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## Medicare Patients May Get Aid At S. S. Office

### Identification Is Essential Before Payments Made

Older people in the Asheville district office area who have paid doctor bills but have not yet claimed their medical insurance payments (under Medicare) are invited to have their claims checked by the Asheville social security office before mailing them in for payment, James E. Robertson, district manager, declared today.

"In the first six months of the medicare program some benefit payments have been delayed because the claimant did not include all the necessary information with their claims," he explained.

Robertson said that most people will probably need this help only the first time they file a medical insurance claim. "The Medicare Handbook which is given to all beneficiaries explains how to make the claims," he said. "The 'Request for Payment' form is relatively simple, but most people can use some tips and advice the first time they apply. We're glad to offer assistance, and believe we can help many people avoid some delay in receiving payment."

Robertson noted that the medicare claim may be made either by the patient or by the doctor, if he accepts assignment of the insurance. If the doctor applies for the medicare payment, he bills the patient only for any part of the \$50 deductible that still remains to be paid and for 20 percent of the bill over the \$50 deductible.

Under the other method of payment the doctor bills the patient, the patient pays the bill, and then the patient sends the completed request-for-payment form — together with itemized receipts — to the medicare carrier. A statement from the doctor showing the treatment given and the charges already paid by the patient must be furnished either on the request-for-payment form or on a separate receipted bill.

In the 18-county Asheville area, medicare doctor bill insurance is handled by the Pilot Life Insurance Co., Greensboro. The simple one-page request-for-payment form is mailed to that company (the insurance carrier), no matter whether the payment will be made direct to the patient or to the doctor. Doctors' offices, accustomed to filling out insurance forms, should have no difficulty in providing the necessary items of information, Robertson noted. But handling of forms received direct from medicare beneficiaries is sometimes delayed because some essential item of information has been omitted.

"Since numbers of people have

## D. M. Robinson Is Reelected Director AADC

D. M. Robinson of Marshall has been reelected a director of the Asheville Agricultural Development Council for 1967 representing Madison County. The election took place at the Council's annual meeting last week.

The Agricultural Development Council is an area development association covering the 18 westernmost counties of the state. Purpose of the program, which is operated by a board of directors representing all counties, is to help promote farm and rural improvement projects on an area basis.

A major activity of the Agricultural Council is sponsoring and promoting the Western North Carolina Rural Community Development Program in cooperation with the agricultural agencies and local agencies in each county. This program of cooperation among voluntary communities was instituted in 1955 and over the years has been responsible for the building of a tremendous number of homes and community buildings.

Stand up and be counted when it really counts — after all, it's the vote you cast that makes democracy last.

## W. L. LYNCH IS HONORED AT RED CROSS MEETING

### Delegation Attends From County; Roberts Speaks

The war in Vietnam is the least understood cause our nation has ever undertaken and probably the most difficult war our military forces have ever fought, Brig. Gen. Elvy B. Roberts, Deputy Commanding General at Fort Jackson, S. C., said Monday night.

General Roberts was guest speaker at the annual meeting of the Asheville Area Chapter of the American Red Cross.

In an address and with a film "The Unique War," prepared for use in the indoctrination of troops en route to Vietnam, the general presented the issues in the conflict.

Prior to the address, numerous awards and commendations were presented.

W. L. Lynch, of Mars Hill, received a five-year pin as a member of the Area Red Cross board of directors and was highly commended for his devotion on the board. He was also presented a special award for his faithful service as chairman of the Madison Branch of the Asheville Area ARC.

Among those receiving pins as blood program volunteers was Mrs. Mattee Mashburn, of Marshall. Attending the banquet from this county were Mrs. Rankin Wallin, Mrs. S. L. Nix, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Lynch, the Rev. and Mrs. Jack L. Thomas and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Story.

## FARMER'S TAX GUIDE BOOKLET NOW AVAILABLE

North Carolina farmers can now get the 1967 edition of the Farmer's Tax Guide, according to J. E. Wall, District Director of Internal Revenue for North Carolina.

The booklet may be obtained free of charge by stopping in or writing the nearest Internal Revenue Service office or your county agricultural agent.

Written in on-technical language, it contains easy to understand sections such as records a farmer should keep and important Federal tax dates to remember.

One of the most important and informative features is a sample of a completed tax return with detailed explanations of entries made on it.

Throughout the booklet numerous examples are used to illustrate how farming transactions are treated for Federal tax purposes.

Primarily written to help farmers prepare their 1966 tax returns, the "Farmer's Tax Guide" also serves as a useful tax reference throughout the year.

