



1,500 Members Attend REA Meeting On Island Saturday

Crisp Speaks; Directors Are Named; Prize Winners Announced

The 13,000 members of the French Broad Electric Membership Corp., used 50,600,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity, William T. Crisp, Raleigh attorney and counsel for the Tar Hill Electric Membership Assn., said Saturday. Speaking to 1,500 members of the cooperative at their annual meeting in Marshall gymnasium, Crisp reviewed the history of the cooperative and predicted that consumption would soon reach more than 100 million kwh. Its assets, Crisp noted, are now \$5,945,000, with members' equity totaling \$1,550,000. This gives a capital margin credit of 17.7 cents per dollar, to be paid members. The credits were obtained from payments for service to members.

Beginning this year, Crisp said, the cooperative is paying credits accrued to members of the families of deceased members.

The cooperative elected three new directors Saturday, to serve for two-year terms.

They are W. S. Willis of Mars Hill, Elmer Buchanan of Bakersville and J. A. Rice of Flag Pond, Tenn.

Following are members of the board of directors:

Madison County: M. J. Ball, president; E. C. Teague, vice president; J. H. Sprinkle, treasurer; W. S. Willis; Buncombe County: O. H. Tilson; 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.

Entertainment at the meeting was provided by "Cousin Jody and His Country Cousins" from the (Continued To Last Page)

BOND SALES IN COUNTY FIRST QUARTER, \$58,999

North Carolina achieved 25.1% of its annual quota in the first quarter of this year according to Mr. Craig L. Rudisill Jr., Madison County Volunteer Chairman of the U. S. Savings Bonds Program.

State sales for the quarter were \$12,951,269 a decrease of 5.4% from the comparable three months of 1960.

March sales of Series H Bonds in North Carolina were up 22% while E Bond sales were down 5%.

Madison County sales for the quarter were \$58,999, which is 34.6% of its annual quota of \$170,280.00. This reflects an increase of 27.9% over this period of last year.

County Towns Elections To Be Held Tuesday

Voters in Marshall, Mars Hill and Hot Springs will go to the polls next Tuesday to elect town officials. Candidates up for election or reelection are as follows:

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

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

Marshall: Wade Hoy and Ralph Carter, for mayor; Board of Aldermen (three to be elected): Earnest Cady, Delmar Payne, Conny Ramsey Jr., Emile M. Brown and J. C. Dodson. Mr. Dodson is the only incumbent.

CIRCUS COMING TO MARS HILL FRI., MAY 12

One of the finest tented circuses touring the Eastern United States this season will make a one-day appearance, Friday, May 12, at Mars Hill, under Civitan Club Auspices, it was announced by Dr. Wm. Powell. Under a Mammoth Big Top, Beers-Barnes Circus will exhibit at Mars Hill High School Field with one hour and half performances at 3:16 and 8 p. m.

The 1961 edition of the show, according to their Advance Agent, will bring a grand sparkling new program in mass entertainment. A gorgeous, colorful panorama of Spangleland is promised.

There will be performing elephants, trained seals, beautiful horses, prancing ponies, talented clowns, thrilling aerialists, artistic wirewalkers, ridiculous clowns, and pretty girls.

The Show's 30th season on the road is being highlighted with such outstanding circus acts as "The Arias", mid-air marvels of Madrid, Spain; Gayle DeRisikie of (Continued on Last Page)

MARSHALL BEARS WIN BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIP

The Marshall Bears won the championship of the Mountain City Bowling League this season and were awarded a beautiful trophy last week at a banquet held at Tingle's Restaurant in Asheville. The league is composed of 12 teams of top-flight bowlers.

Members of the championship team are Bobby Johnson, Captain; Don West, Fred Rector, Fred Sams and Jim Sprinkle.

In addition to the team trophy, Jim Sprinkle won two trophies, one for the highest 3-game set and one for rolling the seventh highest average for the year. Captain Johnson won an individual trophy for Second Most Improved Player in League.

Not only did the Marshall Bears win recognition, but Marshall's other entry in the league — The Red Raiders — also came from the bottom of the league to first division with a surge of excellent bowling averages, led by Charles Davis of Marshall and Max Swilling, of Asheville, who joined the team midway of the season.

Charles Davis won a beautiful trophy for Most Improved Bowler of the year. Swilling won a trophy for Third Highest Individual Average.

The Bears won a trophy last season as the second place team in the league.

GRAIN PROGRAM DOES NOT AFFECT OTHER GROWERS

The recently enacted 1961 Feed Grain Program applies only to producers of corn and grain sorghum, Jos B. Morgan, Chairman Madison County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, said today. It does not apply to producers of other feed grains only.

In reply to inquiries as to how the Program affects farmers who (Continued To Last Page)

ACP PURCHASE ORDERS EXPIRE ON APRIL 29TH.

