



## 10 County Men Indicted For Vote Charges By Grand Jury

Bill Returned in Asheville Last Thursday; Bonds Are Posted.

By BRIGHT W. PADGITT

A Federal grand jury Friday indicted 10 Madison County men, including Sheriff E. Y. Ponder and Elections Board chairman Zeno Ponder, on charges of conspiring to stuff ballot boxes and commit other crimes in the November 1954 general election.

Others named in the indictment are:

B. K. Meadows, Arthur E. Cantrell, Leroy Shelton, W. T. Moore, Roy Freeman, Merit Whitt, Jeff Whitt and James William Baldwin.

The bill was returned before Judge Wilson Warlick just before U. S. district court recessed for lunch Friday. Foreman R. P. Booth announced in court that there were 13 votes in favor and three against a true bill.

After the jury had returned the indictment, Judge Warlick continued the service of the jury for another six months. This "elections fraud" jury was impaneled a year ago. District Attorney James M. Baley Jr. said the jury has not completed its election fraud investigations for the district.

Friday's indictment makes a total of 53 persons who have been charged by this jury with election frauds in four Western North Carolina counties. There were 23 in Clay, 13 in Swain, 10 in Madison and 7 in Graham.

In the Madison bill of indictment, it is alleged that on or about Nov. 2, 1954 "and several weeks prior, the defendants did unlawfully, willfully and knowingly conspire together and with each other, and with divers other persons to the grand jurors unknown, to injure, oppress, threaten and intimidate legal and qualified voters of North Carolina and of the 11th Congressional District in the free exercise of their rights and privileges of suffrage."

It also is alleged that "as part of the conspiracy the defendants would (Continued to Last Page)

## Eastern Star To Meet Monday Night

Marshall Chapter No. 35, Order of the Eastern Star will hold a regular meeting in the Masonic Temple, Monday evening, November 28, at 7:30 o'clock.

In addition to the regular business, a practice session will be held in preparation for the official visit of the Worthy Grand Matron in December.

All members are urged to attend.

## CHRISTMAS SEALS NOW ON SALE

The 1955 Tuberculosis Christmas Seal sale is now underway. Again this year you are urged to buy Christmas Seals to help rid this community of tuberculosis, which is not licked as some have assumed.

The program to cut down on the tuberculosis rate includes a widespread chest X-ray program and your contributions to the Christmas Seal sale will continue to provide free X-rays for thousands of residents in this area.

Christmas Seals also provide funds for the distribution of information and preventive literature for services to tuberculosis patients, and for research in the search for better ways to prevent, treat and cure tuberculosis. All these programs are continuing, and, despite the great progress made against TB in recent years, the TB problem is not yet solved by any means.

Tuberculosis still kills more people than all other infectious diseases combined, and, therefore, this news item urges you to support the annual Christmas Seal sale by buying and saving them on your list.

## TO SPEAK AT MHC



DR. FRED F. BROWN

## BROWN TO SPEAK AT M.H. COLLEGE CELEBRATION

### Centennial Homecoming At Mars Hill College To Be Day-Long Program

Mars Hill College's centennial homecoming will be observed on Thanksgiving Day with a day-long program.

Dr. Fred F. Brown, an alumnus and pastor emeritus of the First Baptist Church of Knoxville and former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, will speak at morning services in the Mars Hill Baptist Church.

A pageant entitled "Lest We Forget," will be presented for the 28th consecutive year. Adapted by Dr. Ella Pierce, head of the college English department, the pageant uses students and children of the Mars Hill community dressed as Pilgrims and Indians in portraying the story of Thanksgiving.

An offering for the North Carolina Baptist Orphanage will be taken during the service. This collection was initiated by Dr. Robert Lee Moore in 1897 when he became president of the college.

