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Broken Gasoline Valve Causes Dangerous Fire At Oil Co., Saturday

Firemen Battle Blaze For Two Hours; 3,100 Gallons Lost

A fire of undetermined origin burned over a swath of gasoline-soaked ground between Marshall and Walnut Saturday afternoon and flames threatened to engulf four gasoline tanks and several homes before firemen brought them under control after a two-hour battle.

The fire started about 2:50 p. m., near the B and B Oil Co. storage tanks north of Marshall. The owner, Oscar McDevitt, called the Marshall Volunteer Fire Department, which battled the flames but were unable to bring the fire under control until help arrived from other communities nearby.

A leaking valve on one of the four 10,000-gallon tanks had soaked with gasoline a wide strip of ground extending about three-tenths of a mile north toward Walnut.

The flames raced along the soaked strip, burned out two or three brush fields and threatened to set fire to the storage tanks and several homes in the area.

The Marshall Fire Department was aided in fighting the fire by the Weaverville Fire Department, the Hot Springs Fire Department, the State Highway Patrol and the Madison County Sheriff's office.

The fire was extinguished about 5 p. m., Saturday.

The State Highway Patrol posted a guard and placed warning signs on the road Saturday night to warn motorists that a careless spark might reset the fire.

McDevitt said that about 3,100 gallons of gas had leaked from one of the tanks, and the ground was still soaked with gasoline.

Thanks Firemen

Oscar McDevitt, owner of the B&B Oil Co., wishes to express his thanks to the firemen of Marshall, Weaverville and Hot Springs and to others who helped in extinguishing the flames Saturday. "Without their help the whole section would have exploded and burned," he said.

MISS YOUNG IS FREED IN DEC. 6 FATAL SHOOTING

The Buncombe County grand jury has freed a 16-year-old North Buncombe High School student, who was charged with shooting her father to death last Dec. 6.

A no true bill was returned in the state's case against Frances Eddie Young of Alexander in the death of Lawrence Neal Young, 65, formerly of Madison County. Young died from two .22 rifle bullets in the living room of the Young home.

At the time of the investigation, officers said the daughter admitted shooting her father when he beat the mother, Mrs. Eddie Young, 40, with a piece of stove wood.

Man Surrenders In Liquor Case

Gilbert Bailey, 37, of Madison County and Greenville, Tenn., surrendered at the office of the Federal Alcohol and Tobacco Tax investigators in Asheville Tuesday to face a charge of operating a still in the Little Laurel section of Madison County during January of last year.

The ATT investigators and other officers made the raid last Jan. 12. Bailey posted bond of \$300 for appearance before U. S. Commissioner Lawrence Stoker in Asheville Jan. 11.

DOCTOR LORD ANNOUNCES MILK GRADES

At the end of each six months grading period the Milk Ordinance and Code specifies that the grades for all dairies and retail milk producers be published in the local newspaper. Therefore, Dr. Margery J. Lord, Madison County Health Director announces the following grades as of December 31, 1960. All products of our local plants are grade "A" as determined by inspection records laboratory analysis.

In addition to the local plant, four plants from outside the county sell pasteurized milk here: Pet Dairy, Coble Dairy, Biltmore Dairy and Sealtest Dairy. Laboratory examination of all their milk products continues them on grade "A".

The producer dairies selling milk to the one local plant are grade "A" according to the records. They are A. W. Huff and Ralph Anderson. We also have 41 grade "A" producer dairies selling milk to processing plants outside the county.

Man Charged On Check County Waives Hearing

A Marshall man, charged with forging and cashing a government check, waived a preliminary hearing Tuesday before U. S. Commissioner Lawrence Stoker and was placed in the federal section of Buncombe County jail in lieu of \$1,000 bond.

Charles Wayne Goforth, 27, was taken into custody Monday by deputies of U. S. Marshal Roy A. Hampton and charged in connection with illegally passing the check.

