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# The Skyland Post

ASHE COUNTY IS...  
Leading Livestock and Dairy  
County in North Carolina  
Population: 22,664

VOLUME 18, NO. 39

\$2.50 a Year in Ashe County

WEST JEFFERSON, N. C.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 25, 1947

\$3.00 a Year Out of County

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

## TELEPHONE HEARING SET FOR OCTOBER 2

### Large Number Of County Teachers Join NCEA

#### Yelton Heard By Group Yesterday On Retirement

#### Unusually Good Attendance At First County Wide Meeting Of Year

A large percentage of Ashe county teachers joined the local and State units of the North Carolina Education Association at the first county-wide teachers' meeting of the current school year, yesterday afternoon, when Nathan Yelton, executive secretary of the N. C. retirement fund for teachers was present and discussed the system.

Mrs. Gertrude Vaught, president of the Ashe county unit of the NCEA presided and told of some of the many services rendered by the organization. She asked Herbert Graybeal, membership chairman to explain the details of becoming a member, to the group. Principals distributed membership cards and in addition to uniting with the local and State units, several joined the national association.

Committees were named for the annual dinner meeting. And it was announced by Mrs. Vaught that there would be a meeting of the advisory committee, next Wednesday afternoon at three o'clock in Supt. Hurt's office for the purpose of working out other plans for the year.

A. B. Hurt, superintendent of schools, introduced Nathan Yelton to the group. The speaker explained many details and advantages of the retirement system. "Our retirement system is sound and it is as good as any in the whole country," he declared. He explained that teachers might voluntarily become retired at the age of 60.

Charlie Spencer, of the health division of the N. C. Department of education, was present and spoke, as did Miss Elizabeth Barrett, of the guidance program.

Supt. Hurt explained some of the details of the changes in the payroll system and his appreciation of the large number present.

Mrs. Ed M. Anderson, editor of The Skyland Post, praised the teachers for their fine work and (Continued on page 8)

#### Rites Held For Grover Weaver

#### Man Meets Death When He Jumps From Moving Truck Near Mill Creek

Funeral service for Grover Weaver, 46, was held Thursday morning at the Whitestop Baptist church. Officiating was Rev. Ed Hart and burial was in the Baldwin cemetery.

Weaver came to his death, last Tuesday morning when he jumped from the truck in which he was riding when he discovered the brakes on the vehicle had given way. The accident occurred near Mill Creek. Weaver, as he jumped from the truck, hit the bank on the side of the road and fell backwards under the moving vehicle. He died instantly of chest injuries. The truck driver brought the truck to a standstill a few feet away, by running into a soft embankment.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three children, Pauline, Wanda and Kenneth, all of the home. Also surviving are his mother, Mrs. Maggie Weaver, one sister, Mrs. Stella Phillips and six brothers, Gilliam, Gaither, Glenn, Donald, Bryan and Boyd Weaver.

#### Trout Streams Are Now Closed

All fishermen are reminded this week that all trout streams in the county are now closed, Roland Koontz, district protector, stated yesterday.

Special attention is called to Buffalo creek, which has never been closed from the mouth of the creek on up. Streams were officially closed on August 31.

#### U. S. Congressmen Now In Europe



One of the many congressional committees now touring Europe on fact-finding missions, is this committee headed by Repr. Christian Herter, Massachusetts. This committee is touring in connection with the Marshall plan.

#### Several Highways In County Improved; Expect To Open Glendale Springs Road Soon

#### Choate, Seagle Trial May End This Afternoon

#### Sparta Doctor On Stand One Hour And Forty Minutes Denies Charges

By Staff Writer

Dobson—The trial of Clarence W. Seagle, of Charlotte and Tabor City, and that of Dr. B. O. Choate, well-known Sparta doctor, on charges of manslaughter and abortion in connection with the death of Mrs. Annie Mae Anderson, of Charlotte, in an Elkin hotel August 23, 1946, is expected to go to the jury today.

Choate, who was on the witness stand one hour and forty minutes yesterday, denied the charges. He stated that he had no part in performing the abortion, which earlier witnesses testified as the cause of the death of Mrs. Anderson. He stated that he was not in Sparta at the time it was alleged to have taken place and that both Seagle and the victim were unknown to him prior to Saturday before her death on Sunday. He stated that Seagle had brought her by his office and introduced her as his wife and asked for some (Continued on page 8)

#### AUDIT OF TOWN MAY BE INSPECTED

The audit for the 1946-47 fiscal year is now available for inspection at the town hall, Ralph Campbell, town clerk, stated this week. Anyone desiring to inspect it may do so.

The budget for the new year and the balance sheet will be published at a nearly date.

#### Gordon Gray Is Named As Assistant Secretary Of Army

Washington — Gordon Gray, 38-year-old publisher of The Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel, who volunteered as an army private in May, 1942, will be sworn in today as Assistant Secretary of the Army.

The oath of office will be administered by his new boss and fellow North Carolinian, Kenneth C. Royall, of Goldsboro, Secretary of the Army, in Royall's Pentagon Building office.

