairfield, who likes Sophie; David Jones; Lawrence Lovewell, a stranger, Joe Goodman; Buddy Baskins, the grocery boy, Lee McMillan.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

Scout Camporee To Be Held Soon

L. P. Colvard, commissioner of the Ashe Boy Scout District, said this week that plans were being completed for the annual camporee to be held May 3-4.

The camporee will be held in the county and all boy scouts, who are eligible, are invited to attend. Scoutmasters are urged to see that the members of their respective troops get physical examinations. This is necessary before they attend the camporee and take part in the activities.

A number of features are being planned for the event, Mr. Colvard said, and stated that more details would be announced next week.