He is scheduled tentatively to appear in U. S. District Court during the May criminal term.

District Meetings For County Officials To Be Held In Asheville

County commissioners, accountants, attorneys, and other county officials from seventeen North Carolina counties are scheduled to attend a district meeting in Asheville on Tuesday, January 17. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a. m., in the Buncombe County Courthouse, and it will last until mid-afternoon. The counties scheduled to attend include Buncombe, Burke, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Rutherford, Yancey, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Polk, Swain, and Transylvania.

The district meeting is sponsored by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, and county commissioners of Buncombe County are making the local arrangements. Alex McMahon, the Association's General Counsel, will discuss legislation of interest to county officials likely to come before the 1961 General Assembly. A number of counties are planning to bring their legislators to join in this discussion.

Attention will also be given to problems of county finance, and the sources of funds available to finance expanding county activities. Particular attention will be given to the possibility of increased state aid and the possibility of new kinds of county taxes. Finally, there will be a general discussion period which will be of particular interest to new county officials.

LEAKE NAMED COUNTY HEART '61 CHAIRMAN

Will Spearhead Drive For Funds; Citizens Urged To Cooperate

A. E. Leake has been appointed chairman of the Madison County Heart Council, according to a letter he received today from Edwin B. Abbott of Raleigh, president of the North Carolina Heart Association.

Serving with him as members of the newly-formed Council will be Zeno H. Ponder, Fund Raising Chairman; James Story, Education Representative; and Mrs. Paul Tugman, Treasurer.

Purpose of the group is to plan and conduct a heart education and community service program in the area, and to spearhead an annual drive for funds to support both the local program and those of the North Carolina and American Heart Associations.

In accepting his appointment, Mr. Leake said, "There are both frightening and hopeful aspects of the heart disease problem today. It is a fact that death rates seem to be rising, particularly from heart attacks, but it is equally a fact that physicians have better techniques which they can use to help their patients. Research has developed surgical methods unimagined thirty years ago and brought forth new drugs which are enabling patients, once thought to be hopelessly ill, to lead near-normal lives. Medical scientists are also working toward



CLYDE CHANDLER JR., Madison County dairyman, with one of his herd of artificially bred cows. The cow's dam gave 9,000 pounds of milk per year, and this cow gave 11,000 pounds in 1960.

County Dairyman Finds Milk Production Higher With Artificial Breeding

Clyde Chandler Jr., a young dairyman who operates a grade A dairy in the Middle Fork community of Madison County, is a firm believer in the use of artificial insemination for increasing the milk production of his dairy animals.

He started in the dairy business in 1947, before Madison County had an artificial inseminator, a service which became available to dairymen in 1948.

Clyde has been using this service since then. At the present time 80 per cent of the cows in his herd of 24 milk cows were artificially sired. The few cows in the herd which were not artificially sired are individuals which were purchased. Last year, according to Weigh-A-Day-A-Month records, from an average of 23.3 cows per month for the year, the milk production per cow was 10,422 pounds.

Before Weigh-A-Day-A-Month was made available to Madison County farmers, Clyde weighed each cow's milk each day throughout the year. From his records Clyde has found that, in many cases, the artificially sired daughters have averaged 2,000 pounds more milk than their mothers. This has sold Clyde on artificial insemination for dairy animals. He has found that 80 per cent of his cows will conceive the first

URGES RETURN OF MARKETING CARDS TO ASC

The marketing quota regulations governing the production and marketing of tobacco places the responsibility of returning the marketing cards to the ASC office from which it was issued on the farm operator. The regulations also states that failure to return the card constitutes a violation which requires a reduction in the tobacco allotment next established for the farm. Commenting on this phase of the regulations, county ASC office manager, Ralph W. Ramsey, points out that the best time for a farmer to return his card is immediately after he has completed his marketing since this reduces the possibility of the card being misplaced or lost around the home before it is returned.

