

Bank Head Says Rural N. C. In Better Finances

Survey Shows Farmers Are Using Less Credit

North Carolina agriculture is currently in a stronger financial position than it was at the close of World War I, according to R. L. Ariail, executive vice-president of the Jackson County bank, who has been designated by the North Carolina Bankers association as Jackson County Key banker.

Reporting on the results of a national survey of bank lending in 1945 made by the Agricultural commission of the American Bankers association, Mr. Ariail said in North Carolina it shows farmers use only a tenth of bank credit available to them. 208 banks in the state which agriculture made 93,185 loans 63,398 farmers last year for a total amount of \$37,465,000. On January 1, 1946, these banks had loans outstanding of \$18,872,000. On the same date these banks \$217,120,000 additional for agricultural loans had the farmers needed.

The credit extended by the banks to their farm customers is a useful tool of agriculture is shown by a breakdown of these over-all figures, he added. Last year 55,222 farmers procured farm production loans in an aggregate amount of \$25,697,000. Farm real estate loans were made to 7,669 farmers for a total of \$11,324,000. On January 1, 1946, there were outstanding in the banks \$5,821,000 in production loans and \$11,186,000 in long term farm real estate loans. Loans on crops in storage insured by the Commodity Credit Corporation were made by the banks to only 507 farmers for a total of \$444,000 a considerable reduction from the amounts loaned in previous years when price-support levels were higher in relation to market values. A total of \$1,865,000 in C. C. loans remained outstanding at the beginning of this year.

"The fact that North Carolina farmers have found it necessary to use only a small part of the bank credit available to them indicates that they are in a far stronger financial position today than they have been for many years," Mr. Ariail said. "During the war years farm incomes have been high and farmers have wisely used their earnings to pay down debt and accumulate savings in War Bonds and bank accounts."

"The high level of bank assets and the high degree of liquidity of the banks assure North Carolina farmers of ample bank credit in the future to meet all of their needs. At the end of last year, North Carolina country banks had an average of cash and United States Government bonds equal to 82 per cent of their deposits. By contrast, in 1929 country banks in this state had cash and government securities equal to less than 31 per cent of deposits. The high ratio of

—Continued on page 12

Tuckaseege Baptists Hold Association Meet This Week

The Tuckaseege Baptist association will meet with the Cashiers Baptist in a two-day session Thursday and Friday.

This is the oldest association in point of years in Western North Carolina, this being 117th annual meeting of the body. It embraces all of Jackson county with 46 Baptist churches, with a membership of around 6,700. The Rev. T. F. Deitz is moderator, having served around 20 years. The Rev. W. N. Cook of Webster has served as clerk of the body for 16 years.

Representatives from all our boards are expected to be present. The session will convene Thursday at 10 a. m. with the moderator conducting the devotional. R. F. Jarrett will present the report on the orphanage, with representative from that institution to speak. H. E. Monteith will present a paper on religious literature. At 11:30 F. P. Blankenship of the Lovedale church will preach the annual sermon. At the afternoon session the report on hospital, W. M. U. Christian education, co-operate program will be presented and discussed.

BOND DRIVE VICTORS TO RECEIVE AWARDS

Prizes of 35 dollars are being mailed this week to Frank Crawford, Jr., Bennie Reece, Jr., and Miss Jeanne Cogdill, winners in the Victory Loan drive held in the county last December.

Three bicycles were offered as prizes last year by the War Finance committee to the three school children in the county selling the largest amount of "E" bonds during the late Victory Loan drive, but the committee was unable to purchase three bikes at one time. Consequently, it was decided to present cash awards instead.

The winners, announced last January, sold the following amounts in bonds: Crawford, \$20,225; Reece, \$17,825; and Miss Cogdill, \$9,425.

The prizes are being presented several local citizens.

DR. MICHAL WILL BE HEAD OF DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Dr. Mary Michal will serve as acting head of the District Health department until the position can be filled definitely, it was decided in Waynesville last week at a meeting of the officials of the department.

