



## County To Participate In Surplus Foods Program

### Court Decrees New William Cobb Trial

#### Ponder States He Would Take Steps To Have Case Retried

Raleigh — State Republican Chairman William E. Cobb won a battle Friday in the libel suit brought against him by three Madison County men, and he may have won the entire war.

The State Supreme Court decreed a new trial in the case in which a Madison County jury awarded \$40,000 in damages to Zeno H. Ponder and \$4 each to two others — Frank E. Runnon and Oren Rice.

The trio, all officials of the Marshall precinct in the 1959 state bond election, sued Cobb for libel after the Republican leader charged there were fraudulent irregularities in the conduct of the election. Cobb made the charges in letters to the State Board of Elections and to then Gov. Luther H. Hodges. He gave copies of the letters to the press.

#### POSSIBLE OUTCOME

The court's decision should make it easier for the defense and harder for the prosecution if the lawsuit ever comes to trial again.

However, Ponder told newsmen he would take steps to have the case retried.

"I am a great believer in the words of John Paul Jones, 'I have just begun to fight,'" Ponder said. "If the court has decreed that there was error in the first trial, then by all means Mr. Cobb is entitled to a new trial. I plan to see that he gets a new hearing."

Ponder said he would confer with his attorneys after they receive a copy of the opinion.

In a far-reaching decision, written by Chief Justice Emory B. Denny, the Supreme Court held that Superior Court Judge J. Frank Hawkins erred in telling the jury Cobb "had neither an absolute privilege nor a qualified privilege to make a false defamatory statement about either of these plaintiffs to the newspapers of North Carolina."

Denny wrote that since the letters were addressed to the governor and the State Board of Elections they were "qualified privilege." (Continued To Last Page)

### DONKEY BALL GAME SUNDAY AT HOT SPRINGS

The Hot Springs Lions Club is sponsoring a Donkey Baseball game Sunday afternoon at 2:30. The Lions Club team, made up of club members will play the local Hot Springs ball club, made up of somewhat younger ball players and the game promises to be a lively one. Some of the people that saw last year's game have commented that they would not miss this one for anything because they really had fun watching the "lively ones," meaning the donkeys, we suppose.

Proceeds will be used to continue the Lions' civic activities, such as blind work and Little League baseball.

Everyone is urged to attend, and a large crowd is expected.

### ESTABLISHING WINTER COVER CROPS IS CITED

The establishment of a vegetative cover on cropland devoted to row crops for the purpose of protecting the soil from wind and water erosion during the winter months is one of the approved practices under the 1962 county ACP. According to Emory Robinson, chairman of the county ASC committee, approximately 65 percent of the farmers establish a winter cover crop on a portion of their cropland each fall.

A majority of the land devoted to tobacco and corn for silage and a portion of the land devoted to corn for grain is seeded to winter vegetative cover of vetch, crimson clover, barley or rye. The chairman says that a good protective (Continued to Last Page)

### BEST CAMPERS ARE SELECTED IN 4-H CAMP

Boys and girls who attend 4-H Camp each year are divided into four groups so that twenty-five to thirty campers will be in each of the camp classes. The agents and leaders who worked with the campers during the week were responsible for selecting one boy and one girl as best campers from each of the groups. The camp staff selects a boy and girl from the entire group who have been outstanding campers of the entire group.

Tommy Nix and Jerry Dale Hunter of Marshall were selected as the best boy campers of the entire delegation during the week. Jewel Ball, Route 5, Marshall, was selected as the outstanding girl camper for the week. Others selected from Madison County as best campers of their group were: Johnny Fisher, Marshall; Warren Nix, Hot Springs; and Linda Worley, Mars Hill.

These boys and girls were chosen from a group of 130 because of their participation and efforts to help others during their stay at camp.

### ASC FEED GRAIN ACREAGE SURVEY

Some thirty ASC Community Commissioners or reporters spent the field this week securing acreage reports from the farmers who were unable to make these reports with the ASCS office last week. According to Ralph W. Ramsey, County ASCS Office Manager, these reports were secured for all farms in major feed-grain producing counties in 1961 and that all counties that were classified as Minor producing counties had recently been requested to secure these acreage reports for all farms in anticipation of a new feed-grain program for 1963. In commenting on the feed-grain bill now before Congress, he pointed out that if the farm bill passed that producers of the feed-grain will decide by a referendum whether to accept or reject the program.

