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THE NEWS-RECORD

MADISON COUNTY RECORD
Established June 28, 1901
FRENCH BROAD NEWS
Established July 14, 1907
Consolidated November 2, 1911

VOL XXI

MARSHALL, N. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1929

ELECTIONS OR HOSPITAL

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR MADISON CO. CALLS AN ELECTION FOR APRIL 9, 1929, FOR CO. HOSPITAL

Under Consolidated Statutes North Carolina 7255, the citizens of Madison County by petition signed by more than two hundred freeholders requested the Board of Commissioners of Madison County, first Monday in December, to call an election for a bond issue not exceeding Forty Thousand Dollars for the purpose of deciding whether or not the people will vote for the bonds for a County Hospital. The Commissioners did not call the election but deferred the matter to a special meeting to be held the 15th of December. In the meantime the writer was requested to obtain an opinion from the Attorney General as to whether the Statute is mandatory upon the Commissioners when a petition is properly presented. I wrote the Attorney General and the following is his reply, which explains itself:

Mr. John A. Hendricks,
Attorney-At-Law,
Marshall, N. C.
Dear Sir:

Replying to yours of December 6th. If all the preliminaries are properly carried out, we think that the term "shall" used in the Statute in sub-section 2 of C. S. 7255, is plainly mandatory and that the Board of Commissioners have no discretion in ordering the election upon the petition.

Yours truly,
DENNIS G. BRUMMITT,
Attorney General.
By Frank Nash,
Asst. Attorney General

On the 15th of December the petition was again presented to the Commissioners and it was certified that more than two hundred freeholders of Madison County had signed the petition, and more than one hundred and fifty of the signers lived outside the corporate limits of the Town of Marshall. It was found by the commissioners that the petition complied with the requirements of the law. Whereupon the election was called to be held on the 9th day of April, 1929. The law requires that there shall be ninety days publication of the notice of the election.

The proposition is that the James B. Duke estate will donate to the County Forty Thousand Dollars for the purpose of a county hospital if the county will put up an equal amount of money. The Duke donation is a gift to the county. Besides the gift of Forty Thousand Dollars the Duke Foundation will help maintain the hospital. The notice of the election will be regularly published and the registrars and judges of the election in the different precincts will be appointed in due time.

The Statute provides that when a petition in compliance with the statute is submitted to the commissioners that they "shall submit the question to the qualified electors" at a regular election or "a special election called for that purpose."

The real question at stake is, will Madison County accept the gift of Forty Thousand Dollars and put up an equal amount for the relief of the sick and suffering and for the protection of life.

JOHN A. HENDRICKS,
Mrs. C. J. Ebbs Writes Book

"Carolina Mountain Breezes" is the title of a little book just off the press, the author being Mrs. Eloise Buckner Ebbs, wife of Mr. Cauley J. Ebbs, of Asheville, formerly of Madison County. Mrs. Ebbs says it is a simple mountain story, in which she has tried to picture the best type of mountain people. Mrs. Ebbs is modest enough to say that she does not expect it to be the last word on this subject, but hopes that it may inspire others to write more along this line. Her production has been very favorably received in Asheville and other places and has had many favorable comments. So much has been written showing only the worst side of mountain people that such a book as Mrs. Ebbs has written will doubtless be much appreciated by mountain people of the better classes.

Marshall O. E. S. To Hold Christmas Meet

The Marshall Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star will hold their regular monthly meeting in the Eastern Star hall at the Marshall Masonic Temple, Christmas night, it has been announced. The meeting coming at that time will be featured by a special Yuletide program, consisting of Christmas music and other attractive features. Refreshments will be served.

Mr. J. N. West, worthy patron, has requested that all members be

SWAIN FARMERS WANT CO. AGENT

Petitions Will Be Circulated To Determine Will Of Taxpayers

Bryson City, Dec. 14.—Petitions will be circulated in Swain county during the next few days among the farmers to determine the will of the taxpayers with regard to the action of the county commissioners, who are, and who, announced that as a matter of economy, the services of Willard R. Anderson, county farm agent, would have to be dispensed with.

