



REA Co-Op Meeting To Be Held Here On Island This Saturday

Mars Hill Students Protest Dismissal Of Ralph E. Neill

Parade At School And In Town; Other Action Planned

Usually quiet Mars Hill turned into a loud scene Wednesday during a protest demonstration over the dismissal of Ralph E. Neill, Jr., as principal. Students picketed Mars Hill High School, marched through the town and returned to their last period classes with an ultimatum that unless the local school committee rehires Ralph Neill Jr., by Friday they will resume their protest demonstrations — and continue them until the school committee meets with the students.

Wednesday's protest, an orderly and well-organized affair, came when students heard that the committee had met Tuesday night and voted to replace the popular principal.

Dean Minton, past president of Mars Hill High School PTA, said "The PTA is sick of the whole thing." Minton is also minister of education at Mars Hill Baptist Church.

Minton says parents of the students are satisfied with the school and feel that the school has been "greatly improved as a direct result of Neill's work there." He blamed political control for the trouble.

When questioned on the point, Minton replied, "The faculty members have been approached to contribute to the Madison County politicians for their campaigns — and Neill refused to permit solicitation at the school or during school hours."

Wednesday night a group of about 20 PTA members and other interested persons met in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Otis Duck, where they planned a meeting at 7:45 tonight (Thursday) in the school auditorium. All residents of the Mars Hill School District have been invited to attend the meeting and help plan action directed at keeping Neill as principal.

Neill has been principal there for more than four years. He was principal of Walnut High School four years and prior to that taught in Marshall. He is originally from Yancey County.

Three members of the five-man school committee were appointed last week and the other two were named Tuesday by the Madison County Board of Education.

Brown Ammons and Eugene Reese were named to the committee Tuesday. The other members (Continued To Last Page)

SUPT. ANDERSON INFORMS NEILL OF DISMISSAL

D. M. Robinson Is Only Member Of Committee To Back Neill

Below is published a letter to Mr. Ralph E. Neill, Jr., from Fred W. Anderson, Superintendent:

April 19, 1961

Mr. Ralph E. Neill, Jr., Principal Mars Hill High School Mars Hill, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Neill:

Last evening, April 18, 1961 at 7:30, a meeting of the Mars Hill School Committee was held in the home of Mr. Douglas Robinson. I explained in the outset that my Board of Education had instructed me to meet with the school committee from each school in the county and ask them to perform three of their official duties, 1. accept and take the oath of office; 2. organize by electing one of the members as Chairman and one as Secretary, 3. elect the Principal for their school for the year 1961-62. I further stated that any other business or discussion would be unofficial and that a further meeting would be called as soon as the Sanford Program had cleared the Legislature.

Mr. Douglas Robinson was elected Chairman and expressed a preference for you as the Principal for the Mars Hill School for the year 1961-62. Mr. Brown Ammons nominated Mr. Bruce Tomberlin and received a second from Oscar Anderson, Jr. This being the only nomination duly made, the four members, Brown Ammons, Oscar Anderson, Jr., Eugene Reese, and Paul Gillis, voted unanimously for Mr. Tomberlin, the Chairman not participating in the vote.

Respectfully yours,
FRED W. ANDERSON, Supt.,
Madison County Schools

Firemen To Meet Here Friday Night

Members of the Marshall Volunteer Fire Department will meet Friday night at 7:30 at the City Hall.

All firemen are urged to attend.

PROVISIONS OF NEW FEED GRAIN PROGRAM CITED

The 1961 Feed Grain Program recently authorized by Congress and the President is strictly a voluntary program designed to stop the build-up of the feed grain supply that is now at an all-time record high. Joel Morgan, chairman of the county ASO committee, points out that the program offers all producers of corn and grain sorghum an opportunity to work together in cooperation with their Government in the task of improving the grain situation.

Carryover stocks and production of feed grains are so high at this time that to continue our present trend is dangerous to the whole livestock-grain producing portion of agriculture.

Morgan explained that in order that more producers might avail (Continued To Last Page)

Plans Underway For MHS Alumni Banquet May 20

Dr. J. L. McElroy, president of the Marshall Alumni Association for 1961, announced this week that preliminary plans are being made for the annual meeting to be held on the Island, Saturday, May 20, beginning at 6:30 o'clock.

He stated that the picnic meal outside proved so popular last year that the same plan will be used this year. Following the picnic supper, the business session and program will be held in the gymnasium.

