



# THE NEWS-RECORD



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## Four Arrested Following Flare-up Saturday Night At Old Bull Creek Baptist Church

### Deacons Of Old Bull Creek Church Explain Position

#### Accuse James Buchanan Of Misrepresenting Facts; Autonomy Is Issue

It is profoundly regretted by the undersigned members of the Board of Deacons of Old Bull Creek Missionary Baptist Church that James C. Buchanan Jr., has chosen to wash the dirty linen of the church upon the front pages of the newspapers. Inasmuch as he has chosen this forum, and has misrepresented the true facts concerning the situation at the church, we feel it our duty to at least in part, set the record straight.

This controversy between a majority of the church and James Buchanan has long since ceased to be a controversy over literature. The controversy is now, and has been for some weeks, purely and solely a question as to whether or not the majority of the congregation of a Missionary Baptist Church is entitled to a voice in church affairs.

Some 30 to 40 (the exact number being unknown) of the oldest members of this church have, within the past few weeks been summarily notified that they were no longer members of the church. A great many of these people were members who gave the most and did the most when the present church was built in 1936. A great many of these persons had been members of this church from childhood, and some have been members for more than 50 years. These members were discharged without notice, without hearing, without even an opportunity to speak, or without so much as being notified of the charges, if any, against them.

We sincerely feel that James Buchanan, in the heat of anger, or otherwise, has completely lost sight of the fact that Old Bull Creek Missionary Baptist Church belongs to the congregation and to God, and not to any single individual.

We sincerely believe that James Buchanan has overlooked the fact that Almighty God was being worshipped in this church before he came, and will continue to be worshipped in this church by this congregation and by its sons and daughters and grandchildren at the present controversy have passed from the scene.

James C. Buchanan summarily, and without any authority of the church, attempted to dismiss the (Continued to Last Page)

### Anderson Now On Local Draft Board

Mr. John Robert Anderson of Mars Hill took the oath of office January 24 as a member of the Local Draft Board No. 59.

Mr. Anderson replaces Hugh Wallin who resigned.

### PORK CUTTING DEMONSTRATION HELD HERE TUES.

J. A. Christian, Extension Animal Husbandry Specialist, conducted a pork cutting demonstration in the French Broad Electric Membership Corporation Building here Tuesday morning. Twelve adults, in addition to the agricultural leaders, attended the demonstration, which was most informative.

In addition to the adults, three classes of FFA members, accompanied by their teachers, Lyman Martin, also attended the demonstration.

### HEARING SATURDAY

A preliminary hearing of the Old Bull Creek incident, which occurred Saturday night during a business meeting, will be heard before Justice of the Peace J. Hubert Davis Saturday morning at 10:00 o'clock in the courtroom here.

### THREE WALNUT STUDENTS HURT IN WRECK FRIDAY

Three Walnut school children were injured last Friday when the steering mechanism of the school bus in which they were riding suddenly went bad, causing the bus to leave the road and crash into a tree. The accident occurred on the Lower Brush Creek Road near Marshall.

Donna Tweed, 12-year-old 7th grade student, was the most severely injured. She was rushed to the Memorial Mission Hospital in Asheville and after undergoing an operation Tuesday, is greatly improved. Mildred Lunsford, 14, was admitted to the hospital principally for observation. Her condition is improved. Guy Tweed was treated at a Marshall physician's office.

The driver, Gene Cantrell, of Walnut, was absolved of blame following an investigation which revealed that a broken steering rod was found.

### MARSHALL PTA TO OBSERVE FOUNDERS DAY

The Marshall Parent-Teacher Association will hold its annual Founders Day observance at the Marshall school cafeteria on Tuesday afternoon at three o'clock.

A silver tea, under the direction of Mrs. Hattie McElroy, will be held at the occasion.

Following the devotions by Mrs. Bula Fisher, past presidents of the association will be recognized by Mrs. Latrelle Robinson.

Miss Allene Hancock, home economics teacher, will have charge of the program. Mrs. Jerry Rice, program chairman, stated.

Two short films, preview of a series of adult programs concerning home improvements, will be shown. This is being sponsored by the school's vocational home economics department.

Miss Hancock will have on display some swatches and samples of rugs.

In addition, to parents and teachers, the public is cordially invited to attend this meeting.

### Social Security Meeting Is Well Attended Monday

A "standing room only" crowd jammed the courtroom here Monday night to hear speakers discuss the changes in the Social Security laws and explain the agricultural income tax.

A representative from the Social Security office in Asheville and W. L. Turner, Extension Farm Management Specialist, addressed the crowd.

