



THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

MADISON COUNTY LIBRARY
GENERAL DELIVERY
MARSHALL NC 28753

82nd Year No. 48

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE COUNTY SEAT AT MARSHALL

28753

983

15¢ Per Copy

Soviets Barred From Madison

Madison County is one of three Western North Carolina counties which have been declared off-limits to Soviet Union government personnel. The off-limits designation was made last week by the U.S. State Department.

Madison County was one of a number of locations throughout the country to receive the designation. Buncombe and Transylvania Counties have also been declared off-limits.

Contacted by telephone on Monday, a State Department spokesman could provide no explanation for the decision. There are no defense-related installations in Madison County.

The spokesman told The News Record, "The regulations state that designated areas will be off limits to Soviet government personnel except United Nations employees on official duties. I can't tell you why Madison County was put on the list."

Many locations placed on the off limits list, the spokesman said, are in response to similar restrictions placed on Americans by the Soviet government. "The Soviets haven't eased these restrictions," the spokesman said, "so neither have we." The spokesman said the restrictions do not apply to Soviet citizens on authorized tours.



FRECH BROAD ELECTRIC employee installs Christmas lights on Main Street in Marshall Monday.

High Prices Continue At Burley Auctions

Prices were mixed as the burley tobacco market reopened this morning in Asheville after Thanksgiving holidays. Several sellers reported prices similar to last week's and others reported slightly higher prices.

"Prices are up this morning — \$1.92, \$1.93 — that's about all I see," said Clara Owen at Dixie. "I don't know just how the average is going to run today, but last year after Thanksgiving the average was \$1.74."

High prices for this morning at Day's reaches \$1.95 and lows were around \$1.76, but as of press time, no average had been calculated.

Planter's Floor Manager George Kuff said his warehouse's average for the morning was \$1.93, but he wouldn't give an estimate on the morning's low price. He said prices at Planter's were no higher than before Thanksgiving, but that the sales overall were much better than last year.

All warehouses had full houses of tobacco to sell today. Warren Anders, an owner of Farmer's Warehouse, said he

had heard from other warehouse reports that prices were indeed up for today's market. He attributed the higher prices to buyers being more choosy about selecting only the best quality tobacco.

"The companies really are not getting what they want," he said, "and they're paying for it when they find it."

Anders also attributed higher post-Thanksgiving prices to the year's short crop and the fact that farmers had "cleaned up their tobacco a bit."

Anders reported sales totaling 105,867 pounds during Monday sales for an average sale price of \$1.8716 per pound. Some tobacco sold for as high as \$1.93 per pound in Asheville auctions.

Asheville markets reported total sales of 1,090,743 pounds Monday for an average sale price of \$1.8689 per pound.

West Jefferson markets reported an average sale price of \$1.79 during Monday's auction.

Burley markets in both Johnson City and Greeneville, Tenn. reported average sale prices of \$1.90 per pound on Monday.



BUYERS EXAMINE burley during auction at Farmers Tobacco Warehouse in Asheville Monday.

Grand Jury Indicts 12

The Madison County grand jury met Monday morning and returned bills of indictment against 12 defendants.

Harold Chandler was indicted on a charge of manufacturing a controlled substance.

The grand jury also indicted Sandra Lou Peterson on a charge of manslaughter in connection with a September traffic accident on U.S. 19-23 that killed Mable Rhymer of Asheville. In an earlier probable cause hearing conducted in District Court, Judge Phillip Ginn

found cause for a misdemeanor charge of death by vehicle in connection with the accident. The grand jury also indicted Peterson on misdemeanor charges of illegal transportation and driving left of center.

Also indicted, on charges of auto theft, were Johnny Waldroup and Hank Crumbly. The men are charged with stealing a 1979 Ford pickup truck.

Both Mark Chacon and James Wolfe were indicted on a charge of breaking, entering

and larceny. Also indicted on larceny charges were Jack Gosnell, Teddy Hightower, and Wayne Payne. The three men are charged in connection with a Nov. 23 robbery at the Mashburn Hill home of Odis Searcy.

David Junior Hensley was indicted on a charge of arson in connection with a Nov. 7 fire at Tommy Sheffield's apartments in Mars Hill.

The grand jury also indicted Dillard Shelton on a charge of false pretense.

Unemployment Increases

Statewide unemployment rate of the 11 most populous states. He also noted that although the figures represented a slight increase from the Sept. figures, the Oct. unemployment rate was 7.5 percent, up one-tenth of a percent from September's 7.4 percent rate. The Oct. 1982 percentage figure represents 222,700 unemployment workers in a civilian work force numbering 2,696,800.

Nationally, the unadjusted unemployment rate for Oct. was reported to be 8.4 percent, or 9,383,000 unemployed workers.

Unemployment reports for individual North Carolina counties will be released later this week.

Piper Pleads Guilty

A Pennsylvania man received a suspended three-year jail sentence after entering guilty pleas to charges of larceny of an auto and breaking, entering and larceny in Superior Court Monday afternoon. Melvin C. Piper, 35, entered the guilty pleas as part of a plea bargain agreement with the district attorney.

Charges of larceny were dismissed and the prosecution recommended the suspended sentence as part of the agreement. In return, Piper agreed to make full restitution for losses suffered by W.A. and Kobena Bryant and Stella Switzer.