The program committee is planning an enjoyable occasion with the main theme being "Talent Night." Various talents of former students as well as present Seniors, will be the principal source of entertainment.

"Make plans now to attend and let's have fun together," Dr. McElroy said.

Plates will be \$1.50 each with the dues amounting to 50 cents. Those planning on attending are asked to send in their reservations and remittance by Wednesday, May 17. Address same to Mrs. Kenneth Gosnell, Marshall, N. C. Mrs. Gosnell is the secretary.

USDA ANNOUNCES CONSERVATION REQUIREMENT

The U. S. Department of Agriculture today announced that producers will be required to maintain their 1959-60 average acreage of conserving and idle land on the farm in 1961 to be eligible for 1961 price support on soybeans.

Department officials pointed out that this requirement is aimed at insuring that additional soybean production will be on acreage that has been used for crops in abundance such as wheat, cotton, corn, grain sorghum, and other feed crops than from land now in conserving uses or idle.

USDA wants to avoid increasing soybean acreage at the expense of acreage now under conservation practices. Price support on the 1961 soybean crop have been increased to insure an adequate supply and to help meet needs for this important oil crop.

The national average support price for 1961-crop soybeans will be \$2.30 per bushel as announced March 22.

REDISTRICTING WOULD CHANGE 11TH DIST. SETUP

Raleigh — Two congressional redistricting proposals introduced in the legislature Monday night agree on one thing: Reps. Harold Cooley and L. H. Fountain would be placed in the same district.

But the two plans offer many differences in other respects.

One bill was introduced by Rep. Ed Kemp of Guilford and the other by Sen. Robert Morgan of Cleveland.

North Carolina, which now has 12 congressmen, will lose one on the basis of the 1960 Census.

This is how the new congressional district lineup would be under Kemp's bill as to the new 11th District:

Eleventh—Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Macon, Swain, Jackson, (Continued To Last Page)

William T. Crisp Will Speak; Prizes To Be Given Away



Emergency Feed Grain Program At Courthouse Friday

A meeting of all ASC Community Committees will be held in the Courthouse in Marshall, on Friday, April 21, at 9:30 a. m., at which time the 1961 Emergency Feed Grain Program will be discussed and explained by a representative from the State ASC office.

Summer School At Mars Hill College To Begin June 5

Summer school will begin at Mars Hill College June 5 and end August 4, R. M. Lee, dean of the college and director of the summer has announced.

Approximately 50 classes in 14 subject fields will be offered in the college department, and the following subjects will be offered for high school students: 11th and 12th grade English, algebra, plane geometry, American history, French and Latin.

Lee said other subjects would be offered if requested by as many as eight or ten persons.

A bulletin outlining courses to be offered and giving general information may be obtained by writing to Dean Lee.

Mars Hill School Committee Complete

The list of school committees published last week was complete except for two names which have been added this week to the Mars Hill School Committee. The new names are Eugene Reese and Brown Ammons.

These men will serve with Doug Robinson, Paul Gillis and Junior Anderson.

Registration At 10:00 A. M.; Capacity Crowd Is Expected

The members of the French Broad Electric Membership Corporation will meet again at the Marshall High School Gymnasium this Saturday for the purpose of transacting the business of the Cooperative and to mix and mingle with their neighbors. The meeting Saturday will be the 21th anniversary of the Cooperative which has constantly grown in membership in four western North Carolina counties and three Eastern Tennessee counties. They are Madison, Buncombe, Yancey and Mitchell in North Carolina; and Greene, Unicoi and Cocke in Tennessee.

At this meeting the members will have an opportunity to hear Mr. William T. Crisp, General Counsel of Tarheel Electric Membership Association.

Mr. Crisp was executive manager of the Tarheel Association for several years and resigned the position in 1960 to enter the practice of law in Raleigh. His experience has made him one of the outstanding authorities on Cooperatives. He has been associated with the rural electric program since 1940.

He will be introduced by Mr. Clyde M. Roberts, Attorney for the Co-op.

Special music has been arranged. "Cousin Jody" and his Country Cousins of Grand Ole Opry Radio and TV will be featured.

The business to be transacted at the meeting will include presentation of the financial and operating reports for the year 1960 and the election of the board of directors. Present directors are: Madison County: M. J. Ball, president; E. C. Teague, vice president; J. H. Sprinkle, treasurer; W. S. Willis; Buncombe County: O. H. Tilton; Yancey County: C. L. Proffitt, secretary; M. D. Bailey, Paul Higgins; Mitchell County, J. C. Burleson and Elmer Buchanan.

