



## Jury Commission Bill Postponed Until April 8

Norton, Who Introduced Bill, Requested Delay; Opposition Cited

Senate consideration of a bill to abolish the one-man jury commission in this county was postponed Tuesday until April 8 on motion of its introducer, Sen. Clyde M. Norton.

The bill originally appeared on the Senate calendar last week, but Norton had it held over until Tuesday, giving as his reason an accidental mislabeling of him as a Republican in a Citizen editorial.

Tuesday, Norton gave the senators no reason for further postponement of the measure.

However, it was openly known here that the bill faces opposition in the House, where a number of members have been contacted by former Rep. Lister E. Ramsey, seeking votes against the bill.

Norton's move to postpone apparently was aimed at keeping

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## MRS. BRIDGES, LIBRARIAN AT MHC, PASSES

Funeral Services Today At Mars Hill, Burial In Wisconsin

Mrs. Margaret K. Bridges, 50, chief librarian at Mars Hill College since 1932, died in her sleep early Wednesday morning, March 31, 1955.

The news widely known through the State, she had been employed regularly over Madison W.F.W. and W.M.F. in Black Mountain and W.M.F. in Marshall. Her husband, Loren, recently retired as manager of the two stations in Black Mountain, which are owned by Evangelist Billy Graham.

Mrs. Bridges served on several committees of Mars Hill Baptist Church and taught a Sunday School class for college young people.

Prior to joining the college staff, she taught at Wisconsin State University in Eau Claire, her home town, and at the high

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## REPUBLICANS ATTEND LINCOLN DAY DINNER SAT.

Approximately 40 Madison County Republicans attended the 11th District Lincoln Day Dinner last Saturday which was held in the Asheville City Auditorium.

Congressman Gerald Ford of Michigan, was the principal speaker.

Ford told the \$10-a-plate gathering that federal centralization of power is throttling metropolitan initiative and local responsibility in many instances throughout the county. He urged a reversal in the trend of federal control over states and their political subdivisions.

He also scored the duplication of many governmental projects and said that "the Republican alternative will combine the urban renewal and Public Housing Administration to eliminate costly duplication."

Ford, the minority leader in Congress, was loudly applauded by the huge gathering of Republicans.

## D. M. Robinson Returns To Duties At F. B. Elec. Co-op

D. M. Robinson, manager of French Broad Electric Membership Co-op, has returned to his duties here after undergoing treatment at Duke Hospital for several weeks.

"I am in the great and it certainly seems good to be back," Mr. Robinson said this week.

## COATES HOME ON GRAPEVINE IS DESTROYED

All Furnishings Lost; Blaze Is Discovered By Daughter

A fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Coates Jr., and family of Grapevine about midnight Wednesday.

According to information received here, Mr. and Mrs. Coates and two of their five children were attending the Jamboree in Asheville where the children were participating. Mr. Coates' mother and the other three children were at the home and shortly before midnight the 14-year-old daughter discovered the blaze in a bedroom. She quickly summoned Mrs. Coates and they and the other children escaped but the fire swept through the house which had been built only a few years ago. All household furnishings and clothing were lost.

## BTU TOURNEY WINNERS ARE ANNOUNCED

Represent F.B. Association In Bakersville April 15

The annual Training Union Tournaments of the French Broad Baptist Association were conducted at the Middle Fork Baptist Church last Sunday afternoon, March 28, before a very enthusiastic audience, representing several churches of the association.

The winners were as follows: Adult Scripture Reading, Mrs. Jerry Rice, Madison Seminary Baptist Church; Young People's Speaker, Norris Gentry, Madison Seminary; Intermediate Sword Drill, Glenda Bryan, Madison Seminary; Runnerup, Charlotte Crowe, Marshall; Junior Memory Work, Tommy Candler, Charles and Sandra Ammons, Davis Chapel; Barbara Briggs and

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## FEED GRAIN PARTICIPATION REPORTED GOOD

A total of 587 farmers signed intentions to divert a portion of their farmland to conservation uses under the 1945 Feed Grain Program.

In announcing this, Ralph W. Ramsey, manager of the Madison County ASCS office, said that these farmers with a total acreage of 1,000 acres, signed to divert 125,000 acres for an approximate payment of \$48,478.09. Advance payments of \$21,129.64 was made to these farmers, and the balance will be made this fall after compliance has been checked on their farms.

Mr. Ramsey pointed out that farmers participating in the Feed Grain Program have certain responsibilities and must comply with regulations in order to qualify for payment. He pointed out that land designated as diverted acreage cannot be grazed between the period of April 1 and October 1; that harvesting from the diverted acreage is not permitted during the 1945 calendar year; that a vegetative cover of grasses and/or legumes must be established to protect it from erosion; the carrying capacity of the diverted acreage must be increased by the number of acres diverted; if entire farm is diverted, it must be planted to a crop other than corn.

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## Marshall, Hot Springs Again Threatened By River Friday

### BOND SALES IN COUNTY IN FEB. TOTAL \$17,302

U. S. Savings Bonds sales in North Carolina during February amounted to \$4,707,478, bringing total sales for the year to \$9,438,402. This is a decrease of 3.8 percent over January-February sales a year ago.

