

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

On the Inside . . .

Mountain craftsmen
display their skills
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REGISTRATION DESK occupied by personnel of French Broad EMC. Left to right, Florence M. Ramsey (standing), Lora Peek,

Jenice Pegg, Brenda Lower, Walda McDevitt, Ruby Gosnell, Peggy Roberts.

Marshall Water Tastes Better; Rumors False

After weeks of peculiar tasting water, conditions are now greatly improved, local citizens are glad to realize. Adding to the problem of water have been rumors that a dead horse had been found near the water storage lake on Walnut Creek. According to town officials, this rumor is

entirely false. Spokesmen for the town stated here Monday that the officials and also a representative from the State Health Department had gone over the entire 1100 acres on the water shed property and in regards to the dead horse rumors, it was true that an old

carcass of a horse had been discovered but was miles from the water supply and "it no way could have affected the water".

Officials explained the "bad taste" during recent weeks was caused by the mandatory lowering of the water level in the storage lake which was

ordered when the earthen dam on Walnut Creek was condemned.

Town officials also announced that the million-gallon reservoir had been thoroughly cleaned and is now being supplied with water from wells and Hunter Creek

spring water which is clear and pure.

The supply is slowly increasing and is, at present, adequate, but the public is urged to conserve all the water possible during these hot summer months.

Wheat Payments Practically Assured

Unless there is an increase in wheat prices over the next four months, area wheat farmers will receive federal payments this fall, according to P. H. Slade, Acting State Executive Director for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation

Service. "Under the current wheat program, deficiency payments are to be made to producers if the national average market price for the first five months of the marketing year is less than the

target price of \$2.47 per bushel," Slade explained.

"The preliminary national average wheat price for all farmers was \$2.00 per bushel in June, compared with \$2.19 in May. June is the first month of the five-month period used to determine deficiency payments. So, the June price average offers an early indicator that payments will be made to farmers this fall," Slade said.

"Because many wheat farmers are faced with serious economic problems due to low market prices, it's important that the provisions for this additional income source be reviewed for area wheat farmers." "Also," Slade said, "this is the first time such payments would be made to wheat farmers under the 1973 Farm Act."

"The deficiency payment rate is determined by subtracting from the \$2.47 target price the higher of the June-October national average price or the national average loan rate. Using the national average wheat loan rate of \$2.25 per bushel as an example, the deficiency payment rate would be 22 cents per bushel.

"Deficiency payments to farmers are calculated by multiplying the farm's established yield times the farm's allotment acreage, and multiplying the result times the deficiency payment rate," Slade explained.

"All farmers having wheat allotments are automatically eligible for deficiency payments, regardless of the disposition of their wheat.

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Football Exams Scheduled

Madison High Football Coach David McFee has announced that physical examinations for all young men planning to participate in football this year will be held at the Madison county Health Department on July 21 at 6:30 p.m.

This includes incoming freshmen who plan on playing freshmen football and all variety candidates.

Bridge Location Approved

North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) officials have approved the location and design plans for the replacement of an old steel truss type bridge east of Marshall in Madison County.

The plans call for the replacement of a bridge on Bend of Ivey Road (Secondary Road 1576) over Ivey River just downstream from the existing bridge.

Some minor roadwork will be required along Bend of Ivey Road and Gravel Pit Road (Secondary Road 1597) to tie them into the new structure.

The approved plans are the same as the proposals presented at the June 9 public hearing held in Marshall. A set of plans and a copy of the Planning Report are available for public review and copying at the Madison County Courthouse in Marshall.

The project is part of the North Carolina Highway Improvement Program



TOBACCO PLANT displayed by County Agricultural Agent Wiley DuVall has been devoured by climbing cutworms. These worms are becoming a serious problem in many areas of Madison County. DuVall says that farmers should check their tobacco. If worms are present, the tobacco should be sprayed with Orthene at the rate of two tablespoons per three gallons of water. (Staff Photo)

In Colorado

Turpin Recaptured

Phillip Eugene Turpin, who escaped last week from an aging jail in Cripple Creek, Colorado, was captured following a 48-hour search. Sheriff Ponder announced this week.

Turpin was previously arrested in connection with the murder of two Yancey County men in Madison County.

Sheriff Gary D. Shoemaker, of Teller County, Colorado, said that the successful arrest of Turpin was the result of more than 35 officers and volunteers, aided by horses and dogs, combing the area in Teller County.

