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The Skyland Post

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

VOLUME 22, NO. 9

\$2.50 a Year in Ashe County

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1950

WEST JEFFERSON, N. C.

\$3.00 a Year Out of County

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

Annual Red Cross Fund Drive Opens On Mon.

Over 1500 Want Telephones In Rural Sections

County-Wide Survey Now Being Made Through County Agent's Office

More than 1,500 requests for rural telephones have been returned to the county agent's office following the 3200 inquiries sent out a short time ago, it was announced yesterday.

Dana Tugman, county agent, said that replies were still coming in and that his office expected to have more than 2500 before the survey is closed.

In each community of the county a committee of three has been named to help carry out the survey to determine the demand for rural telephone service.

The survey is the result of a county-wide meeting held at the courthouse recently to discuss the possibilities of badly needed rural telephone service throughout this county.

Gwyn B. Price and other REA officials pointed out that private companies having franchise in this area will first be given an opportunity to extending rural service before cooperatives are formed.

The Central Telephone Company, which serves this area is also making a study of the rural needs and possibilities of extending service, officials of the company said.

Ashe People At Lincoln Dinner

National Chairman Is Speaker At State-Wide Event Held In Charlotte

Ashe county people were well represented at the state-wide Republican Lincoln Day Dinner held in Charlotte on Saturday when some of the party's top figures were speakers.

J. F. Yates, Ashe County Republican chairman, announced that in addition to himself others from this section attending the event were Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Graybeal, Mr. and Mrs. Edison Thomas and child, Edward Osborne, Charlie Welch and John Dce.

National Chairman Guy George Gabrielson and Senator Andrew F. Schoepel were the chief speakers.

President Truman was referred to by the national chairman, speaker at the Lincoln day dinner that brought together more than 600 enthusiastic old and young Republicans at \$6 a plate, as "one of those odd Missourians who doesn't want to be shown."

Methodists Have Special Services

Rev. Hoyt Wood, pastor of the West Jefferson Methodist church, announced this week that a special series of dedication services would be held at that church, beginning Sunday night.

The first service will start at 7:30 p. m., Sunday night with the remaining services on Wednesday and Friday night at the same time.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend these dedication services.

Open Meeting At Rotary Tonight

President Jake Caudill will have charge of the program for the Jeffersons Rotary Club tonight when an open meeting for the discussion of club problems will be held.

Last Thursday, Col. A. L. Fletcher, Raleigh, spoke to the club on the development of tourist trade in Ashe county, under the auspices of the club's tourist and advertising committee.

The complete text of Col. Fletcher's talk can be found on the first page of the second section of this edition.

He was introduced by Mrs. Ed M. Anderson, president of the North Carolina Federation of Woman's Clubs.

Farm Planning Meetings Will Open On Monday

WINNER IN CONTEST



Miss Anne Francis won first place in the county peace speaking contest.

Soil Speaking Contest Will Be Held On Mar. 10

Several Schools In The County Will Take Part In Annual Event

Ashe county high schools will join others in this state in again taking part in the annual Soil Conservation speaking contest in which local and state prizes are to be awarded.

According to advance information Lansing, Todd, Nathan's Creek and Jefferson plan to enter the county event which will be held at the courthouse on Friday afternoon, March 10 at 1:30 p. m. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Details for prizes for local winners have not been worked out yet, but it was announced that there would be local cash prizes.

An estimated 5,000 high school students in grades nine through

Last Rites Held For Mrs. Perry

The funeral service for Mrs. Zelpa Perry, 71, Apple Grove, was held Tuesday afternoon at the Christian Unity Baptist church at Apple Grove with interment in the Perry cemetery at Sugar Grove.

Elder Dewey Roten officiated at the service for Mrs. Perry who died at her home on Monday. She is survived by several nephews and nieces.

When Will School Buildings Get Underway, Is Question

By Staff Writer

When will Ashe county's school building program get underway? This might well be called the traditional sixty-four dollar question. But it is the question most people are asking and few are answering. No one doubts the need, but there appears to be some who question the locations and the allotment of funds.

A series of meetings were held on Friday night and Saturday to discuss the problem with the county board of education and several of the groups including Jefferson, West Jefferson, Todd and Fleetwood. As far as it could be learned no definite conclusions could be arrived at.

The original plans drawn up by a committee from the State Planning Board headed by Mr. Plennons, included in a long-range program, a consolidated high school to be erected in the Beaver Creek section of the coun-

Discussions Of Various Crops Will Be Held; Motion Pictures Shown

The annual series of farm planning meetings will open in Ashe county on Monday, March 6, when farmers in the various sections of the county will be given a preview of possibilities of the various crops this year. Recommendations and suggestions will also be made, County Agent Dana Tugman said yesterday.

