



Bookmobile To Be Operated One Year By Voluntary Solicitations

Commissioners Approve Project; Initial Funds To Be Sought

The Madison County commissioners went on record Monday as approving a bookmobile and county library service for Madison County but stated that the county, at the present, was unable to allocate sufficient funds to start the project. The commissioners unanimously agreed that the county should have a bookmobile and expressed confidence that they would do everything possible to act as a governing board and assist in its establishment.

A committee, headed by Mrs. H. B. Ditmore as chairman, including Mrs. Dorothy Shupe, Mrs. Walter Ramsey, the Rev. R. B. Barefoot and Jim Story met with the commissioners Monday afternoon and presented the initial plans for a countywide library service. The commissioners were told of the two previous meetings held here in connection with a bookmobile and of the \$500 fair premium which will be used to aid in its establishment.

The commissioners will name six trustees in the near future which will be selected from various parts of the county. It was stressed that the bookmobile would cover the entire county and would have schedules as to where the bookmobile would be on certain days of the month.

Such a project would assure rural citizens, both young and old, of educational, entertaining and suitable books on practically every subject desired. A central "storage library" will be secured where hundreds of books will be obtainable on short notice.

Also discussed at the meeting was the fact that the state would more than "match" local funds, and that Madison County had already "lost" (Continued on Page Eight) (First Section)

4-H BANQUET TO BE GIVEN HERE ON FRIDAY NIGHT

The Madison County 4-H Council will give a "Friends-of-4-H Banquet" in the cafeteria of the Marshall High School Friday evening at 7:00 o'clock.

The occasion is in observance of National 4-H Club Week, which is March 5-13.

Miss Glinna Ponder is president of the Madison County 4-H Club Council and Miss Ruth Ann Tweed is secretary.

Several activities were planned by the 4-H County Council and are being carried out by some of the clubs in the county. Two very attractive window displays can be seen in Marshall—one at Belk-Broome Company and one in the show window at Chandler's Hardware. Other clubs have put up posters and are planning special programs in their schools.

Awards will also be made at the banquet to some of the club members who have shown the most progress in club work during 1954.

CAR STOLEN FROM CARRIER; COUNTY MEN NOW IN JAIL

Grant Thomas, 17, son of Eulas Thomas of Marshall, RFD 3, and Joe Davis, 26, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Davis of Walnut are both in the Madison County jail awaiting FBI action in connection with the theft of a 1955 Fordor Ford sedan early Saturday morning. Sheriff E. Y. Ponder stated that Thomas has admitted taking the car off a Central carrier near Joe Davis's home on the Marshall-Asheville Highway in Buncombe County, about ten miles from Marshall.

According to Sheriff Ponder, the car was driven off the carrier which was loaded with new cars while the driver was at the Davis home. After getting the car off the large carrier, it was driven to Tennessee and returned and parked near the Davis home Saturday night.

The boys are being held pending outcome of fingerprints.

Stolen Car Caught In County Saturday

A stolen '51 Ford Tudor sedan was captured by Jasper Treadway, chief of police at Weaverville, and State Patrolman Gene Ervin Saturday at Turkey Neck on the Marshall-Asheville Highway.

Lewis Clark and Buford Wanty, both of Rock Hill, S. C., were arrested and taken to South Carolina Sunday to await trial.

MARSHALL JUNIOR WINS DRIVING TEST MONDAY

Billie Jean Redmon Quicker On Brakes Than Senior Boy

The screeching of tires and crack of revolvers which shattered the quiet of the campus at Marshall High School Monday afternoon weren't caused by police chasing robbers.

The noise came from Marshall students who were putting on a safe-driving demonstration to disprove the old bromide that a car can "stop on a dime."

Results were sobering. The chief (Continued on page seven) (First Section)

WELFARE DEPT. ACTIVITIES ARE DISCUSSED HERE

Mrs. Frances Ramsey, Supt., Speaks At Civitan Meeting

Mrs. Frances Ramsey, Superintendent of the Madison County Welfare Department, was the guest speaker at the Marshall Civitan meeting here Tuesday.

She told of the many services and activities of the welfare department, giving informative statistics concerning the department. She was introduced by the Rev. Jack Gross, program chairman.

J. J. Kinsley, president, appointed a nominating committee who will announce the slate of officers at the next meeting on March 22. On the committee named are Jim Story, chairman; A. W. Coates and Wade Huey.

It was also voted to combine the offices of secretary and treasurer.

John Corbett spoke in behalf of the current Boy Scout Drive.

19 members and one visitor were present.

Town Officials To Be Elected Here On May 3

Necessary steps for the town election, which will be held on Tuesday, May 3, were started here Tuesday night when the aldermen and mayor met at the City Hall.