Following the morning service the traditional Thanksgiving Day (Continued to Last Page)

## WMS To Observe Week Of Prayer For Foreign Missions

The Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions will be observed by the Woman's Missionary Society of the Marshall Baptist Church November 28 through December 2. The theme for the week is "Haste... Pray... Make Known" and the time, place and leader for the daily meetings are as follows: Monday, 2:00-3:00 o'clock in the afternoon at the home of Mrs. C. R. Edney, Mrs. C. M. Blankenship, leader; Tuesday, 2:00-3:00 o'clock in the afternoon at the home of Mrs. J. R. Deaver, Mrs. J. N. White, leader; Wednesday, 7:00-8:15 o'clock in the evening at the church, Mrs. Wade Huey, leader; Thursday, 2:00-3:00 o'clock in the afternoon at the home of Mrs. C. L. McLean, Mrs. E. C. Teague, leader.

The observance will be climaxed on Friday with a "chain of prayer" from 6:00 o'clock in the morning until 6:00 o'clock in the evening in the Missionary room at the church.

## 33 ALUMNI OF MHC NOW SERVING AS MISSIONARIES

Mars Hill, Nov. 22 — Thirty-three former Mars Hill College students are now actively serving in foreign countries as Baptist missionaries.

The countries in which the MHC graduates are serving include Japan, Thailand, the Philippines, Hawaii, Brazil, Cuba, Peru, Ecuador, and (Continued to Last Page)

## THREE INJURED AS VEHICLE RAMS TREE

Three persons were injured—one fatally—about 4 p. m., Friday when the 1951 sedan in which they were riding ran off U. S. 25-70 about two miles south of Marshall and crashed into a tree.

Hospitalized at Memorial Mission Hospital were Tony K. Bannister, 18, enlisted Air Force man from Lake City Air Force Base, Lake City, Tenn.; John Bill Brown, 40, Mooresville and Albert Coxdale, 33 of Lexington.

Pfc. C. H. Long of the State Highway Patrol said Bannister was the driver of the vehicle. He said Brown and Coxdale were hitchhiking riding with Bannister.

Bannister suffered head injuries and lacerations, Brown a back injury and lacerations. Coxdale's left leg was broken and his shoulder dislocated.

Long said the car was traveling south on the highway apparently at a high rate of speed. The car traveled some 225 feet on the shoulder of the road, crashed into the tree and was virtually demolished, Long said.

Bannister died at 11:30 that night of the injuries.

About 5:15 p. m., the same afternoon, eight miles north of Marshall on U. S. 25-70, a car carrier trailer jackknifed on a sharp curve and crashed into a 1950 sedan driven by Dr. Arthur Herman Hohloff of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. A 1952 sedan driven by Earl E. Disney of Lake City RFD 2, Tenn., rammed into the trailer a few minutes later, Long said. The tractor-trailer was driven by Arnold Ross of Stearns, Ky., Long said.

There were no injuries and no arrests, Long reported.

## COX ORDERED ADMITTED TO INSTITUTION

Donald M. Cox, indicted on a charge of embezzling \$90,220 from Citizens Bank of Marshall, was sent Friday by Federal Judge Wilson Warlick to the psychiatric hospital ward at U. S. Penitentiary in Atlanta, Ga.

Cox, who appeared in U. S. District Court Friday with his attorney, Kester Walton, and relatives, was ordered into custody by Judge Warlick after his attorney asked for a continuance of the case on the grounds he was not able to stand trial.

Cox disappeared June 27, the day examiners arrived to check the books of the bank, and surrendered a month later to Federal authorities in Asheville. He waived preliminary hearing on a Federal warrant charging him with false entry of \$3,000, and entered Highland Hospital the next day.

DEPRESSED STATE  
Dr. Robert Jenkins of the hospital staff testified Friday that Cox was in a severely depressed state when admitted.

Dr. Jenkins testified that Cox had shown improvement and was released as an out-patient Oct. 1, but re-entered the hospital three weeks later, again severely depressed.

Judge Warlick said the court, in all conscience and regarding the rights of the persons whose money was concerned in the case, could not continue the case until the May (Continued to Last Page)

## MAKES DEAN'S LIST AT BREVARD COLLEGE

Annie Lou Hallock of R-2, Mars Hill, is listed as having made the Dean's list at Brevard College.