Decision to canvass the farmers of the county with petitions was reached last night when a group of representative citizens from many sections held a mass meeting in the courthouse or the purpose of discussing ways and means of retaining the farm agent.

Never in the history of the county has there been as little going on in the way of public work. As J. C. Gibby, secretary of this board, stated at the meeting, "before this, if I could not make enough off my farm to support my family, I could go to some other camp or other works and get money. Today I have to make my living from my land."

This meeting was in charge of Mr. Enloe of Judson. About 100 men from over the county, with a few women were there. Short talks were made by the farmers, and the result of the meeting was the consensus that the farmers of the county, that has availed themselves of the help and advice of the county agent, were today able to meet their bills and were making a living off the things that they had started to do at his urging.

One of the strongest points made was by R. G. Coffey, merchant, who said that he felt that lack of knowledge of the work of the farm agent was the greatest handicap to carrying on the work. "that anything has to have a head and a leader. He spoke of the need of a balanced ration for stock. He said Mr. Anderson has shown the farmers what that was and what plant food was. He spoke of the tax paid to raise the children to a higher plane through education and urged that the 1-cent tax levied on each \$100 for a farm agent would be carried on. J. Robert Long, cashier of the Bryson City bank said that he had watched the work as it has grown and gave figures and facts to prove the progress made since the employment of a farm agent.

Meant Real Money
Mr. Gibby said that Mr. Anderson had started him, in a small way, on several projects that had meant real money to him. He stated that the farm agent is the link between the small farmer and the market. That the small farmer has to sell collectively and it is only with a farm demonstrator at the head of things, that they can get a market for their small crops.

A letter was read from the Nantahala Creamery Company by S. E. Varner of Whittier stating that the truck service would be discontinued if a farm demonstrator was not on the job as the people would decrease their output and it would be a losing proposition for them to cover the county. He urged the taking of petitions into the county and getting them signed and present them to the county commissioners. This was adopted and a committee composed of Geo. Henry Tabor and W. W. Wiggins was named to draw up this petition and several men volunteered to carry them into all the communities in the county during the coming week. This was endorsed by an unanimous vote.

The running of the co-operative poultry car will be discontinued and in the talk Mr. Long, he compared the prices paid by the trucks that go to the doors and collect chickens and eggs and the prices paid at the car and the net profit to the farmers in the past nine months was \$4000. This means a great deal to those men and women who have raised chickens in this county.

Every one was agreed at this meeting, which was composed of people from Needmore, Judson, Bushnell, Almond, Bryson City, Whittier, and other parts of the county, that the board of commissioners, men of business acumen and far-sightedness, would meet the will of the people in this instance. The state is responsible for one half of the salary of the farm agent.—Asheville Citizen.

Transylvania farmers have organized a new cream route to care for the surplus milk of that community.

A car of pure bred Guernsey cattle was purchased in October by dairy men of Transylvania County.

THE CHRIST CHILD

A singing, heart, pants, sound above,
Soft hoofbeats treading waves of air
That surging earthward break and fall
Men's hearts with ocean depths of love.

And this, to men, the reindeer gift
As running through the frosty night
They bravely drag their merry load
That's light with joy of hearts to lift.

A face, like Sunday shoes, shined bright
It's sun's gold casting silver rays;
It's nose, lips, cheeks with red glow
Reflected from its sun-hearts light.

And waves of sun's warmth Santa brings,
That fire men's hearts to love's deep glow,
That blazes forth in kindly deeds,
Till earth its hallelujah's sings.

Brave reindeer, sprite of joy and fun,
The mind of men these forms conceived;
Dear child's delights, by fancy bred—
The heart of God gave earth His Son.

—E. D. Erakine.