The election will be held at the City Hall when three aldermen and a mayor will be elected.

More complete information concerning the election will be published later.

County In Class-A Tourney At Enka

The Western District Class A Basketball Tournament is now in full swing at the Enka gym in Buncombe County.

Coach Glenn Painter's classy Walnut High School Purple Panthers, Madison County Boys Champions, will represent Madison County when they square off tonight (Thursday) at 8:30 against Bethel High School, strong contenders for the championship of this tourney.

Many Walnut, Marshall and Madison County fans are expected to make the trip to watch the Walnut boys play.

Marshall Stores To Start Closing Next Wednesday

To Continue Through October 19; Merchants Elect New Officers

The Marshall Merchants Association met at the City Hall Tuesday night and unanimously voted to observe Wednesday afternoon holidays beginning next Wednesday, March 16 and continuing through Wednesday, October 19. Practically all business firms will close at 12:00 o'clock noon each Wednesday as has been the custom for several years. This half-day holiday provides needed time for the employees to work in their gardens and at home and allows them a half-day each week to "call their own." Mr. W. F. Holland made the motion concerning the closing dates and E. C. Teague seconded the motion. The 17 members present then voted unanimously to start the half-day holidays next Wednesday.

New officers for the ensuing year were elected and took office at the meeting. Elected were Ron Sprinkle, president; W. F. Holland, vice president; and Delmer Payne, secretary-treasurer.

The association meets every second and fourth Tuesday night at the City Hall.

Mars Hill Girls, Walnut Boys Cop 1955 County Basketball Championships

MADISON MAN IS ACQUITTED IN GUN DEATH

A Madison County Superior Court jury Thursday acquitted Ray Worley, 24, of the Spilloon section, of murder in the January 8 shotgun slaying of Kinsey Curtis.

Worley said he acted in self defense when Curtis went after him with an open pocket knife.

Sheriff E. Y. Ponder said Curtis was wounded fatally following an argument.

Witnesses said Worley grabbed the gun and fired once after Curtis started for him.

The jury returned the verdict after a brief deliberation.

Among other cases disposed of last week include: two divorces; Leslie Harris, forgery, two years; Erlis Johnson, non-support and abandonment, eighteen months; Hubert Jones, public drunkenness, thirty days; Clarence Burris, driving drunk, four months; Carl Linkus Meyers, transporting, \$500.00 fine and costs; Carl Hughes, transporting, \$250.00 fine and costs.

A number of smaller offenses were disposed of and many prayers for judgment were continued.

Five County Home Demonstration Meet

March 11, at 10:00 a. m., registration agents and demonstrators from Avery, Watauga, Mitchell and Yancey counties will meet with Madison County members at the Marshall Presbyterian Church Sunday School Chapel to hear reports from delegates who attend the United Nations.

The training school will be under the direction of Mrs. Theta Barnard of Hayesville.

We are happy to welcome these project leaders to our county and ladies of the communities are invited to attend and join the group in extending "Hands Across The Border."

Seek Data On Madison Men

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the following listed registrants, who are delinquent with the Local Draft Board, please get in touch with the board immediately or call 3241:

- Charles R. Kent, Bluff, N. C.;
- Paul William Moore, Spring Creek, N. C.;
- Roy L. Robinson, 617 Blaine St., Detroit, Mich.;
- Robert F. Davis, Walnut, N. C.;
- Clarence Flynn Jr., Rt. 4, Asheville, N. C.;
- Thomas Rowe, Rt. 1, Mars Hill N. C.;
- Alonzo Riddle, Rt. 3, Candler, N. C.;
- Danny Sams Jr., Ravencliff, W. Va.;
- William Henry Cox, Myrtle Beach, S. C.;
- Larry Lee Silver, Route 2, Mars Hill, N. C.

BALEY DEFERS COMMENT ON VOTE PROBE

U. S. District Attorney James M. Baley Jr., said Saturday he will not comment on the Madison County Superior Court grand jury election probe unless and until subpoenas are issued by any federal officers.

At the request of the grand jury last week, Judge Zeb V. Nettles directed Solicitor Robert S. Swain to cause subpoenas to be issued for all persons who know or may know about alleged Nov. 2 election irregularities in Madison.

This would presumably include a number of federal officers in addition to State Bureau of Investigation agents and private citizens.

Both the FBI and the SBI have conducted investigations in the wake of complaints beginning early last fall that absentee ballots were being misused in a number of WNC counties.

COUNTY TO HAVE NEW DRIVE-IN THEATRE SOON

To Be Located At Brush Creek; Will Open First Of May

Madison County's only drive-in theatre is now under construction and is expected to be completed and ready for business by the first of May. The moderny-equipped theatre, located between Marshall and Walnut at Brush Creek, will accommodate over 200 cars and covers 6.2 acres.