Approximately 95 per cent of the farmers who participate in the Madison County Agricultural Conservation Program receive their Government cost-sharing on their approved practice in the form of conservation materials furnished on Government purchase orders which are issued by the County ASC Office. ASC Office Manager, Ralph Ramsey, pointed out today that all purchase orders issued for seeds, lime and fertilizers to be used in performing spring practices carry an expiration date of April 29, 1961, which means that they become invalid if they are not cashed by this date. Several farmers within the County who secured purchase orders for conservation materials have failed to cash their orders.

Ramsey explained that all farmers within the County who intend to perform their approved practices should cash their purchase orders prior to their expiration date and make a performance report with the ASC Office as soon as the practices have been completed.

FOR ASSAULT ON FEMALE

Five Madison County men charged with rape were allowed to enter pleas to lesser charges in Buncombe Superior Court Thursday and received sentences of from 18 months to two years.

Billy Silvers, 24, and Bruce Ramsey, 18, pleaded guilty to trespass and were sentenced to two years each.

L. D. Buckner, 19, Charles Randall, 21, and Larry Randall, 19, each entered guilty pleas to assault on a female and drew sentences of 18 to 24 months.

Mrs. Lennie Barnett of Merriam Avenue, formerly of Mitchell County, testified that the five had forced her to submit after she left Trail's End, a nightspot on Beaucatcher Mountain, with Ramsey.

She said they had threatened to kill her if she "called the law." Mrs. Barnett said she broke away from the five, went to a house and called a taxi and later went to the Sheriff's Department.

Marshall Firemen's Auxiliary Will Hold Rummage Sale May 6

The Marshall Firemen's Auxiliary will have a rummage sale on Saturday, May 6 in the store building on Main Street which was formerly occupied by Model Grocery. The sale will begin at 9 a. m.

Anyone having things they wish to donate are asked to bring them to Bowman-Rector Funeral Home. If they are unable to get them to the funeral home, they are asked to call 3701, 3777, or 2641, and a member of the Auxiliary will pick them up either Friday of this week or Wednesday of next week.

Marshall Chamber Commerce To Meet On Next Tuesday

The Marshall Chamber of Commerce will meet next Tuesday at 12:30 o'clock at the Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Helen McElyea, of Asheville, will be guest speaker, it was announced this week.

All members are urged to be present.

New Subscribers Added To Mailing List In Last Few Days

In addition to the renewals received to our subscription list in the past seven days, The News-Record has added approximately sixty-five new subscribers, all in the county.

Dispute Over Mars Hill Principal Causes Widespread County Interest

1,500 Turn Out At Meeting To Protest Neill's Ouster

OFFICERS ARE NAMED BY LIONS HERE MONDAY

Annual Broom Sale Is Now Underway; Installation To Be Held Soon

Members of the Marshall Lions Club elected officers at the meeting Monday which was held at the Rock Cafe. In addition to the election of officers, the annual Lions Broom Sale was officially started. Proceeds will benefit the blind of Madison County and the public is asked to purchase brooms when approached by Lions.

Following the report by the nominating committee, the new officers of the club were elected as follows:

President, Harry Silver; 1st vice president, Page Brigman; 2nd vice president, O. A. Gregory; 3rd vice president, Kelley Davis; sec.-treas., Earle Wise; asst. sec.-treas., Joe Eads; Lion Tamer, Boyce Mayhew; asst., John Rice, Jr.; Tail Twister, Charles Davis; asst., Robert Davis.

New directors elected were Past President Delmar Payne, Dr. Ed Niles and Perry Bragan. Directors remaining on the board are John Corbett and Charles Davis.

Plans for the installation of the new officers are underway with Ladies Night to be observed at the same time. Tentative date for the meeting is June 26 at S&W Cafeteria, Asheville. More details will be announced later.

County Medical Society Met Tuesday Night

The Madison County Medical Society met Tuesday evening, April 25, at 7 in the Mars Hill Community Building.

Dr. W. F. Mathis of Johnson City, Tenn., spoke on recent progress in Ear Surgery and some of the excellent results obtained in restoring hearing to the deaf. 12 members of the Society were present, with Dr. Otis Duck, president, presiding.

Mars Hill College Announces Final Plans For 4-Year College

Official announcement of the plans of Mars Hill College to become a senior college were made today by Dean Ralph M. Lee.

"According to present plans," Lee said, "Mars Hill will begin its senior college program by adding the third year in the fall of 1962 and the fourth year at the beginning of the fall term in 1963.

"The college will continue to function as a junior college and retain its present accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools while the transition is being made.

"As a senior college, Mars Hill will continue its commitment to the philosophy of a Christian liberal arts educational program. Implemented by a broader and more intense curriculum. Professional courses in medicine, law, engineering, medical technology and nursing will be combined, and terminal courses in veterinary science and business will be retained.

By BOB SEYMOUR
Citizen Staff Writer

Western Union stock will go up and mail carriers in Raleigh will be working overtime if residents of the Mars Hill School District have their way.

The 1,500 persons attending a mass protest meeting in the football stadium last Thursday night agreed to wire Gov. Sanford and the office of Charles Carroll, state superintendent of public instruction — and they agreed to encourage their neighbors to do the same thing.