## Razing The Roof At Courthouse Here; New Roof Started

A different kind of "razing the roof" at the courthouse here began last Monday.

The original metal shingle roof which has been treated and patched many times is being torn off and a new asphalt shingle roof is being constructed.

The job is being done by White Metal Works of Asheville.

DUTY-BOUND  
Stand up and be counted when it really counts — after all, it's the vote you cast that makes democracy last.

## COMPENSATION PAYMENTS ARE NOW INCREASED

January 1 brought an increase in monthly compensation payments to parents and children of servicemen and veterans who die of service-connected causes, W. R. Phillips, manager of the Winston-Salem Veterans Administration Regional Office, said today.

Legislation calling for increases in Dependency and Indemnity compensation (DIC) rates was signed into law by President Johnson on November 3.

Monthly payments for children are increased from \$77 to \$80 for one child; from \$110 to \$115 for two children; from \$143 to \$149 for three children and from \$28 to \$29 for each child in excess of three.

Phillips said in the case of dependent parents, monthly payments are increased from \$93 to \$97 for a single parent and the maximum income limitation is extended from \$1750 to \$1800.

Changes in income deductions for parents were made in the new law to bring it into line with the pension and income rules for veterans' widows.

## Bentley, Deason Now Area Red Cross Directors

Arthur E. Eve Jr., assistant treasurer of American Enka Corp., was reelected chairman of the Asheville Area Chapter of the American Red Cross at a special session of the board of directors following the annual meeting Monday night.

Robert C. Buchholz and Joseph Meade were reelected vice chairmen and William C. Morris Jr., was elected a vice chairman. Mrs. L. C. Merchant was reelected secretary and Gen. George C. Stewart was named treasurer.

In the election of members to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors, five were reelected to serve three-year terms. They are Mrs. Stanley Atkins, Mrs. L. C. Merchant, Joseph Quinn, Dr. W. S. Schwartz, Gen. George Stewart, J. M. Woodcock and Richard B. Wynne.

Elected to three-year terms were Dr. Fred Bentley of Mars Hill, Frank Deason, Hot Springs, Harley W. Meredith, William C. Morris Jr., Mrs. Charles Owen Jr., Stan Smolen, and Charles A. Webb.

Named to two-year terms were Mrs. Robert Brown, C. A. Stubbs and Dr. A. H. Vincent.

J. Howard Collins was elected to a one-year term.

## Snow Falls Here This Morning But Has Now Stopped

Snow fell here early this morning but it soon stopped. Many roads were covered with snow and ice but no serious accidents were reported.

## VARIETIES OF BURLEY ARE IMPORTANT

Burley varieties have changed so rapidly during the past thirty years that growers have a problem in choosing the most suitable variety. Before making a selection, the farmer should take into consideration the following, says Wiley DuVall, Madison County (Assistant Agricultural Extension Agent): (1) Disease resistance of the variety. For example, if black shank has been a problem in the field in the past, choose a variety that has resistance to this disease. The grower could choose from one of the following: Burley 37, MS Burley 37 X L8, MS Burley 21 V L8, MS Kentucky 12 X L8, or Burley 49. These varieties proved resistant in a black shank infested field in Madison County last summer. (2) Soil type. All varieties do not perform the same on all soil types. The farmer should select a variety that is adaptable to the soil type in his vicinity. If he is not getting the desired yield and quality with the variety that he has grown in the past, it would be to his advantage to grow three or four rows of another variety and make a comparison. (3) Elevation. Late maturing varieties (Continued To Page Seven)

## Dem. Exe. Committee Ousts Huff From Organization

### RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED HERE BY DEMOCRATS

#### Action Is Taken At Demo Executive Meeting Saturday

The following Resolution was presented to the executive committee by J. C. Wallin, a member of the Committee. The Resolution was unanimously adopted, as follows:

**RESOLUTION**  
A Resolution to be forwarded to our two Democratic Representatives, the Honorable Ernest Messer and the Honorable Liston Ramsey, a copy to be furnished the Press:

Since our present Board of Education, with the splendid cooperation of the Department of School House Planning and with the cooperation of the local County Commissioners, has successfully

(Continued To Last Page)

### Vote Is 14-3 In Stormy Meet Here Sat.; Claim 'Disloyalty'

#### 'HONORED,' HUFF SAYS OF OUSTER

A Madison County Democratic precinct chairman who was drummed out of the organization Saturday night said Monday that he considered himself highly honored to have been found so offensive to the "Ponder faction."

