

THE NEWS - RECORD

Volume 73, Number 10.

Marshall, N. C.

15 CENTS PER COPY

April 4, 1974

George K. Ramsey Clarifies Connection With ABC Raid



GEORGE K. RAMSEY

George K. Ramsey, Hot Springs policeman, issued the following statement clarifying his connection with the March 25, 1974 raid by ABC agents in Hot Springs.

Mr. Ramsey's statement follows:

"I would like to give an explanation of the recent article that appeared in the Asheville Citizen and the Marshall News-Record concerning the charges made by the recent raids by the State Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) agents in Hot Springs.

"I had no knowledge of any investigation being made on the Hot Springs ABC store whatsoever. I did not know a recent raid was made until I heard it had been made.

"At the time they alleged that I was obstructing justice was on November 30, 1973. On that date a strange car was reported parked at the Hot Springs tomato plant.

"Mr. Tom Russell, the policeman on duty, asked me to go with him to check the car out. He had been previously informed that there had been a robbery of a market in Greene County, Tenn. In the meantime, Sheriff E. Y. Ponder called and told the police department to look out for a suspicious car with two men in it. At that time I was serving as a police officer and a special deputy sheriff.

"When we questioned the two men Mr. Russell questioned the driver of the car and I questioned Mr. Knights. The one Mr. Russell questioned showed his I.D. card. The one I questioned only showed me his N.C. Driver's License. Then he asked me for my I.D. card. I showed him my badge and he said he could get them anywhere at the \$5.10 cent store.

"I then questioned why they were there. He told me they were waiting for bikers to come off the Appalachian Trail and they were supposed to pick them up.

"I told him they had had a robbery in Tennessee and that was why we were questioning them. We then let them go.

"After we let them go we

had the license plate number checked out through the Sheriff's Dept. and Motor Vehicle's Dept. in Raleigh and after finding the tag did not correspond with the car, Mr. Russell and I, along with Mr. Johnson, Chief of Police, made another investigation and they revealed their identification as A.B.C. officers. They told us they were looking for a liquor car out of Tennessee They never did say they were making an investigation of the ABC store.

"So, four months later they returned to Madison County and made charges for various liquor violations. Among these arrests I was charged with delaying officers in carrying

out their duties. "I was in no way connected with this last incident and knew nothing of it until they charged me with obstructing justice four months ago.

"I want to make it clear to the people I have no connection whatsoever with the Hot Springs Liquor Board or store. Personally, I do not partake of any alcoholic beverages.

"On November 30, 1973, I was only discharging my duties as an officer in an open and above board manner.

"The above information can be confirmed by Sheriff E. Y. Ponder and the Greene County, Tenn., Sheriff's and Police Departments."



PORTIONS OF THE MADISON COUNTY LANDFILL, future industrial and recreational area located on the Long Branch Road are pictured above. The huge tract includes some 182 acres and belongs to the county. Top photo shows James T. Ledford, (left) chairman of the county board of commissioners; Jim Brown, (center) supervisor of the landfill project; and Rex Flynn, (right) bulldozer operator standing in front of the new equipment building and one of the bulldozers. Center pictures shows a small portion of the landfill with a new road to the left. Bottom photo shows a former dwelling on the site which will be torn down along with some barns and other buildings no longer in use. The land fill will serve the entire county with dumpsters hauling the refuse and will soon be ready for use.

Large Crop Of Insects Predicted For This Year

Farmers and gardeners should brace themselves for an unusually large crop of diseases and insects in 1974, according to two extension specialists at North Carolina State University.

Plant Pathologist Harry Duncan and Entomologist R. L. Robertson said mild weather has enabled above average numbers of insect and disease organisms to survive the winter. Barring unforeseen developments, such as a late cold snap, these pests are expected to be out earlier and in much larger numbers than normal in 1974.

Duncan and Robertson advise farmers and gardeners to be on guard. "You won't be able to treat by the calendar this year," Dr. Duncan commented. "You'll have to

treat according to the size of the crop and the level of infestation."