Cause of the meeting and proposed subject of the letters was the firing by the local school committee of Mars Hill principal Ralph E. Neill Jr.

The committee met Tuesday night and voted against electing the popular principal for another year.

A group of about 20 citizens met Wednesday night of last week in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Otis Duck and agreed to call the protest meeting Thursday night in the school auditorium.

A full half-hour before the meeting was scheduled to begin, the auditorium was overflowing. At this point lights were turned on and a public address system was set up at the football stadium.

The high school band, directed by John Larkley, played while the crowd was finding seats. The Rev. Charles Davis, pastor of Mars Hill Baptist Church, gave the invocation. Dr. Duck acted as master of ceremonies and introduced speakers from each of the six precincts in the school district.

Rex Allen, a former county commissioner, gave a brief political run-down on the status of the county board of education and local school committee.

Dr. Bruce Sams, Mars Hill mayor and a former member of the county board of education, expressed his support for the movement to retain Neill, as did Dr. Hoyt Blackwell, president of Mars Hill College.

Dr. Blackwell congratulated the persons present for a "wonderful demonstration of good citizenship" and pledged to "link my mind, spirit and efforts with yours for the students and welfare of (Continued To Last Page)

Mars Hill School Row Aired At Courthouse Friday Night

PRINCIPALS ARE NAMED FOR COUNTY SCHOOLS

Superintendent Fred W. Anderson this week announced the following principals have been named for Madison County Schools for next term:

Marshall, R. L. Edwards.
Hot Springs, Roy Reeves.
Laurel, Ray Tweed.
Spring Creek, Owen Fish.
Ebbs Chapel, Ed D. Wilson.
Beech Glen, Hughey Ray.
Walnut (Not yet named).
Mars Hill (Not yet named).

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.

It was announced this week that there will be a choice of barbecued chicken or ham. Those wishing to take a plate to those who are unable to attend may do so.

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.

Superintendent Fred Anderson Issues Statement About Neill, School Committee, Others

ROBERTS CHILD ACCIDENTALLY WOUNDS SELF

A Woodfin child was accidentally wounded Sunday afternoon while playing at the home of a relative near Weaverville, the Buncombe County Sheriff's Department reported.

Christopher Roberts, three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Roberts of 34 Rhodes St., Woodfin, was admitted to Memorial Mission Hospital for treatment of a .32 calibre pistol wound in the head. He underwent surgery and was reported in a critical condition Sunday night.

Deputies said the child picked up a loaded pistol while playing in the bedroom of the home of his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. B. I. Williams on Alexander Rd. near Weaverville.

The weapon accidentally discharged, the bullet striking the child over the left eye.

The parents were visiting the Williams family at the time of the accident, deputies said. Deputies Willard Tate and Ernest Collins investigated.

Hungry people with plucked fowl and hoghead spears are not interested in democracy. They lack the will to fight.

Full Statement Published; Anderson Interviewed Monday

Every argument has two sides and both sides of the rhubarb growing out of the firing of Mars Hill School principal Ralph E. Neill Jr., were full aired before, during and especially after a meeting Friday night in the Courthouse here.

Representatives of the 1,500 persons who met in Mars Hill Thursday night to protest Neill's dismissal were invited to attend the meeting to hear why the local school committee had voted against electing Neill to serve next year as principal.

Backers Agree
During the half-hour or so that the protest group waited for the County Board of Education and local school committee to show up for the meeting, they discussed Neill's qualifications and agreed that the school committee could not find as good a man to replace him.

The meeting was called to order by county superintendent of schools Fred Anderson, who told of instances in which, he said, Neill had failed to work closely with his office.

Among the admittedly minor grievances he mentioned were:

Neill's alleged refusal to buy bread from a certain bread truck driver who "gave a pint of blood to Mr. Ponder (not further identified) when he was in the hospital."

Also, "somewhere along the line Mr. Neill felt that he was not getting (Continued to Page Six)

Tells Of Mistrust; Says He Deplores Adverse Publicity

Fred W. Anderson, Madison County Superintendent, this week issued the following statement to The Asheville Citizen and to The News-Record:

Fred W. Anderson, superintendent of public schools in Madison County, was reluctant to make the following statements:

"Mr. Anderson stated that the publicity given his home community, Mars Hill, had in his opinion caused irreparable damage to a quiet and peaceful community. Mr. Anderson said that he did not deny that differences had existed between his office and Mr. Ralph Neill and further stated that all will and mistrust had existed between Mr. Ralph Neill and Mr. Robert Lee (Bobby) Edwards, principal of the Marshall High School.

"Anderson explained that when he was elected superintendent of Madison County schools two years ago that he was asked by the board of education to unofficially meet with the various school committees and perform the duties of the superintendent, even though he did not take office until July 1, 1959.

"He met with the Mars Hill School committee and when he met with the board of education, he met with Mr. Ralph Neill, the applicant for that position.

"Anderson said that he was not interested in democracy. They lack the will to fight.