Turpin is presently being held in the Cripple Creek jail but is expected to be released to Madison County officers in a few days, Ponder stated.

Three In Jail Here Ponder also stated that Alonzo Crews Jr., 21, and

Debbie Romero were denied their requests not to be returned to Madison County for trial in connection with the murders of Hutchins and Norton. Ponder received orders Friday night signed by Tennessee Governor Ray Blanton, stating the denial of the requests of the two defendants. Sheriff Ponder brought the two defendants from the Dresden, Tenn., prison last week-end and they are now in the local jail. Ponder said no bond had been set.

Turpin's mother, Evelyn C. Alemany, 36, charged with aiding and abetting in the slayings, remains in the county jail here, also.

"We expect to have all four of the defendants in jail here in the near future as soon as Colorado releases Turpin to be returned here," Ponder said.

Steam Train To Carry Passengers Wednesday

On Wednesday, July 27, the Southern Railway will operate a one-way steam powered train through Marshall, under the sponsorship of the Old Smoky Railway Museum of Knoxville. The train is scheduled to stop in Marshall at 10:30 a.m. to load and unload passengers to and from stations between Knoxville and Salisbury.

Powering the train will be one of the largest steam engines operating in the United States today, a 2-10-4 "Texas" type No. 610 used last year on a portion of the American Freedom Train route and leased by the Southern this year for excursion operations.

This is expected to be the only train excursion that will schedule a stop for passengers in Marshall this year. The one way excursion feature will permit riding at a minimum cost. By driving to Hot Springs at 10:00 a.m. the train can be ridden to Marshall for \$2.50. A ride from Marshall to Asheville is also \$2.50, in both cases payable on the train. Children 11 years and under can ride for half fare. The entire trip from Knoxville at 7:30 a.m. to Salisbury at 8:00 p.m. has a fare of \$23.00. The Old Smoky Railway Museum is a group of East Tennessee Railfans that have sponsored numerous passenger excursions over recent years. Many of these have passed through Marshall enroute between Knoxville and Asheville on the route of the old "Carolina Special". These excursions are normally sold out in advance and do not stop at Marshall for passengers. This coming excursion has been scheduled to serve these local people that wish to ride a train again to remember the days when passenger trains were common, but lack the time or the cash for one of the longer rides.

Additional information can be obtained about the excursion by phoning the Old Smoky Knoxville ticket office at 615-522-0713 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on weekdays.

Corbett Reelected EMC President

John O. Corbett of Marshall was elected to a three-year term on the French Broad EMC Board of Directors Saturday. This action was taken at the Annual Members Meeting held in the Marshall Elementary School. Also re-elected for three-year terms were W. G. Plemmons of Buncombe County, and James Ray and Hazen Ledford of Yancey County.

Corbett was elected president of the board. Other officers elected were Novile Hawkins, vice president; I. E. Clevenger, secretary; and W. G. Plemmons, treasurer.

Charles Tolley, general manager, gave a report to the members and announced that the Federal Power Commission had delayed the 7.5 per cent wholesale rate hike for CP&L for three months. This would delay any rate increase by the EMC until such time as CP&L was allowed to increase

the wholesale rate to the Cooperative. Tolley cited the conversion to monthly billing as one of the main accomplishments during 1976 as all of the Marshall District is currently being billed monthly and rapid progress is being made in Burnsville district. He stated this had lessened the number of billing complaints and had made the billing and collection procedure more efficient. He also reported on the maintenance program of clearing right-of-way and replacing bad poles which is

about 60 per cent complete.

Even though it is anticipated the entire service area will be covered within the next year to 18 months, much of the area will be ready to go over again due to the rapid growth of trees and bushes. Mr. Tolley also reported on a loan the Cooperative had recently received which will be used for extension service to new members and other system improvements. He urged continued conservation of energy by the membership.

Officers And Directors Of French Broad Electric Membership Corporation

Between 400 and 500 persons attended the annual meeting of the French Broad Electric Membership Corporation held on the island here last Saturday despite torrid temperature.

In addition to the business session, a variety show with many dancers and musicians was enjoyed as well as a Crafts Fair which attracted hundreds of viewers.



NOVILE HAWKINS Vice President I. E. CLEVENGER Secretary W. G. PLEMMONS Treasurer JAMES W. RAY Asst. Secretary C. E. MASHBURN Attorney JOHN O. CORBETT President Albert Freeman Jr. Joe Justice Hazen Ledford Carl Ramsey Elmer Buchanan