In addition to discussion leaders from the county agent's office, others who are expected to take part in the meetings are representatives of the Soil Conservation Office, Thomas Sears of the FHA office, representatives of the PMA as well as field representatives of some of the dairy products companies operating in this area.

Moving pictures will be shown in connection with the discussions.

Dana Tugman said he wanted to urge all farmers to attend one of the meetings. The schedule has been planned for the convenience of every section of the (Continued on page 4)

Miss Francis Is Contest Winner

Annual Event Is Sponsored By Ashe Post American Legion; Three Schools Enter

Miss Anne Francis, Jefferson high school student, won first place in the Ashe county high school oratorical contest, held last Wednesday night at the Courthouse in Jefferson.

This contest is sponsored annually by the Ashe County Post 171 of the American Legion.

Other contestants entering the contest were Miss Betty Blevins, Lansing, and Miss Kay Howell, Elkland. Application had been filed for Miss Ruby Johnston, Fleetwood, to enter the contest, but she was unable to attend due to illness.

Judges for the Ashe contest were Mrs. P. G. Wright, Miss Frances Thomas and Colonel A. L. Fletcher.

Miss Francis will enter the district contest to be held soon and the district winner will be eligible for the state contest which will be held at the Legion Club in Lexington on March 17.

The North Carolina winner will receive a \$100 U. S. Savings bond and an expense paid trip to the regional contest, leading to a shot at the national title and a \$4,000 college scholarship. Second place winner in North Carolina will receive a \$50 U. S. Savings bond.

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Authentic Tom Thumb Wedding Draws Record Crowd



A genuine Tom Thumb wedding took place recently in Wilkes Barre, Pa., at Holy Rosary church. State police were needed to handle the crowd, estimated at 2,000 persons, who filled the church and jammed traffic to see the unusual ceremony. In the rectory, after the ceremony, the participants lined up for the wedding picture. The bride and groom are Joseph A. Kotalik and the former Myrtle Pilkerton. The bride is 3 feet, 10-inches tall.

Town Is Still Seeking A New Industry Here

All Inquiries Being Followed Up; Textile Plant Gets Information

Town officials and this newspaper will continue to make every effort to secure a new industry for this section until one is secured, it was pointed out this week.

An inquiry was received from a textile plant last week and complete information was sent immediately.

Special efforts are being made to contact some manufacturers through the Manufacturer's Record.

Mr. W. C. Guthrie of the industrial division of the N. C. Department of Conservation and Development, said this week that he would continue to increase his efforts toward locating an industry here.

Until a different decision was made last week there was a definite possibility of the Duplan company locating here. Officials decided, however, to locate a plant at Burnsville instead.

In a letter to Mayor Carl B. Graybeal an official of the company wrote:

"It has been a most difficult decision to make since many towns and sites were most inviting and we feel quite sure that had we selected your community we would have been just as successful and happy as we expect to be at Burnsville."

"We certainly appreciate all the interest you displayed in your efforts of having us choose you: (Continued on page 4)

Nona-Ruth's Will Open Sat.

Plans are now being completed for the opening of Nona-Ruth's ready-to-wear shop here on Saturday, Miss Ruth Weaver and Mrs. Nona Bell Greene, owners and operators said yesterday.

Miss Weaver, who will be in charge of the shop said that while all the merchandise had not arrived that it was coming in daily and that the shop would be opened without additional delay.

She announced that they would carry a number of nationally advertised lines and cordially extended to everyone an invitation to attend the opening.

Both Mrs. Greene and Miss Weaver are well known in business circles and have a number of friends who will be interested in the opening of the new shop located across the street from Davidson's.

Final Reports Show Prices On W. J. Market Above Others In Area

Many Farmers Applying For PMA Materials

Over \$42,000 Of The County's Allotment Of \$120,000 Taken Up

More than \$42,000.00 of the county allocation of \$120,000.00 has been used by the PMA office in granting approvals for the farms of 1060 producers, Melvin Campbell said yesterday.

"Purchase orders are now being issued for seeds for establishing and improving permanent pasture. Every Ashe county farmer is eligible to participate in this PMA pasture program unless the allowance for the farm has been taken up in limestone or phosphate," he added.

Purchase orders are also being issued for phosphate and mixed fertilizer and orders are being taken for limestone which is now being delivered, it was explained.

"Farmers are asked to visit the PMA office and obtain purchase orders as soon as possible and avoid the rush which is expected within the next few weeks," Mr. Campbell concluded.