Robertson reported that "unusually heavy numbers" of granulated cutworms are on the scene "much earlier than normal." These pests are attacking tobacco plantbeds and young vegetable plants.

He also cited early activity among termites and eastern tent caterpillars. This latter pest is observed making webs in wild cherry in early spring.

Aphids have remained active on pine trees throughout much of the winter, and the aphids secrete a "honey dew" in which sooty mold thrives. As a result, pines in many areas are yellow and some are actually dropping their needles.

"We are already observing black spot on roses," Duncan

reported. "So this could be a bad year for this disease.

"We also have ideal conditions for fire blight. Nematode counts for ornamental plants are running unusually high, and we are observing cedar galls about a month earlier than normal."

Fire blight is a common problem for apple and pear trees and for pyracantha bushes. Cedar galls are a link in the cedar-apple rust disease.

Dr. Duncan said conditions are ideal for anthracnose on hardwoods, especially sycamore and the oaks.

"Root knot nematodes are not expected to be any worse on annual crops, but we suspect they will be more severe on the perennials," he said.

Duncan and Robertson attributed the pest activity almost entirely to the temperature. Moisture extremes and the condition of the pests at the beginning of diapause can also affect the number that over-winter. But temperature is the main determinant. Most beetles and weevils, which overwinter under debris, can withstand temperatures down to 10 degrees. Most caterpillars will survive unless the soil freezes from two to six inches.

County Recreation Commission Formed

Recently the Madison County Board of Commissioners appointed a recreation commission for Madison County. Appointed members are Mrs. Virginia Anderson, Don Harrell, James Ledford, Mrs. Carolyn Morphy, Ed Morton, Richard Thomason and Mrs. Bobby Jean Rice. Consultants are Dr. William Walker, Ed Shields, Don Anderson and Lawrence Ponder.

The recreation commission held its first meeting March 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the REA Building in Marshall. The following officers were elected: Mrs. Virginia An-

derson, Chairman; Don Harrell, Vice-Chairman and Mrs. Bobby Jean Rice, Secretary.

The first Thursday evening in each month was selected as the regular meeting time, beginning in May. The next meeting will be held on April 11, at which time Jack Frauson, the State Recreation Consultant, will meet with the group and discuss recreation possibilities for Madison County.

The purpose of the Madison County Recreation Commission is to plan and operate a recreational program for Madison County.

Hunting Regulations Hearing Scheduled

There will be a special hearing on the proposed hunting regulations for the 1974-75 hunting season Thursday, April 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Service Center in Sylva, N.C. The purpose of the hearing is to discuss new regulations, season dates, bag limits, etc.

This is an excellent opportunity for Madison County sportsmen to voice their opinions about the wildlife situation and any changes that

should be made since the main purpose of the meeting is to listen to the sportsman's opinion of wildlife in North Carolina.

There are several things that could be changed to make hunting in Madison County a more enjoyable sport. Everyone interested in attending the meeting is invited to contact Gary Ealey, 649-2089 (home) or 649-2411 (office) for additional information.

Information About Registrars

Information, including precinct, name, address, location, and phone number, of precinct registrars appointed by the Madison County Board of Elections, follows:

Marshall T1-W1 - Miss Lucricta Freeman, Route 7, Anderson Branch Road.

Election Seminar Here Friday

An election seminar will be held at the courthouse at 2:15 p.m. Friday, April 5, for election registrars and judges in the 10 precincts of Madison County.

Mr. H. Rutherford Turnbull, III, Associate Professor of Law and Government of the Institute of Government, Chapel Hill, will be the instructor.

All registrars and judges are urged to attend. The members of the Madison County Board of Elections and the Executive Secretary will be present.

Marshall, N. C. 28753 (phone) 649-2447 or 684-8007.

Sandy Mush T1-W2 - Mallie Brown, Route 1, Worley Cove Road, Marshall, N. C. 28753 (phone) 683-2465.

Laurel T2 - Walter Gosnell, Route 3, Franklin Mtn. Road, Marshall, N. C. 28753 (phone) 656-2370.