Dr. C. N. Sisk, who was head of the department comprised of the counties of Jackson, Haywood, Macon, Swain, and Transylvania, resigned a month ago to accept a similar position in another district.

Budgets for health work in the counties were also set up at the meeting.

District board members from Sylva are Dan Moore and Walter Ashe.

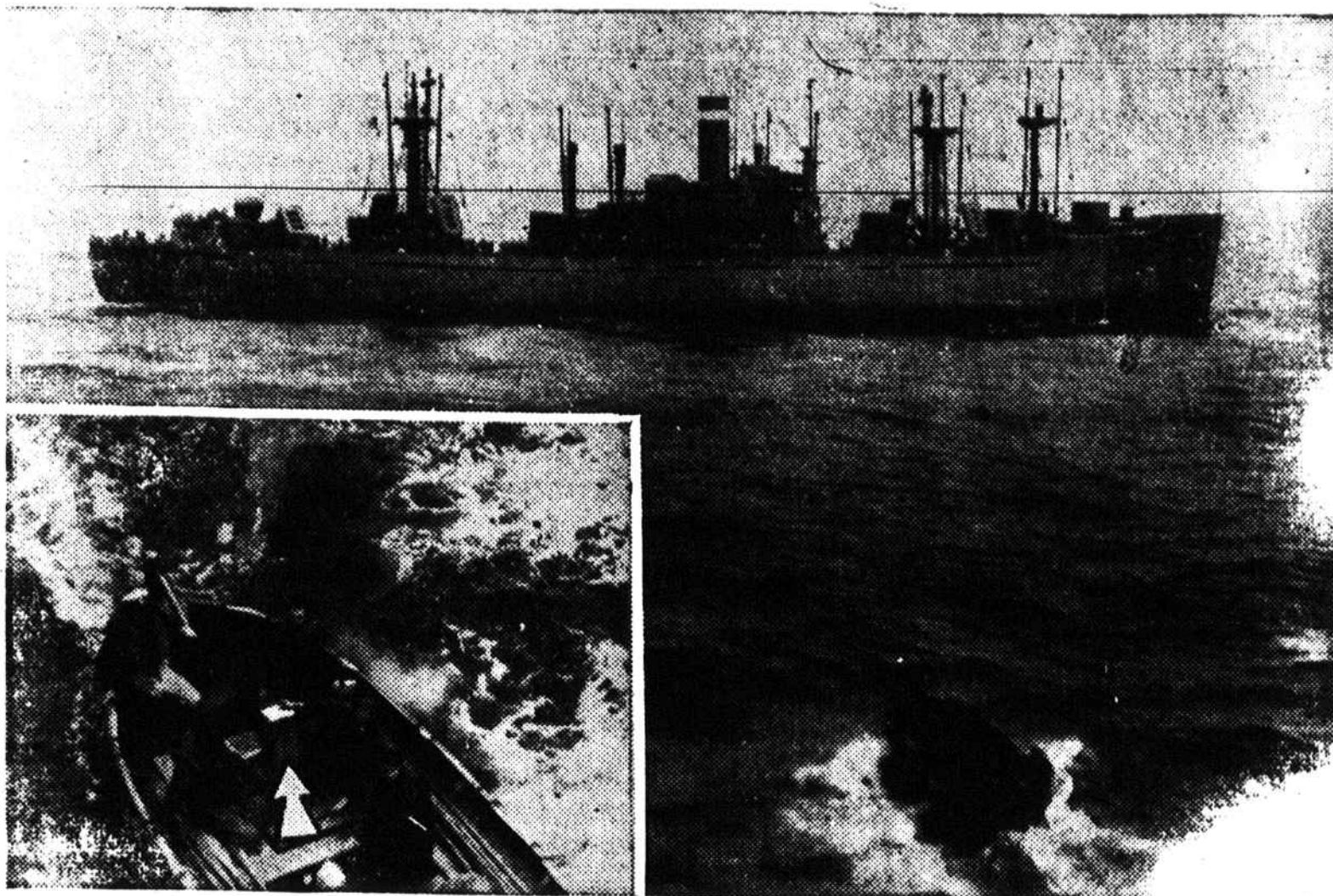
72 Rooms Found For College Vets

Sixteen additional rooms have been found this week for veterans planning to attend school at Western Carolina Teachers college, Felix Picklesimer, Chamber of Commerce president, disclosed.