Marshall attorney Joseph B. Huff, of Mars Hill, who was tried and found guilty of party disloyalty at a meeting of the Madison County Democratic Executive Committee in Marshall Saturday night, made a statement to the state press Monday.

Huff's statement reads: "The charges preferred against me were basically the same charges preferred against the county board of elections and which have already been found to be without merit by the State Board of Elections."

"As attorney for the Madison board, my advice has always been to adhere strictly to the election laws as written. This apparently is a departure from established custom in Madison County, and has not found favor in some quarters."

"I have not been able to determine with any accuracy what my attorney-client relationship with the county board of elections has to do with my position as chairman of the Mars Hill precinct committee. I can only assume that, since the state board has foreclosed any further action against the county board, I was the only pigeon left."

"To be kicked off the Ponder executive committee is a signal honor and a pleasure and I'm deeply appreciative of this high distinction."

## DR. SAMS ISSUES REPLY TO HUFF ABOUT CHARGES

Dr. W. A. Sams, of Marshall, chairman of the Madison County Democratic Organization, Tuesday released the following statement:

"In reply to Mr. Joseph B. Huff's statement of being happy to be released from Ponderism, may I state the regular Democratic Executive Committee brought charges of party disloyalty against Mr. Huff and he had ample time and opportunity to defend himself but instead positively refused to answer the committee's questions."

"For the general public our Democratic Executive Committee is composed of honorable men and women from all precincts of the county and I state positively that no man controls that committee. They speak for themselves and they each support the State Democratic Organization by paying every quota assigned them," Dr. Sams stated.

### Pastors To Meet

The Western North Carolina Baptist Pastors' Conference will hold a special called meeting on Monday, January 23, at 10:30 a. m., at the First Baptist Church in Waynesville. This meeting was requested by vote of the conference at the last regular meeting.

### Bitter Verbal Blasts Heard By 100 Democrats In School Cafeteria

By LEWIS W. GREEN and JIM STORY

Joseph B. Huff, Mars Hill precinct chairman, was read out of the county Democratic organization (not Party) Saturday night on charges of giving aid and comfort to the Republican Party during the 1966 fall campaign. The vote of the county Democratic Executive Committee to oust Huff was 14-3.

Huff led the "reformed Democratic" faction which was defeated by the "regular" Democratic faction in the primary election of 1966. He also is attorney for the present county board of elections which the "regular" Democrats contend is antagonistic.

An estimated crowd of over 100 listened for almost two hours to bitter verbal exchanges between Dr. W. A. Sams, county Democratic chairman, and Huff. Other officials and members of the executive committee often interrupted to ask questions concerning incidents involving Huff and the county board of elections, as well as incidents which occurred at the Mars Hill precinct meetings.

At times the verbal blasts led to tense moments although no violence occurred.

Chairman of the Mars Hill precinct, Huff has frequently been involved in intra-party wrangling in Madison, where "regulars" and "reform" factions comprise the Democrats.

Huff fought Saturday night's accusations and declared the charges pressed against him by the Madison County Democratic Executive Committee were unfounded. But he lost his precinct chairmanship nonetheless.

The action was considered a victory for the Zeno Ponder faction in Madison politics. Huff has long been a point of contention among the Ponder "regulars."

Twenty-one of 25 members who comprise the executive committee were present. Fourteen of those voted to kick Huff out. Three, including Huff, voted against the motion and the remainder abstained. More than 100 Democrats attended the meeting, a gathering mostly hostile to Huff.

The charges of party disloyalty had been lodged by Auburn Wyatt, Paul Thomas and Woodrow Dill, and Saturday night's hearing was procedural and in line with the program of organization for the Democratic Party in North Carolina.

The executive committee's ouster of Huff is final. There appears to be no provision for appeal in (Continued To Last Page)

## RONNIE JOHNSON IS WOUNDED IN VIETNAM SUN.

Pfc. Ronald H. Johnson, Marine Corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Johnson of Walnut, was wounded in action Sunday in Vietnam, his parents were told Monday.

Johnson, who had been in Vietnam six weeks, was struck by enemy shell fragments and was seriously injured, according to a report delivered in person by two Marines from Johnson City, Tenn., returning home Monday.

### THE NEW AND THE OLD



Pictured above is the new Madison Seminary Baptist Church now under construction. Behind the large tree is the present church which was built in 1925. The old structure will be removed when the new church is completed. The new building is being constructed under the supervision of the Slagle brothers. The building committee is composed of Lloyd Slagle, Charles Crowe and Talnage McLean. The building started last Fall, is expected to be completed in the Spring.