Mars Hill T3 - W1 - C. William Briggs, Route 1, Bruce Road, Mars Hill, N. C. 28754 (phone) 680-4959.

Grapevine T3-W2 - Harold Payne, Route 6, Grapevine Road, Marshall, N. C. 28753 (phone) 689-2378.

Beech Glen T4 - Don Hall, Route 3, Jarvis Road, Mars Hill, N. C. 28754 (phone) 689-6281.

Walnut T5 - Mrs. Reba M. Rector, P. O. Box 3, Walnut School Road, Walnut, N. C. 28753 (phone) 649-3114.

Hot Springs T6 - Curtis R. Roberts, P. O. Box 294, River Road, Hot Springs, N. C. 28743 (phone) 623-3447.

Edho Chapel T7 - Clarence Coby, Route 2, Bear Creek Road, Mars Hill, N. C. 28754 (phone) 689-2389.

Spring Creek T8 - Edgar Paul Lashford, Route 2, Bluff Road, Hot Springs, N. C. 28743 (phone) 623-7387.

Soil Testing Interrupted In Raleigh

RALEIGH - Soil testing done by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture will be interrupted for approximately three weeks beginning April 1 due to moving to the new agronomic laboratory.

Located on Blue Ridge Road near the State Fair Grounds, the new facility will provide, in addition to soil testing, tests for nematodes and plant analysis. All North Carolina residents can avail themselves of the free service.

In announcing the move, Dr. Donald W. Eaddy, Laboratory Director pointed out that samples would be received throughout the moving period and would be processed as soon as equipment was put back in service.

He also noted that samples would continue to be received at the Agriculture Building in downtown Raleigh and through the mail at Box 37947, Raleigh, Zip Code 27611 after the move.

Attending NCAE Convention In Charlotte

The Madison County unit of the North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE) is sending eight delegates to the Fourth Annual NCAE Convention in Charlotte April 4, according to Jack C. Cole, president of the unit.

The delegates will present the local unit's views in debating, voting and deciding on the course NCAE will follow during the next year. Major issues to be decided include the 1975 Legislative Program, a new state headquarters building and unification with the National Education Association (NEA).

A proposed legislative program will be presented to the convention by the NCAE Legislative Commission, according to Dr. A. C. Dawson, NCAE executive secretary. Delegates will have an opportunity to propose changes, adopt the program or refer it back to the Legislative Commission for further action.

Highlights of the proposed program include more state kindergartens, more state funds for instructional supplies, additional public school personnel, more state funds for utilities, fuel and similar school costs, and salary increases for all personnel.

The delegates will see plans, Dr. Dawson said, for a proposed new building to replace the current NCAE Center in downtown Raleigh. The current structure was constructed in the late 1930's and remodeled in 1960.

The proposed unification with NEA, according to E. B. Palmer, NCAE associate executive secretary, has been endorsed by most NCAE members are encouraged, but not required, to join NEA also. If unification is approved, anyone who joins one association will be required to join the other.

The delegates will hear NEA President Helen Wise speak on Thursday evening, April 4, and Duke University President Terry Sanford on Friday evening, April 5. A long list of resolutions designed to work toward NCAE's general goals of professional improvement of its members, advancement of the cause of public education, and promotion and protection of the welfare of NCAE members will be presented to the delegates for action.

The Madison County NCAE unit has 158 members this year. NCAE has an all time high total membership of 58,048 including certificated personnel at all levels of public elementary, secondary and higher education.

Delegates from the Madison County NCAE unit include: Miss Billie Jean Redmond, Miss Sharon Sluder, Miss Phyllis Cooper, Mrs. Ruth Landers, Mrs. Latrelle Robinson, Mrs. Beverly Hough, Mr. Jeter Sherlin, and Jack C. Cole.