CANCER—A SOCIAL PROBLEM

Radio talk from Station WPTF, Raleigh, N. C., Tuesday afternoon, December 4, 5:50 o'clock, by Dr. Thurman D. Kitchin, President, North Carolina Medical Society, Wake Forest, N. C.

Modern methods of travel and communication have welded the people of the world into a vast social organism, each member standing in the closest relation of interdependence. Today it is true as never before that man cannot live unto himself nor die unto himself. He cannot even be ill unto himself. Involved as human society is today in a network of personal relationships, problems which a few years ago were individual now become the responsibility of society as a whole.

Certainly a disease which takes a toll of over one hundred thousand lives annually in the United States may be regarded as a social problem. More people die of cancer than are killed by railroad trains, street cars, automobiles, drowning, mining accidents, machinery, poisons, homicides, and suicides all put together. More people die of cancer than all infectious diseases combined excepting tuberculosis. Cancer affects all races, all classes, all sexes, and is found in all countries and under all climates. One out of every ten men and women now living will die of cancer if the present death rate continues. Well may it be called the most fatal disease known to modern civilization.

Again, regarded from an economic standpoint cancer is a social problem. It has been estimated that this disease causes an actual monetary loss of approximately seven hundred million dollars a year. This sum does not include the cost of medicines and of actual nursing, nor does it take into consideration other members of the family kept from work on account of a cancerous member. As we are too well aware, the victims of cancer pass through a long period of illness and suffering, become less and less productive, finally taking their beds and becoming helpless, requiring constant nursing either by trained nurses or members of their own family for a long period before they finally succumb. The slow, relentless progress of cancer is depressing in the extreme not alone to the families of those afflicted, but to their friends and in many instances to the entire community.

There is one phase of Cancer as a social problem which may easily be overlooked. There can hardly be placed too much emphasis upon this point: **DEATH FROM CANCER OCCURS AT AN AGE WHEN A PERSON SHOULD BE MOST ACTIVE AND PRODUCTIVE AND AT A STAGE WHEN HIS SERVICES ARE MOST NEEDED BOTH BY HIS FAMILY AND BY SOCIETY AT LARGE.** We know that cancer is pre-eminently a disease of middle life and later. It loves a shining mark and leaves confusion and desolation and distress in its path. Families are broken up, widows are compelled to find new means of support, children are taken from school, the community finds that it has met an irreparable loss.

It is an unwelcome truth—but true, nevertheless, that cancer is actually on the increase. It is not only an apparent increase due to better diagnosis but an actual and absolute increase. This is probably due to the fact that the tremendous success in other fields of medicine has given people a longer lease of life and has succeeded in bringing more people up to the cancer age. Cancer is the most important of the so-called "pre-ventive" diseases of old age. Accordingly, by attacking those in the prime of life, after they have weathered other ills, cancer defeats the work of all other health efforts. How imperative on this account that cancer be controlled!



Merely to pronounce this scourge a social problem and to spread the alarm is but to depress and discourage and fill with apprehension those whom we wish to help. There is a brighter side to the picture, for cancer is curable if apprehended and treated in its early stages. It is always first a local disease and at this stage can be eradicated. It must be attacked as a social problem through education of all the people as to the importance of early diagnosis and treatment. Some will be unduly frightened and will go to doctors needlessly but many lives will be saved by such education can not be doubted. Education will cause people to have a proper regard for their safety and cause them to take the necessary steps for their own protection. Fears thus created will do no harm if these fears are taken to a competent adviser.

Although physicians and nurses have been coming into intimate contact with cancer patients all these years without taking precautions against infecting themselves, there is no record of one cancer patient having given cancer to another person. Thus there is no cause to shun a cancer patient on account of fear of contracting the disease. Victims of this dread disease need every bit of tenderness and sympathy possible for them to receive, and it is a blessing that there is no ground whatever for fear of contagion which might lead to unnecessary and uncharitable attitude toward the afflicted ones.