In conclusion, Ramsey said that ASCS personnel in minor feed-grain producing counties were given a short period of time in which to secure these reports and that the cooperation of all farmers in giving the requested information to the reporters when contacted would be greatly appreciated.

#### THE LEVELER

Criticism is a fine thing — it helps all of us keep our feet on the ground.

### CIVIL COURT TO START MONDAY

The June term of superior court for the trial of civil cases will start here Monday morning. Judge Francis O. Clarkson will preside.

### Three Highway Projects Completed In County In May

State Highway Commissioner Yates Bennett reports the completion of three road improvement projects in Madison County during the month of May.

In Madison County contract forces completed the two projects: (resurfaced with bituminous concrete) 4.9 miles Walnut Creek Road, from US 25-70 business to Heck Creek Road; and 1.0 miles Big Branch Road, from NC 36 to US 19-23. State Forces graded, drained and stabilized 0.6 mile of Ellington Road (new addition) from Bend of Ivy Road, west.

#### HEAD WORK

The thinking man of today has little trouble finding ways to make both ends meet.

### Program To Start July 10; Requirements Listed

#### Applications To Be Made At Department Public Welfare

### BOY, SITTING IN DOORWAY, IS INJURED BY AUTO

A 13-year-old boy was seriously injured about 6:30 p. m., Saturday when an automobile, out of control, struck him as he was sitting in the doorway of a rural store.

Admitted to Memorial Mission Hospital in Asheville was Boyce Crowe, of Rt. 6, Marshall. The youth suffered a broken leg and ribs and possible internal injuries. He was reported in fair condition Sunday night.

State Trooper J. E. Richards, who investigated, said a car driven by Alonzo Bullman, 34 of 2596 Hammond St., Detroit, Mich., was attempting to turn into a rural paved road in the Laurel section at about 50 miles per hour.

The car ran into the store, through the door, struck the youth, and continued until the (Continued To Last Page)

William (Bill) Roberts, chairman of the Madison County Board of Commissioners, announced this week that the board has unanimously decided that Madison County will participate in the surplus commodities (food) program.

Under the program, the federal government donates to the states certain surplus foods which have been purchased under Special Agricultural Acts of Congress and each state arranges for distribution to needy people and schools. Some of the foods to be distributed will be flour, meal, rice, dried milk, lard, dried eggs, dried beans, butter, peanut butter, canned meat and oatmeal.

It was pointed out that this program will not cost the county taxpayers; nor will it have any effect on the county tax rate, according to Mr. Roberts. He further explained that reimbursements from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture will more than pay for the cost of administering and handling. Mr. Roberts also stated that this is a program designed to help low income people and that political affiliations have absolutely nothing to do with those who desire this assistance.

Persons wishing to receive these foods should make application to the Madison County Department of Public Welfare, which is located on the second floor of the Masonic building in Marshall. (The office is open Monday through Friday.)

To be eligible to receive surplus (Continued to Last Page)

### Dickerson Replaces Neill As Mars Hill Principal

### RUSSELL WILL SEE SANFORD

Raleigh — Ted Russell, who was fired as highway commission foreman in Madison County, will meet with Gov. Sanford today (Thursday) to discuss his dismissal.

Sanford told his news conference Wednesday that politics had nothing to do with Russell's dismissal, but he refused to tell newsmen why the Madison man was fired from his \$9,283 a year post. He merely said he was dismissed for "adequate reasons."

Russell said he hopes to learn from the governor why he was fired.

### Was Former Coach At Mars Hill College Prior To World War II

Ralph Neill Jr., central figure last year in a Madison County school controversy which erupted into a political free-for-all, has been replaced as principal of Mars Hill School.

His successor, announced Tuesday by School Superintendent Fred W. Anderson, will be Fred I. Dickerson, head coach at Lees-McRae College for the past 16 years.

The Mars Hill School Committee in April, 1961, refused to elect Neill to another term as principal. This action led to student demonstrations, a strike by school bus drivers, boycotting of classes, teacher resignations and mass meetings which continued through most of June.

Gov. Sanford finally intervened and after both sides agreed to abide by his decision recommended that Neill be hired for another year. The governor went (Continued To Last Page)

### Hot Springs Planning Board Clarifies Survey Confusion

### WRECK FATAL TO HAWKINS, COUNTY NATIVE

Phillip Ray Hawkins, 29, of Clinton, Tenn., RFD 3, mathematics teacher at Robertsonville Junior High School near Oak Ridge, Tenn., and a native of Mars Hill, died Friday morning, June 15, 1962 of injuries received in an automobile collision the preceding Sunday.