### Pastor Attacked During Business Meeting Saturday

By KARL FLEMING (Citizen Staff Writer)

A flare-up during a business meeting of the Old Bull Creek Baptist Church in Madison County Saturday night, in which the pastor was knocked from his pulpit and the Sunday School superintendent choked, has resulted in four men being charged with assault and disturbing public worship.

The disturbance climaxed a long-brewing difference of opinion between two factions of the church over several basic doctrinal issues, including distribution of Southern Baptist Convention literature and the Baptist Training Union program.

The Rev. James C. Buchanan Jr., pastor of the church and an Air Force Reserve chaplain, was knocked from his pulpit by a blow and Sunday School Superintendent Vance Edwards was held on the floor and choked. Edwards reportedly was getting blue in the face when his assailant was pulled away.

Clapping, stomping, shouting, and cries of "thief," aimed at the pastor, attended the fistuffs.

A deputy sheriff, present as a member of the church, finally restored order.

Buchanan and Edwards signed warrants against Fred Merrill, Glenn Arrowood, Billy Payne and Jeter Metcalf. They have been freed on bonds ranging from \$500 to \$600 to await a hearing before Justice of the Peace Hubert Davis here at 10 a. m., Saturday.

Buchanan said Arrowood is from Spartanburg, S. C., and is not a member of the church.

The outbreak came during a regular scheduled business meeting which followed a short sermon by the pastor.

Buchanan was attempting to have the minutes read when jeering and clapping broke out. Unable to maintain order, he adjourned the meeting and immediately (Continued to Last Page)

### Faction Enters Civil Suit For Control Of Church Property

One faction in the controversy-racked Old Bull Creek Baptist Church of Madison County Wednesday began action in Superior Court for possession and control of the church's property.

The suit was the second legal move which followed a flare-up at a business meeting of the church Saturday that saw the pastor knocked from his pulpit and the Sunday School superintendent choked.

Earlier, the Rev. James C. Buchanan Jr., pastor, and Vance Edwards, Sunday School superintendent, drew warrants charging four alleged participants in the outbreak with assault and disturbing public worship.

The four, Fred Merrill, Glenn Arrowood, Billy Payne and Jeter Metcalf, will be given hearings before a justice of the peace at 10 a. m., Saturday in the courthouse here.

Named in the civil action filed today, were Buchanan, Edwards, and Clifford Waldrup and Jake Edwards, deacons in the church. The suit also asked that Buchanan and his three functionaries be restrained from alleged "illegal acts in denying to the majority of the congregation their rights as deacons and members."

Ninety-five members of the church, whose total membership runs about 250, signed the preliminary complaint. The plaintiffs requested until Feb. 15 to prepare and file a complaint in Superior Court.

The church property is valued at about \$15,000.

### Civil Court To Start Here Monday

The February term of superior court for the trial of civil cases will begin here Monday morning. The Honorable Zeb V. Nettles, of Asheville, will preside in the three-day term.

In addition to several non-contested divorce actions, nine cases are scheduled to be heard.

### Importance Of Annual Farm Census Stressed By Silver

### LADIES' NIGHT IS ENJOYED BY MARSHALL LIONS

Held At S&W Cafeteria; Hart Is Principal Speaker

The Marshall Lions Club held its annual ladies' night banquet Monday in the S&W Cafeteria in Asheville.

George Shupe, president of the club, presided. The Rev. Joseph M. Reeves, pastor of the Marshall and Walnut Methodist Churches, gave the invocation.

Following the dinner, guests and members were recognized. Lion Jim Story then played two selections on the piano, "Stardust" and "The Waltz You Saved For Me."

Howard Banks, Marshall's dramatic star, then gave a reading, "Dieting."

Lion W. W. Peek introduced Lion William Hart, of Weaverville, who was the guest speaker for the occasion.

Lion Hart spoke on "Vision and Willingness To Serve." He also emphasized the great part Lionsesses played in the progress of the clubs and praised the Marshall Club on its achievements.

Thirty-seven persons attended.

"No modern business man would think of continuing his operations year after year without taking an inventory at regular intervals," says Harry Silver, county farm agent for Madison County. Since farming is also a business, agriculture likewise needs to take a yearly inventory to determine what progress has been made and what needs to be done, he adds.

That's why agricultural leaders throughout North Carolina are urging farmers to give their wholehearted support to the 1957 Annual State Farm Census. The census is being made during January under the direction of local boards of County Commissioners through their appointed township crop report listers. Its purpose is to obtain reliable information at the county level on land utilization, major crop acreages harvested, selected livestock numbers, and other miscellaneous items, says Silver.

Although in most counties the farmers make their report to the township tax listers, the law prohibits the use of this information in any way as a check against the farmer's personal and property taxes. The information reported by farmers is kept strictly confidential and is available only to the landowner who makes the report.