Gray's appointment—on recommendation of Secretary Royall—was announced by a presidential aide at the White House Tuesday. Immediately after he is sworn in today, Gray will take over his new charge of relations between the army and other Government departments and agencies.

In a statement issued after the

#### West Jefferson - Smethport, Beaver Creek and Shatley Springs Roads Surfaced

Work is going forward on the Glendale Springs highway, which has been under construction throughout the summer and according to information learned yesterday, this is expected to be open for travel soon. The surface from the river bridge to the top of the hill near Ed Jenkins' home has been treated preparatory to applying asphalt.

The Shatley Springs road as well as a section of the Beaver Creek road from Oak Lodge to the residence of P. T. McNeill, has been surfaced.

The new section of the Warrenville highway from West Jefferson to Smethport is another link that has been completed this summer as well as the surfacing of the highway from Greystone service station to Jefferson Avenue, at the First National bank.

A number of other roads of the county have been scraped, widened and ditch lines improved, in order to facilitate drainage.

#### Drop Is Noted On Some Foods

In several places throughout the nation prospects that the housewife's shrunken dollar might grow a little larger brightened this week as the wholesale price decline of meat, butter and eggs — major items in the high cost of eating — carried over into its second week.

Livestock prices generally held about steady on the nation's principal markets, after nearly a week - long decline, but grains, principally wheat, pushed higher (Continued on Page Five)

#### Frost And Low Temperature In Ashe This Week

#### First Taste Of Fall Weather Makes County Shiver, Monday

Fall came in with a rush here this week on the heels of a cold wind on Monday night and the thermometer dropped as low as 34 degrees in several sections of the county. Some frost was also reported in several places. This was slight, however, and little damage done, since high winds and cloudy weather prevailed most of the night.

Those in close touch with the weather pointed out this date was not uncommonly early for frost in this section, but that it was unusual this year since until the past few days, this section has experienced unusually hot weather.

The temperature remained cool Tuesday and yesterday cold rain added to the chilling atmosphere. Stoves, furnaces, blankets, coats and other protection against cool weather were rushed into service.

Most of the schools as well as other public buildings found some heat necessary.

#### JOINS W. J. FACULTY



Professor Paul Miller, who has joined the teaching staff of the West Jefferson high school. Previous to the past war, Mr. Miller was connected with the county schools for several years.

#### Auxiliaries To Meet Here Fri.

The North Wilkesboro group conference of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Presbyterian church will meet at the West Jefferson Presbyterian church Friday, it was announced this week. Women representing Sparta, North Wilkesboro, Jefferson, Glendale, Lansing and the West Jefferson fields are expected to be present.

Miss Frances Hesser, missionary to Brazil, will be the speaker and Mrs. Elliott, Presbyterian president, of Winston-Salem, will also speak. Mrs. C. Don Coffey, of North Wilkesboro, group chairman, will preside.

Registration will begin at 9:30 o'clock and the program will get underway at 10:00 o'clock. Ladies are asked to bring lunch. Coffee will be served in the basement of the church.

#### Stores Open On Wednesday P. M.

After being closed on Wednesday afternoons throughout the summer months, West Jefferson stores will remain open all day Wednesday, beginning next week. Attention of the public is called to this in order that shopping may be planned accordingly.

The Wednesday noon closing started early in the summer, when public announcement was made of this.

#### New Church At Glendale Springs



The new Presbyterian church at Glendale Springs, where the pastor, Rev. John W. Luke and Mrs. Luke were recently honored at a celebration marking their 20th anniversary in the work in this section.

#### County Committeemen Work On 1948 Farm Plans; Need Performance Reports Now

#### Orders Should Be Received Now For Fall Delivery Of Limestone

Ashe county PMA, (successor to AAA), committeemen are in Asheville today, meeting with those of 22 other county and State officials to discuss the present program and to make plans for 1948. J. W. Gambill is chairman of the committee. The members are H. H. Burgess and V. C. Lillard.

It was pointed out by members of the committee that when all material furnished by the AAA office has been applied and all other practices carried out farmers are asked to make their performance report in the AAA office. It is necessary that these reports be made as soon as possible, in order that any allowance — up for a farm, which will not be used, may be transferred to other farms.

It was also announced that producers who wish to place an order for limestone to be delivered this fall should do so at once. (Continued on page 4)

#### Land Sale Nets \$8400 Here Tues.

The Lee Barnett property and the property owned by Mrs. Tom Doggett sold for a total of \$8,400, Earl Graybeal, agent for Cumbow Land company, reported following the sale on Tuesday.

The Barnett property, totaling 50 lots, sold for \$4700 and the Doggett property also containing 50 lots for \$3700.

Some of the buyers included Russell Barr, Faye Tucker, Rufus Colvard and Wade Vannoy.

#### West Jefferson And Helton Vie For Top Place In Series

West Jefferson and Helton now battle for a place in the series, each having won the same number of games. Interest has mounted in the last stages of the season as plans are made for the play-off.