According to testimony from Madison County Sheriff E.Y. Ponder, Piper was working for Mr. Bryant and staying in his home in Walnut at the time of the incident. Ponder said that Piper stole a car belonging to Kobena Bryant and removed several guns, cash and other articles from the home of Stella Switzer.

Piper's court-appointed attorney Richard Miller told the court that Piper took the car in order to return to Pennsylvania after a dispute with the Bryants. Miller said that Piper had no previous record of convictions and had spent the last 68 days in the Madison

County jail. Judge Hollis Owen sentenced Piper to three years in jail, suspending the active sentence and ordered Piper to serve five year of supervised probation. In addition to the suspended sentence, Piper was fined \$500 and ordered to pay court costs and attorney fees and pay \$2900 in restitution with a payment schedule to be determined by probation officials.

In a case scheduled to be heard on Tuesday, jury selection was completed for the trial of Ivan Doan. Both men are charged with breaking, entering and larceny.

Jeter Conley Pritchard : A Man Of Many Careers

Part one of a series.
By JOE MORGAN

Jeter Conley Pritchard was born of humble parents in Jonesboro, Tenn., on July 12, 1857, and he suffered the deprivations so typical of poor families prior to the Civil War. As a lad of 16, Pritchard walked over the Iron Mountain to the little town of Bakersville to become a printer. In his adopted state he edited a newspaper, read law, passed the bar examinations, became a successful lawyer, publisher, state legislator, United States Senator, and a federal circuit court judge.

Pritchard was a product of Irish and Welsh ancestry. His father was William Pritchard and his mother was Elizabeth Brown. The death of his father of dysentery in Mobile, Ala., during the Civil War, when Jeter was only six years old, left him to care not only for himself, but to be the chief help and support of his brothers, sisters, and invalid mother. Thus, at a tender age he began to accept responsibility and to develop qualities, including loyalty and devotion to those who had a right to claim his love and support, which later aided him in his public and private relations. His mother exerted a strong influence for good and aided in the development of his character by instilling in his youthful mind sound precepts of morality.

Elizabeth Brown Pritchard died "in middle age" in Bakersville and was buried in the cemetery above the Mitchell County Courthouse. Like many other old cemeteries, this one has "grown up" and little trace is left except some old markers for the graves.

Though his educational training was meager, Pritchard was



of twelve to a printer and assigned to work with the editor of The Herald Tribune in Jonesboro. He made such rapid progress at his trade that, at the end of his apprenticeship, he became foreman of The Union Flag office at Jonesboro, which published The Herald Tribune. Under the tutelage of the editor, Pritchard read proof, set type, and performed other duties attendant to

the newspaper business. He became foreman of The Bakersville Independent in 1874.

He arrived in Bakersville with only 10 cents in his pocket and no more clothing than he could carry on his back. The late Art Greene of Spruce Pine, a grand-nephew of Jeter Pritchard, said the young Pritchard "ran away from home" when he discerned that the door of opportunity knocked in Bakersville.

Pritchard soon was promoted to the joint editorship of The Roan Mountain Republican. This paper had as its motto: "Hew the line; let the chips fall where they may." It was a weekly newspaper, published in Bakersville, and circulated in Mitchell County.

After several years of newspaper work, Jeter and his brother, George K. Pritchard, secured jobs as revenue agents. This type of work was not then too popular in the mountains. Inasmuch as they were young and possessed of zeal, the brothers pursued the illicit liquor trade aggressively and loaded the courts with cases. An article appeared in The Roan Mountain Republican on May 5, 1877 about revenue work. It indicated that, "Deputy Marshal J. C. Pritchard has succeeded in arresting John D. Tipton, the hermit of Poplar Hollar for illicit distilling."

While living in Bakersville, Jeter attended the Odd Fellows Institute and later enrolled in Martin's Creek Academy across the mountains in Tennessee where he received most of his limited practical education. According to a contemporary, Congressman James J. Britt, and other close associates, the education Pritchard

received stimulated in him a desire to succeed regardless of the odds.

A biography of Henry Clay given to him by a friend inspired Pritchard to strive for the higher honors of a public career despite all its challenges and pitfalls. The influences most effective in bringing him success were the training he received in Sunday School, his association with people actively engaged in useful work, and his observations and reflections on the lives of distinguished people. He practiced promptness and diligence which he considered to be virtues worthy of emulation. Pritchard advocated the avoidance of intoxicating liquors and the exercise of frankness and honesty as a matter of habit.

In 1879, Pritchard moved from Bakersville to Madison County, where he operated a corn mill, farmed, studied law, and eventually went into politics. He affiliated with the Republican party because of local Republican sentiment, tradition, his own convictions, and his belief in the party's emphasis on individual liberty. Pritchard was aware of his duties as a citizen and relished getting involved in community affairs. Madison County leaders thought him more suited for service in the state legislature because they believed that he could not take the last cow from some poor widow, as sheriffs had to do in the 1870's, to satisfy a debt. Also, he was considered to possess more unified and general knowledge, an asset in legislative bodies. Pritchard plunged into local politics in 1883 as a candidate for the state legislature from