

THE NEWS-RECORD

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16 PAGES THIS WEEK

MARSHALL, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1969

10c PER COPY

\$5.00 A Year In Madison and Adjoining Counties
\$4.00 A Year Outside These Counties

Estimated 700 Persons Attend REA Meeting

Bentley Speaks; Reports Are Heard; Prizes Awarded

More than 700 persons attended the annual meeting of the French Broad Electric Membership Corporation Saturday in the Marshall gymnasium.

Dr. Fred B. Bentley, president of Mars Hill College, was principal speaker.

Dr. Bentley spoke of the changing times and how we must adapt ourselves to rapid and constant change in our business and social world. He emphasized the urgent need for cooperation and understanding if our county is to continue to progress. He said we often think our county is making little progress in many fields but we are making strides and will continue to do so provided our people will make the effort necessary. He urged support of the plan for consolidation of the high schools in the county as a vital step for educational progress. Dr. Bentley praised the progress of the French Broad EMC and said that this co-op is a fine example of many persons working together to better the area. He was introduced by C. E. Mashburn who presided at the meeting.

J. H. Sprinkle gave the treasurer's report and D. M. Robinson the manager's report.

The following directors were unanimously reelected for new (Continued on Last Page)

GIRL SCOUT AWARDS COURT NEXT TUESDAY

The annual Girl Scout Court of Awards for Madison County will be held Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock, in the Marshall school lunchroom. Mrs. Ed Niles and Mrs. Fred Boss of the Neighborhood Service Team are coordinators for the event. All parents, friends and members of organizations which sponsor troops in the county are invited to attend. Achievements of the past year, plans and inspirations for new program, individual awards and recognition are a part of the annual program. A social hour will follow. The communities of Mars Hill and Marshall alternate the hostess courtesy, and Girl Scouts of the Marshall community are hostesses for this year's event.

Three Announce As Candidates For Write-In Here

Elsewhere in this issue is an advertisement of three Marshall men seeking posts as aldermen as write-in candidates in the May 6, 1969 town election. The three men are Ed Niles, Bob Davis and Larry Corn.

DISTRICT COURT TO START HERE NEXT MONDAY

District Court will begin here next Monday morning and will continue through Tuesday. Judge J. E. Holsinger, of Boone, will preside.

OUR FIREMEN

(EDITORIAL)

Governor Bob Scott and Ralph Skinner, president of the N. C. State Firemen's Association, have proclaimed next week — May 4-10 — as North Carolina Firemen's Week.

In such towns as Marshall, Mars Hill and Hot Springs, the safety of the buildings when fire strikes is up to the dedicated men who are members of the volunteer fire departments.

Seldom recognized but often criticized for their devoted efforts, it is fitting that a special week be observed in their honor. Their unselfish devotion saves thousands of dollars in our county annually.

We take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the fire chiefs, officers and firemen of our three towns and feel certain that citizens, both in the corporate limits and in the rural areas, likewise appreciate what you have done and what you are doing.

New Flag Pole Being Installed; Benches Repaired

A new flag pole with steel tubing is being installed on the courthouse lawn "making ready" for a new American flag when it arrives. The old pole was blown down several weeks ago after serving faithfully for many years.

The benches in front of courthouse, sometimes called "loafer's paradise," are also being repaired much to the delight of their "regular customers."

With the outside of the courthouse freshly painted, the entire courthouse property is in fine shape and attractive.

LOSES EVERYTHING

The man who tries to raise himself in this world by stepping on the heads of his friends has his machinery in reverse.

SAFETY AWARDS RECEIVED BY COUNTY FIRMS

The North Carolina Department of Labor honored 221 industries of Western North Carolina on Friday. The session was attended by more than 400 persons who are interested in industrial safety and included company presidents, managers, personnel and safety officials, and members of plant safety committees. Commissioner Frank Crane, a long time advocate of safety promotion, presented the awards. Roy A. Taylor, 11th District Congressman, addressed the group. Also present at the awards meeting were: Lewis P. Sorrell, Deputy Commissioner, William C. Creel, Safety Director, and Wendell McDevitt, Supervising Inspector of the North Carolina Department of Labor.

Madison County firms receiving safety awards were: French Broad Electric Membership Corporation, Marshall; Hammarlund Manufacturing Co., Mars Hill; Mill Manufacturing Corp., Marshall; Rosentock & Company, Mars Hill.

CANDIDATES FILE FOR POSTS IN THREE TOWNS

Municipal Elections To Be Held On Tuesday, May 6

Marshall, Mars Hill and Hot Springs citizens can now start deciding for whom they will vote come Tuesday, May 6, when mayors and aldermen will be elected. Below are candidates who have filed:

MARSHALL:
For Mayor: Lovado Ponder.

For Aldermen: George Penland, Fleet Nix, Roy Wild, incumbents; Garland Brown.

MARS HILL:
For Mayor: William P. Powell, incumbent (unopposed).

Aldermen: Carl Eller, B. W. Grigg, Arthur Wood, incumbents; William A. (Bill) Deans.

