

THE NEWS-RECORD

French Broad EMC Announces \$1.8 Million Service Improvement Plan

French Broad Electric Membership Corporation today announced an electric system improvement plan totaling more than \$1.8 million. French Broad EMC presently serves more than 15,300 families, businesses and industries in five counties of Western North Carolina and Eastern Tennessee, and is the major electric utility in the area north of Asheville to Erwin and Newport, Tennessee.

This large investment in new electric facilities will be required to continue to provide increasing service to the present member-owners, and to extend service to over 1500 new members expected during the next two years. Some of the larger electric loads already under construction which the electric cooperative will serve include the new Madison County Consolidated High School, the Marshall Housing Authority,

and the Madison County Shopping Plaza. These are all in Marshall and are all total electric projects. Major new construction in Mars Hill, which includes the all-electric Student Center and Administrative Buildings at Mars Hill College, will require increased service in that community. The expansion of Mohasco Industries at Burnsville, plus a rapidly expanding overall economic base in Yancey County will require the cooperative to invest large sums over the next few months.

The development of the Wolf Laurel project near Mars Hill, but covering several thousand acres in Madison, Yancey and Unicoi Counties, will require the cooperative to continue to provide rapidly expanding electric service in this region.

From the northern suburbs of Asheville throughout the entire service area of French Broad EMC, the electric service

requirements of the member-owners is growing at a record pace. The overall electric system wide load of the cooperative will grow by at least 33 per cent in the next two years. Hundreds of miles of new lines will have to be constructed, many of these completely underground. Service will continue to be increased to all members of the cooperative in every area of the system. Several hundred thousand dollars will be invested in more and better equipment to increase the regulation of voltage and provide sectionalizing to reduce the effects of storm damage to electric service.

French Broad EMC is proud of the record of electric service made during 1971. The number of member hours without electric service was one of the lowest in the entire nation.

A part of the cooperative's

new system improvement plan includes improvements in accounting and billing operation with the installation of date processing services. Beginning with the January 1972 electric service billing, the entire accounting of member electric service will be on the new equipment. Other improvements will include modernization of office facilities in Marshall and Burnsville in 1972 and in Bakersville in 1973, to provide better service to the members and the public. The Cooperative's general headquarters office building on the Main Street in Marshall has for years been the most often used meeting place in Madison County. These improvements will make the facilities even more attractive and convenient.

Any part of service improvement must include the a luncheon Friday upon his retirement from Mars Manufacturing Co. after 15 years' service.

He was presented a gift by R. T. Bayer, Mars vice president.

not yet served. French Broad EMC will provide electric service to any person, business, or industry needing electric service anywhere within their service area. This is the same policy the Cooperative has followed since first formed in 1940 when Carolina Power and Light Company, the Tennessee Valley Authority and all other available sources refused to provide electric service to the five county service area of French Broad EMC. While the employees, directors and members of the Cooperative have built together to further provide for the future.

Much of the service area of French Broad EMC is beginning to grow at a rapid pace for the first time in three decades. The Cooperative's planning and building now to insure that electric service will be even better tomorrow. Specific

are already under construction in every community served by the Cooperative. Expanded community and public services will be rendered with the services of the employees of the Cooperative in community and area development. The addition of new employees to provide for the present and known growth of the next few years is already underway.

French Broad EMC will be financed in the new service and public expansion with the continued assistance of the Rural Electrification Administration, and beginning in 1972 with the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CRFC). CRFC is a bank of many of the rural electric systems around the country which will provide construction capital above and beyond the amount available from the REA. The loans made

from REA are repaid over 35 years with interest. Many people, including the members of the Cooperative, do not know that the Cooperatives pay all the taxes that the private power companies pay, except income taxes. Any money left over after operations for each year is placed in an account in the members' names and in a proportional amount to their electric service billing, and is used by the Cooperative as member contributed capital. These Capital Credits are later returned to the members when they are authorized by the Board of Directors to be paid. Under a recent ruling of the Rural Electrification Administration, Capital Credits cannot be distributed in cash until the members have at least 40 per cent ownership in the Cooperative. At the present time the members own approximately 33 per cent of the

assets of the Cooperative, however, Capital Credits for deceased members are paid in full at the time of their death to their estate upon application. These Capital Credits provide for the equity of the Cooperative.