Tilson Now In County Jail

Freddie Tilson, 26, of Unicoi County, Tenn., who with Bobby Eugene Edwards, also of Unicoi County are charged with armed robbery and cattle rustling in Madison County in 1972 and 1973, is now in the Madison County jail in default of \$25,000 bond. Edwards has been in the local jail and Tilson had been in the Erwin, Tenn., jail until last Friday. The two men were arrested March 21.

Tilson was returned to Madison County jail after a hearing before District Court Judge Brown in Erwin. Tilson signed a waiver and voluntarily agreed to return to North Carolina after being identified by his accusers, Sheriff Ponder said.

Both men are awaiting trial here during the May 27 term of superior court.

Mars Hill College Receives \$35,000 Grant

Mars Hill College President, Dr. Fred B. Bentley, has announced that a grant for \$35,000 has been received from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations this week. The grant was made to the college's capital development fund and will be used to amortize two of the school's newest buildings, Wren College Union and the Cornwell Building.

The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations were established in 1962 by Mr. Davis and in 1965 following his death. Arthur Vining Davis was the son of a Congregational minister, who moved with determination into the business world after graduating first in his class from Amherst College. He started as a bookkeeper with the Pittsburg Reduction Company and worked his way to the presidency of the Aluminum Company of America.

In 1949 he had advanced to the Chairman of the Board of Alcoa and moved his residence from Pittsburg to South Florida. He had received substantial gifts to

there and in the Bahamas and was director of numerous major corporations. Mr. Davis, at his death in 1962, was one of Florida's best known and respected businessmen.

Dr. Bentley stated that the grant will be used to provide equipment and furnishings for the new building. Wren College Union, which was formally opened during homecoming this year, is a \$1.2 million structure named for Dr. and Mrs. J. Robert Wren of Gastonia. The Cornwell Building, a classroom and faculty office building dedicated during the 1973 graduation exercises, is named for George Thomas Cornwell of Morganton.

In accepting the grant Dr. Bentley said, "We are indeed thrilled that we have been selected to receive this grant from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations. This grant comes at a time which is very valuable to Mars Hill College. While we have been fortunate to receive our two new buildings, this grant will help us to furnish and equip them. We are most grateful to the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations for their generous contribution."

Pre-Easter Services Planned

Pre-Easter Union services have been planned for the Marshall churches next Monday evening through Thursday evening. Services will be held nightly at 7:30 o'clock in the Marshall Baptist Church.

The Rev. J. E. Pedew, pastor of Ponder's Chapel, will deliver the message on Monday night. On Tuesday night, the Rev. Michael Anderson, pastor of the Marshall United Methodist Church, will be the speaker. Dr. Arthur F. Williams, pastor of the Marshall Presbyterian Church, will deliver the Wednesday evening sermon and on Thursday night, Communication Services will be held with the best pastor, the Rev. Spencer LeGrand, bringing the message.

Special music will be presented by the Baptist Church choir each evening and the public is cordially invited.

Ponder Urges Milk Rebate Elimination

RALEIGH - A Madison County dairyman and political leader argued Tuesday that elimination of the practice of rebates in the milk industry is needed to give the five million consumers in North Carolina a break in milk pricing.

Zeno Ponder, speaking at a public hearing by the Milk Commission on a proposed regulation to control the sale of reconstituted milk, said rebates to retailers is "one of the most vicious business practices I think can be used at the expense of the consuming public."

One of 1,900 milk producers in the state, Ponder said Tuesday that the some 35 distributors have gotten into the practice of making rebates to large retailers without realizing the problem it causes and would like to get out of it.

"As one of the producers, I want to admit that we have a pretty sick industry. Rebates in North Carolina average about 12 per cent - and we are talking about 20 cents on the gallon," Ponder said. Ponder said the logic Markets chain makes more

money on a gallon of milk that "I can ever hope to make, and I can never touch it except to put it on refrigeration and sell it. There is something wrong, and the industry is sick," he said.

He said the rebate system, which benefits the high volume retailer, was not "by evil design, but something we just grew into."

He called the rebates "a barrel of snakes," and said he has talked to some distributors who would like to eliminate the practice.