He further pointed out that a vast majority of Madison County farm operators had been very cooperative in past years by promptly returning their cards after they had completed their sales, thus enabling the ASC office to summarize and make the required production reports for the county.

In conclusion, Ramsey urged each tobacco farm operator to return his 1960 tobacco marketing card to the ASC office at Marshall as soon after farm sales are completed as possible, and that they could be returned in person or by mail.

Agriculture is the foundation upon which our national economy rests.

County Basketball Tourney To Start Here On Feb. 21

20 PINTS BLOOD RECEIVED HERE

20 pints of blood were received here with only two rejections on Wednesday of last week. The American Red Cross bloodmobile was located at the Davis-Sexton Post, American Legion, on Upper Bridge Street between the hours of 1:00 to 5:00 p. m.

ASC STRESSES NEED IN 1961 OF CONSERVATION

Madison County farmers have an opportunity in 1961 for making better use of their agricultural conservation program than ever before, says Novile Hawkins, chairman of the ASC county committee.

With a continued need to shift production of some acreage of soil depleted crops, farmers have unequaled opportunity to use the Agricultural Conservation Program in seeding of grasses and legumes. In doing this, cooperating farmers will not only be helping to bring production in balance but they will be building reserves in the soil to meet future needs.

The seeding of grasses and legumes is only a part of the job of most effective conservation.

1961 Agricultural Conservation Program also contains practices providing for the application of liming materials on farmland, contour strip-cropping, forest tree planting, improving of permanent vegetative cover of hay or pasture, construction of farm ponds for livestock water or irrigation, forest improvement, construction of soil waterways, tile drainage to dispose of excess water and establishment of a winter cover crop.

To help farmers use the program to the best advantage, elected farmer-committee members are available in every farming community. Hawkins urges all farmers to use these men in analyzing the conservation needs on their farms. "Conservation can be the salvation of farmers in their time of need," he said. "Farmers should come by the ASC office in Marshall, discuss their needs with the personnel there and, if their needs can be met through the program, they should sign the necessary papers on that visit."

In conclusion, Mr. Hawkins said that the date established as the initial sign-up period in Madison County was from January 16 through January 31 and urged all farmers to visit the office during this period.

Electricity Off Due To Broken Line Here Tues.

A broken line above Teague's Milling Company here Tuesday morning resulted in interruption of electric power for an hour.

"We never realize how much we depend on electricity until it's cut off," someone said.

Practically the whole town was at a stand-still and everyone was delighted when the line was repaired and resumption of power continued.

Filling Station Entered Here Sunday Night

Someone broke into the rear of the Texaco Service Station on Main Street here Sunday night, according to Sheriff E. Y. Ponder.

Wayne Ramsey, owner, stated that about \$8.00 in cash was taken. No arrest have yet been made.

DR. DITUNNO TO SPEAK AT C OF C HERE TUESDAY

Dr. John F. Ditunno, of Hot Springs, will be guest speaker at the Marshall Chamber of Commerce meeting next Tuesday at the Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Ditunno will discuss various phases of securing medical centers and will also discuss the problems of securing general practitioners in this specialized world.

Jim Story, president of the Chamber of Commerce, urges all members to be present and any other citizens interested in the advancement of medical care in this area.

The luncheon-meeting will begin at 12:30 o'clock.

Social Security Coverage Important To Young Farmers

Social Security coverage is of real importance for our young farmers in Madison County, states James M. Stewart, Assistant Agricultural Agent, Madison County. This coverage, for most farmers, can mean much for their future welfare and for the welfare of their families.

With Social Security coverage young farmers have the assurance that their wife and children will have an income should the husband be disabled or die. The cost for being covered, under Social Security, is extremely small when compared to the benefits which are yours if needed.

All farmers should have coverage under Social Security. There are, in the county, however, a number of young farmers who have not, as yet, begun to obtain necessary Social Security coverage. A few individuals have, probably, not filed their Social Security return because of a fear of possible income tax payments. Any income tax payments here will, in most cases, be insignificant when compared to the important coverage which is yours under Social Security.