Even though the Cooperative serves a geographic region with a low per capita income, and low per member electric usage, and less than half the revenue per dollar invested in plant than the private power companies, French Broad EMC still provides electric service at LOWER rates in all classes of service than CP&L, from minimum billing to the largest industrial accounts.

The credit for the success of the past for French Broad EMC must be given to the directors elected from the members, and the members themselves, who over thirty years ago banded together out of necessity to form

an electric service system.

The management of the Cooperative today is pleased to announce the planned expansion of the Cooperative's service and operations by better than \$1.8 million. This will enable the Cooperative to continue to provide for tomorrow the needs of the member-owners of French Broad Electric Membership Corporation.

Hot Springs Festival Is Successful

On Saturday Jan. 29th, the newly formed Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce held a Country Music Festival to help raise funds for its initial expenses and future projects. Over 220 people from all over the County were on hand to hear three excellent groups perform. This was the largest group in the little Times Theater in several years and the Chamber of Commerce would like to thank all who helped make the occasion such a memorable one. The president of the Chamber of Commerce is Bobby Ponder, the chairman is Dave West and the secretary-treasurer is Sidney Harrison, all of Hot Springs. Thirteen others make up the Board of Directors. This group of men and women have worked closely together and feel that in the coming months they can attract tourists and industries to the western sector of Madison County.

The Country Music Festival was the first of several planned activities to raise money and interest the people of the County in becoming members of the new organization that meets twice a month in Hot Springs. Mr. Goose Gosnell acted as Master of Ceremonies. The Carol Crumley group from Newport, Tenn., and the Bill Phillips' group from Canton were the invited country music groups that played so well. During the intermissions a group of local entertainers added the spark of enjoyment that made the evening so successful. Among these were Dave Robertson, Terry Thomas, and Fr. Jeff Burton. Several of the folks present danced and sang. The applause was long and loud and the Chamber of Commerce plans other festivals and sings to help raise funds to support its efforts.



JANET ELAINE COOPER has been named winner of the 1972 Betty Crocker Homecoming Tomorrow award for Marshall High School. She was the honor by scoring highest on an examination of the school in December and is now eligible for state and national scholarship awards given by General Mills, sponsor of the program. A senior at the school, Miss Cooper is an honor student, vice president of the Beta Club, treasurer of the French Club, historian of the Future Homecomingers of America Club, and acted as the girl most likely to succeed in the senior class. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Cooper of the Sandy Branch Community. The PBA advisor at Marshall is Mrs. Maxine Phares-Gosnell.



DAN SLUDER, of Leicester, driver of a bulk feed truck from Asheville, N.C. Service, sustained an injured right shoulder when the truck he was driving left the right shoulder of the Rector Corner Road about 11 a. m. Monday morning. The truck, which was empty, plunged down an embankment about 50 feet turned over and landed on top of a small structure owned by Mrs. Roy Sams, of Marshall. The impact of the truck severely damaged the frame building which contained clothes, furniture, stoves, and other household items. No one lived in the building.

Cattle Meetings Are Scheduled For Raleigh Fletcher

Several meetings of interest to Beef Cattlemen and Dairymen will be taking place shortly. The 21st Annual Beef Cattlemen's Conference will be held in Raleigh, February 24th, featuring such topics as liquid supplements for cattle, crossbreeding cattle, and performance testing. The N. C. Cattlemen's Association will meet February 23rd with Hayes Gregory, President, presiding. This meeting will be highlighted by the banquet at 7:30 p. m. Registration for the Cattlemen's Association meeting will begin at 9:30 a. m. on February 23rd, and 8 a. m. on Wednesday, February 24, for the Cattlemen's Conference. Both meetings will be at the Hilton Inn, 1707 Hillsborough St., Raleigh.

The annual Dairymen's Conference will also be held at the Hilton Inn on February 29th and March 1st. A variety of timely topics will be covered in the two-day meeting that will be of interest to dairymen who want to keep up with the latest research developments. The conference will also include the N. C. State vs University of N. C. basketball game. Anyone interested in going to either of these state meetings should contact the Extension Office for registration forms and more information as soon as possible. Coming up on March 2nd, the Western North Carolina Dairymen's Conference will be held at the Western North Carolina Agricultural Center at Fletcher. Registration will begin at 9:30 a. m. and the

program will be over at about 3 p. m. This meeting is planned by the Agricultural Extension Service for the benefit of Western North Carolina dairymen who are unable to get away for the annual dairymen's conference. Plans for the program are incomplete at this time, but we will have more information prior to this meeting.