This brings the total number of rooms pledged by local people to 72, but Picklesimer stated that many more rooms will be needed after September 15 to accommodate the college's enrollment, which is expected to stand at double the enrollment of most previous school years.

Citizens in and around Sylva are requested to notify Felix Picklesimer or Carolyn Lewis at the Chamber of Commerce office as to the number of rooms available, the number of men that can be accommodated, and the approximate rent per month.

Dramatic Serum Transfer Off Newfoundland



THE TROOPSHIP COLBY VICTORY, OFF NEWFOUNDLAND, faced with the possibility of dreaded diphtheria, radioed an appeal for serum. Quitting its course, the S.S. Brazil raced to the scene with the medicine. A launch from the Victory Colby (above) heads back to the transport after picking up serum. The disease on vessel was diagnosed as epiglottitis.

State Welfare Unit Votes To Augment Assistance Funds

The State Board of Public Welfare voted last week to ask the next general assembly for appropriations of \$2,700,000 for the fiscal year of 1947-48 and for \$2,840,000 for the 1948-49 fiscal year.

The board said that increases will be necessary to take care of the number now receiving help and the rapidly growing waiting list of needy for whom no funds are available.

Current state appropriations for old-age assistance is \$1,500,000 and for dependent children is \$690,000.

G. C. Henson, county welfare superintendent, announced last month that the county is exceeding its quota for old-age assistance by seventy-five applications.

Mr. Henson stated this week that: "In the event the State legislature gives us more money, it will not become effective until July, 1947, the beginning of the next fiscal year."

The State Welfare board pointed out that for every dollar of state-appropriated funds, the State of North Carolina will realize a return of two dollars in federal money in matching programs by the Federal government, and will represent only 25 per cent of the amount spent for grants.

The counties pay 25 per cent of the costs, the board pointed out.

YEAR AGO THURSDAY HAPPY DAY IN TOWN

At seven p. m. a year ago Thursday, Sylvanians were eagerly awaiting President Truman's official proclamation of the Japanese surrender.

When the announcement came, townfolk cheered and the fire siren sounded immediately and was followed by the whistles at the Mead and Armour plants with hundreds of auto horns joining in.

People jammed the streets, jostling and patting one another on the back, some laughing and some crying, but all expressing themselves through some means or another in regard to the end of the Pacific war.

Later in the evening of that memorable day police roped off Main street for square dancing and music that lasted until midnight.

COUPLE WINS PRIZE AT LEGION DANCE

Totsy Jacobs and Randall Goldman were winners of a ten-dollar prize awarded last Tuesday night at the Legion dance by Dave Reaves to the best couple.

Fisher Improving After Appendicitis Operation

Joe Clyde Fisher, who underwent an attack of appendicitis early Wednesday at his home, has been operated on and is progressing well at the Harris Community hospital.

SOSSAMON'S... in Sylva

ACHIEVEMENT DAY TO BE HELD NEXT MONTH IN COUNTY

Miss Minnie Gray, chairman of the Achievement Day committee, announced this week that plans have been completed for the annual Jackson County Achievement day to be held September 12-14.

The occasion, observed by the Home Demonstration clubs, the 4-H clubs, and the farmers and their families of the county, will be held at the elementary school in Dillsboro on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, September 12-14.

A premium list covering all phases of farm and home activities has been prepared by the committee and will be announced in next week's Herald.

All members of the numerous demonstration clubs and other interested persons are urged to bring their exhibits and put them on display.

The public is cordially invited to attend these exhibitions and show interest in the project, which may definitely be made an annual affair.