Farmers may obtain a Farmers Tax Guide in the county agricultural agents office. This guide gives you most of the information and answers to questions concerning both Social Security and Income Tax, says James M. Stewart, Assistant Agricultural Agent. A Social Security representative is available in the courthouse on the first three Wednesdays each month. This representative can assist you with specific problems which you may have and are not answered in the Farmers Tax Guide, or in other available literature.

Children's Home Society Announces Adoption Plans

Couples seeking to adopt a child through the Children's Home Society will be heartened by the news that the average waiting time now for a baby has been shortened to about one year, according to a release from the statewide adoption society, which charges no fees for any of its services. Over 87% of the 200 babies who went into new permanent homes of their own through the Society last year left the nursery before eight weeks of age.

Residents of Western North Carolina can get the facts about adopting a baby or older child by phoning, writing, or visiting the District Office of the Children's Home Society in Asheville.

Mrs. Ann Hawkins is supervisor of the office, located at 312 Doctors Building, Doctor's Drive, Asheville, North Carolina.

Junior Varsity Pairings Are Made; Varsity Pairings Later

The 1961 Madison County Basketball Tournament will be played in the Marshall Gymnasium, starting February 21 and continuing through Saturday night, February 25, it was announced this week by Superintendent Fred W. Anderson.

The tournament will be single elimination with two divisions in play — Junior Varsity and Varsity.

Pairings for the Junior Varsity were made Monday night at a meeting of principals and coaches but the Varsity pairings will not be known until February 15, since they are made on a non-loss percentage, Mr. Anderson said.

Officials for the tournament will be Joe Conner, Jim Gaddy, Joe Kaylar and R. J. Plemons. Scorers will be J. D. Wallin, Ruth Landers, Mary Poole and Martha Fleming. Timers will be Garland Woody, H. C. Edwards, Jack Cole and Ronald Higgins.

Opening game pairings for Junior Varsity are as follows: Girls: (Tuesday night, Feb. 21): Walnut vs. Laurel, 6:00 p. m.; Boys: Walnut vs. Laurel, 7:00 p. m.

The Spring Creek and Marshall girls drew byes in the opening rounds as did the Marshall and Hot Springs boys.

Admission to the tournament games will be 50c and \$1.00, it was announced.

SCHOOL BUS AND CAR COLLIDE

No one was injured in a school bus-car collision about 4:05 p. m. Wednesday on the Bend of Ivy Road some five miles east of Marshall, State Highway Patrolman Edward E. Hall reported.

Thomas McArthur Wyatt, 16 of 12FD 6, Marshall, was operator of the school bus, and Mrs. Vergie Rice Hamlin, 24, of RFD 3, Weaverville, driver of the car, the patrolman said.

The two vehicles, proceeding in opposite directions on the narrow road, sideswiped on a sharp curve. The bus was damaged about \$15; and the car about \$170.

ORDERS GIVEN FOR 160,000 SEEDLINGS

Madison County Agricultural Workers reported at their monthly meeting that they had taken orders for 160,000 white pine tree seedlings. This number represents the largest number ever to be taken during a single year. These seedling orders have been taken with several months left to order, says James M. Stewart, assistant agriculture agent.

Those agencies who reported taking orders were: County Agricultural Agents, Soil Conservation Services, ASC, County Forest Ranger and Vo-Ag Teachers. Most of the agencies were in agreement that a suitable goal of, at least, 200,000 orders should be obtained.

Farmers have plenty of time left in which to take orders. If you have land which is suitable for planting white pine, contact one of the following agencies: Soil Conservation Service, Farm & Home Administration, ASC, County Agricultural Agents, County Forest Ranger and Vo-Ag Teachers.

Soil conservation includes any and all measures that will in any way increase the productivity of the land and cause the land to keep on producing satisfactorily.