Farming is big business and businessmen everywhere learn from discussing mutual problems with one another. Farmers in Madison County are urged to participate in all meetings that could help them do a better job with their business of farming.

Nixon Drive Launched In This County

Madison County Republicans have launched a drive to gather signatures as a demonstration of support for President Nixon. County Republican Chairman Joe L. Morgan said the GOP is aiming for 1,490 signatures on petitions that are being circulated to get the President's name on the May 6, 1972 North Carolina Primary.

The coordinators of the Nixon drive in the county in addition to Morgan are: William C. Silver, Jr., Ted McKinney, Mars Hill Mayor William P. Powell, Mrs. Pearl T. Ammons, Paul Briggs, Sr., Mrs. Elizabeth J. Crocco, Don Hall, Ochs Chandler, Perry G. Willis, Mrs. Ernie F. Edmonds, Ralph Briggs, Malie A. Brown, Carl W. Cody, Dedrick Bowman, Mrs. Ponder Hensley and Mr. Jasper Jenkins.

Candidates File

The following Democratic candidates, all incumbents, have filed for re-election: Register of Deeds, Hilliard Teague; Tax Collector, Harold Wallin; Commissioners, Dr. Bruce Sams, W. T. Moore and Ervin Adams.

Bond Sales

Craig L. Rudisill, Jr., Madison County Volunteer Chairman, reported that 1971 sales in Madison County reached \$188,417 or 131.7 per cent of the annual goal of \$143,000.

The chairman of the Madison County Republican party is a registered voter in Robeson County down near the North Carolina coast as well as in his home county in the mountains, according to official records. Joe Lee Morgan of Marshall, Rt. 2, has been a registered voter of the Grapevine Precinct in Madison County at least since April 6, 1968.

Morgan registered March 2, 1970 in Robeson County. Since that time he has voted once in Madison and twice in Robeson County. The Madison votes were cast by absentee ballot. The records do not indicate that he voted more than once in any however.

But it is a violation of state law to maintain a voting residence in more than one location.

Morgan, who was named chairman of the Madison County Republican party on Sept. 25, 1971, was the unsuccessful GOP candidate for superintendent of public instruction of North Carolina in 1968.

Morgan voted in his home precinct in Madison County in the 1968 primary elections. He is not recorded as voting in the general election that year. At that time, he was teaching at Riverside Military Academy, at Gainesville, Ga.

The next entry on his voting record in Madison County is for the 1970 general election, when he cast absentee ballots mailed from Red Springs in Robeson County.

Application for the ballots was received Oct. 30, 1970, and it was approved on Oct. 23 by the Madison County Board of Elections, according to records in the Marshall office. The ballots were mailed to Morgan Oct. 23, and they were voted by him on Oct. 28 of that year.

The Robeson County Board of Elections reported Wednesday that Morgan had voted in the May primaries in 1970 in Red Springs Precinct No. 2. He also voted there in a town election in May, 1971, according to the

Robeson County elections board.

Mrs. Lucy P. Gray, secretary to the Robeson County Board of Elections, said Joe Lee Morgan was registered by Melba M. Melcher, registration commissioner in Red Springs, on March 2, 1970.

"He is, according to all records in this office, still registered in Red Springs No. 2 precinct," Mrs. Gray said.

A native of Madison County, Morgan was employed at that time at a school in Robeson County, Vardell Hall. He listed his address with the elections board as 206 Vance St., Red Springs.

William C. Reeves, attorney for the Madison County Board of Elections, cited several sections in the election statutes making dual registration a violation of the law.

Morgan was not available for comment Wednesday.

ASCS Payments Statement

As required by law, ASCS must report to the Internal Revenue Service all program payments made to producers during 1971 under REAP, Feed Grain and other direct payment programs, according to announcement by the Madison County ASCS Office. This report will include payments made directly to producers, to assignees, and to U. S. Government agencies for any debt owed by producers. It will not include commodity loans, commodity purchases, resale storage payments.