SENIOR SCOUTS ARE EXPEDITION HOSTS

Sylva Senior Scout group No. 1 is host this week at Smokeout to Senior Scouts from four states in an explorer expedition, Harold McGuire, scoutmaster, announced this week.

The feature of the outing is a hike from Clingsman's dome to Deal's gap that will take place for four days, beginning Tuesday.

Local scouts on the expedition are James Bales, Jr., Walter Allison Jones, Phillip Jones, Charles Stillwell, and Jack Hennessee. They are under the leadership of James Bales, Sr.

The states represented are North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

This is the first explorer expedition to be held in this region by the Sylva Senior Scout group, which received its charter three weeks ago at a meeting of the Rotary club, the troop's sponsor.

NEW STREET LIGHTS ARE BEING ADDED

Pole-line construction men from the Dillsboro Power and Light company began work last Friday on equipping local streets with more street lights and replacing several of the old ones.

Claude Queen, superintendent, announces that a new type of circuit, 2300-volt loop circuit, will replace the town's 110-volt single-phase circuit and is expected to give better service.

Mr. Queen stated that his crew expects to add and replace about 70 street lights and add a number of new poles. They expect to complete the job in about 10 days.

Extra Housing For Veterans Is Near Finish At College

Shipyards housing units from Wilmington, now receiving final touches at Cullowhee, will house 36 veteran students and their families when registration begins at the Teachers college on September 10-12.

Six buildings, comprised of six apartments each, will contain 24 2-bedroom flats and 12 1-bedroom units. They contain bedrooms, a combination living room and dining room, a kitchenette and a bath.

Basic furnishings, provided by the Federal Public Housing authority, include tables, chairs, beds, mattresses, small electric ranges, iceboxes, and oil space heaters.

The units were hauled from Wilmington five weeks ago, and they were pitched by the FPHA.

The college was in charge of gassing, and extending the water and sewage lines, and at the expiration of the emergency the college will become possessor of the buildings, which cost approximately \$55,000.

College authorities revealed this week that single veterans will be accommodated in dormitories, but that no organized drive outside of the one now underway in Sylva has been made in an effort to find rooms for single men.

SCHOOL GRID DRILLS BEGIN HERE MONDAY

Principal W. H. Crawford of the Sylva High school announced this week that football practice will begin Monday evening at 7:30 at Mark Watson field with about 30 players expected to report.

Three of last year's linemen, Jimmy Nicholson, Jack Hennessee and Hal Wilson, will be back to spark the Hurricanes, and three outstanding backs from last year, Luther Norton, Dennis Norton and Billy Cagle, will also be on hand.

Principal Crawford disclosed that the school has purchased new uniforms and other playing equipment.

The Hurricanes will play their first game on September 13 against Hayesville in Sylva at 7:30 p. m.

No one has been picked to succeed Leonard Huff, former coach who resigned Monday, and Jim Ryan, star quarterback who entered the navy the first of June, will not be back.

Legionnaires To Sponsor Weiner Roast Next Week

A weiner roast will be held on August 23 by the American Legion at the Community house, and all veterans of both World Wars, whether Legion members or not, are invited to attend.

The gathering, to feature recorded music for dancing, will take the place of the Legion's fourth Friday meeting.

There will be no charge and those planning to attend are requested to bring their ladies.

Historic Play Proposed For Western Counties

Program Is Considered For Housing Tourists

CLAIMS TO BE OLDEST SHEEPMAN IN NATION

J. A. Norris of near Boone says that he is the oldest sheep producer "from point of service, anyway" in the nation.

He recently told State Department of Agriculture officials that he has been growing sheep for 80 years. Norris says that his father gave him his first lamb when he was eight.

That was in 1866, Norris says, and every year since he says that he has sold a few sheep. He carried his most recent load to market in North Wilkesboro last June.

His lambs brought \$17.50 per hundred, which Norris says is good compared to his boyhood days when a "good sheep hardly ever brought over \$3 a head."

Norris' wife, 85, says her husband "goes to bed and gets up with the chickens."