Ashe County Has Many Road Problems To Contend With

By Staff Writer

Ashe county people are still beset with a number of road problems which they are hoping will be solved this summer. "If we have to go through another fall and winter like this one I don't know what will happen," a citizen told a Post reporter this week.

Since the county-wide mass meeting was held in Jefferson last month, various groups are still discussing some of the proposed projects presented there.

"I can't see why the county should pave the back street in Jefferson, running back of the courthouse," a citizen from Peak Creek remarked. Attention was called to the fact that such a proposal had been presented to the county commissioners earlier, but that they had taken no action on this matter.

"I can't believe Commissioner Goforth will spend money on this

Official Reports From N. C. Dept Of Agriculture Released

Official reports from the N. C. and U. S. Departments of Agriculture reveal that during the season which just ended, the West Jefferson Tobacco Market topped others for price in this immediate area.

According to the report the West Jefferson market sold a total of 3,021,000 pounds for an average price of \$43.69 per hundred. The nearest market to West Jefferson, at Boone, sold 3,837,043 for an average of only \$42.00 per hundred.

While weather conditions made the burley crop lighter, the loss in poundage on the West Jefferson market was less in comparison to that on nearby markets. (Continued on page 4)

Navy Recruiter Here Each Tues.

Announcement was made this week that a United States Navy recruiter would be at the post office in West Jefferson each Tuesday from 10:30 a. m. to 3:00 p. m., to interview applicants for enlistment in the Navy, Navy reserves and the WAVES.

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By Staff Writer

considering the dire needs of the county," the Peak Creek citizen continued.

"If we are to use county funds for paving streets, there are a number of streets in West Jefferson, some of which school buses travel over, than can be paved," another citizen stated.

There has also been some difference of opinion as to the best location of the Fleetwood-Deep Gap road. Some citizens of this community plan to ask Commissioner Mark Goforth and Engineer Walker to take a special look at the situation there, according to information received by this paper.

Foremost in the minds of most people appears to be the urgent need of the completion of the Warrensville road, as well as the Laurel road.

Commissioner Goforth has promised that every effort will be made to get some of the needs (Continued on page 4)

County Is Given Quota Of \$2,000; Need Help Of All

Owen Heads Drive; Miss Frances Thomas Is Chapter Chairman

Ashe county people will have an opportunity to answer the call of the Red Cross on Monday when the annual fund drive gets underway with James Owen as chairman.

The county has a quota of \$2,000, which is considered small because of the wide range of service the Red Cross offers, Miss Frances Thomas, chapter chairman pointed out.

Initial gift letters have been mailed out to a number of people and a number of personal solicitations will be carried out in order to give everyone an opportunity to contribute in the drive which is scheduled to run from March 6 through March 25.

The Red Cross, which is active in both times of war and peace, at home as well as in far away places, has long been recognized for its service. Disaster, first aid and the blood bank services are among the many fields in which it helps in times of peace.

General George Marshall is national chairman this year.

Secretary of the Army Gordon Gray stated that the contributions which the American people make to Red Cross each year are premiums paid upon a great insurance policy for national health and humanitarianism — a policy which pays dividends to all.

In addition to the solicitors named last week the following have been appointed to help Rev. M. D. Hart with the church solicitation: Ashe Missionary Baptists (Continued on page 4)

Scott Replies To V. L. Stanley

Governor Writes Local Citizen In Reply To Letter On Warrensville Road

Gov. W. Kerr Scott has written Virgil Stanley a reply to his letter about the Warrensville road. The text of the letter is as follows:

"This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 21st, concerning Highway No. 88 in Ashe county, and I want to assure you of my interest in this matter.

Of course, you realize that it is impossible for me to know the full circumstances surrounding these conditions. I am asking, therefore, Dr. Henry W. Jordan, Chairman of the State Highway Commission, to look into this situation to see what can be done to alleviate these conditions as soon as possible.

I am always glad to hear from you and appreciate your interest in the matter."

Grange Meets At Riverview, Friday

The Riverview Grange will meet Friday night, at the school. Gwyn Price, State REA chairman, will meet with the group to discuss rural telephone service and Mrs. Tom Ferguson will be present to organize a Juvenile Grange.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend this important meeting

Welch's Store Is Open In Lansing

The grand opening of Welch's Store in Lansing will be held Saturday when Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Welch, who have been in the mercantile business for 29 years, will reopen the Welch's Store.

Mr. Welch said this week that he wanted to invite all his old customers and friends to visit the new store Saturday when \$25.00 in prizes will be given away free.

Welch's Store is located in Lansing opposite the Corner Service Station and is stocked with a complete line of clothing for the entire family.