Saturday, West Jefferson defeated the Laurel Springs team 10-9 and on Sunday, before a crowd estimated at over a thousand people, shut out Helton 9-0. On Monday, Lansing, the champions of the first half of the schedule of the league, won a 10-6 victory over West Jefferson.

The managers of the West Jefferson and Helton teams met last night to decide whether or not three games or one would be played to determine which team would be eligible to play Lansing in the series. The results of the meeting were not available in time for publication.

#### Many Attended Sale Of Feeder Calves Tuesday

#### Prices Good On Better Grade Calves; Many Buyers Are Present

A total of 100 animals were sold in the fifth annual feeder calf sale last week with entries from Ashe, Alleghany and Watauga counties. Buyers were present from many sections of the state and prices were considered very good on better calves. County Agent H. D. Quessenberry said. Those buying a large number of calves included Caldwell's Prison Farm, Caldwell; County Agent of Guilford county and the County Agent of Pitt county.

The majority of calves disposed of were from Ashe county, while Alleghany also had a number as did Watauga.

The total sales were not available in time for publication. However, County Agent Quessenberry reported that choice steer calves averaged \$23.65 per hundred-weight; good steer calves averaged \$21.84 per hundred weight and choice and good steer calves averaged \$22.46.

#### JUDGE TUCKER IS IN STATESVILLE HOSPITAL

Judge H. C. Tucker, who has been ill for the past several days, entered the Davis Hospital, at Statesville, yesterday for treatment and observation.

The many friends of "Judge" Tucker will regret to learn of his illness and wish for him a speedy recovery.

#### Davis To Speak To Rotary Club

Robert Davis, principal of West Jefferson high school, will speak to the Rotarians at the regular meeting tonight at seven o'clock at the community building. Herman Haire will be in charge of the program.

Rev. Cecil Callis, pastor of the Jefferson Presbyterian church, was guest speaker at the meeting last Thursday. He was introduced to the club by Langdon Scott, who was in charge of the program.

Also present at the meeting was Don Richardson, of Charlotte, former honorary member of the club, who spoke briefly to the group.

#### Groups Expected To Be Present To Protest Service

#### Hearing Will Be Held Before Utilities Commission In Raleigh Next Thurs.

Following a request for increase in local telephone rates by the Central Telephone Company in Ashe and Alleghany counties, the N. C. Utilities Commission has ordered a petition set down for public hearing at the meeting of the body next Thursday, October 2, at 2:30 p. m., in the offices in Raleigh. As this is a public hearing, representatives from West Jefferson, Jefferson and Sparta, as well as other citizens are planning to attend and express their views on the matter of increase as well as service, it was pointed out this week.

The Central Telephone Company is asking in the petition for the authority to establish the following rates for business service in West Jefferson, individual line, \$3.00; four-party line, \$2.25; business extension, \$0.75 rural multi-party line, \$2.50. For residence service, individual line, \$2.25; four-party line, \$1.50; residence extension, \$0.65; rural multi-party line, \$1.75.

A full notice of the telephone company is published in a legal advertisement elsewhere in this paper.

#### Club Women Go To District Meet

#### West Jefferson Club Wins Attendance Prize; "United For Peace" Is Theme

Both the Ashe county and West Jefferson Woman's clubs were well represented at the district meeting held in North Wilkesboro last Thursday, when the West Jefferson club won the attendance prize. This club also had the distinction of being the only one in the district to bring a birthday gift from every member to be sent to children in correctional institutions.

Mrs. Dean McMillan, past president of the Ashe county club, gave the report from that organization. Others in her group attending were Mrs. Millard Graybeal, Mrs. J. W. Gambill, Mrs. John Wilkins, Mrs. Harvey Payne and Mrs. C. R. Eller.

Mrs. J. A. Reeves, president, gave the report from the West Jefferson club. Among those from this group attending were Mrs. P. G. Wright, Mrs. Gale McMillan, Mrs. C. D. Neal, Mrs. Bruce Porter and Mrs. Ed M. Anderson, first vice-president of the N. C. Federation of Women's clubs.

At the meeting in North Wilkesboro, Mrs. J. A. Gupton, President of the N. C. Federation discussed her theme, "United For Peace," and told what women could and should do toward this end. Mrs. Edwin P. Brown, second vice-president and director of districts, outlined many of the aims and objects of the federation for the year.

#### DIRECTORS OF W. J. MERCHANTS TO MEET

Sharpe S. Shoemaker, newly elected director of the West Jefferson Merchant's Association has announced a meeting of the directors to be held at Rhodes Furniture Company, next Monday night at 7:30.

#### A.E.C. To Sponsor Program On Sat.

Smokey Graves and his Blue Star Boys, heard daily over radio station WSJS, will be featured on the stage at the courthouse in Jefferson on Saturday at eight o'clock, it was announced here this week.

This program is being sponsored by the American Confederation of Enlisted Men of this county.

A small admission will be charge, it was pointed out.