HOT SPRINGS:
For Mayor: Charles G. Schaffer, incumbent (unopposed).

For Aldermen: Harold D. Anderson, Bobby Ponder, incumbents; John Lewis Moore, George Kenneth Ramsey.

DIAL - A - PRAYER

649-9231

STATE BURLEYMEN HONORED



The state's top burley producers were honored Friday in Asheville at the first N. C. Agricultural Extension Service burley banquet. On hand to receive plaques were (L-R) Reid Cook of Hot Springs Rt. 3, first in tobacco yield on a half-acre or below; Walter Gosnell of Marshall Rt. 3, first on a half-acre and above; and Ray A. Hipps of Asheville Rt. 8, who came in second to Gosnell. Dr. Guy L. Jones, head of the extension's agronomy department, made the presentations. —Cut courtesy of Asheville Citizen-Times

Gosnell, Cook Top Burley Producers

County Champions Receive Statewide Recognition Friday

WILEY DAVALL, Associate Agricultural Extension Agent

Madison County still has many farmers who take pride in doing an outstanding job growing burley tobacco. Two of these farmers, Walter Gosnell and Reid Cook, received statewide recognition Friday in Asheville by winning the state burley production contest. This contest is conducted

each year by the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service.

Both men were recently crowned champions in the county contest. The county contest was sponsored by Citizens Bank, which gave first prize money, and Service Motor Oil, which gave second prize.

Walter Gosnell is a burley farmer in the Little Laurel section. He was champion in the large tobacco contest. Reid Cook grows tobacco and woodland on Upper Spout. He was champion of the small tobacco division. All Madison tobacco farmers are urged to enter the 1969 contest. This contest is conducted

Bd. Of Ed. Election Bill Causes Widespread Interest In County

\$350.00 DONATED FOR RECREATION BY OFFICIALS

Jerry Plemmons, chairman of the Mayor's Committee on Recreation, stated this week that the board of aldermen has appropriated \$350.00 for the committee to use in establishing a recreation program.

"This is a start toward developing a better recreational program for our town and community," Mr. Plemmons said.

Members of the Mayor's Committee in addition to Plemmons, are Mrs. Mattee Mashburn, secretary; Roy Reeves, Mrs. Marian Wallin, Mrs. Carolyn Nix, Harry Silver, and the Rev. Albert Peveral Jr.

Annual Awards Night On Friday At Mars Hill

The annual Awards Program for the E. H. Clubs of Madison County will be held in the Mars Hill Moore Auditorium at 7:30 p. m., Friday, May 2. Guides will direct you as you come in. Awards will be made to the club members for achievement, reading programs, and perfect attendance. Installation of new officers will be held. Special speaker for the night will be Miss Margaret Decker, E. H. Club member from Asheville. Plan to attend and bring your family.

THANKS

Dear Friends of the Library: This letter is not addressed to a formal organization because we do not have an organized group of Friends of the Library in Madison County as do most counties. It is much more important to me that we do have many FRIENDS. This fact was demonstrated beyond the shadow of a doubt last week.

A heartfelt "thank you" goes out from me to the many folks who made our Open House at the new Library last Saturday such (Continued To Last Page)

BULLETIN!

Proposal Is Killed In Raleigh

Action Taken Wednesday By House Local Gov't Committee

A bill designed to place Madison County under the uniform statewide school board election was killed Wednesday by the House Local Government Committee.

Rep. Liston B. Ramsey of Madison, chairman of the committee, opposed the measure which was introduced in the Senate at the request of the Madison County Citizens Committee of 100 for Better Schools.

Dr. Fred Bentley, president of Mars Hill College and chairman of the Citizens Committee, has said the legislation sponsored by Sens. Bruce B. Briggs of Mars Hill and Ted Dent of Asheville is necessary for the passage of a bond issue required for the consolidation of Madison's five small high schools.

Ramsey turned the chair over to Rep. Julian B. Fenner of Rocky Mount while he debated the bill since it involved his home county. He also took issue with Briggs on a contention that Bentley and Dr. Ed N. Niles, vice chairman of the Citizens Committee were denied an opportunity to be heard on the legislation.

Bentley and Niles told The News-Record Wednesday morning that they were notified Tuesday of the acceptance of their requests to be heard on the school board bill but on such a short notice it was impractical due to schedule conflicts and other previous commitments for them to appear before the sub-committee for the allotted ten minutes on Wednesday afternoon.

Dr. Bentley stated that he made efforts to get the hearings postponed but his efforts were ignored.

The effect of the bill would have been to repeal a law sponsored by Ramsey and Rep. Ernest B. Messer of Canton in the 1967 General Assembly and place Mad- (Continued on Last Page)

House Sub-Committee, Rep. Ramsey, Key Factors In Decision

By JAY HENSLEY
Citizen-Times Staff Writer

Raleigh — A House sub-committee tolled the death knell Thursday for a bill considered by some as the only chance for consolidation of five small high schools in Madison County.