## Industrial Council For County To Meet At Mars Hill Tuesday

### Dinner-Meeting To Be Held At Cafeteria At 6:30; 200 Expected

More than 200 Madison County business and professional men and their wives are expected to attend a dinner-meeting of the Madison County Industrial Council at the Mars Hill College Cafeteria next Tuesday evening at 6:30 o'clock.

The purpose of the meeting is to adopt a charter and by-laws and to completely organize into a working group. The Council's functions will be to promote industry in Madison County. It is expected that the Council will secure pertinent information concerning available sites, water supplies, cost of property, and (Continued to Last Page)

conduct a labor survey. An initial meeting was held several weeks ago at Hot Springs where it was decided to go forward with the formation of a council of this type. Mr. Ben Douglas was the principal speaker at the initial meeting.

C. E. Mashburn, a member of the committee to draft the charter and by-laws, states that he is encouraged over the prospects of such an organization and urges all business and professional men to attend the meeting at Mars Hill.

Tickets for the occasion can be secured at the following places: Marshall — French Broad Electric (Continued to Last Page)

## THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION By the President of the United States

"The custom of devoting one day each year to national thanksgiving is a wise and an ancient one, hallowed by observance in the days before we became a Nation, and sanctioned throughout the succeeding generations. It is therefore in keeping with our oldest traditions that at the fruitful season of the waning year we turn again to Almighty God in grateful acknowledgment of His manifold blessings.

"At this time of thanksgiving, may we express our deep appreciation of those forebears who, more than three centuries ago, celebrated the first Thanksgiving Day. Through their industry and courage, our Nation was hewn from the virgin forest, and through their steadfastness and faith, the ideals of liberty and justice have become our cherished inheritance.

"May we lift up our hearts in special prayers of gratitude for the abundance of our endowments, both material and spiritual, for the preservation of our way of life, in its richness and fullness, and for the religious faith which has wielded such a beneficent influence upon our destiny. May we show our thanks for our own bounty by remembrance of those less fortunate, and may the spirit of this Thanksgiving season move us to share with them to alleviate their need.

"NOW, THEREFORE, I, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, President of the United States of America, having in mind the joint Congressional resolution of December 26, 1941, which designated the fourth Thursday of November in each year as Thanksgiving Day, and made that day a legal holiday, do hereby proclaim Thursday, the twenty-fourth day of November, 1955, as a day of national thanksgiving; and I urge all our citizens to observe the day with reverence. Let us, on the appointed day, in our homes and our accustomed places of worship, each according to his own faith, bow before God and give Him humble thanks.

"IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

## Two Ohioans Deny Connection In Hot Springs Bank Robbery

## BURLEY TOBACCO MARKETING CARDS ARE NOW READY

The ASC office began issuing 1955 tobacco marketing cards on Monday, November 21. Owners or operators may call for their cards on any week day except Saturdays between the hours of 8:00 a. m., to 5:00 p. m. The ASC office is not open on Saturdays or National Holidays. Persons other than the owner or operator must have a signed order from the owner or operator requesting that his card be released by the ASC office, according to announcement by Ralph W. Ramsey, ASC county office manager.

Marketing cards are the property of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and must be returned to the office from which they were issued as soon as marketing has been completed for the farm. The owner or operator is responsible for seeing that the card is used only for the marketing of tobacco from the farm for which it is issued and that it is promptly returned to the ASC office after it has served its lawful purpose. Failure to return the card or properly account for the disposition made of all tobacco produced on the farm constitutes a marketing quota violation for which the next year's quota is reduced.

## 1956 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS MUCH TIGHTER

Public Law 21, enacted by Congress last spring made quite a few changes in the marketing quota law on burley tobacco which are to the old growers' favor. One which should be of primary interest to most Madison producers is that of the rigid eligibility requirements for establishing acreage allotments for new farms.