According to Tennessee State Troopers, Mr. Hawkins was a passenger in a car involved in a head-on collision with another car on the wrong side of a divided highway.

The driver of the car in which Mr. Hawkins was riding was listed as William R. Foster, 30, of Oak Ridge, also a teacher at the junior high school. The driver of the other car was identified as Mrs. Ollie Marshall, 35, of Tazewell. (Continued To Last Page)

### Will Officially Determine Potentials For Making HS A Vacation Spot

The Hot Springs Planning Board held its regular meeting on Tuesday night in the board room of Pacific Mills. It was brought out in this meeting that there is some confusion in the thinking of the citizens of this county with regard to the survey now being made by Hammer and Company for the redevelopment of the Hot Springs area and what results can be expected from this survey. In order to clarify this, the Planning Board wishes to point out the following:

The survey will officially determine the potentials for making (Continued To Last Page)

### 4-H Dress Revue And Fashion Show At REA Bldg., June 23

Everyone is invited to the 4-H Dress Revue and Fashion Show in the French Broad Electric Membership building Saturday, June 23, at 10:00 a. m.

Plan to attend and learn about the fashions we may have by using cotton fabrics in our wardrobes.

### Powell Chosen Citizen Of Year By Mars Hill Civitans

#### Officers Installed Tuesday At Banquet; Brown Speaks

Bill Powell, Mars Hill pharmacist and past president of the Mars Hill Civitan Club, was awarded the club's annual Citizen of the Year Award at the annual banquet of the Mars Hill Civitan Club Tuesday night in Asheville-Biltmore Hotel.

Mr. Powell was cited for his work in organizing and promoting a youth program at Mars Hill Community Center.

Robert Brown, Republican candidate for Congress from the 11th District, was the principal speaker at the occasion.

Ralph Neill, principal of Mars Hill High School, and the Rev. James Thompson, Methodist minister at Mars Hill, were also present at the banquet. The Mars Hill Civitan Club is a service organization for the community. The club's purpose is to help the needy and to promote the welfare of the community.

#### Civitan President



THE REV. JAMES THOMPSON, pastor of the Mars Hill Baptist Church, was the principal speaker at the annual banquet of the Mars Hill Civitan Club Tuesday night in Asheville-Biltmore Hotel. He was cited for his work in organizing and promoting a youth program at Mars Hill Community Center.

#### MADISON COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OFFICERS



D. M. ROBINSON  
Chairman



JAMES I. SPURR  
Vice-Chairman



LEONARD BAKER  
Secretary



J. J. RAMSEY  
Treasurer

The organizational meeting of the Madison County Industrial Development Commission was held Wednesday afternoon in the court house. The newly formed commission, approved in the May 21 primary, will meet monthly to discuss and take action on any industrial, commercial or recreational projects for the county and will have the authority to recommend and accept any industrial or commercial project in Madison County. The commission is composed of five members, elected by the voters. Assembly is held at the court house, 11:30 a. m.

June, 1961, will serve until April 1, 1965. Officers elected here Wednesday are D. M. Robinson, of Mars Hill, chairman; James I. Spurr, of Marshall, vice chairman; Leonard Baker, of Marshall, secretary and J. J. Ramsey, of Marshall, treasurer. Other members are Bill Roberts, of Hot Springs; Charles E. Thompson, of Mars Hill; and C. C. Smith, of Mars Hill.

#### East Madison, West Madison Leagues Each Have Four Teams

Frank Moore, Commissioner of Little League Baseball in Madison County, stated this week that at last week's meeting it was decided to form two Little League in the county with four teams in each league.

The East Madison League includes Mars Hill, which has two teams, Ebbs Chapel and Beech Glen.

The West Madison League is composed of teams from Marshall, Walnut, Hot Springs and Laurel. Following are the managers of the teams in the West Madison League: Marshall, Jerry Richards and Bernard Beeson; Walnut, Otto McDevitt; Hot Springs, Curtis Roberts; Laurel, Odel Cook and Glenwood Franklin.

Bill Roberts will manage both Mars Hill teams and the manager of the other teams will be named at a later date.