D. M. Robinson is manager; C. I. Yelton, Division manager; and Mrs. Florence M. Ramsey, office manager.

Mr. Robinson stated that the members will be given an opportunity to nominate anyone they wish from the floor when the election is held. The board of directors will be elected by members (Continued To Last Page)

GROVE ROBINSON SHOWING WORK IN EXHIBITION

Grove Robinson of Mars Hill (now living in New York) and the four other award winners of the 23rd Annual N. C. Artists' competition at the N. C. Museum of Art in Raleigh last December are showing a representative group of their works in an exhibition at the State Museum through April 30.

These five were selected from over 200 artists submitting their work at the Annual Competition. A reception last Sunday honoring them was given by the director and staff of the Museum.

Robinson is showing "Adam," (Continued To Last Page)

Marshall PTA To Have Supper In School Cafeteria

The Marshall Parent-Teacher Association will have a supper at the school lunchroom, Saturday evening, April 29, from 5:00 to 8:00 o'clock.

Tickets are on sale now, but a spokesman for the PTA stated this week that if anyone fails to get one, they can get them at the door on the night of the supper.

Candidates For Town Elections Are Listed

No Contests In Mars Hill, Hot Springs; May 2 Is Election Date

With the passing of the "deadline" for candidates to file for municipal elections to be held in the county on May 2, the following men will seek office:

Mars Hill: Dr. Bruce Gans, mayor (incumbent); Aldermen: Arthur Wood, Paul A. Tugman, Bruce K. Murray (all incumbents).

Hot Springs: Joe R. Henderson, mayor (incumbent); Aldermen: H. W. Foster, Aubrey Ramsey, C. G. Schaffer (all incumbents).

Marshall: Wade Hines and Ralph Harris, for mayor; Steven G. Adams (three to be elected); Ernest Goby, Delmar Payne, Oscar Ramsey Jr., Eunice R. Brown and J. C. Dodson. Mr. Dodson is the only incumbent.

THREE INJURED IN WRECK SUN.

Three Madison County men were injured Sunday in a wreck which occurred in the vicinity of Grapevine Church on Mars Hill in the Marshall RFD 2 section.

Mace Crawford, 35, of Marshall RFD 2, was admitted to Memorial Hospital with possible cerebral concussion. He also suffered right shoulder injuries.

The other two in the car were Bruce Allen, 35, and Gordon Frazier, 25, both of Marshall RFD 2. They were given temporary treatment at the hospital.

Gene Tappan, 41, of Marshall, is hospitalized in the area.



ESSAY CONTEST AWARD was presented to Judy Ball, a junior at Marshall High School, by Principal R. L. Edwards at a recent meeting of the Madison County Board of Education. The award, for an essay on "Winston Churchill," was a book about the former Prime Minister presented by the English Speaking Union. At the left is Superintendent Fred W. Anderson. Members of the board, who were recently confirmed by the General Assembly, are (l-r): Zeno Ponder, John G. Gardner Jr., and Chairman B. K. Henderson.

Judy Ball Wins Essay Contest On Churchill

Five County Men Plead Not Guilty In Rape Charge

Five Madison County men pleaded not guilty in Buncombe County Superior Court Monday, April 17, when they were arraigned on charges of rape.

They are L. D. Bunker, Bruce Ramsey, Billy Stevers, Charles Randall and Larry Randall.

All are charged with raping a 35-year-old student beautician, March 5 in the Baird's Cove section in Buncombe County.

A sixth man, Gene Robinson, originally was charged with rape in the same offense and had been reduced to assault with intent to commit rape, was freed by the grand jury.

The grand jury also charged that the victim had been forced to have sexual intercourse with the defendant.

All the defendants in the case were held in the county jail.

Marshall High School Junior Presented Award By Edwards

Miss Judy Ball, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ball of Marshall, was commended recently by telephone at her home by TV Station WLOS to inform her that she was the second-place winner in an Essay Writing Contest on the subject, "Winston Churchill."

At a recent meeting of the Madison County Board of Education, Principal R. L. Edwards of Marshall High School presented Judy with her award, a volume on the life of Winston Churchill and the story of Two World Wars by O. S. Coakley. This volume was commended by WLOS-TV, which also covers the major part of the county's news and all high school sports and activities in the area.