The major requirements which must be met under the revised Act are:

1. The applicant must have had experience in growing burley tobacco as a share cropper, tenant, or as a farm operator during two of the past five years. (No experience credit is allowed for producing tobacco on a non-allotment farm in 1955.)
2. The applicant must live on the farm for which the application is filed.
3. The applicant must own and operate the farm for which the application is filed.
4. The farm covered by the application shall be the only farm owned or operated by the applicant for which a burley or flue-cured tobacco allotment is established for 1956.
5. The applicant shall obtain 50 percent or more of his livelihood from the farm covered by the application.
6. The farm must be a non-allotment farm.
7. The farm or any portion thereof shall not have been a part of a tobacco allotment farm during the years 1951-1955.
8. There must be cropland suitable for the production of tobacco on the farm. (No new allotments (Continued to Last Page)

## Local Singers Invited To Asheville Saturday

Edd Hall, well-known radio master of chorales and conductor of Gospel singings, and Edmond Teague, announce a Gospel singing program at the Asheville City Auditorium Saturday night, Nov. 26, with the doors to open at 6:00. Singing will start at 7:00 and last until midnight.

All local singers are invited to participate in the singing.

## Verdict Expected Late Today; Bernard Gosnell Pleads Guilty Monday

Norman Bekik and Carl Wacker, Ohio men on trial for armed robbery of the bank in Hot Springs last May, took the witness stand in U. S. District Court in Asheville yesterday.

Each denied any connection with the robbery, any conspiracy to rob the bank, or a trip made together with Bernard Gosnell to Hot Springs.

Gosnell, who testified Monday when the trial opened, entered a plea of guilty to similar charges and appeared as a witness for the U. S. government.

Yesterday's first witness was E. Y. Ponder, called by the government. Ponder, sheriff of Madison County, gave this account of the events in Hot Springs and Madison County on Wednesday, May 18:

### CAR FOUND

At about 9:40 a. m., Swann Huff called him to report the bank had been robbed by two men. The car was found outside Hot Springs that morning by Huff. Sheriff Ponder testified to the finding of a sweatshirt and cigaret butts in a thicket just off the river road, and the sweatshirt was admitted as Government exhibit 2. Two blankets, identified by the sheriff as those found in the back of Gosnell's car, were admitted as exhibit 3.

Bob Davis, one of the two men in the bank during the robbery, identified the sweatshirt as one worn by Bekik.

Ermer Murry, employe of Irish Cut Cabins, testified he heard a car screech to a halt, and when he went out he saw Gosnell at cabin six and two men across the road. "I called out 'What're you doing, fellows?' and they answered, 'Not a damn thing,'" he testified.

Basil Pyle of Dayton, Ohio, testified that Wacker and Bekik were in his Colony Club often and that he saw Wacker in the place Thursday noon, May 19. Jesse Clayton, res- (Continued to Last Page)

## DEER SEASON OPENS ON NAT'L FOREST LAND

### Several Deer Shot This Week In Rich-Laurel Area; Season Over Dec. 3

On Monday, November 21, 1955, the deer season opened in the Rich Mountain Wildlife Management Area. This marked the opening of the 12-day deer season which runs from November 21 to December 3.

A daily permit will be needed to hunt on the Rich Mountain Area. These can be secured at the Rich Mtn. Checking Station (No. 13) for \$3.50 per permit. A current North Carolina State hunting license is necessary before a permit will be issued at the checking station.

The Rich Mtn. Area is a short distance from the town of Hot Springs and lies between the French Broad River and the State Line Ridge on U. S. Forest Service Land. The checking station is about 3 miles N.E. of Hot Springs on U. S. Highway 25-70. This area last year was second among the other Wildlife Management Areas in the state for the number of deer taken with respect to the number of hunters in the area.

There will be no quota on the number of hunters that may enter the area each day. Daily checking in will start after 6:00 a. m., but hunting does not begin until 7:00 o'clock. Checking out in the morning must be done by 6:00 o'clock.

Complete rules and regulations for the hunt, dealing with the license, gun, ammunition, traps, etc., and the golden rule, "Don't shoot a doe," may be secured from the Bureau of Game and Wildlife.

According to the regulations...