The theatre is owned by a corporation known as The Madison Outdoor Theaters, Inc., composed of Marshall businessmen. The drive-in will be known as "The Madison," according to Mr. Hubert Edwards, manager.

Mr. Edwards stated that the pictures will be cinemascope, super-scope and wide-screen varieties. All equipment at the theatre will be of the latest type. Concession stands where sandwiches, soft drinks candy and popcorn will be sold, will also be constructed before the first opening date.

The theatre is located 4 1/2 miles from Marshall on Highways 25-70.

BILL WOULD LET MADISON SPEND FUNDS

Raleigh, March 3 — Legislation to allow Madison County's commissioners to appropriate surplus, non-tax funds to attract new industry to the county was introduced today by Rep. Fred Holcombe. The bill would allow \$5,000 to be appropriated for advertising and to be used in other ways in attracting industry. The bill also would permit use of some tax funds for this purpose if approved by the people in an election.

Raleigh, March 3 — Reps. Fred Holcombe of Madison and Mark W. Bennett of Yancey today introduced a bill to bring Avery, Madison, Mitchell and Yancey counties under the statewide primary laws in the nomination of Democratic candidates for state senator.

Walnut School Entered Early Saturday Morning

Sheriff E. Y. Ponder said that the two boys gained their way into the school by breaking a window and entering through the window.

Among missing articles at the school were 84 half-pints of sweet milk, orange juice, bread, coffee, raisins, canned beef and gravy, tomatoes, crackers and a coffee pot.

Marshall Girl Scouts Observe Anniversary

Weekly Legislatives Summary

NOTE: This is the eighth of a series of weekly summaries prepared by the legislative staff of the Institute of Government on the work of the North Carolina General Assembly of 1955. It is confined to discussions of matters of general interest and major importance.

The Department of Revenue reports that miles tax collections continued on Page Three (Second Section)

Walnut Girls, Marshall Boys Are Runners-Up; Very Successful Tourney

Coach Clyde Peek's smooth-playing sextet knocked off Ralph Neill's Walnut team, 1954 Champions, Friday night before a capacity audience at Walnut, 65-61 in an exciting game from start to finish. Edith Shepard pumped in 48 points while Emogene Allen hit the basket for 28 points for the losers. The Mars Hill team earned the county championship by defeating Laurel in the second night of the tourney, Walnut in the quarter-finals and again in the finals Friday night.

The Mars Hill girls, however, found the going mighty tough in both games with Walnut. In the first meeting, they barely edged the Walnut team who rallied to within 2 points to win, 62-60 as the roar of the crowd was deafening. Fifteen seconds remained in the game when Walnut got possession of the game (Continued on page seven) (First Section)

SOCIAL SECURITY TO BE DISCUSSED HERE MARCH 18

Several farm men and some women of Madison County have asked questions in regard to the Social Security for farmers and very few people in the county understand enough about the provisions for farmers to give the correct answers. In view of this information Mr. Nichols with the Social Security in the Asheville office has agreed to give a meeting in the Madison County courtroom on Friday, March 18, at 2:30 p. m., to explain the Social Security as set up for farm people. Any interested person in the county may attend this meeting and ask any and all questions which they may have in regard to Social Security.

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Marshall Girl Scouts Observe Anniversary

This week marks the 43rd anniversary of the Girl Scouts. Think of the thousands of girls in 33 nations of the world who have stood together and said: "On my honor, I will try... to do my duty to God and my country... to help other people at all times... to obey the Girl Scout Law."

Girl Scout Week is being observed by Troop 56 of Marshall. Social activity planned for (Continued on Page Three) (First Section)

MADISON GRAND JURY LAUNCHES VOTE PROBE

A Madison Superior Court grand jury Thursday asked for court help to launch an investigation of allegations of election irregularities in the county Nov. 2, 1954 general election. Judge Zeb V. Nettles immediately instructed Robert S. Swain, 19th district solicitor, to put under subpoena for the next meeting of the grand jury all persons "who know or may know anything about any election irregularities."

The next grand jury session is scheduled for May 23. The grand jurors, in a supplemental report issue as they completed their work for the term, expressed concern over publicity received by (Continued to page seven) (First Section)

Zeno Ponder Pleads Innocent Federal Charge

Zeno Ponder of Alexander RFD 1, said yesterday he was not notified of an indictment on a federal production marketing law charge until Feb. 25.

The date was nearly three months after the date Assistant District Attorney John Dugger at Knoxville, Tenn., said Ponder was indicted. Ponder, a Democrat, is chairman of the Madison County Board of Elections and a former vice president of the North Carolina Farm Bureau.

Ponder pleaded innocent yesterday in U. S. District Court at Greensboro. (Continued to Page Eight) (First Section)