A Senate-passed bill introduced by Sen. Bruce B. Briggs of Mars Hill to place Madison under the statewide elective school board law was given an unfavorable report in a House Local Government sub-committee with only one dissenting vote.

But whether the measure lives or dies is largely up to Rep. Liston B. Ramsey of Marshall, a veteran legislator and chairman of the full House Local Government Committee.

The bill will go before Ramsey's committee Wednesday with a recommendation by Rep. Julian B. Fenner of Rocky Mount for an unfavorable report.

Fenner, as chairman of the sub-committee on local legislation will make a routine motion for an unfavorable report, and under normal conditions Ramsey would say "I have a motion—is there a second?" But this is Ramsey's home county and one that is frequently — if not constantly embroiled in political strife. He will comment one way or another on the bill, and whatever he says will carry considerable weight.

Briggs, a Republican says the bill has bi-partisan support in Madison County. It would provide for the non-partisan election of the County Board of Education.

Ramsey is a Democrat and one of the few remaining Democratic officials in Madison. There is speculation around the State House that he is in line for appointment to a state post by Gov. Bob Scott.

Whatever his future in politics may be, the way he handles the school board bill Wednesday will have a profound effect on the political future of his county.

Briggs introduced the measure at the request of local officials and a bi-partisan committee developing plans for a bond vote on funds to build a new high school.

Dr. Fred Bentley president of Mars Hill College and chairman of the "Committee of 100" said the bond referendum doesn't have a chance unless the people of (Continued on Last Page)

Annual Meeting Of Model Madison Held On Monday

LOCAL LIONS HEAR TALK ON A-B TECH MON.

Edwards, Associate Dean, Tells Of Various Courses Offered

J. B. Edwards, Associate Dean of Asheville-Buncombe Technical Institute, spoke to the Marshall Lions at the Rock Cafe on Monday night. Lion President Jack Cole introduced Edwards as a graduate of both Berea and Western Carolina Colleges and a former Vocational Agriculture teacher.

Edwards outlined the growth of the Institute from its beginning in 1961, when it served 17 counties, until the present time of serving 55 counties. The four main objectives of the Institute are:

(1) Prepare students to enter an occupation at either the trade or technical level. (2) Upgrade people who are presently unemployed. (3) Adult basic education for those persons over 18 years of (Continued on Last Page)

Reports Heard; Election Is Held; Resolution Adopted

Seventy-five persons representing all areas of the County attended the first Annual Meeting of Model Madison on the Mars Hill College Campus, Monday. Lewis S. Rudisill, Chairman, presided.

The membership re-elected the present Board of Directors who have served Model Madison since its incorporation in October, 1968. The fifteen Board Directors are: Robert L. Edwards, Andrew V. Graves, Richard L. Hoffman, Roy McDevitt, C. Edwin Mashburn, Marie Osteen, Clois Plemmons, Dr. Charles Puvall, Frances C. Ramsey, Douglas M. Robinson, Lewis S. Rudisill, Harry G. Silver, Perry Willis, Fred Wood, and William B. Zink.

Clois Plemmons, Treasurer, presented the financial statement of the Corporation.

Harry G. Silver, Chairman of the Planning Committee, presented the Report to the Membership. He also presented the following resolutions: (1) The Board of Directors shall (Continued on Last Page)

President Nixon Asks Postal Rate Increases

Letters, Post Cards Would Be Increased One Cent

An "inherited" postal deficit of \$1.2 billion is responsible for the proposals to raise the postage bill for residents of Marshall, Postmaster Ramsey said today.

Mr. Ramsey said he had been advised by Postmaster General Winton M. Blount in Washington, D. C., that the record \$1.2 billion 1970 deficit compelled President Nixon to seek postage rate increases. Without higher rates the Department will be left with a staggering deficit that would become an added public tax burden.

In addition to increasing letter mail from 6 to 7 cents, as proposed by the Johnson Administration, President Nixon also asked that second and third-class mailers help reduce the large postal deficit which would otherwise be paid by taxpayers, the postmaster said.

For bulk third-class mail and most magazines and newspapers, the rates would be increased 10 percent to 20 percent above today's levels, he noted. These percentages include rate hikes al-

ready scheduled by previous action of Congress.

The President's recommended increases will reduce the 1970 postal deficit by more than \$600 million.

The postmaster listed these other details on the proposed increases:

First-class mail: Letters and post cards would be increased one cent, to 7 cents an ounce and 6 cents a piece, respectively, on July 1, 1969. Airmail postage would remain at 10 cents. This will yield \$597.2 million in new revenue.

Second-class mail: A handling charge of 3/10ths of a cent per piece for circulation outside home counties would become effective July 1, 1969. This would yield \$15.3 million annually and would represent a 13 percent increase in addition to the 8 percent rise scheduled to take effect January 8, 1970.

Third-class mail: For single pieces, rates would be increased one cent per piece. This would yield \$12.4 million. For regular bulk shipments, the minimum (Continued on Last Page)