The widespread belief that diet plays a part in the production of cancer is likewise unfounded. It affects lower animals and shows no preference for those subsisting mainly on meat diets. The frequent occurrence of cancer among fishes would rule out soil and climate as causes. Thus far in our knowledge the cause is connected with three factors—

1. Age. Middle life and later.
2. Chronic irritation, undoubtedly an exciting cause.
3. Heredity—that is, an inherited predisposition or susceptibility.

More has been learned about cancer in the past twenty-five years than in all previous time, due to biological experimentation with the production and study of cancer in the lower animals, notably the rat.

Public education concerning this disease being the only hope of checking its ravages, allow me to outline a few of the more important steps in its education.

1. Instruction in methods of preventing cancer.
2. Recognition of the early signs of cancer.
3. The necessity of seeking competent medical advice immediately upon the appearance of symptoms which arouse suspicion as to their nature.
4. That every cancer begins as a local condition and as long as it remains local it can be positively cured by surgery and X-Ray and Radium.

Dr. Joseph Bloodgood, the noted cancer authority, says: "The records of the great hospitals of the world seem to show that the correctly informed individual should have at least sixty per cent chances of a cure when attacked by cancer, while the ignorant or incorrectly informed individual does not have more than ten per cent chances of a cure."

Is it unreasonable to believe, then, that with the proper cooperation on the part of a fully informed public the death rate from cancer can be reduced? Our agencies of research and the practical application of our knowledge must be commandeered and made to function with precise and unflinching assiduity. It must be realized that cancer, in the organization of our modern life, touches in a vital manner the life cycle of practically every person. Surely every intelligent man and woman should take an active interest in the cancer problem because it has a direct bearing on the welfare of society and every member thereof. When the modern mind has grasped fully this urgent, this overwhelming necessity for individual and concerted thought and action, this baffling social problem—Cancer—will be solved and the suffering that will be relieved.

just as other diseases, which only a few years ago were reaping a rich harvest of human lives, have been brought under control.

Lime and Legumes for soil improvement and for hay and forage is the fall program for Davidson County.

MADISON NEWS SPOTLIGHT

By GLENN W. NAVES

ADDITIONAL SCHOOLS CLOSED AS INFLUENZA SPREADS

The Beech Glenn High, Walnut Creek, Center and Madison Seminary schools were all ordered closed Monday by County Schools, Carl M. Blankenship, as a precautionary measure against the spread of influenza in the districts. Physicians stated during the week that approximately 1,000 cases were present in Madison County. Marshall and Hot Springs high schools were closed prior to the closing of others, and it is improbable that studies will be assumed at any of the institutions until after the holidays.

CLAUDE J. WILDE CHOSEN COMMISSIONER CHAIRMAN

Claude J. Wilde, of Big Pine, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Madison County Board of Commissioners at special called meeting of the body held here last Saturday. Mr. Wilde, elected first in 1926, and reelected last November, succeeds W. L. George, of Mars Hill, who tendered his resignation several days ago. The present Board is constituted by Mr. Wilde, T. A. Silver, and J. F. Amons, the latter having been appointed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. George.

ELECTION TO BE CALLED ON HOSPITAL BONDS

An order authorizing a County-wide election on the issuance and sale of a bond issue aggregating an approximate consideration of \$40,000, the proceeds of which are to be added to the amount, a gift from the Duke Foundation, of Charlotte, towards the erection of a proposed new County hospital, was passed by the Board of County Commissioners, Saturday. The date for the election is designated in the order as April 9, 1929.

Some time ago, Dr. W. S. Rankin, Chairman of the Foundation, announced that the \$40,000 gift was available for the specified purpose.

TOBACCO THIEVES APPREHENDED

John Dockery and a youth named Stanley, son of John Stanley, formerly of Marshall, are being held in the County jail on a charge of stealing a quantity of tobacco from two farmers south of Marshall last Sunday night. The pair was arrested at the home of the elder Stanley below Wolfe Creek, Tennessee, Monday night, terminating a n extensive search by deputy sheriff George H. Henderson, and Policeman Claude L. Henderson, of Marshall, while sleeping. It was said that the pair hired J. C. Fortner, Marshall taxi driver to convey them and their illegal "haul" to Greenville, where the tobacco was disposed of.