Ralph Ramsey, County ASCS director said that as an additional service, producers will receive a notice of the amount reported. This notice was prepared on Form CCC-182 and mailed during the last two weeks of January. Producers may also receive

Special Seeking geship

COMPANY DEMONSTRATION All Young has announced 1971 CHEVROLET Caprice top, 400 cubic inch V-8 engine, transmission, power steering, air condition, power windows, locks, power trunk locking, mileage.

1970 FALCON, 4-door automatic transmission, twely for re-election to the

1970 FORD Brougham, 4-door, automatic, low mileage.

1970 CAMARO, 6 cylinder, drive; low mileage, exterior.

1969 CAMARO Coupe, V-8 engine, automatic, one local only.

1968 CHEVELLE Malibu, automatic, one local only.

1968 CHEVROLET Impala, V-8 automatic

Madison County Persons are ARC Directors

Six Madison County persons were elected to the Asheville Area board of directors of the American Red Cross at the Holiday Inn-West last Thursday night as the Asheville Chapter celebrated its 60th anniversary. Named to one-year term were Norris Gentry, chairman of the Madison County Branch of the Asheville Area Chapter; and Joe Templeton, of Hot Springs. Truman Melton, of Hot Springs and Mrs. Jerry Plemmons, of Marshall, were named for two-year terms; and Edward Morton, of Marshall, and O'Neal Shelton, of Mars Hill, were named of three-year terms.

The Chapter reviewed accomplishments over the past year and presented awards to outstanding persons who contributed so much to the important Red Cross program.



PICTURED ABOVE is the mobile home of Mr. and Mrs. Jackie Roberts of the Anderson Branch section, which was destroyed by wind on January 25.

Roberts Mobile Home Is Destroyed By Wind

Mr. and Mrs. Jackie Roberts, of the Anderson Branch section of Madison County, were suddenly awakened about 4 a. m. on Tuesday morning, Jan. 25, by gusts of wind pounding against their large mobile home. In seconds, a gust of wind struck the side of the trailer and overturned it. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts and their two children were sent sprawling around the trailer.

Mr. and Mrs. Roberts, unable to escape through the door, broke open a damaged end of the trailer and crawled out with their nine-month old daughter. They couldn't find their two-year-old daughter but Mrs. Roberts says she heard her calling "Daddy". She quickly told her husband that the child was still in the trailer. Roberts asked "Where are you?" and the daughter answered, "Here, Daddy." He lifted the inner bed

spings and a mattress which had been jolted from their original spot and, believe it or not, Mr. Roberts stated that he found their daughter uninjured in a nearby dresser drawer. How she got there no one knows. "It was a miracle," Mrs. Roberts stated. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts and the smaller daughter were treated for painful injuries received in the freak accident and are recovering. They are residing at the home of Mrs. Minnie Shelton, Mr. Roberts' aunt. Needless to say, all their household furniture was destroyed and their clothing damaged. Anyone wishing to help this family may leave items at The News-Record Office or the Variety Shop on Main Street.

"We will be most grateful for any items", Mr. and Mrs. Roberts said.

Historical Society To Meet At Walnut

The Madison County Historical Society will meet on February 19 at 12 o'clock noon at the Walnut Presbyterian Church in Walnut. A program on the early history of the community was one of the busiest in the area from the standpoint of trading at one time, and at one time was an educational center.

All persons interested in assisting in gathering in-

formation on the community of Walnut are cordially invited to attend, and to bring one item of food to share at the noon meal which will open the meeting. Members plan to bring food typical of the early settlers of the county, obviously the kind grown on the land and considered daily fare with early settlers.

This quarterly meeting was originally planned for February 5, but is now changed to the third Saturday in February 19.

Republicans Submitted For Election Bd.

Joe L. Morgan, chairman Madison County Republican Committee says: "Pursuant to General Statute 163-30, these three individuals are hereby submitted by the Madison County Republican Executive Committee for recommendation to the State Board of Elections on or before fifteen (15) days prior to the 15th day before the 1972 primary election on the 1972

Marshall; Sherman Ramsey, Route 1, Marshall; Perry G. Willis, Route 3, Mars Hill. It is the feeling of the Chairman of the Madison County Republican Executive Committee and the other officers and members of said body that each of the aforementioned individuals will serve well and in so doing will reflect credit upon themselves, Madison County and the Madison County Republican Party in per-