L. Y. Ballentine, State Commissioner of Agriculture, says: "The reliable, factual information provided at county and township levels by this yearly survey will be of great help to local farm leaders in working out plans for county and community agricultural programs."

"The information gathered annually is very valuable in planning services to the State's farmers," says David S. Weaver, Director of North Carolina State College's Agricultural Extension Service. "Any business of considerable size needs reliable records of its operations. Agriculture, the greatest business of all, is no exception. As a matter of fact, agriculture probably needs reliable figures on production more than any other business."

"Through the medium of the North Carolina Annual Farm Census we have the machinery for obtaining the facts on the acreages and yields of various crops, numbers of selected livestock, and other miscellaneous items," adds Weaver. "North Carolina is fortunate in having the Annual Farm Census and is one of the few states in a position to use such material in the development of its agricultural program," he concludes.

"This annual farm census has been one of the best insurance policies the farmers of North Carolina could secure," adds Harry Silver. "The availability of these farm facts has meant untold millions of dollars to the farmers and the State."

### Mars Hill F.F.A. Members Win Third Contest

The Mars Hill chapter of Future Farmers of America won their third Federation Contest Thursday afternoon at Mars Hill, scoring 2350 points out of a possible 2400. North Buncombe chapter was second with 1905 points.

Members of the Mars Hill chapter and scores: Donald Roy, 790 out of 800; D. L. Whitte and Vernon Davis, 780 each. Bruce Robinson was alternate, scoring 597.

Contests won before this was Land Judging, and the State Contest will be held at Apex, N. C. April 13, and Tool Identification. J. E. McIntire is adviser and coach for the Mars Hill boys.

Few Suspect The faculty of the school of performance in really original work a pupil is found who has turned his lesson.

### CHORAL CLINIC AT MARS HILL THIS WEEK-END

Marshall and Mars Hill To Participate; Schedule Is Given

Representatives from 26 Western North Carolina high schools will gather at Mars Hill College Friday and Saturday for the ninth annual Choral Clinic.

Ochettes from each of the schools will participate in two days of rehearsals and directors' conferences, climaxing in an evening concert to be given by the entire group Saturday night.

J. Elwood Roberts of the Mars Hill College music faculty is local chairman for the event.

Events on the clinic's schedule include an informal dinner Friday evening in the Coyte Bridges (Continued To Last Page)

### John D. Ray Is Selected To Attend Short Course Feb. 11-22

### FARMERS SHOULD HAVE S. S. NO. TO RECEIVE CREDIT

Farmers subject to self-employment tax must have a social security number in order to receive social security credit, Glenn H. Pittenger, manager of the Asheville social security office, said yesterday. He offered the following advice to farm operators who have a net profit of \$400 or more from self-employment from the farm and any other (Continued to Last Page)

### Miss Mae Fleming Makes Announcement Here This

One of the most successful farm projects sponsored by North Carolina's bankers will be continued next month at State College in Raleigh, according to Miss Mae Fleming, County Key Banker for this county.

Miss Fleming, who is assistant cashier of Citizens Bank, said that she has been advised by the North Carolina Bankers Association that a total of about 175 young farm boys from throughout the State will begin a two-week course of instruction in modern farming at State College on February 11. Classes will run through February 22.

One of these boys will be from this county. Selected to represent this county at the Short Course is John D. Ray, of Route 4, Marshall. Ray is a veteran farm trainee and for three years was a 4-H Club member, with swine and tobacco as major projects.

All expenses of the young farmers are paid by the banks in their home county. While in Raleigh, the boys will live on the college campus, eat at the college cafeteria, and attend classes at the School of Agriculture. The classes are taught by State College faculty members.

The local banker was appointed County Key Banker last year by Louis D. Brooks, president of the North Carolina Bankers Association. The Key Banker coordinates farmer-banker activities and represents her county on behalf of the North Carolina Bankers Association and the American Bankers Association.

The State association, a long-time leader in farm activities, last year won the national award for its farm program for the 12th straight year. This award is given annually by the American Bankers Association to the State association which has conducted the best farm program during the preceding 12 months.

While in Raleigh, the young farmers will attend a banquet session of an annual Farm Credit Conference, also sponsored by North Carolina bankers. U. S. Senator W. Kerr Scott will address the group, and a number of other farm leaders will be in attendance. (Continued to Last Page)



BUCHANAN

The Rev. James C. Buchanan Jr., pastor of Old Bull Creek Baptist Church, and Sunday School Superintendent Vance Edwards have charged four men with assault following a twice at a church congregational meeting last Saturday night. Buchanan reported he was attacked and knocked from the floor and choked.

EDWARDS

—Courtesy Citizen-Times