COUNTY 4-H MEMBERS ARE ATTENDING MEET AT STATE COLLEGE

Five Jackson county 4-H club members left for Raleigh early this week to attend the State 4-H short course at State college, which is taking place this week.

The program will include courses in 4-H organization, citizenship, health, family relations, music appreciation, a program for farm and home agents and 4-H neighborhood leaders, and recreational leadership training.

Those attending from Jackson county are: Willis McCoy, Tommy Sutton, Nola Higdon, Dorothy Deitz, and Dixie Nell Southard. Miss Josephine Johnston, home demonstration agent, and Miss Helen Sossamon, assistant home demonstration agent, accompanied the group.

Vets Advised To Await Information

Walter Ashe, county service officer of the American Legion, advised county veterans to "hold off" on application blanks for benefits and leave pay and more definite information on the overall plan for paying ex-servicemen for their accumulated furlough time.

The representative stated that he has not received definite word from Raleigh as to instructions. Mr. Ashe said that he would notify the Herald when more definite plans are announced by the State.

The local postmaster had no comment to make as to when application blanks would be available at the postoffice.

When Messina fell to the Seventh Army on August 15, 1943, the Sicilian campaign ended, just 36 days after the 7th's initial landings.

More Intensive Forest Fire Protection To Be Provided

According to an announcement made last week by State Forester W. K. Beichler, the Department of Conservation and Development has entered into an agreement with the Tennessee Valley Authority to provide more intensive forest fire protection on the 333,850 acres of woodland in Jackson and Transylvania counties.

Financed cooperatively by the State, the counties, the U. S. Forest Service and TVA, the project will test and demonstrate fire control measures needed to reduce the average annual fire loss within the two counties to one-half of one per cent of the total forest area. During the past five years more than three times that amount of land has burned over annually.

The project will be administered by Edward H. Ward, a project leader, employed by the State and located at Sylva. Advisory service in the development of working plans, budgets, and promotional materials will be furnished by TVA Department of Forestry Relations. Beginning Aug. 1 the intensive

The Western North Carolina Associated communities met in Cullowhee last Thursday evening and discussed the possibility of staging a historic drama in Western Carolina.

Details of the proposal will be considered by a special committee, and the idea of combining the history of the Cherokee Indians and early white settlers in the region was mentioned in connection with the proposal.

Proposals to increase tourist travel in the region were heard, and one of the members mentioned that a program for housing tourists is being considered on the Indian reservation. A survey in regard to the development of housing for tourists was discussed and a survey will be made in the area in regard to this need.

R. Getty Browning, chief location engineer of the State Highway and Public Works commission, recommended that emphasis be placed on completing three stretches of the Blue Ridge parkway in the Soco gap area, in the vicinity of Wagon Road gap and a six-mile stretch near Oteen, as soon as possible.

George Stephens of Asheville presented a proposal for the development of a museum in the Ravensford section of the Great Smoky Mountains National park with exhibits showing early ways of life in the area.

Francis Heazel proposed that membership in the organization be limited to representatives of chambers of commerce now in existence or to be formed in the various counties in the region from Hendersonville and Asheville to the Tennessee line. An exception to the rule would be made in the cases of Cullowhee, Government Services at Fontana dam, the Indian reservation, and the TVA.

Special guests at the meeting included Dr. Ira N. Childs, educational director of the TVA, and Morris M. Redden, Democratic nominee for Congress from the 12th district.

Henry Ferdee of Andrews, president of the group, presided, and Dr. H. T. Hunter and Dr. W. A. Ashbrook of Western Carolina Teachers college, were hosts.

Representatives were present from Hayesville, Rayon City, Government Services, Inc., at Fontana, the TVA, Asheville, Brevard, Cullowhee, Clyde, Cherokee, Hendersonville, Robbinsville, Waynesville, Murphy, and Sylva.

Beasley Reunion To Be Held August 25

Sunday, August 25, has been set for the annual reunion of members of the Beasley family. It will be held at the Green's Creek Baptist church and speakers and singers will be a part of the program. All relatives are invited to attend and bring a lunch.