The officers also arrested Bill Stanley, who was sleeping in the home of his father. Stanley was wanted here on a charge of jumping his bond, made to secure the payment of costs in connection with his trial on a probation law violation. All three are being held in jail.

MADISON NEWS SPOTLIGHT VETERANS REMAIN IN MADISON

The rapidly dwindling ranks of the gray-clad army of the South is represented by only twenty-five members in Madison County, the many others having answered the final roll call of the Great Commander, with the passing of the years. It was revealed last Friday, when the usual annual

Madison County Veterans were received by J. H. Davis, Clerk of Court, for distribution. Thirty-five dollars for Confederate veterans and \$100 for World War compensation checks are in the hands of Mr. Davis.

A letter accompanying a copy of resolutions adopted at the August 1928, State reunion of United Confederate Veterans at Warboro, requested that each veteran pay to the Clerk of Court the sum of fifty cents towards the support of the organization, this amount to be forwarded by Mr. Davis to the organization.

PERIODICAL HEALTH EXAMINATION COMPLETED

Miss Cora Beam, of the State Board of Health, recently completed the annual examination of Madison County school children. Close to 4,000 children in graded schools were examined by Miss Beam, the work being sponsored by the County and State Boards of Health.

MARSHALL AND HOT SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOLS TO REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL DECEMBER 31

Hot Springs high school which closed about three weeks ago because of an epidemic of influenza at that place, and Marshall high school which was ordered closed by County Superintendent of Schools, Carl M. Blankenship, and Principal Homer Henry, last Friday, will not open until December 31, it has been announced. Mars High was closed as a precautionary measure against a probable epidemic, 121 absences having been recorded on the closing day. Not all of these, however, had contracted the disease, it was said.

A. FRED ROBERTS APPOINTED COUNTY GAME, FISH, FIRE WARDEN

A. Fred Roberts of Mars Hill, secretary-treasurer of the Marshall Chevrolet Company, received notification last Thursday of his appointment to the office of chief game and fish warden of Madison County, to succeed the late Clarence M. Gage, of Marshall, who died November 13, following a long illness. The appointment, effective the day following notification, carries with it the office of County forester, and was made by Wade H. Phillips, director of the State Department of Conservation and Development.

Mr. Roberts will probably call a meeting of the district warden personnel of Madison, at an early date for the discussion of plans for the work, and the transaction of other business.

Mr. Gage had served one term and a few weeks prior to his death was notified of his appointment to a second term. His period of service in office attracted the commendation of his superiors and fellow workers, and was marked by the highest type of efficiency in every respect.

HOT SPRINGS-BLUFF HIGHWAY ROUTE TO BE COMPLETED IN 1929

The new Hot Springs-Bluff highway, traversing a part of the Spring Creek section of Madison County, and one of the most important of several projects now under way in Madison by the State Highway Commission, will be completed in 1929, highway officials in charge of the work have announced.

The proximity of winter has resulted in the work being speeded up, since inclement weather will retard the progress now being made.

\$50,000, a part of a loan of \$600,000 by the Board of Commissioners of Madison County to the State Highway Commission, for highway construction and maintenance in the County, has been allotted to this route.

NEW COUNTY GYMNASIUM COMPLETED

Madison County's new gymnasium and basketball court, located in the old Marshall high school building, on the mountain above Marshall, is now complete and thus another attractive feature of great convenience to high school boys and girls has been realized.

Cage teams in all of Madison's five high schools have long needed an indoor court, and it is believed that the arrangements made by the Board of Education and Principal Homer Henry, of Marshall High, will result in the new gymnasium being self-supporting, including constructing costs.

Christmas Next Week
LAST CALL
Get Christmas Day in Hand
Buy—Buy Christmas Goods