Series E Bond sales were down for the month and year; however, February H Bond sales were up 41.6 percent over February a year ago; and cumulative H Bond sales were up 9.7 percent over January-February of last year.

Cumulative sales represent 17.8 percent of the state's annual quota of \$63.1 million.

Bond sales in Madison County during February were \$17,302. Cumulative sales for January-February amounted to \$24,819, which is 14.2 percent of the county's quota of \$175,230 for this year, according to C. L. Rudiell Jr., Madison County Volunteer Chairman.

### U. S. 25-70 IS DETOURED

Traffic will be detoured off U.S. 25-70 at a point just north of Weaverly during the relocation of six-tenths of a mile of Weaverly Road for the interstate highway connector project, 13th Division Engineer Frank Hutchinson announced Tuesday.

Detours on U. S. 19-23 and N.C. 191 will be used during the new road construction, expected to last for several months, Hutchinson said.

In other words, motorists going to Asheville from Marshall, Hot Springs, etc., are cautioned to use N. C. 191, through Woodfin.

**USEFUL**  
Gas station attendant (pointing to choke lever): You say your car uses too much gas? Know what this is for?  
Woman (airy): Oh, that — I never use it, so I keep it pulled out to hang my handbag on.

### Island Covered; Both Ends Of Main Street Flooded

And the rains came, and the river went on a rampage, and everyone became excited and scared. Water filled the island and both ends of Marshall were under water. In addition to the rampaging French Broad River, surface waters from the mountains flooded many basements and ground floor levels in town. It was a wet time in town last Friday.

It all started Thursday night when torrential rains struck this area. All night it rained, it thundered and lightning flashed, but few realized that by morning the French Broad would look like a wild, unruly, menacing river. But it did.

Friday morning, businessmen and employees worked frantically in many places getting basement stock on higher floors. By mid-morning the river's overflow started backing up through the storm drains at the REA Building. So sudden was the giant building surrounded by water that the personnel had to be "evacuated" by use of a truck which backed up to the steps and hauled the girls to safety.

The water continued to rise until it engulfed the entire section around the REA Building and flowed into the street. In a matter of less than an hour, it was quite precarious to drive through the surging water. Some cars stalled as motors became water-logged. At the same time the upper end of Main Street was becoming impassable for traffic, the lower end of Main Street was also becoming flooded. Over the weekend water came from the mountains, filling the entire area of a standard one-way Main Hill Baptist Church to Hoskins Garage. The parking lot used by Cody Motor Sales assembled a huge lake. In addition to the

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## Anti-Poverty Program To Aid County 100 Percent

Average Annual Family Income In Madison Is \$2,230

Sixteen North Carolina counties, including three in Western North Carolina, are among 182 listed by the White House as being eligible for 100 per cent federal aid in the anti-poverty program.

The North Carolina counties and their annual per capita income are Greene \$550; Clay \$640; Jones

North 200; Burke 271; Northampton 290; Warren 300; Gates 345; Robeson 382; Fender 401; Bladen 479; Madison 478; Duplin 474; Martin 473; Sampson 472; and Graham 474.

The White House said Sunday the counties have an annual per capita income of less than \$750 a year and lack sufficient economic reserves to finance part of the anti-poverty drive.

Pea

The White House said special teams will be sent out from the Office of Economic Opportunity to help local authorities analyze their problems and prepare community action programs.



Shown above is a scene on Main Street last Friday morning when the raging French Broad River left its banks and flowed onto the street. This particular picture was shot at the lower end of town. The street was also covered in the vicinity of the REA Building. Fortunately little actual damage was reported and the river receded Friday afternoon.

## DEMOCRATIC WOMEN TOLD OF HERITAGE

A. E. Leake Guest Speaker; Officers Are Elected Thursday

Marshall attorney A. Eldridge Leake told members of the Madison County Democratic Women's Club at their dinner meeting in Madison Grill Thursday night that they "belong to the oldest political party in the world."

Leake lauded the Democratic presidents from Thomas Jefferson to Lyndon Johnson, hitting the high spots in the administrations of several.

He prefaced his talk with comments on the present state legislature and Gov. Dan K. Moore, whose campaign he headed in Madison County.

A gift was presented to Mrs. Earl Robinson, retiring first vice president of the club. Others on the program were Mrs. Vernon Runyon and Mrs. Carroll Tweed.

Recently elected officers of the club are Mrs. George B. Shupe, president; Mrs. Marvin McClure, first vice president; Miss Bobby Jean Peck, second vice president; Mrs. J. D. Buckner, secretary; and Mrs. Runyon, treasurer.

On the board of directors are Mrs. Fred Anderson, Mrs. Odell Cook, Mrs. Celis Ramsey, Mrs. Bill Whitten, Mrs. Harold Anderson, Mrs. Ralph Tipton, Mrs. Jack Lunsford, Mrs. Elmer Clark and Mrs. J. G. Gardner.

## French Broad Masonic Lodge To Meet Monday

The French Broad Masonic Lodge No. 29 will hold its regular scheduled meeting on Monday, April 4 at 7:30 in the Masonic Temple in Marshall.